g7+ Ministerial-Level Meeting
Access to Justice for All in Conflict-Affected Countries
19-20 June 2019, The Hague

AGENDA

19 June, Day 1

08.30 – 09.00 Welcome coffee

Master of Ceremonies: Joel Samuels, Director, University of South Carolina, Rule of Law Collaborative

09.00 – 09.30 Opening Remarks, H.E. Dr. Priscilla Schwartz, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Sierra Leone, Chairing Country g7+

Overview of Meeting Agenda and Introductions, Dr. Helder Da Costa, General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat

09.30 – 10.45 Plenary: Justice as an Enabler of the 2030 Agenda

Justice is a thread that runs through all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. This session will explore the role access to justice and the rule of law can play in accelerating progress towards all seventeen SDGs.

10.45 – 11.10 Plenary: Survey Results

Presentation by the Rule of Law Collaborative on the main findings of the survey conducted of the g7+ Ministers in strengthening access to justice, the impact of key reforms and potential mechanisms for strengthening future collaboration.

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 13.30 Ministerial Session: Country Snapshots – Achievements and Challenges in Strengthening Access to Justice in Conflict-Affected Countries (Each Minister will be allotted five minutes to make remarks, strictly)

Chair: H.E. Dr. Priscilla Schwartz, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Sierra Leone
Facilitator: Herman von Hebel, University of South Carolina Rule of Law Collaborative
In a tour de table, each Minister will provide a brief overview of the opportunities and challenges they face and the key priority reforms they have undertaken to strengthen access to justice for all in their countries.

13.30 – 14.30  **Lunch**

14.30 – 14.50  **Plenary: Presentation on the Justice for All Report and High-Level Political Forum**

14.50 – 16.30  **Plenary: People-Centered Justice**

The discussion will build consensus on promoting people-centered justice and explore tools, strategies and approaches that work in different contexts to close the justice gap. The focus will be on the need to strengthen evidence-based policies and strategies through focused data collection and legal needs surveys to improve people’s justice journeys.

16.30 – 16.35  **Plenary: Summary and Conclusions of Day 1**

16.35 – 17.00  **Break**

17.00 – 17.45  **Plenary: Access to Justice in the Netherlands: Community Justice Houses**

In the Netherlands, efforts are undertaken to bring justice closer to the people. One example of this is to have judges hold court hearings away from the courtroom and closer to the people in their own neighborhoods. Two Dutch judges involved in this project will share their experiences.

18.45  **Reception**

19.00 – 19.15  **Remarks, Mayor of The Hague, Ms. Pauline Krikke**

19.30  **Ministers depart for dinner**

21.45  **Ministers return to Hilton The Hague hotel**
20 June, Day 2

Master of Ceremonies: Leoni Cuelenaere, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

08.30 – 09.00 Coffee

09.00 – 09.30 Remarks by Host Country, H.E. Sigrid Kaag, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, The Netherlands

Remarks by Hon. Mary Robinson, Chair, The Elders

09.30 – 09.45 Group Picture

09.45 – 11.00 Plenary: Developing Consensus on Common Priorities in Strengthening Access to Justice in g7+ countries and Joint Action Plan

During this session, a joint action plan for future action will be introduced which will focus on identifying common priorities in strengthening access to justice in g7+ countries. The presentation will be followed by an interactive discussion.

11.00 – 11.15 Coffee break

11.15 – 12.30 Peer-to-Peer Breakaway Sessions: Experience-sharing of Innovative Models that have Succeeded in Delivering Enhanced Access to Justice in g7+ Countries

Session A: Strengthening access to justice for marginalized populations: the case of women and access to justice

Session B: Strengthening Justice Outcomes through Innovative Tools

Session C: Closing the Justice Gap: Transitional Justice

Session D: Access to Justice and Legal Aid

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch


This session will explore the role of formal and informal systems in accelerating the provision of justice, particularly for poor and disadvantaged populations, and strategies and approaches to bridging the gap between both systems of justice.

14.50 – 15.15 Presentations on the Outcomes of the Peer to Peer Breakaway Sessions

Moderators from each of the three thematic breakaway sessions will provide a brief presentation on the outcomes of the sessions, key takeaways and lessons learned, followed by a question and answer session.
15.15 – 15.30  **Coffee break**

15.30 – 17.00  **Plenary: Role of International Assistance to Support Access to Justice**

The discussion will identify principles guiding effective engagement of international donors in strengthening the justice sector.

17.00 – 17.30  **Plenary: Agreement on Joint Action Plan and Closing Remarks**

Building on previous sessions, Ministers will agree on a finalized joint action plan and will identify specific commitments for g7+ countries to be delivered at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2019.

Facilitators:

- H.E. Dr. Priscilla Schwartz, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Sierra Leone, Chairing Country g7+
- Dr. Helder Da Costa, General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat