



J20

SOUTH AFRICA 2025

**Justice in a time of
change: Independence,
Innovation and
Co-operation**

02 - 05 September 2025



#J20SouthAfrica | www.j20.judiciary.org.za



Solidarity

Equality

Sustainability



The Constitutional Court of the Republic of South Africa, in Braamfontein. The carvings on the entrance to the Court depict the Bill of Rights as found in the South African Constitution.

WELCOME MESSAGE



CHIEF JUSTICE MANDISA MAYA

Constitutional Court of the Republic of South Africa,
Host of the 2025 J20 Summit

On behalf of the Judiciary of South Africa, it is our profound honour to welcome the esteemed Heads of Judiciaries, Chief Justices, Court Presidents and distinguished delegates of the G20 nations and our strategic partners to Johannesburg for the 2025 J20 Summit. We extend our deep appreciation to Brazil which hosted the 2024 J20 Symposium and is represented here for their exemplary leadership and acknowledge the significant journey this forum has undertaken since its inception in 2018. Your presence is a powerful testament to our shared and unwavering commitment to the global project of justice.

We convene under the theme, *Justice in a Time of Change: Independence, Innovation, and Cooperation*, which serves as a vital call to action. We meet in a city that is itself a living testament to the struggle for justice and the transformative power of constitutional democracy; a place where the law was reimagined as a shield for the vulnerable and a foundation for a new society. It is therefore our hope that Johannesburg's spirit of resilience will inspire our deliberations. Over the next two days, let us engage in candid dialogue, share our experiences, and forge a collective path forward to strengthen the indispensable pillars of justice for our nations and for generations to come.

02

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 2025

DAY 1

WELCOME EVENTS

- 17:30 J20 Summit briefing to international guests
- 19:00 Welcome cocktail

03

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 2025

DAY 2

Programme Director: Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa**Opening Ceremony**

10:00 – 11:00

Welcome address by the Deputy Chief Justice and introduction of the Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

Opening and keynote address by the Chief Justice

Official group photograph

11:00 – 13:00

**SESSION 1: PLENARY: ADVANCING JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND
ACCOUNTABILITY: PRESERVING THE RULE OF LAW AND REINFORCING
JUDICIAL SECURITY IN AN EVOLVING GLOBAL LANDSCAPE**
Session facilitator:

South Africa – 5 minutes

Panellists:

United Kingdom, Türkiye, India, and Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa — 25 minutes each

Discussions — 25 minutes**Session resolutions — 10 minutes** (Facilitator)

13:00–14:00

LUNCH

14:00 – 16:30

SESSION 2: PLENARY: BALANCING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INNOVATION WITH FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN JUDICIAL SYSTEMS**Session facilitator:**

Singapore – 5 minutes

Panellists:

Brazil, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and UNESCO – 20 minutes each

Discussions — 45 minutes**Session resolutions — 10 minutes** (Facilitator)**END OF DAY 1**

19:00

FORMAL DINNER**Programme Director:**

Justice N Z Mhlantla, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of South Africa

Speakers:

Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

Chairperson of the Southern and Eastern Africa Chief Justices' Forum (Chief Justice of the Kingdom of Eswatini)

04

 THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 2025

10:00 – 12:30

SESSION 3: PLENARY: CLIMATE CHANGE JUSTICE THROUGH JUDICIAL COLLABORATION**Session facilitator:**

Algeria – 5 minutes

Panellists:

Australia, France, Indonesia and Mozambique — 20 minutes each

Discussions — 25 minutes**Session resolutions – 10 minutes** (Facilitator)

12:30 – 13:30

LUNCH



The Supreme Court of Appeal of the Republic of South Africa, in Bloemfontein.

13:30–16:00

SESSION 4: PLENARY: COMBATING CYBERCRIME: STRENGTHENING CROSS-BORDER JUDICIAL COOPERATION**Session facilitator:**

Republic of Korea — 5 minutes

Panellists:

Russian Federation, Ireland and African Court for Human and Peoples' Rights — 20 minutes

Discussions — 25 minutes**Session resolutions – 10 minutes** (Facilitator)

15:30–16:00

SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS**Session facilitator:**

Angola

Presenter:

President of the Supreme Court of Appeal of the Republic of South Africa

16:00

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND CLOSING CEREMONY**Facilitator:**

Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

Speaker:

Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

05 FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 2025

10:00

CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Cultural programme for international guests



The Palace of Justice, in Pretoria



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