

# Global Judicial Institute on the Environment

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Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law

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# Global Judicial Institute on the Environment

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“Organized by judges for judges and committed to judicial independence, transparency, and integrity that supports the judiciary across the world to effectively handle cases concerning the environment”.

# GJIE Objectives and Activities

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- Judicial capacity-building and education programs, especially to improve the administration and resolution of cases and disputes
- Technical assistance by sharing best judicial practices, stimulating collaboration, and bolstering information exchange

# GJIE Objectives

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- Convening judges, courts, tribunals, court officials, judicial education institutions, and additional partners at international, regional, national, and subnational levels
- Research, analysis, and publications focussing on environmental adjudication and dispute resolution, court practices and procedures, court administration, legal claims and actions, judicial remedies, and environmental justice

# GJIE Timeline

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- Foundation and launching on 29 April 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, with a strong input from senior judges from six continents
  - Almost four years of global consultation
  - Charter

# GJIE Timeline

- 19-21 May 2017 2<sup>nd</sup> International Meeting of the GJIE
  - Discussion and adoption of the Statutes of Incorporation
  - GJIE as an international association under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code and register its legal seat in Geneva
  - Criteria for selection of the 14 member Interim Governing Committee — IGC
  
- Still in the implementation phase

# Priorities

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- Secretariat in Nairobi (UN Environment)
  - MoU signed with Erik Solheim during the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum
  - First meeting of the Secretariat, January 2019
- Website
  - With UN Environment InforMEA, based in Geneva
  - Meeting April 20, 2018 (Geneva)

# The Global Judicial Institute on the Environment

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## □ Training programs

- 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (March 2018)
  - Brasília Declaration of Judges on Water Justice
- With the OAS for 30 judges from Latin America and the Caribbean
- With UN Environment: 2<sup>nd</sup> African Environmental Law Conference of Chief Justices and Directors of Judicial Academies/Schools



# IGC

1. **Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin**, Member National High Court of Brazil and Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (Brazil)
2. **Justice Ragnhild Noer**, Member Supreme Court of Norway and Member Steering Committee, IUCN WCEL (Norway)
3. **Justice Michael Wilson**, Associate Judge Supreme Court of Hawai'i (USA)
4. **Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah**, Member Supreme Court of Pakistan (Pakistan)
5. **Justice Swatanter Kumar**, Chairperson National Green Tribunal (India)
6. **Justice I Gusti Agung Sumanatha**, Member Supreme Court of Indonesia (Indonesia)
7. **Lord Robert Carnwath**, Member Supreme Court United Kingdom and UN Environment International Advisory Council (UK)
8. **Justice Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja**, President East African Court of Justice (Rwanda)
9. **Justice Luc Lavrysen**, Member of the Constitutional Court of Belgium and President European Forum of Judges for the Environment (Belgium)
10. **Justice Brian Preston**, Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales (Australia)
11. **Justice Ricardo Lorenzetti**, President Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina (Argentina)
12. **Justice Michelle Weekes**, Member Supreme Court of Judicature of Barbados (Barbados)