



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH

POST WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE REPORT

Submission of Workshop/Conference reports

Two weeks after attendance of workshop or conference, members of staff are expected to submit brief reports. The objective of the report is to identify lessons/experiences for dissemination, share ideas and best practices and potential networks/partnerships to be pursued. The report should incorporate the following:

- ✚ The **Summary Statement** - describe the workshop/conference attended (Where? When? Conference objectives? Target Audience? Conference organisers?)
- ✚ The **Workshop/ Conference Details** describe the themes discussed:
 - Describe your expectations or objectives(s) in attending the workshop or conference.
 - Describe your overall reaction to the workshop or conference and whether your expectations or objective(s) were met.
 - Mention what aspect of the workshop or conference was of particular value to you.
- ✚ List the **Lessons learnt or conference outcomes**
- ✚ Attach additional documents like **paper presented, PowerPoint presentations.**

The report and accompanying documents should be submitted in electronic format to the Registrar Research, Innovation and Outreach at <registrar-rio@ku.ac.ke>.

CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP REPORT

Attendee Name: Dr. Faith Kabata

Attendee Designation and Department: Lecturer, Public Law Department

Title of workshop/conference: 7th African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies Conference at the University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana

Conference

URL:

<https://www.aclars.org/index.php?pageId=38&contentId=2170&blurbId=97016>

Conference Summary: *Brief description, conference organisers, target audience, venue and duration.*

African Consortium of Law and Religion Studies (ACLARS) was officially launched in May 2014 at the Stellenbosch University, South Africa. It brings together scholars in law and religion and related disciplines to explore cross-cutting themes.

The 7th Annual ACLARS Conference was held on May 19-21, 2019 at the University of Botswana in Gaborone, Botswana. The Conference was organized by the Department of Law and Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Botswana; International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, Italy; and the International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, USA. The theme of the Conference was '**Law, Religion and Environment in Africa**'.

The Conference's key note speaker was Navanethem Pillay, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. It was attended by over 100 participants from Africa, USA, Asia and Latin America and had 78 paper presentations.

Workshop/ Conference Objectives: *Describe conference objectives*

The Conference objectives were:

- i. To provide a forum for scholars to present new or on-going research law, religion

and environment in Africa

- ii. To provide a forum for inter-disciplinary discourse on law, religion and environment in Africa
- iii. To bring together African scholars to develop a position paper on the concept of human dignity from an African perspective

Overall reaction of the Conference was that it: was very informative since it was inter-disciplinary. The Conference offered opportunity to engage with the issue of environmental conservation in Africa from the perspective of religion, history and anthropology which were not familiar to me.

Based on the above, the Conference fully met my expectations.

I had expected to meet and hear from renown experts in the area of law and religion from all over the world and also critique of my paper with a view to developing a publishable paper.

The aspect of workshop that was of particular value to me was having experts from law and other disciplines engage with my research and point out issues that I should look into while developing the final paper for publication.

Lessons learnt: *Identify specifically what you are bringing back from the conference that relates to your departmental/school/University objectives.*

- The Conference is inter-disciplinary hence in the future I will seek to involve scholars from Kenyatta University Departments of Religion and History and colleagues from the School of Law
- Skills on Conference organization

Title of Paper/Presentations/Lectures done by self:

Title of my paper was: 'On the Margins of Religious Freedom: Indigenous Religions, Sacred Sites and Environmental Conservation in Kenya's Endorois and Ogiek cases'.

Partnership/Collaborations/Funding Opportunities/Networks Developed: *List new contacts developed that may be useful for collaborations and funding*

Collaborations - the 8th ACLARS Conference will be held in Nairobi, Kenya. It will be organized by Hekima University College alongside the Kenyatta University School Law in May 2020.

New contacts:

1. Professor Mark Hill, Honorary Professor, Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University; Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria; Visiting Professor, Dickson Poon Law School, Email: mark.hill@ftbchambers.co.uk
2. Professor Rosalind I.J Hackett, Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee Knoxville, USA, Email: rhackett@utk.edu

Additional Comments.

The Conference was beneficial to me as my research paper presented in the Workshop will be published in a Book by ACLARS on the Conference proceedings.