

## CENTER FOR CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION ON THE AFRICAN UNION CCP-AU BOARD MEMBERS APRIL 2011



**Donald Deya**  
**CCP-AU Chairperson of the Board**  
**Chief Executive Officer - Pan African Lawyers Union**

Donald Deya is the Chief Executive Officer of the Pan African Lawyers Union, (PALU) based in Arusha, Tanzania. He was previously Chief Executive of the East Africa Law Society (EALS) and, before that, Acting CEO of the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ-Kenya), and Deputy CEO of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK). He has keen interest in – and has researched, spoken and written on – continental and regional integration; constitutionalism; democracy and good governance; the just rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights and access to justice; HIV, Human Rights and Legislation; the interface between law, human rights and information and communications technologies (ICTs); *and, lately*, on international criminal justice in Africa. He is also the Councillor, African Forum of the International Bar Association (*AfriBA*); former Secretary of AfriBA Executive Committee Member, the International Institute of Law Association Chief Executives (IILACE); formerly a Member of its Programme Committee. Don is *also a member of* the International Bar Association (*IBA*); International Law Association (*ILA*); Society for International Development (*SID*); Commonwealth Lawyers' Association (*CLA*); International Commission of Jurists (*ICJ*); East Africa Law Society (*EALS*); Southern African Development Community Lawyers' Association (*SADC LA*); Law Society of Kenya (*LSK*); *and several other non-profits.*



**Dr. Chantal Midzié Abessolo**  
**Director of Programmes**  
**Central African Observatory for Rights & Democracy (ODDAC)**

Dr. Chantal Midzié Abessolo is the Director of Programmes at the Central African Observatory for Rights & Democracy (ODDAC). Dr. Abessolo is also the Co-founder of the Gender Research Group (GREG) in the Political Science Department (2010), a member of the Organizing Committee for the CENAREST Prize, 2009 Edition and a member of the Group for Political and Defence Studies (2008) as a specialist in Gender Issues. She is also a researcher with CENAREST (Centre National de Recherche Scientifique et Technologique [National Science and Technology Research Centre]) and IRSH (Institut de Recherche en Sciences Humaines [Human Science Research Institute]). She is a holder of a doctorate (NR) in Political Science from the Faculty of Law of Université Nancy 2 (2007). Masters in Ethnology from the Faculty of Letters, Montpellier III (2000), she also has a degree in International Relations (1995), EHEI, Paris XIII.



**Ambassador Nathan Irumba**  
**Executive Director**  
**Southern and East African Trade, Information and Negotiations**  
**Institution (SEATINI)**

Ambassador Nathan Irumba joined SEATINI in 2005. He has a long diplomatic career, specializing in multilateral diplomacy, trade negotiations, budgetary and programme issues. Prior to his posting in Geneva, he served as Director Head of Multilateral and Treaties Department in the Uganda Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador/Deputy Head of Mission to the UN New York (he was a deputy representative of Uganda in UN Security Council 1981-1982) and also served in Uganda missions in London and Paris. Ambassador Nathan Irumba was Uganda's Ambassador to the United Nations Office, World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva (1996-2004) and was for long the Chief Negotiator of Uganda in WTO trade negotiations. He was Coordinator and active participant in LDC and African Groups in UNCTAD and was the Chairman of the Commonwealth Group of Developing Countries in World Trade Organization and a founder and active member of the Like Minded Group of Countries (LMG) in WTO which has spearheaded efforts for addressing Developmental issues in WTO negotiations. He was chairman of the WTO Committee of Trade and Development 2001/2002 and he also chaired a number of functional commissions of UNCTAD. He is currently a member of Uganda Inter-Institutional Trade Committee. He Studied at Makerere University College (Formerly part of University of East Africa) and; The College of Law, Chancery Lane London UK.



**Ms. Joyce Kevin Abalo**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOF)**

Ms. Joyce Kevin Abalo has been the Acting CEO of the East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOF) since July 2010. Prior to that, she was a Programme Officer for Regional Integration, at the East Africa Law Society where she handled the society's regional integration programme in the East African Community. She co-ordinated the East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOF) as a project, nurtured and raised the profile of EACSOF in the region in terms of mobilizing CSOs to effectively engage in the EAC integration process. Ms Abalo was also a researcher with the Uganda Child Right NGO, the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative and a Project Officer with the Norwegian Refugee Council. She is a holder of Master of Arts on Local Governance and Human Rights amongst other academic achievements.



**Mr. Boichoko Abraham Dithake**  
**Secretary-General/Executive Director,**  
**SADC Council of NGOs (SADC-CNGO)**

Mr. Boichoko Abraham Dithake, is the Executive Director of SADC Council of NGOs and was previously the Executive Director for South African National NGO Coalition (SANGOCO). He served as the programme manager for National Land Committee, and a senior field worker and a programme coordinator for Farm-workers Research and Resource Project. He further serves as a Board Member of National land committee, deputy Chairperson, 1994-1996, President, SADC Council of NGOs, convened and coordinated World Conference Against racism – Civil Society component, 2000-2001, convened and coordinated World Summit on Sustainable Development – Civil Society component, 2001-2003, member of UNDP Steering Committee on South African country Report on Human Development, 2001-2002, Member of the Research Committee – Natal university Centre for Civil Society, 2002-2003, member of the regional Steering Committee – EU/SADC Trade negotiations and capacity building since 2006. Mr. Dithake is a South African and is married with three children. He lives in Johannesburg and works in Gaborone.



**Ms. Carnita Ernest**  
**Senior Project Manager**  
**Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV)**

Ms. Carnita Ernest is a social scientist and development practitioner, with a background in psychology. She is currently a Senior Project Manager at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, based in the Transitional Justice Programme in Cape Town, South Africa. Before joining CSV, she was a policy researcher and trainer at the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network. She joined CSV in 1999 and has managed a range of research and training projects, mostly focused on the issues of transitional justice, and health and human rights. She has been involved in research evaluating the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), as well as developing training materials for youth and broader civil society in addressing the continued challenges of peace, truth, justice and reconciliation. Other areas of focus have included projects on the impact of the TRC on the health sector and on a human rights approach to torture. Currently she focuses her time on two key projects: the African Transitional Justice Researchers' Network and the "Transitional Justice and Accountability in Africa", which aims to strengthen the capacity of African CSOs to engage more effectively with programmes and policy development on Transitional Justice at the local, national, continental and internal level.



**Dr. Alioune Tine**  
**Executive Secretary**  
**Rencontre Africaine Pour la Défense des Droits de L'Homme**  
**(RADDHO)**

Dr. Alioune Tine is a professor at the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal and is the Executive Director of RADDHO, the organization of which he was also a founding member. He is married with six children and resides in Dakar. He has extensive experience in Human Rights activism and has served in various mediatory roles and on election observation missions as well. He was involved in a research visit and investigation in Darfur (Sudan) from February 2 to 11, 2005 organised by RADDHO. In 2004, he took part in a Mediation Mission to Mauritania to encourage a rapprochement between the opposition and the authorities for a peaceful democracy, in 2002 in a Mediation in the revival of peace talks between the MFDC and the Government of Senegal, and in 2000 in a Mediation in the signing of a pact between Abdou Diouf (former President of Senegal) and Abdoulaye Wade (current President) for the recognition of results from the 2000 presidential election. Further, he is a founding member of "Independent Trade Union of Higher Education (SAES)" and has been the Secretary of Communication of the union from 1984 to 1989. He also took part in the election observation missions in Togo, Guinea-Bissau and Burkina Faso.



**Ms. Norah Matovu Winyi**  
**Executive Director**  
**The African Women's Development and Communication**  
**Network (FEMNET)**

Norah Matovu Winyi is a Ugandan lawyer and she has a passion for working for the advancement of women in Africa. She has 20 years of working experience in legal practice, NGO management at a senior level and working as a human rights advocate in Uganda and within the East Africa Region. Norah joined FEMNET in July 2008 as an Executive Director. Norah has worked as a legal practitioner in a private law firm, with the National women's machinery in Uganda in the early 1990s, with the Human Rights Network of Uganda as the National Coordinator and as a Human rights and Governance Consultant prior to joining FEMNET as the Executive Director. She is a member of the Uganda Law Society of Uganda, the Uganda Women Lawyers Association (FIDA--Uganda), a Board member of Africa 2000 Network, and Board and Legal Advisor of Wakisa Ministries in Kampala. Norah has been privileged to be part of a team of African facilitators that designed and delivered the Interaction Leadership Program in 19 countries in Africa and the UK in partnership with British Council (2004-2008). She is a holder of a Masters degree in Law in Development obtained from Warwick University in the United Kingdom. She has expanded her competencies by participating in a number of short term training programs in and out of Uganda and these include among others, Gender and Leadership training, Human Rights Training, Organizational Management Training, Gender Planning and Policy training, Strategic Planning, and Project Monitoring and Evaluation. Norah is an alumni of the African Women Leadership Institute (AWLI), a program of Akina Mama wa Afrika.



**Dr. Emmanuel O. Akwetey**  
**Executive Director**  
**Institute of Democratic Governance (IDEG)**

He is the founding Executive Director of IDEG, one of Ghana's leading research and advocacy organisation established 2000. He is a political scientist with a PhD degree in International Politics and Development obtained at the University of Stockholm, Sweden in 1994. A competent academic and accomplished manager, Akwetey is also a passionate advocate of democratic governance and human development, civic participation in credible management of multiparty elections in Africa. He is widely consulted on issues of political and administrative transitions, and international aid and development effectiveness. Dr. Akwetey has partnered the ACBF in the implementation of its capacity development vision in Ghana and Africa since 2003 and has also partnered several bilateral and multilateral institutions. He is currently a member of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group (EPG). He recently won for IDEG, the '**Millennium Excellence Award**' for Democratic Development in Ghana for the period 2005 - 2010.



**Ms. Janah Ncube**  
**CCP-AU Secretary of the Board**  
**Executive Director**  
**Centre for Citizens' Participation on the African Union**

Janah Ncube is the Executive Director of CCP-AU and has extensive experience working in the Africa region for both inter governmental and non governmental bodies on policy related issues. Ms Ncube's expertise is on Policy development & reforms; Gender & Women's human rights; Conflict Resolution & Peace Building, African institutions, mechanisms & politics; Parliamentary reforms & legislative processes; Poverty Monitoring & MDG targets tracking amongst other things. Prior to joining the CCP-AU, Ms Ncube was a senior Policy Advisor at the SADC Secretariat. Her work was focused on the establishment of a poverty observatory for the SADC region and she also functioned as the Civil Society Liaison. Before that she served as the Gender Programme Manager for ACORD, an alliance of development actors working in conflict and post conflict countries across Sub Sahara Africa. She has worked on continental advocacy campaigns with other Pan African organizations and actors. Prior to that, she worked extensively in Zimbabwe's precarious political environment working as a vocal activist on women's human rights, Constitution issues and campaigning against political violence. She currently serves as an advisory board member of the Africa Union Monitor and the ICCO Southern Africa Regional Council. A Chevening scholar, Janah holds a Masters Degree with Merit in Gender and Women's Studies. Janah is married to Norman Musimwa.