

NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Law

Oceans, Justice and Human Rights Conference



3-5 November 2022

Ocean Sciences Campus, Nelson Mandela University



Dear delegates and guests of the Oceans, Justice and Human Rights Conference,

As a prequel to the Nelson Mandela University’s Research Week starting on 7 November 2022, the Department of Public Law at Nelson Mandela University (NMU) will be hosting the **Oceans, Justice and Human Rights Conference** in collaboration with the SARChI Chair in the Law of the Sea and Development in Africa, the Warwick University Law School and the South African International Maritime Institute. The event is affiliated to the NMU Coastal and Marine Research Institute, the Environmental Law Association of South Africa, the Law and Development Research Network and the One Ocean Hub.

The conference will provide an opportunity to NMU researchers and post-graduate students and their domestic and international research partners to engage with each other in interdisciplinary discussions about the relationship between the oceans, justice and human rights. The conference will cover a wide range of issues related to ocean governance, including sustainability, development, climate change, the human rights of people living in close proximity to the ocean and impacted upon by environmental violations and environmental justice.

On 3 and 4 November, the conference will comprise 90-minute sessions combining presentations and panel discussions, two keynote presentations as well as concurrent sessions on energy and decarbonisation in the maritime industry.

A stakeholder/community engagement session will take place on Saturday 5 November.

To accommodate researchers and stakeholders who are unable to attend the conference in person, the event will be hosted on a hybrid basis.



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Thursday, 3 November 2022

08:00	–	08:30	Arrival and registration
08:30	–	09:00	Welcome and introduction
			Opening of conference: Dr L Biggs, Acting Executive Dean of Faculty of Law, Nelson Mandela University
			Introduction: Prof J Botha, HOD Public Law, Nelson Mandela University
09:00	–	10:30	Session 1 – Human Rights “The Horizontal Application of the Environmental Right to Non-State Actors”
10:30	–	11:00	Refreshments and networking
11:00	–	12:30	Session 2 – Oceans and Human Rights
12:30	–	13:30	Lunch and networking
13:30	–	15:00	Session 3 – Ocean Justice
15:00	–	15:30	Refreshments and networking
15:30	–	17:00	Session 4 – “Is there an Obligation to Protect Human Rights in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)?”
17:00	–	17:30	Networking
17:30	–	18:30	Keynote address 1
			David Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment – “Oceans, Justice and the Right to a Healthy Environment”
18:30	–	20:00	Dinner

DAY 2: Friday, 4 November 2022 (Main Stream)

08:30	–	09:30	Keynote address 2
			Prof Erik Franckx, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Chair of the International and European Law Department; Director Master of Laws in International and European Law
09:30	–	11:00	Session 5 – “Protecting Marine Living Resources to Ensure Its Sustainable Use” - Panel 1
11:00	–	11:30	Refreshments and networking
11:30	–	13:00	Session 6 – “Protecting Marine Living Resources to Ensure Its Sustainable Use” - Panel 2
13:00	–	13:45	Lunch and networking
13:45	–	15:15	Session 7 – “The role of courts in ensuring environmental justice: The need for a rights-based approach in addressing climate change”
15:15	–	15:45	Refreshments and networking
15:45	–	17:15	Session 8 – Maritime Security
18:00	–	20:00	Cocktail Function



DAY 2: Friday, 4 November 2022 (Concurrent Stream)

08:00	– 09:00	Registration and reception
09:00	– 09:10	Welcome by the South African International Maritime Institute
09:10	– 09:30	Welcome address
09:30	– 10:00	Keynote address
10:00	– 10:30	Keynote address
10:30	– 11:00	Q & A
11:00	– 11:30	Refreshments and networking

DAY 3: Saturday, 5 November 2022

09:00 – 13:00 Stakeholder Engagement Session



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