

THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL



THE AFRICAN OMBUDSMAN RESEARCH
CENTRE (AORC), A RESEARCH AND TRAINING
ARM OF THE AFRICAN OMBUDSMAN AND
MEDIATORS' ASSOCIATION (AOMA)

- Cordially invite you to a webinar -
VISITING PLACES OF DETENTION

Places of detention are places, which detainees or inmates cannot freely leave and include prisons, mental health facilities, intellectual disability facilities, aged care facilities, COVID-19 managed isolation and quarantine facilities and immigration detention centres among others. After visiting the place of detention, the Ombudsman may make recommendations where necessary to improve the conditions of detention and detainee treatment.

The discussion will focus on the Optional Protocol to The Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) and what it means in relation to the Ombudsman; the purpose of visiting places of detention; designing a program for monitoring conditions of detention; implementing the program for monitoring conditions of detention; what conditions of detention to examine; recommendations where necessary to improve the conditions of detention and detainee treatment.

This facilitated discussion is an excellent opportunity to enhance the capacity of African Ombudsman throughout the continent in their tasks relating to visiting places of detention. It will also contribute to the development of skilled resources within the Ombudsman institutions to the benefit of each participating country and Africa as a whole.

Please click on the [RSVP link](#) below should you wish to participate.

DATE

Tuesday, 20 April 2021

TIME

09h00 – 10h30

SPEAKERS

Speaker 1:

Mr. Ben Buckland, Senior Advisor, Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)

Speaker 2 & Speaker 3:

Mr. Peter Boshier, Chief Ombudsman of New Zealand
& Mr Tom Lord, OPCAT Inspector, New Zealand

Speaker 4:

Ms. Thembelihle Nhlanzi-Ngema, Director: Legal Services,
Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS), (South Africa)

FACILITATOR

Hon. Madeleine Nirere, Ombudsman of Rwanda

RSVP [HERE](#)

Please note that there will be no live question and answers due to time constraints. Participants may however submit relevant questions to Franky Lwelela (Lwelela@ukzn.ac.za) or Marion Adonis (adonism@ukzn.ac.za) by **10:00 on Monday, 19 April 2021** or use the Q & A function during the webinar. Time has been allocated for a response to questions raised before and during the session. If there is insufficient time to respond to all, the questions and answers will be made available on the AOMA/AORC website www.aoma.ukzn.ac.za.

ENQUIRIES ONLY

Franky Lwelela
Email : Lwelela@ukzn.ac.za



Marion Adonis
Email : adonism@ukzn.ac.za

INSPIRING GREATNESS

SPEAKER & FACILITATOR

PROFILES



Ben Buckland is a Senior Advisor at APT, focusing on supporting strong and independent oversight institutions. He also documents human rights work as an award-winning photographer.

Peter Boshier is Chief Ombudsman for New Zealand. He was appointed in December 2015, and in May 2020 was reappointed for a second five-year term. In 2018, Peter was elected as Regional President for the Australasia Pacific Ombudsman Region (APOR) of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI). In this role, Peter sits on the Board of the IOI and develops links with regional and international bodies to ensure the work of Ombudsman Offices is understood, valued and protected. Prior to being appointed Chief Ombudsman, between 2004 and 2012, Peter was the Principal Family Court Judge of New Zealand and was then appointed as a Law Commissioner. Peter has a long association with the Pacific and was seconded to undertake judicial training there, based in Suva in 2002 and 2003. He has travelled regularly to Pacific Island countries to undertake workshops on family violence and youth justice. He holds the Samoan Matai title of Misa which was bestowed in 2000. As Chief Ombudsman, Peter's focus has been on a faster and more effective resolution of complaints, working with government agencies to improve their practices and strengthening his team's investigation and monitoring of places of detention. The Chief Ombudsman has operated as a National Preventative Mechanism under OPCAT for over 14 years. He inspects prisons, mental health facilities, intellectual disability facilities, COVID-19 managed isolation and quarantine facilities, privately run aged care facilities, immigration detention centre, and court cells. In the 2019/20 reporting year Peter carried out a total of 84 visits to places of detention.



Tom Lord is an Assistant Inspector in the Chief Ombudsman's OPCAT team and has hands on experience in a range of OPCAT inspections. Tom graduated from the University of Otago with bachelor's degrees in politics (BA) and music (MusB), and he is currently nearing the completion of a Master's degree from the University of Canterbury, focusing on international relations. His research interests include human rights, international governance, and peacebuilding institutions. Tom has previously worked as a policy advisor at the New Zealand Defence Force and as an intern at New Zealand's diplomatic mission to the United Nations.



Thembelihle Nhlanzi-Ngema's started her career path at the University of Zululand in 2002 where she studied LLB. Her passion for law drove her to work harder and as a result, received a Rector's fund and Attorneys Fidelity Fund bursaries. Another thing that motivated her to do better was because she wanted to rebut a perception in her community that only a certain gender and people from advantaged backgrounds could obtain a qualification in law during that period. She received a senate merit award for being the best second and third-year student. After completing her degree she served articles with the office of the State Attorney in Durban and was admitted as an attorney in August 2008. She worked as an assistant state attorney on a contract basis for two years. She has since been in the public sector with her previous employment (six years) at the National Treasury as a Deputy Director Litigation (seconded to the state attorney) where she was involved in litigating and overseeing numerous high profile matters brought by and against National Treasury. Being from a position of middle management, she has learnt that it is important to understand the people you lead. She holds the view that at times leading from behind is the best way, to allow those you manage to table their ideas than imposing to ensure efficient service delivery. With her career background, you can rest assured that she is devoted to serving in the public sector. Thembelihle has always demonstrated her commitment to the rule of law and always endeavours to conduct herself in a way that enhances professionalism. She is currently working at the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS) as the Director Legal Services, an opportunity she grabbed with open arms to further the rights of all those incarcerated in South Africa.

Hon **Nirere Madeleine** is the current Ombudsman of the Republic of Rwanda since November 2020. She has been the Chairperson of the National Commission for Human Rights of Rwanda for 8 years since 2012 until March 2020; Chairperson of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) 2017- 2019; has been Member of the Global Alliance for Nations Human Rights institutions (2015-2020); she worked with the Parliament of Rwanda for 13 years (Chamber of Deputies) on different senior positions; she has been the Deputy Secretary General of the Upper Chamber of the Parliament of Rwanda (the Senate of Rwanda) from 2009-2012). She has extensive experience in human rights at international and regional level and significant experience in monitoring rights of inmates and detainees and extensive knowledge on National Preventive Mechanisms (NPM). Education: She holds a Master's Degree in International criminal justice and Law of Human Rights (LLM), a Master's Degree in Public Administration (LLM) from ENAP Quebec, a Bachelor Degree of Law and a Post graduate Diploma in Legal practice.



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