



**STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, LAW, DEVELOPMENT AND DIPLOMACY
WINDSOR GOLF HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB - DECEMBER 8TH - 10TH 2013**

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation under the aegis of the Rule of Law Program for Sub Saharan Africa held a stakeholders' conference on climate change, law, development and diplomacy in Nairobi, Kenya from 8th -10th December 2013.

The conference covered a wide range of pertinent issues including: Human Rights and Equity; Global Governance and Equity; and Negotiating International Treaties: Training Program for African Diplomats; and the introduction and presentation of the twin publication on *Climate Change: International Law and Global Governance*, Volumes I and II edited by Prof. Oliver C. Ruppel, Prof. Christian Roschmann, and Dr. Katharina Ruppel-Schlichting.

During the opening session, Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu, the Director General, National Environment Management Authority of Kenya and Prof. Christian Roschmann, the Director, Konrad Adenauer Foundation Rule of Law Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa, set the tone for the deliberations in their keynote speech and opening remarks respectively.

Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu, in his keynote address noted that Climate Change is not only a threat to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty reduction

but has the potential to reverse the modest gains that we have achieved attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). He recalled that Kenya has in recent years experienced varied adverse impacts of climate change, including prolonged droughts; frost in some of the productive agricultural areas; hailstorms; extreme flooding; receding lake levels; drying of rivers and other wetlands; among others leading to large economic losses and adversely impacting food security. Accordingly, he called upon all stakeholders including governments and the private sector to increase their presence and participation in designing appropriate response strategies as well as drafting comprehensive climate change policy and related legislation to the effects of mitigate climate change.

Prof. Christian Roschmann and **Prof. Oliver Ruppel**, presented the publication on *Climate Change: International Law and Global Governance*. According to the co-editors, the two-volume publication was one of the first attempts to systematically address both international climate change law and global climate change governance. The publication deals with international law and the multiple regulatory regimes reflecting fragmentation in the absence of a universal climate change regime. The publication further explores the interrelated and extremely complex areas of international climate change law, global climate governance and diplomacy from a variety of doctrinal, transdisciplinary and thematic perspectives.

Notable keys speakers at the conference included **Prof. Oliver Ruppel; Justice Ariranga Pillay; Dr. Erika Pires-Ramos; Prof. Aidan Msafiri; Prof. Yemi Oke;** and **Prof. Werner Scholtz**. The delegates deliberated on the impacts of climate change on various international law regimes, including especially:

- Climate change, human rights and equity
- Global governance and equity
- Climate change, international trade and investment law
- Judicial review and international climate change litigation
- Mitigation regulation, natural resource management and climate-engineering, and
- International climate change law as a new international law discipline

The delegates also reflected on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the most pressing impacts of climate change on international diplomacy and global governance. This was highlighted from various transdisciplinary and geopolitical perspectives with a special focus on the challenge of strengthening national and international climate change policy, sustainable development and increasing equity around the world, which goes beyond the capacity of national governments.

Various international climate change cooperation and protection efforts were also analysed in the context of global security, climate induced migration movements, adaptation and the loss and damage debate.

At the close of the conference, the delegates were unanimous on the need to have concerted efforts in addressing the challenges and the ever increasing impacts of climate change were critical. Towards this end, inception of the Development of the Rule of Law Programme (DROPP) would be a crucial partner in promoting research and training for African diplomats and stakeholders in the less explored areas of aquatic justice; oceanic justice; climatic justice; and energy related justice.