

## 23RD AFRICA HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The University of Nairobi's School of Law in conjunction with the Centre of Human Rights of the University of Pretoria, in collaboration with other partners including Konrad Adenauer Stiftung's Rule of Law Program for Sub Saharan Africa, hosted the 23rd edition of the African Human Rights Moot Competition, in Nairobi, Kenya between September 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2014.

The Moot Competition is the largest annual congregation of law students and lecturers from all over Africa who participate in simulated court proceedings and oral arguments.

This year's competition featured 94 students and 47 law professors drawn from 47 universities across Africa.

While officially launching the event, Mr. Charles Nyachae, the Chairman of the Commission for the Implementation of the Constitution (CIC) challenged African university students and the youth in general, to embrace a culture of constitutionalism and champion for the rights of the oppressed if Africa is to realize her full potential.

The final round was argued on 6 September 2014 at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre and the combined team from the University of Nairobi, Kenya and the Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis du Sénégal, who argued for the Applicant, emerged the winners of the Competition. The runners-up, arguing for the Respondent, were the teams from University of Pretoria, South Africa and Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire.

The judges in the final round comprised of:

- **Justice Dr. Willy Mutunga**, the Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya & President of the Supreme Court of Kenya
- **Lady Justice, Commissioner Zainabo Sylvie Kayitesi**, the Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights & the Deputy Chief Justice of the Republic of Rwanda
- **Lady Justice Elsie Thompson** (Nigeria), the Judge of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
- **Justice (Rtd) Johann Kriegler** (South Africa), Former Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa
- **Dr David Padilla** (United States of America), Former Assistant Executive Secretary of the Inter American Commission on Human Rights.

In addition to the Competition, there was a one day international conference on the theme 'Realising the right to development in Africa' that was held at the Kenya School of Law on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014.



*Prof. PLO Lumumba addressing the forum.*