

PRESS RELEASE

AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

On 6 October 2012, the General Conference of the African Association of International Law (hereinafter the “Association”) met at the Complexo Pedagógica Universidade Eduardo Mondlane in Maputo, Mozambique, in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the African Foundation for International Law entitled “International Law in Africa: Human Security, Peace and Development: Challenges and Responses”.

The meeting was chaired by three founding members of the Association, Professor Georges Abi-Saab (Egypt), H. E. Judge Abdulqawi Yusuf (Somalia), H. E. Robert Dossou (Benin), and Professor Roland Adjovi (Bénin) who led an expert group responsible for revising the Association’s Statute. The meeting was attended by representatives of the American Society of International Law, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, the Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa, the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations and the African Union Commission on International Law.

The meeting addressed three main issues: (1) the revision of the Association’s Statute; (2) the election of members of the Association’s Executive Committee; (3) the schedule for the next General Conference. The General Conference revised certain provisions of the Statute in order to improve the functioning of the Association, and proceeded to elect the following members of the Executive Committee:

- President: H. E. Robert Dossou (Benin)
- Vice-President (West Africa): Dr. Jumoke Oduwole (Nigeria)
- Vice-President (East Africa): Ms. Sheila B. Keetharuth (Mauritius)
- Vice-President (Central Africa): Prof. Narcisse Mouelle Kombi (Cameroon)
- Vice-President (Diaspora): Dr. Djacoba Tehindrazanarivelo (Madagascar)
- Secretary-General: Dr. Olufemi Elias (Nigeria)
- Deputy Secretary-General/Treasurer: Mr. Donald Deya (Kenya).

It was decided that the election of Vice-Presidents from the Southern Africa and North Africa would take place in due course. The General Conference called upon the Vice-Presidents to work towards the establishment of regional and national branches in order to ensure better participation of African jurists in activities of the Association.

The Conference welcomed Judge Yusuf’s announcement that the African Union had approved the creation of an African Institute of International Law devoted to training and research in international law and the law of the African Union in collaboration with the African Foundation for International Law (Assembly/AU/Dec.405(XVIII) of 31 January 2012).

The next meeting of the General Assembly is scheduled for 2014 in Cameroon.

Further information regarding the Maputo Conference is available at www.afil-fadi.org.

The Executive Committee
6 October 2012