



**BIOGRAPHIES – ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME SPECIAL INTEREST SESSION:
PROTECTING OUR PLANET - PROSECUTORIAL APPROACHES TO
ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME**

Chair:

Kamran Aliyev, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Kamran Aliyev was born in 1965 in Azerbaijan. He graduated with honors from the Faculty of Law of Irkutsk State University (Russia) in 1987. He began his career as an investigator at the Chita Transport Prosecution Office of the Russian Federation. From 1990 to 1993, he worked as a research fellow at the Scientific Research Institute of the Prosecutor General's Office in Russia and obtained his PhD in Law in 1993.

Following this, Kamran Aliyev continued his career at the prosecution office of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He held various positions, including prosecutor of the Personnel Department, Head of the Scientific and Educational Center, investigator, senior investigator of the Investigation Department and the Investigation Department for Grave Crimes of the Prosecutor General's Office, assistant and senior assistant to the Prosecutor General, and director of the Department for Public Prosecutions.

On 06.08.2007, he was appointed Director of the Anti-Corruption Department within the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 2014, he was appointed Deputy Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Director of the Anti-Corruption General Directorate. Kamran Aliyev is fluent in English and Russian and holds a PhD in Law. He has been awarded the "Flag of Azerbaijan" order and the Order of Merit for the Motherland, 2nd degree. Aliyev is vice president of the International Association of Prosecutors. He has been a member of the Azerbaijani delegation to the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) of the Council of Europe and the National Coordinator for the implementation of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Network Action Plan in Eastern Europe and Central Asia of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

In May 2020, he was appointed Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Subsequently, in November 2021, he was awarded the highest special rank of State Counselor of Justice of the 1st Degree. Kamran Aliyev is married with two children.

Speakers:

Mukhtar Babayev, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and COP29 President (introductory remarks)

Mukhtar Babayev was born on October 16, 1967 in Baku. Graduated from high school in Baku in 1984 and served in the military between 1986-1988.

In 1991, he graduated from Moscow State University, Faculty of Philosophy, majoring in political science.

In 1994, received bachelor degree in Foreign Economic Relations of Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

In 2000, graduated from pan-Russian Academy of Foreign Trade specializing in World Economy.

Political career

In 1991-1992 served at the State Committee for Economy and Planning of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Mukhtar Babayev served at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 1992-1993.

From 1994 to 2003 he served at the Department of Foreign Economic Relations of SOCAR, from 2003 to 2007 at the Department of Marketing and Economic Operations of SOCAR.

In 2007-2010, he served as SOCAR's Vice President for Ecology.

In 2010-2018, he served as Chairman of the Supervisory Board of SOCAR "Azerkimya" Production Association.

Mukhtar Babayev is a member of New Azerbaijan Party. On December 7, 2010, he was elected a member of Parliamentary Committee of the National Assembly on Natural Resources, Energy and Ecology.

Since April 23, 2018, serves as a Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Mukhtar Babayev was appointed COP29 President-Designate on 4 January 2024.

Richard Lancaster SC, Senior Counsel, New South Wales, Australia

Richard Lancaster is a barrister in New South Wales, Australia. He has been practising at the private Bar since 1997 and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2009. Richard has a diverse practice as an advocate in trials and appeals throughout Australia, including in civil and criminal proceedings for contraventions of environmental and planning laws.

Richard is a fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. He has been the Editor of the Australian Law Reports for many years, selecting decided cases to be reported from decisions of the High Court, Federal Court and the State Supreme Courts. He is currently the Chair of the Climate Change Committee of the NSW Bar Association; and is a former President of the Environment and Planning Law Association (NSW).

Richard is also currently Environmental Counsel to the Board of the NSW Environment Protection Authority (appointed for 3 years from 1 January 2023 pursuant to s 17 of the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991 (NSW)*), noting that his participation in IAP Baku 2024 is in his individual capacity, not as a representative of the EPA.

Sarah Lewis, Senior Crown Counsel, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Cayman Islands

Sarah Lewis is Senior Crown Counsel at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in the Cayman Islands. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2006 and practiced in London for ten years before transferring to commercial litigation. After a spell in Dubai litigating at the Dubai International Financial Centre Court she found her way to the Cayman Islands where, after four years practicing as an insolvency litigator both in Cayman and the BVI, she eventually returned to criminal law.

Ms Lewis has been with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions since 2020 where she prosecutes an array of offences including homicide, sexual offences against children, corruption, fraud and environmental crime. Perhaps surprisingly, she has found her environmental crime cases to be the most protracted and the most complex legally, and therefore in many ways the most interesting.

Ferry Mpinda, Public Prosecutor for the Ngoumou and Mefou Akono courts, Cameroon

Professional background:

Since August 2020 : Public Prosecutor at the Ngoumou and Mefou Akono Courts (Center Region-Cameroon)

From December 2014 to August 2020 : Judge and examining magistrate at the Court of first instance of Bertoua (East Region-Cameroon)

From July 2010 to December 2014 : Deputy public prosecutor at the Edéa and Sanaga-Maritime Courts (Littoral Region-Cameroon)

Highest qualification:

PhD in law (thesis subject: "International criminal courts and victims' rights", defended in December 2017 at the University of Yaoundé II)

Publications :

2019 : *The special judicial police*, Presses Universitaires d'Afrique, 482 pages

2016 : *The public prosecutor in Cameroon*, Presses Universitaires d'Afrique, 236 pages

Teaching activities :

Since 2021 : Lecturer in criminal law at the National School of Administration and Magistracy

Since 2013 : Lecturer in criminal procedure at the University of Douala

Sabore Kourouma-Guiro, Deputy Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons, Directorate of Civil and Criminal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Cote d'Ivoire

I am Kourouma Saboré, married to GUIRO, a Magistrate of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, since February 1997. I have held various positions including Deputy Prosecutor of the Republic, Counsel at the Court of Appeal, Deputy Attorney General at the General Prosecutor's Office at the Court of Appeal, and Deputy Prosecutor of the Republic until October 2014.

Since November 2014, I have been at the Central Administration of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights as Deputy Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons at the Directorate of Civil and Criminal Affairs.

I am also an active member of various associations. At the national level, I was involved in establishing the Association of Female Magistrates of Côte d'Ivoire, where I currently serve as secretary-general. I have been a member of the Judicial Trade Union (ASM) since 1999, and of the NGO Transparency Justice of Côte d'Ivoire.

At the international level, I am a member of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ), the International Association of Prosecutors and Prosecutors (IAPP). I am driven by the moral imperative to defend the fundamental rights of every individual, I am deeply committed to working for the development of law in general and my profession, as well as for equality and justice, particularly concerning women's rights.

Niels Peters Williams, Associate Programme Officer, UNODC

Niels Peters Williams is an Associate Programme Officer at the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), with expertise in maritime and environmental crimes. Based at the UNODC Headquarters in Vienna, Niels leads the Environment Team's work on climate change, coordinating UNODC's engagements within the UN Climate Change Conference and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and driving efforts to integrate justice system responses to environmental crime and security into global climate action. Before joining UNODC, Niels worked at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in Kenya, where he specialized in ocean conservation and biodiversity restoration.

Niels is a national of Ecuador and holds an undergraduate degree in International Relations from the University of Edinburgh, as well as a Master's degree in International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies from the London School of Economics and Political Science. In addition to his mother tongue, Spanish, Niels is fluent in English, Dutch, and French.