

Alapini Gansou, Reine (Benin)

[Original: French]

Curriculum vitae

Personal data

Family Name: Alapini-Gansou
First name: Reine
Middle name: Adelaide Sophie
Gender: Female
Date of Birth: 11 August 1956
Nationality: Beninese
Regional Criteria: Africa
Marital Status: Married
List A/List B: List B
Languages: Mother tongue: Nago (local language in Benin)
English (written) Advanced (oral) Advanced
French (written) Advanced (oral) Advanced

Educational qualifications

2007: Institution: University of Lyon, France; Qualification(s) obtained: Degree in Common Law (Exhibit n°4).
1998 - 1999: Institution: University of Maastricht and University of Togo; Qualification(s) obtained: Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Law and Policy (Exhibit n°5).
1979 - 1983: Institution: Faculty of Law, National University of Benin; Qualification(s) obtained: Master's Degree in Business Law and Judicial **Carriers** (Exhibit n°6).
1981 - 1982: Institution: Faculty of Law, National University of Benin; Qualification(s) obtained: Master's Degree in Business Law and Judicial Carriers (License) (Exhibit n°7).
1979 - 1981: Institution: Faculty of Law, National University of Benin; Qualification(s) obtained: Diplôme d'Études Universitaires Générales 1 and 2 (Exhibit n°8 and 9).

Professional experience

2015: Employer: Lawyer with the International Criminal Court; Post title: Duty Counsel; Other information: Fully practiced on African cases (Exhibit n°10).
2012 - 2014: Employer: Permanent Court of Arbitration; Post title: Judge.
2012 - To date: Employer: International Training Centre for Francophone Lawyers, Cotonou; Post title: Instructor/Trainer; Other information: Training on "Defence Proceedings before the International Criminal Court" (Exhibit n°11).
2002 - To date: Employer: Beninese State/Faculty of Law, Beninese National University of Abomey, Calavi and Parakou (Exhibit n°12); Post title: Lecturer - Researcher in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure; Other information: In

this capacity, I was commissioned as Expert to develop the new Criminal Procedure Code of Benin and I also facilitated conferences on Human Rights at the Amphi-Theatres and the UNSECO Chair in Benin (Exhibit n°13)

1986 - To date: Post title: Lawyer, Member of the Bar Association of Benin since 4 December, registered on the list of lawyers under no. 23 (Exhibit n°14 and 15); Other information: Former Intern with the International Conference of Bar Associations. (Paris, 1988) (Exhibit n°16). Worked for the Association of Lawyers Without Borders (ASF) on the project entitled "Justice for All in Rwanda".

In 2001: I secured a ruling on the anti-constitutionality of sections 336 et seq. of the Beninese Criminal Code relating to the suppression of adultery deemed discriminatory against women. In this capacity, I was appointed Chartered Arbitrator in 2005, at the Benin Chamber of Commerce and Industry; in 2003: Chaired the Technical Committee tasked with the Formulation of the Statute and Internal Regulations of the Centre for Conciliation, Arbitration and Mediation of the Benin Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCAM - CCIB) and Draft Decree for the establishment of the CCAM - CCIB; and in 2004 at the Benin Interprofessional Cotton Association, based on my expertise in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.(Exhibit n°17).

In 2002, I pleaded the case of Alidou OUEDRAOGO in Burkina Faso at the request of the International Commission of Jurists.

In 2009, I obtained the anti-constitutionality of articles 336 and following of the penal code of Benin repressing the adultery of the woman in BENIN by an emblematic decision DCC N ° 09/081 of July 30, 2009.

Other professional activities

2016: In September 2016, I was appointed by the UN Secretary General as a member of the Fact-Finding Commission on Human Rights Violations in Burundi.

2015: From 2015 to 2017 at the end of my mandate with the African Commission, I chaired the Joint Working Group on the Special Procedures of the African Commission and the United Nations.

2012-2014: From April 2013 to October 2014, I was appointed Head of the Human Rights Component of the African International Support Mission to Mali (MISMA) and that of the Misahel.

2012-2014: I was appointed Judge at the UN Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.

2011: Member of the Fact-Finding Commission on Electoral Violence in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

2005-2017: As a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights from 2005 to July 2017 (date of termination of my mandate), I performed judicial functions at the ACHPR pursuant to Article 45 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. Said functions were performed within the ambit of the protection mandate of the ACHPR, which receives and examines individual complaints on human rights violations (Exhibit n°18).

2009-2011: I was appointed Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Upon assumption of duty at the Commission, I got fully involved in the jurisprudential construction of this quasi-judicial institution. In this respect, I was responsible for complaints relating to cases of human rights violations in Francophone African States, notably the DRC, Togo, Mali, Cameroon, Cape Verde and Senegal. I took active part in most of the emblematic decisions of the ACHPR which, within the purview of its judicial mission, currently sum up to above 700 cases, including decisions on admissibility and merits.

I was also appointed as a member of several other special mechanisms of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

2005-2017: Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders in Africa, from 2005 to 2009, and 5 November 2011 to July 2017. In this capacity, I became very well acquainted with all the other regional human rights systems thanks to the many joint activities and capacity building initiatives organized. I participated in several seminars on various themes related to the promotion, protection and capacity building of human rights defenders. I ensured the publication of manuals, working guides and a communication tool for human rights defenders. I equally organized several human rights symposia.

As Special Rapporteur, I chaired the Study Group on Freedom of Association for the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. I was also appointed as a focal point on reprisals against human rights defenders in Africa.

I conducted a Study on Freedom of Association in Africa (2014) and I have just submitted to the African Commission draft guidelines on freedom of association in Africa.

I conducted a study on the situation of women human rights defenders in Africa (2014)

I have adopted principles and guidelines on human rights and terrorism in Africa (2015) on the one hand and guidelines on police and human rights in Africa (2017) on the other.

Most relevant publications

- « De l'article 64 à l'article 122-1 du code pénal : une réforme à mi-chemin parue à la revue annuelle de l'assistance en santé mentale en Afrique », (1999). [Article 64 to Article 122-1 of the Criminal Code: a Halfway Reform featured in the Annual Review for Mental Health Assistance in Africa, 'African Realities'].
- « La prise en charge psychologique des femmes victimes de violences sexuelles Cas du BENIN et du CONGO ». [“Psychological Treatment of Women Victims of Sexual Violence: Cases of BENIN and CONGO”].
- « Le code des personnes et de la famille du Bénin à l'épreuve de l'application », (2012). [“Beninese Individual and Family Code at the Ordeal of its Application”].
- « Publics policies for the protection of human rights defenders in Africa » (Focus 2014). [Les Politiques publiques pour la protection des défenseurs de droits de l'Homme en Afrique]
- « L'adoption au Bénin : entre droit et culture ». (2016). [“Adoption in Benin, Law Versus Culture”]
- « Le législateur et le juge Africains dans le succès de la mission de Cour Pénale Internationale », (2016). [“Role of the African Legislator and Judge in the success of the mission of the International Criminal Court”]
- « La responsabilité des Etats en matière de violences sexuelles en Afrique », (2017). [“States' Responsibility with regard to Sexual Violence in Africa”].

Most relevant seminars

- From 27 to 31 March 2017, I organized the 2nd International Symposium Jobourg +18 on the situation of human rights defenders in Africa, held in Cotonou, Benin.
- From 24 October to 4 November 2016, within the framework of the 59th Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, I took part in the commemoration of the year 2016 dedicated to the human rights in Africa with particular emphasis on the women' rights in Africa; on this occasion, my mechanism gave a presentation on works achieved in respect to the situation of women defenders in Africa.
- On 17 July 2016, as a former Executive Secretary and member of the Benin Coalition for the International Criminal Court (ICC), I organized a workshop to elaborate and draw up a law for the adaptation and implementation of the Rome Statute. I took part in the 1st TOAST on the Responsibility of the African States Parties to the International Criminal Court on Violence against Women in Africa, held on 16 July 2016, the occasion of the International Day of International Criminal Justice.

- From 8 to 9 July 2016, I took part in the 3rd High Level Panel on Gender and Development organized by the African Union as a prelude to the 26th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Kigali, Rwanda.
- From 31 July to 3 August 2016, I was the keynote speaker on the occasion of the International Conference on Women's Leadership in Francophone Africa. I was appointed 2nd Vice-President of the Observatory for Women's Leadership in Francophone Africa.
- In June 2016, I took part in a training for lawyers of the International Criminal Court at The Hague in the Netherlands (Exhibit n°19).
- In February 2015, in Accra, Ghana, I was invited as a keynote speaker to the 2nd International Conference on Children's Rights and Reproductive Health.
- In October 2014, I attended a high-level seminar in Cotonou, Benin, on cooperation between the Francophone African States and the International Criminal Court, which brought together Ministers of Justice, General Prosecutors; Participants from Burkina Faso, Mali; Togo, Senegal, Tunisia, Morocco, Niger, Chad, Central African Republic, Representatives of the Prosecutor's Office and the ICC Registry.
- In 2014, I attended a major workshop in Bamako, Mali, on "Impact of the Malian conflict on the rights of women and girls: what kind of partnership can be built with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR): 28 - 30 October 2014, Bamako, Mali.
- In July 2010, I attended a regional conference on women's rights in Africa, held in Bamako, Mali, on 15 July 2010.
- In July / August 2008, I organized a capacity building workshop for African human rights defenders (HRD); at the end of which a toolkit for the HRDs was developed, comprising a guidebook and a work manual.
- In June 2006, I took part in a training for international judges, organized by Institut Brandeis for International Judges, 2006 edition, held in Dakar and M'Bour in Senegal (Exhibit n°20).
- From 4 to 6 March 2004: Presentation and execution of a workshop project on the elaboration and drafting of a law for the adaptation and implementation of the Rome Statute.

Membership of professional associations and societies

- Member of the Association of Women Lawyers of Benin since 1990.
- Founding member of WILDAF-Benin Network (Women's Rights and Development in Africa), 1999. Legal Counsel to women victims of violence for the Women's Right and Development Centre, WILDAF-Benin Network.
- Member of the Association of Women Lawyers of Benin, 2014.
- Member of International Federation of women's Lawyer.
- Member of the International Criminal Court Bar Association.
- Member of the Benin Coalition for the International Criminal Court.

Awards and honours

- At the Sorbonne in Paris, Human Rights Prize awarded on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of African independence, held on 27 November 2010, for my significant contribution to human rights defence in Africa.
- In 2012, Human Rights Prize awarded on the occasion of the 52nd Session of the African Commission, held in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, for my contribution to human rights in Africa.
- In 2012, Recognition received at the UNAIDS Headquarters in Geneva for my contribution to the fight against human rights violations based on sexual orientation in Africa.
- In 2016, I am honored as a Member and spokesman of the Response Chamber for my contribution to the success of the 2016 presidential election in Benin.

Personal interests

- My personal interests are manifold.
- First, I want to pursue the protection of human rights at the International Criminal Court, which is indeed a permanent international judicial institution par excellence.
- Place my serve to international justice through judicial practice, advocacy and research activities.
- The International Criminal Court being the ultimate bulwark for the vulnerable populations; innocent victims who merely seek for the restoration of their human dignity; and consequently require a sound and effective justice to be rendered in consistency with the principle of fair trial, among others.
- Having served as a Lawyer cum Lecturer-Researcher for 31 years, with 15 years added expertise in international human rights law, I look forward with delight and excitement at the prospect of serving as a judge at the International Criminal Court.
- My personal qualities that strengthen my mission beyond my other proven skills include:
 - My taste for research on current topics; All things which should enable me to make a good conviction of my subject. I like reading a lot. From reading, I draw my strength to interact with my interlocutors.
 - My great listening skills that I associate with the respect of the psychology of dialogue gives me the strength to convince or to convince me.
 - Speaking of justice, I like to remain in the legal rigor, while having the concern to make law a factor of development. To the African Commission, a quasi-judicial body that makes decisions that go beyond African borders, I served as a judge; And in the meantime I worked with international judges with whom I became familiar with my training with the Pearson Peacekeeping Center; The International Criminal Bar and the International Association of Defense Lawyers; Without forgetting the BRANDEIS institute for international judges.
 - I have the courage of my convictions and my decisions and I have the know-how with the different actors. I have a keen sense of duty and responsibility.
 - I have a great ability to adapt to the most unexpected situations and make me close to people in difficulty. During the twelve (12) years I spent at the African Commission; First I was trained in the law of Common Law insofar as I am a national of a country of legal Romanesque Germanic and thus civil law. I will feel very comfortable with my colleagues in other legal systems.
 - I have served as president / judge in many fictitious human rights trials throughout Africa. I therefore served human rights first as a member of the Commission by taking full, integral and consistent part in the construction and strengthening of this body to the legal functions of the African Commission; This through the multitude of decisions rendered to date. The African Commission has achieved its results thanks to our methods of interpretation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights; Methods based on both international law and international jurisprudence; But also on the different trends and developments in human rights.
 - As Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders in Africa: I have established a constructive dialogue with state actors, civil society and all other partners on current human rights issues through urgent appeals, communications, press releases and statements. I have had working and capacity-building tools developed: manuals and a communication and capacity-building tool for Human Rights Defenders. I have also created the synergy with the similar organs of the United Nations, European, inter-American and Asian systems, on the rights of human rights defenders and initiated the inter-organic cooperation which Gave rise in 2012 to a roadmap on cooperation between the special procedures of the African Commission and those of the United Nations. For example, I have worked on the burning issues of freedom of association, freedom of expression, capacity building of actors, the rights of women defenders, reprisals against human rights defenders Human rights violations based on sexual orientation.
 - As Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa, I have endeavored to make the African Commission's special procedures for the creation of law. For example, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which is the basic text on which the African Commission is based, does not explicitly provide for the right to peaceful demonstration, I have conducted and individual cases that have reached the African

Commission, it has come to make the right to the peaceful demonstration a right to promote and protect. In this regard, we have had the guideline on the right to peaceful demonstration.

- Between 2009 and 2012, as Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, it is with the sign of the materialization and complementarity between the African Commission and the African Court of Human Rights, Man and peoples that I put my mandate. This is done through the harmonization of the internal rules of the two bodies, bearing in mind that our Rules of Procedure in Part IV clearly regulate the modalities of our complementarity; It is also in this respect that the Commission has referred to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights the serious and massive violations of human rights perpetrated in Libya in 2011 and the case of the Endorois in 2011 and the Ogiek in 2012.
- While I am aware that the journey is still long, I want to serve not only Africa; But the international community in all its dimensions and this through the International Criminal Court. I would like to take full part in building a less violent world, a world in which human rights must be at the center of political decisions; A world in which the rights of victims must prevail. I want to continue the work of protecting human rights at the level of the permanent international judicial institution par excellence, the International Criminal Court.

Other relevant facts

- Apart from my academic qualifications, I have received several certificates in the field of human rights and humanitarian law.
- As shown in the attached documents.
- In 2009, I participated in a training workshop on human rights and conflict management for human rights defenders at the Center for Conflict Resolution in Johannesburg, South Africa (Exhibit n°21).
- In July 2005, Attestation of participation in the course on the practice of law before the International Criminal Court organized by the Pearson Center in Dakar, Senegal, in collaboration with the International Association of Defense Lawyers (Exhibit n°22).
- In February / March 2005: Certificate of participation in the course (CS-84 F) organized by the Pearson Center / Training Program for Civilian Francophone Peacebuilding Managers (PGCAF) in Ouidah, Benin (Exhibit n°23).
- 2003: Chair of the Technical Committee for the drafting of the statutes and rules of procedure of the Conciliation, Arbitration and Mediation Center of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Benin (CCAM - CCIB) and the draft decree Creation of the CCAM-CCIB.
- May 2003: Certificate of participation in the 11th regional course on international human rights procedures organized by the African Center for Democracy and Studies of Human and Peoples' Rights with participation in the 33rd Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human Rights. Human rights and peoples' rights (Exhibit n°24).
- October 2002: Certificate of participation in the 5th Seminar - Workshop organized by the African Institute of Human Rights on human rights litigation with participation in the 32nd Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.
- July 2000: Certificate of participation in the 31st Teaching Session of the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg (Exhibit n°25).
- July 1999: Certificates of participation in the 30th Teaching Session of the International Institute of Human Rights of Strasbourg Rene Cassin and the 27th intensive courses in teaching of the universities of the Rene Cassin institute in Strasbourg (Exhibit n°26 and n°27).
- November-December 1996: Certificate of Participation in a Training Seminar on Management for Human Rights NGOs in Cairo, Egypt (Exhibit n°28).
- July-August 1993: Certificate of Participation in the 21st Intensive Training Session of the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg (Exhibit n°29).
- Expertise and consultation.
- 2015: Copied for training on violence against women at the ENA in Paris.
- 2012: Expert, member of the Contact Group for Human Rights and HIV for West and Central Africa, (UNAIDS).

- 2010-2011: Supervision of a pilot project to promote legal services for people living with HIV / AIDS and vulnerable populations in Benin.
 - 2007-2008: Consultant for the Ministry of the Environment of Benin for the elaboration of a model law on water management.
 - 2006: Consultant for the West Africa and Central Office of the World Health Organization (WHO) for the drafting of a bill on the protection of the human rights of the mentally ill.
 - 4 - 6 March 2004: Presentation and execution of a workshop on the drafting of a law for the adaptation and implementation of the Rome Statute.
 - 2003-2004: Consultant for the Ministry of the Environment of Benin for the preparation of a standard project contract.
 - 2001-2002: Consultant for the Ministry of the Environment of Benin on Law and Biological Diversity (Exhibit n°30).
 - I have a very good knowledge of Africa for having traveled more than 45 of the 54 countries on the continent in my role at the ACHPR.
 - I also have a good knowledge of the computer tool.
 - NB: Exhibits 1, 2 and 3 attest to my nationality and the endorsement of my candidacy by the African Union and ECOWAS. Parts 31, 32, and 33 are some of the relevant attestations in the area of HIV laws, policies, continuing education and training of trainers.
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