

Bossa, Solomy Balungi (Uganda)

[Original: English]

Curriculum vitae

Personal data

Name: Solomy Balungi Bossa

Gender: Female

Nationality: Ugandan

Date of Birth: 14 April 1956

Educational qualifications

Law Development Centre, Uganda: Post-Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (conferred) 1980.

Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda: Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) (Honors) (conferred) August 1979.

Commonwealth Youth Institute Lusaka, Zambia: Certificate of Law Reporting 1986.

Summary of professional skills/expertise/experience

Judge with twenty years' judicial experience at the international, regional and national levels and has prior experience of ten years as practicing advocate and human rights activist.

Positions held are summarized as follows:

- (a) Judge of the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (UNMICT) from 2012 to date
- (b) Judge of the African Court of Human and People's Rights: 8 September 2014 - to date;
- (c) Judge of the Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court of Uganda: 7 July 2013 - to date;
- (d) Judge of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UNICTR) 2003- 2013;
- (e) Judge of the East African Court of Justice: 2001 – 2006;
- (f) Judge of the High Court of Uganda: 1997 – 2013;
- (g) Practicing Attorney: 1988-1997;
- (h) Lecturer, Law Development Centre, Uganda: 1980-1997;

Jurisprudence of Equality Project Trainer with the International Association of Women Judges and the National Association of Women Judges of Uganda;

Trained by Judicial Education Program, UNICTR, East African Judicial Education Committee, International Association of Women Judges and Uganda Judicial Education Committee including on: jurisprudence of equality, women in the judicial process, women on the edge, children in problems with the law, women's human rights, HIV, Aids, Ethics and the Law, constitutional governance, fair trial principles, judges as leaders and managers;

Trained by International Bar Association, East Africa Law Society, Uganda Law Society including on: improving access to justice, constitutional and democratic governance, leadership skills;

Human rights activist since 1990 and has founded/chaired non-profit human rights and governance organizations including: the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute, the East African Law Society, the East African Centre for Constitutional Development (Kituo cha Katiba), the Uganda Network on HIV, Aids, Ethics and the Law, Legal Aids Projects of the Uganda Law Society and Law Development Centre, the National Organization for Civic Education and Election Monitoring;

Keep abreast of human rights and governance issues through membership of international, regional and non-governmental organizations including International Commission of Jurists, International Association of Women Judges, African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights, East African Judges and Magistrates Association, International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Uganda.

Summary of relevant work experience

Judge with twenty years' judicial experience and exposure to: international and national criminal law, judicial practice, and rules of evidence, international human rights law, international humanitarian law and constitutional law;

Experience acquired through sitting on various international, regional and national courts including: nine and half years' as trial Judge with the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UNICTR); more than two and half years as Judge with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights; five years as Judge with the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (UNMICT); three years and eight months as a Judge of the Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court of Uganda; and six years as a Judge of the High Court of Uganda;

Prior to joining the bench, practiced law as advocate of the Courts of Judicature in Uganda and as a human rights activist for ten years;

Through activism founded and/or chaired various international, regional, and national non-government human rights and governance organizations. Also chaired government organizations in Uganda;

Member of professional organizations dealing with human rights, judicial officers and governance at the international, regional and national levels.

List of publications

"Towards a Protocol extending the jurisdiction of the East African Court of Justice" in the East African Lawyer, March 2006;

"Anti-terrorism Act 2002 (Uganda) and Human Rights Implications" ICJ Bulletin on Counter-Terrorism, September 15, 2004;

"A critique on the East African Court of Justice as a Human Rights Court", in The Protectors: Human Rights Commissions and Accountability in East Africa, 2008;

Report on Legal Education and Training in Uganda (co-authored)", Uganda Ministry of Justice Publications, 1995.

Sample presentations

A General Overview of leadership skills in the Judiciary in the 21st Century presented to the East African Judges Training Workshop on 25 October 2012 in Dar es salaam;

The successes and challenges of the UNICTR presented to the Harvard African Law Association at Harvard University, USA;

The Role and contribution of Regional Courts in International Criminal Justice presented to the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the International Commission of Jurists Kenya Chapter on 9 November 2009, Mombasa, Kenya;

The East African Community, the Protection of Women's Rights and gender equality presented to the SIDA East African Program on Equal Status and Human Rights of Women August 2003 Nairobi, Kenya;

Many other presentations made on diverse topics on human rights and international justice.

Language

English

Other relevant & supporting information

Awards

Have received awards relating to my work as a bar leader; human rights activist and Judge from the International Bar Association; East African Law Society; Kituo cha Katiba (the East African Centre for Constitutional Development); the National Association of Women Judges of Uganda; Uganda Law Society; and Legal Aid Clinic of the Law Development Centre; and, the Government of Uganda among others.
