

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 -

UN RESOLUTION ON OMBUDSMAN AND MEDIATORS

The United Nations Resolution on Ombudsman and mediator institutions was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 16 December 2020. The resolution represents a strong endorsement of the key principles of Ombudsman institutions, including independence, objectivity, transparency, fairness and impartiality. It is an important further step in securing worldwide recognition for the work of Ombudsman institutions in promoting good administration, human rights, good governance and the rule of law.

Following on from the facilitated discussion around the threats facing the Ombudsman institution, AORC is collaborating with the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) to conduct a webinar on the UN Resolution and the Venice Principles and their great significance to the Ombudsman and mediator institution in Africa and the world.

This webinar would enhance the knowledge of Ombudsman and their staff throughout the continent on the significance of the United Nations Resolution on the Ombudsman and the Venice Principles as the first global standard for the protection and promotion of Ombudsman institutions.

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

DATE

Tuesday, 23 February 2021

TIME

10h00 – 11h30

SPEAKERS

Speaker 1

Mr. Peter Tyndall, IOI President and Ombudsman of Ireland

Speaker 2

Judge Mohamed Benalilou, Ombudsman of Morocco

Speaker 3

Mr. Werner Amon, IOI Secretary General and Ombudsman of Austria

FACILITATOR

Advocate John Walters, Ombudsman of Namibia

[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, 22 January 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

SPEAKER & FACILITATOR

PROFILES



Peter Tyndall has been the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner for Ireland since December 2013. Mr Tyndall, who is from Dublin, served as Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. He was Chief Executive of the Arts Council of Wales and Head of Education and Culture for the Welsh Local Government Association. He worked in a variety of senior positions in housing and social care. In particular, he developed housing and support services for people with intellectual disabilities. Peter Tyndall is currently President of the International Ombudsman Institute.

Mohamed Benalilou is the current Ombudsman of the Kingdom of Morocco. He has a degree in Higher University Studies. BA in Private Law. He is currently a member of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary, National Council for Human Rights, Member of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, Member of the National Commission for the Control of Personal Data. In addition, he is member of the Higher Body for Justice Reform, Member of the Team of Governmental Experts proposed by the countries' members of the Anti-corruption Convention with regard to the Implementation Review Mechanism. He has authored a book entitled "Crime and Reconciliation between the Freedom of Expression and the Obligation of Sanction" (published in February 2018) as well as various articles dealing with miscellaneous legal and judiciary issues.



Werner Amon was a Member of Parliament for 25 years. He was the Chairman of the Austrian delegation to the Council of Europe (CoE) and Vice-President of the CoE's Parliamentary Assembly. Mr Amon was elected as one of the three Austrian Ombudsmen in July 2019. As Ombudsman, he is responsible for monitoring the administration of the judiciary, the public prosecution and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as investigating complaints concerning communal matters. Since 2019, Mr Amon is the Secretary General of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI).

John Walters obtained the degrees BA (1977) and LLB (1980) from the University of the Western Cape in South Africa and was admitted as advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa (South West Africa Division; as it was then called) in 1981. Mr Walters has been a career prosecutor since 1981 and magistrate since 1985. He spent some time in private practice until appointed as Acting Prosecutor-General in December 2002 until 31 December 2003. From April 1998 until March 2006, Mr Walters was the Chairperson of the Transportation Commission of Namibia; he was a member of the Board for Legal Education from 1996 to March 2004 and a member (ex officio) of the Law Reform and Development Commission of Namibia since July 2004 until date. Mr Walters is also a Board member of the African Ombudsman Research Centre. Mr Walters was appointed as Ombudsman of the Republic of Namibia in July 2004. He succeeded Adv. Bience Gawanas as the third substantive Ombudsman of Namibia. He joined the International Ombudsman Institute (I.O.I) Board of Directors as African Regional Vice-President in 2009. He was elected 1st Vice-President of the IOI in 2012 and President of the IOI in October 2014. His term of office as President of the IOI ended in November 2016.

