



## **BIOGRAPHIES – KEYNOTE SPEECHES**

### **KEYNOTE OPENING SPEAKER:**

#### **Shamila Batohi, National Director of Public Prosecutions, National Prosecuting Authority, South Africa**

Advocate Shamila Batohi is the first woman to be appointed National Director of Public Prosecutions in 20 years.

Batohi completed her Bachelor's Degree at the University of Durban Westville and post-graduate at the University of Natal. She started her career as a junior prosecutor in Chatsworth Magistrates Court in 1986. She became the first KZN regional head of the erstwhile Scorpions in the NPA and later served as Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) in KZN from 2002 to 2009.

She was seconded to the Investigation Task Unit established by The Honourable President of the Republic of South Africa, Nelson Mandela in 1995 and was appointed in 2000 as Regional Head of the Directorate of Special Operations (Scorpion) based in KwaZulu-Natal.

In 1995 she was appointed by former President Nelson Mandela to a multi-disciplinary team to investigate police hit squad activities during apartheid. She is known for her profile prosecution of former Proteas captain Hansie Cronje at the King Commission.

Adv Batohi was senior legal advisor at the International Criminal Court at The Hague, Netherlands, a role she filled from 2009 until 2018.

For much of the last decade, she has served as a Senior Legal Advisor to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

Adv Batohi was appointed as National Director of Public Prosecutions on 4 December 2018 after a transparent nomination, interview and selection process by a panel of individuals from the legal fraternity and Chapter 9 institutions in recommending suitable candidates.

## **KEYNOTE CLOSING SPEAKER:**

### **Raelene Sharp KC, Director of Public Prosecutions, Commonwealth, Australia**

Raelene Sharp KC was appointed the Director of Public Prosecutions (Cth) on 4 December 2023, for a 5-year term.

Ms Sharp has over 20 years' experience in both domestic and international legal domains, specialising in criminal law, investigative and administrative law. In addition to Bachelors in Law and Arts (majoring in linguistics), she has a Master of Laws in Public International Law (International Criminal Law) from Leiden University.

Before being called to the Victorian Bar in 2010, Ms Sharp worked as a solicitor for 10 years, first at the Office of Public Prosecutions (Vic), at the (then) Australian Crime Commission and at the United Nations in Lebanon.

Ms Sharp was appointed senior counsel in 2022.

Ms Sharp sits on the Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Forum, the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce and the Commonwealth Association of Directors.