

PROGRAMME

FIDA AFRICA REGIONAL CONGRESS 2023, ABUJA, NIGERIA

THEME: MAPUTO PROTOCOL AND WOMEN IN AFRICA: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AS A VITAL TOOL FOR ACCELERATION.

DAY 1: Thursday 24th August, 2023

12 noon – 6.00 pm. / Arrival & Registration.
6:30 pm – 8.00 pm. / Welcome Reception.

Coordinators: Rekia Adejo-Andrew, Chibuzo Nwosu, Chimdindu Onyedim-Etuwewe, Gertrude Onyewuche, Adejoke Layi-Babatunde & Princess Chukwuani.

DAY 2: Friday 25th August, 2023

OPENING CEREMONY 10.00 am – 12 noon.

Chairperson: Beatrice Eyong, UN Women Representative to Nigeria & ECOWAS

Keynote Speaker: Her Excellency Erelu Bisi Fayemi, Former First Lady Ekiti State

Moderator: Rhoda Tyoden, Former Country Vice President, FIDA Nigeria

- Opening Prayers
- National/FIDA/Women Anthems,
- Welcome Address – Joy Ejim, FIDA Regional Vice President Africa [North & West]
- Chairperson’s Remarks
- Goodwill Messages:
 - Carolina Rios Villota, President, International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA).
 - President, Nigerian Bar Association
 - Representatives of African Union, ECOWAS, etc
- **Keynote Speech – Digital Technology and Gender Equality: Maputo Protocol and African Women In Focus**
- Vote of Thanks – Eliana Martins, Chairperson, Africa Regional Congress Planning Committee

Question & Answer Session.

1ST PLENARY SESSION 12:20 pm – 1:20 pm.

Maputo Protocol @ 20: The Journey So Far.

Moderator: Dr. Chigoziri Ojiaka, Law Teacher, Imo State University

Panelists:

- **An Assessment of the Past, Present and Future** – Hon. Justice Elsie Thompson, Rivers State Judiciary and former Judge of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, Arusha, Tanzania
- **The Value of Maputo after 20: Quo Vadis?** – Eunice Musiime, Akina Mama Wa Afrika

Question & Answer Session

1:20pm–3.00pm Health Break/Jumat Service – Hajia Laraba Shua’ibu

Venue: Maitama Islamic Center Plot 120, Nile Crescent, Maitama.

2ND PLENARY SESSION 3:05 pm – 5:05 pm.

Gender Justice and the Rule of Law – the Place of Inclusion and Digital Technology.

Moderator: Gladys Mbuya, CVP, FIDA Cameroun/Historian FIDA International

Panelists:

- **Engaging Men & Women Towards Gender, Equity, Equality & Inclusion In Public Spaces** – Mr. Ayodeji Adedokun & Dr. Monday Ubani Esq.
- **Promoting Gender Equality & Women’s Empowerment through Digital Technology – Lessons from Nigeria** – Amina Agbaje, Country Vice President, FIDA Nigeria.
- **Digitalisation for Gender Justice and Rule of Law** – Nomaswazi Shabangu-Mndawe, President, South African Women’s Lawyers Association/FIDA S. A.

Question & Answer Session.

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm – **Cultural Night**

Coordinators: Chioma Onyenucheya-Uko, Lilian Okenwa, Abiola Laseinde, Chigoziri Ojiaka & Ogechi Abu.

“Trauma may happen to you, but it can never define you.” – Melinda Longtin

DAY 3: Saturday 26th August, 2023**3RD PLENARY SESSION 9.00 am – 10.00 am.****ICT & Digital Education: The Way Forward.**

Moderator: *Yeye Asiwaju Victoria Awomolo SAN, Former Regional Vice President Africa (North & West).*

Panelists:

- Education Using Cutting-Edge Technology: A Sine-Qua-Non For Gender Equality in Africa. Hon. Justice (Prof) Elizabeth Ama Oji; A Judge of the National Industrial Court Lagos, and Professor of Law.
- Violence Against Women: Is Digitalisation Accelerating Prevention and Protection? – Lessons learned from Ethiopia and the Sudanese Institute for Humanitarian Aid, (SIHA) – Lensa Geleta Executive Director, Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association.

Question & Answer Session.**Practical ICT Session 10:10 am – 11:10 am.**

Unlocking the Power of Digital Branding, Building an online Presence & Strategies for Protection Against Cyber Bullying/Digital Pornography – Abimo Toyosi Olayiwola; CEO Abilegal Digital Solicitors and Network, Ibadan, Oyo State.

Question & Answer Session.**4TH PLENARY SESSION 11:20 am – 12:20 pm.****Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment Through Technology, Information and Finance Strategies.**

Moderator: Hon. Inime Aguma, U N Representative, FIDA International

Panelists:

- **Digital Tech Platforms & Opportunities for Accelerating Investment For Women under the African Continental Free Trade Agreement –** Mfon Usoro, a Trade Law Expert & Managing Partner at Paul Usoro & Co., Lagos Nigeria.
- **Amb. Rossette Nyirinkindi-Katungye –** Advisor on Regional Integration, Cabinet of the Chairperson (CCP), African Union, Addis Ababa.
- **African Development Bank Gender Strategy – Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) –** Ezinwa Okoroafor, Director, FIDA International

Question & Answer Session.

FIDA Africa Empowering Women 12:25 – 12:45 pm.

5TH PLENARY SESSION 12:50 pm – 2:20 pm.

Business Meeting/Country Reports – Country Representatives

Moderators: Mrs. Roseline Nwosu & Hajia Laraba Shua'ibu (Former Regional Vice Presidents Africa (North & West)).

Panelists:

- FIDA Nigeria
- FIDA Uganda
- FIDA Cameroun
- South African Women Lawyers Association (SAWLA/FIDA SA)
- Cote D'Ivoire Women Lawyers Association
- Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)
- Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA)

Question & Answer Session.

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm- Health Break

FIDA Africa Promoting Women's Health – 3:30 pm – 5.00 pm

- Outreach/Advocacy Visit to FIDA Abuja Ward (Gwarimpa Hospital).
- Free Health Checks – Hallmark Insurance HMO Health Services Limited.

Coordinators: Chibuzo Nwosu, Chairperson FIDA Abuja & Adejoke Layi-Babatunde.

7.00 pm – 10.00 pm – Formal Congress Dinner & Awards Night.

Chairman: Asiwaju Adegboyega Awomolo, Senior Advocate of Nigeria

Coordinators: Evelyn Asimea-Membere, DCVP, FIDA Nigeria, Dr. Chigoziri Ojiaka, Dr. Dr. Princess Chukwuani, Gertie Onyewuche & Rekia Adejo-Andrew Alt. Chair, Congress Planning Committee.

"I was heartbroken, scared, I had a lot of anxiety, I was worried, I felt weak, and I had no idea how I was ever going to come up with the strength. But I just closed my eyes and took a blind leap. I knew I had to get out of there." – Bob Casey Jr

DAY 4: Sunday 27th August, 2023
9.00 am – 12 noon – Thanksgiving Service.

Venue: Assemblies of God National Worship Center, By Michika Street, Ahmadu Bello Way, Area 11, Garki Abuja.

Coordinators: Lizzy Akah, Chibuzo Nwosu & Rekia Adejo-Andrew.

12:05 pm – 12:30 pm – Health Break/Lunch

12:35 pm – 2.00 pm – Fireside Chat: The FIDA Africa of our Dreams

Moderators: (Professor Felicia Anyogu, Chigo Ojiaka & Gertie Onyewuche)

Panelists:

- Present and PAST RVPs and CVPs
- Joy Ejim, Laura Nyirinkindi, Victoria Awomolo SAN, Hajia Laraba Shua'ibu, Roseline Nwosu, Ezinwa Okoroafor, Gladys Mbuya, Elsie Thompson, Mercy Agbamuche, Stella Omiyi, Inime Aguma, Rhoda Tyoden, Amina Agbaje, Lensa Geleta, Francine Aka Anghui & Noma Shabanga-Mndawe, Jameela Mahmoud etc.
- Other members of the FIDA Africa Forum present.

Comments, Questions & Answers Session.

2:05 pm – 2:30 pm – Formal Closing Ceremony

Moderators: Rekia Andrew-Adejo, Chimdindu Onyedim-Etuwewe & Abiola Laseinde

Speakers:

- Mrs. Eliana Martins, Chairperson Africa Regional Planning Committee.
- Mrs. Amina Agbaje, Country Vice President, FIDA Nigeria (Host Country).
- Laura Nyirinkindi, Regional Vice President Africa (East & Southern Region).
- Joy Ejim, Regional Vice President Africa (North & West).

FIDA Africa Regional Congress 2023 Rapporteurs

Laura Nyirinkindi
 Ogechi Abu
 Princess Chukwuani
 Ngozi Onyia

Chimdindu Onyedim-Etuwewe
 Dorcas Abah
 Ngozi Ajogwu
 Uche Ogwu