

# Media Advisory

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## First ever world conference on constitutional justice

**Date:** 23-24 January 2009

**Location:** International Conference Centre (Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, +27 (0) 21 410 5000), Cape Town, South Africa

**Organised by:** Venice Commission of the Council of Europe and Constitutional Court of South Africa

**Description:** The theme of the conference is "Influential Constitutional Justice – its influence on society and on the development of a global jurisprudence on human rights". It will look into the issue of how constitutional courts and Supreme Courts shape law, which in turn shapes society. Some 260 participants from 93 countries will have the opportunity of sharing experiences of the different judicial systems and jurisprudence within the regions and with other regions on a global scale.

The President of South Africa, Kgalema Motlanthe, Chief Justice of South Africa, Justice Pius Langa, and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio will open the conference.

**Practical information:** Accreditation by the Department of Justice, Phumla Mthala, tel. +27 79 52 84 661/+27 012 315 8234, [Pmthala@justice.gov.za](mailto:Pmthala@justice.gov.za), or Zolile Nqayi, tel. +27 082 898 6483, [Znqayi@justice.gov](mailto:Znqayi@justice.gov).

Only the opening session on Friday 23 January is open to the press.

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**Additional information:** [www.venice.coe.int/WCCJ](http://www.venice.coe.int/WCCJ)

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