10th EISA ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Recent Trends in Constitutional Reforms in Africa: How do Constitutions help or hinder Democracy?

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Rosebank, Johannesburg, South Africa
18-19 November 2015
About EISA

Since its inception in July 1996 EISA has established itself as a leading institution and influential player dealing with elections and democracy related issues in the African continent. The organisation’s Strategic Goals are:

- Electoral processes are inclusive, transparent, peaceful and well-managed;
- Citizens participate effectively in the democratic process;
- Political institutions and processes are democratic and function effectively; and
- EISA is a stronger and more influential organisation

The vision of EISA is “an African continent where democratic governance, human rights and citizen participation are upheld in a peaceful environment”. This vision is executed through the organisational mission of "striving for excellence in the promotion of credible elections, participatory democracy, a human rights culture, and the strengthening of governance institutions for the consolidation of democracy in Africa”.

EISA has current and former field offices in Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, and Zimbabwe. It also works with the African Union and Regional Economic Communities in promoting democratic governance in Africa.
Wednesday
18 NOVEMBER 2015

08:30-09:00 REGISTRATION

SESSION 1: WELCOME, OFFICIAL OPENING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Session Chair: Mr. Leshele Thoahlane, EISA Board Member

09:00-09:15 Welcome Remarks
Mr. Denis Kadima, EISA Executive Director

His Excellency Kgalema Motlanthe, Former President of the Republic of South Africa

09:45-10:30 Group Photo Followed By Tea Break

SESSION 2: EVOLUTION OF AFRICAN CONSTITUTIONS

Session Chair: Dr. Roukaya Kasenally, EISA Board Member

10:30-10:50 A critical review of inherited, negotiated and imposed constitutions in Africa
Prof. Tom Lodge, University of Limerick, Ireland

10:50-11:10 Recent Trends in Constitutional Reforms in Africa
Mr. Winluck Wahiu, President, Ratio Foundation, USA

11:10-11:30 An Account of Constitutional Reforms in Africa since 2000: Why the Sudden Resurgence?
Mr. Brian Kagoro, Director of UHAI and USHE Consulting Groups, South Africa

11:30-12:10 Discussion

SESSION 3: PRESIDENTIAL TERM LIMITS AND DISCONTENTS IN AFRICA

Session Chair: Ms. Lydia Wetugi, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Kenya.

12:10-12:30 Presidential Term Limits through Constitutional Amendments in Africa: Deconstructing Legitimacy
Prof. Charles Fombad, Head of African Constitutional Law Unit, University of Pretoria, South Africa
Pursuing Status Quo or Regime Change? A Critical Analysis of External Influence on Presidential Term Limits in Africa
Dr. David Zounmenou, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Security Studies, South Africa

12:30-12:50 Discussion

13:20-14:20 Lunch

Session Chair: Mr. Gervais Coulibaly-Delinpelna, 2nd Vice President, Commission Electorale Indépendante, Côte d’Ivoire

Role of Non-state Actors in Limiting or Extending Presidential Mandates: case study of Burkina Faso
Me Hervé Kam, Spokesperson, Balai Citoyen, Burkina Faso

Role of Non-state Actors in Limiting or Extending Presidential Mandates: Case study of Senegal
Prof. Mame Penda Bâ, Associate Professor, Gaston Berger University, Senegal

15:00-15:30 Discussion

SESSION 4: ROLE OF REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN DEFENDING CONSTITUTIONALISM

Session Chair: Steven Gruzd, Head of Governance and APRM Programme, SAIIA

Analysis of the Impact of Regional and Sub-Regional Norms and Standards for Democratic Governance in Promoting Constitutionalism in Africa
Ms. Nokukhanya Ntuli, Constitutionalism and Rule of Law Expert, AU Commission

Problematizing the Definition of ‘Unconstitutional’ Change of Government and Limitations to AU/RECs Responses
Prof. Andre Mbata Mangu, Professor of Law, University of South Africa & University of Kinshasa

The APRM As A Catalyst For Constitutional Reform, And As A Post-Conflict Tool For Restoring Constitutional Rule Of Law: Experiences From APRM Member States
Mr. Jeggan Grey-Johnson, Head of Anti-Corruption Cluster of Africa Regional Office, Open Society Foundation, South Africa

16:30-17:00 Discussion

18:00 COCKTAIL AND BOOK LAUNCH

“Political Parties in Africa” Edited by Ebrahim Fakir and Tom Lodge
The volume brings together chapters that aim to contextually situate political parties, firstly within a broader democratic theory and practice, and secondly within the broad democratic transitions taking place across the African continent.
First published by Fanele, an imprint of Jacana Media (Pty) Ltd, in 2015.

END OF DAY ONE
### SESSION 5: POLITICS OF CONSTITUTION MAKING: CASE STUDIES

**Session Chair:** Ms. Isabelle Waffubwa, Head of Political Affairs, East African Community

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<td>09:00-09:20</td>
<td>When Failed Constitutions Create Seeds of Crisis: Case of Zimbabwe and Kenya</td>
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<td><em>Ms. Irene Petras, Executive Director, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights</em></td>
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<td>09:20-09:40</td>
<td>Can new Constitutions be produced without Political Crises? Case Studies of Tanzania and Zambia</td>
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<td><em>Mr. Grant Masterson, Manager of the APRM Programme, EISA</em></td>
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<td>09:40-10:15</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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### SESSION 6: CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES

**Session Chair:** Robert Gerenge, Head of Special Programmes, EISA

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<td>10:45-11:05</td>
<td>The 2010 Constitutional Amendment in Nigeria: a Case of Political Will?</td>
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<td><em>Barrister Festus Okoye, Executive Director, Human Rights Monitor, Nigeria</em></td>
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<td>11:05-11:25</td>
<td>Conducting Elections in Constitutionally Uncertain Circumstances: The Case of Egypt</td>
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<td><em>Mr. Ebrahim Deen, Researcher, Afro Middle-East Centre, South Africa</em></td>
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<td>11:25-11:45</td>
<td>Conducting Elections in Constitutionally Uncertain Circumstances: The Case of Burundi</td>
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<td><em>Ms. Christine Ndayishimiye, Advocate, Barreau De Bujumbura, Burundi</em></td>
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<td>11:25-12:00</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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## SESSION 6. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES: (CONTINUED)

**Session Chair:** Dr. Lucien Toulou, Country Director, EISA DRC

13:00-14:00  Social Contracts and Politics: How do Political Parties Accumulate Political Capital from Constitution-making Processes?  
*Hon. Jasper Moturi Nyaboga, Executive Director of PNU, Kenya*  
*Hon. Ababu Namwamba, Member of Parliament (ODM), Kenya*  
*Mr. Deus Kibamba, Executive Director, Tanzania Citizens Information Bureau*

14:00-14:30  Discussion

14:30-15:00  Tea Break

## SESSION 7: OFFICIAL CLOSURE

15:00-15:30  Summary of proceedings and way forward  
*Miguel de Brito, Country Director, EISA Mozambique*

15:30-15:45  Vote of Thanks and Official Closing  
*Ms. Ilona Tip, Operations Director, EISA*
Mr. Denis Kadima

is the Executive Director of the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA). He has participated in about 100 electoral and political processes worldwide in different capacities. During his one-year sabbatical leave, Mr. Kadima worked for the United Nations as the Director of the United Nations Integrated Referendum and Electoral Division supporting the self-determination referendum in South Sudan (2010-2011), and subsequently as the Chief Technical Advisor for UNDP in Tunisia in 2011 where he helped to kick-start preparations for the first post-Arab spring elections. Mr. Kadima has published extensively on party systems and electoral processes. In 2000 he founded EISA’s accredited Journal of African Elections. Under his leadership, the content and scope of EISA’s work has been diversified to encompass, inter alia, political party development, parliamentary processes, participatory constitution making building, and technical assistance to electoral management bodies.

His Excellency Kgalema Motlanthe

was born to a working class family on 19 July 1949 in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg. He was elected by Parliament on 25 September 2008 as President of the Republic of South Africa. He served until 9 May 2009.

After his retirement as President, Mr Motlanthe was appointed by President Jacob Zuma to serve as the Deputy President. He served in that position from 11 May 2009 until 24 May 2014.

As Deputy President, Motlanthe performed various functions including the following:

- Leader of Government Business in the National Assembly
- Leader of the Anti-Poverty Programme
- Chairperson of the Energy Advisory Council
- Chairperson of the Human Resource Development Council
- Chairperson of the South African National Aids Council
- Chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Committee 2010 FIFA World Cup

In the 1970s, while working for the Johannesburg City Council, he was recruited into UMkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the then armed wing of the ANC. He was part of a unit tasked with recruiting members for military training outside the country.

On 14 April 1976 Mr Motlanthe was arrested with others for furthering the aims of the ANC and was kept in detention for 11 months at John Vorster Square in central Johannesburg. In 1977 he was found guilty on three charges under Terrorism Act and sentenced to an effective 10 years imprisonment on Robben Island.

After his release in 1987, Mr Motlanthe was tasked with strengthening the trade union movement in the country. To this end, he worked for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) as a national office-bearer responsible for education. Among other things, he was involved in training workers to form shop-steward committees.

In 1990 when the banning on the ANC and other political organisations was lifted, Mr Motlanthe was tasked with re-establishing ANC structures in the Gauteng Province. In 1992 he was elected General Secretary of NUM, succeeding Mr Cyril Ramaphosa who had been elected Secretary General of the ANC.

Mr Motlanthe also served two five year terms as Secretary General of the ANC from December 1997 to December 2007. Mr Motlanthe was the Deputy President of the African National Congress during the period December 2007 – December 2012.
Mr. Brian Kagoro

is a committed Pan-Africanist and Constitutional Lawyer, with extensive experience in the development sector. Brian has worked in and on all the regions of the African continent on governance and development issues. He has served in various leadership capacities, including: as a Partner at Kantor and Immerman Legal Practitioners in Zimbabwe and Head of Policy and Advocacy for Action Aid International-Africa Region. He was until December 2014, the Governance Practice Team Leader and Regional Programme Manager for UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa. He is currently the joint Director of UHAI and USHE Consulting Groups. He has in this new role served as consultant to the UN, African Union, several International Cooperation partners and civil society groups on matters of governance, constitutionalism and development.

Mr. Winluck Wahiu

is currently the president of the Ratio Foundation, a Washington DC based think tank specialised on constitutional law and international economic law research. He is an advisor to the AUC on constitutionalism and is currently drafting a report on the state of constitutionalism in Africa for the constitutionalism cluster under the Department of Political Affairs. He has advised national organs on constitutional reform and constitution building processes in Kenya, Ecuador, Nepal, Zambia, Liberia and South Sudan and written on related issues, in particular the design of participatory and inclusive processes of constitutional reform. He is a former head of the International IDEA global Constitution Building Programme based in Stockholm, Sweden. In 2004, he was a recipient of an honours certificate from the Law Society of Kenya for his contribution to the country’s constitutional reform. He has studied law at the London School of Economics and the University of Nairobi.

Prof. Tom Lodge

is Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies and a faculty dean at the university of Limerick. Until his present appointment he worked at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He has worked with EISA in various ways since 1999 and is at present a director on its board. He is the author of several books about South African politics, most recently Sharpeville: An Apartheid Massacre and its consequences (Oxford 2011). His most recent research has focussed on the efforts of African governments to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
Mr. KAM Guy Hervé Rommel

is a lawyer of the Burkina Faso bar association. He holds a degree in commercial law from the University of Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) and a degree in Human Rights from the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium). In addition, he has followed courses in investment and enterprise at the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) in Rome. Kam Guy Hervé Rommel was a barrister for a decade, and in the course of his career he has been successively Judge of the High Court and President of the juvenile court of Ouagadougou. In 2006, he changed careers in order to become a lawyer. He is also a trainer for the “Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa” (OHADA) and a substitute teacher at the Regional Higher School of Magistracy. He was also a lecturer in law at the University of Ouagadougou and the University of Saint Thomas d’Aquin. From 1999 to 2006, he was Secretary General of the Union of Magistrates of Burkina Faso. In 2008, he and other professionals of the field established the “Centre for judiciary ethics” of which he has been Secretary General since its creation. Since 2013, he is the spokesperson of the movement “le Balai Citoyen”.

Dr. David Zounmenou

is a Senior Research Fellow of the Conflict Prevention and Risk Analysis Programme at the ISS Tshwane (Pretoria) office. Graduating from the Ecole Nationale d’Administration (ENA-BENIN) in Law and Diplomacy, he joined Wits University where he completed his postgraduate studies (BA Hons, MA Cum Laude and PhD) in International Relations. His areas of interest include Foreign Policy Analysis, Contemporary Development Issues, Democracy and Good Governance, Armed Conflicts and Human Security. Dr. Zounmenou also tutored at Wits University (Johannesburg) and lectured at Walter Sisulu University (Eastern Cape), South Africa. With the African Conflicts and Risks Analysis Programme, Dr. Zounmenou focuses on West Africa Security Complexes. Recently he has become involved in a project that looks into political violence and issues related to elections and violence in Africa. In 2014, Dr. Zounmenou was appointed by the UN Secretary General to serve as a Regional Expert with the UN Group of Experts on Côte d’Ivoire.

Prof. Charles Fombad

is Professor of law and heads the African Constitutional Law Unit at the Institute for International and Comparative Law (ICLA) of the Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria. He is the author/editor of 9 books and has published more than 75 articles in local and international peer reviewed journals. He has also published more than two dozen book chapters as well as numerous other publications and conference papers. He has received several awards for his publications. Professor Fombad is a fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) and an NRF B rated scholar. Professor Fombad is a member of the editorial board of several international journals and a member of many professional associations. He is a member of the Steering Committee of the African Network of Constitutional Lawyers (ANCL), and convener of its working group on Teaching of Constitutional law, and is a Vice President of the International Association of Constitutional Law (IACL) and a convener of the research group on the constitutional dimensions of political parties and political rights. His research interests are in comparative African constitutional law, media law, the African Union and legal history, especially issues of legal harmonisation.
Prof André Mangu

(LLU, University of South Africa) achieved a National Research Foundation (NRF) C2-rating in (African Comparative) Constitutional Law, Human Rights Law and Public International Law. He is currently a research professor in the College of Law at Unisa. Under his supervision, ten students successfully completed their doctoral or master degrees and are now lecturing at different African universities.

Prof Mangu’s research specialisation is in (African Comparative) Constitutional Law, Human Rights Law and Public International Law. His research interests include (Comparative) Constitutional Law and Human Rights and International Law (Law of Treaties, Use of Force, Regional Integration and Law of the United Nations and African Union). He is also interested in elections, democracy and good political governance, as well as African politics, including politics in the DRC, Central Africa and the Great Lakes, and African integration, the African Union, NEPAD and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

He has lectured at University of Limpopo (previously University of the North), University of Kinshasa (DRC) and University of Paris (France). His memberships of scientific societies include the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and the African Network of Constitutional Lawyers (ANCL).

Prof Mangu serves on the editorial boards of several academic journals and has published several books, chapters in books and numerous articles in accredited African and international journals. He has also delivered papers at a number of international conferences in Africa, Europe and Asia.
Mr. Grant Masterson

(MA [International Relations], University of the Witwatersrand) is the Programme Manager of EISA’s programme supporting the African Peer Review Mechanism. EISA, the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa, is a Non-Governmental Organisation that promotes credible elections and democratic governance in Africa and beyond. EISA’s APRM programme supports the work of the official APRM institutions as well as promotes the value of the mechanism as a tool for civil society to engage with government on governance issues. Currently the EISA APRM Support Programme supports civil society engagement in seven APRM member states, since 2012. Grant has published several volumes including “Peering the peers: Civil Society and the African Peer Review Mechanism”. He has participated in 17 election observation exercises for EISA, the African Union and regional economic community bodies since 2004.

Ms. Irene Petras

is a registered Zimbabwean lawyer with 17 years’ experience practising law in Zimbabwe. She is the Executive Director of Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), a law-based organization that provides legal services, research, and capacity building to human rights defenders, focuses on justice sector reform, and seeks to foster a culture of human rights, rule of law and constitutionalism in Zimbabwe and the wider African region. Her areas of expertise include human rights, constitutional, media, criminal and electoral law, and international litigation. She has lectured Human Rights Law and Public International Law at the University of Zimbabwe. Irene previously practiced at Harare law firm, Kantor & Immerman, from 1998 until she left to assist in the institutionalization of ZLHR in 2002. She became the Executive Director of the organisation in 2008. She currently chairs the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (the largest network promoting democratic elections in Zimbabwe), and is the immediate past chairperson of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (a coalition of major human rights organisations in Zimbabwe). Irene obtained her LL.B. (cum laude) at the University of Cape Town and her LLM in Human Rights Law (cum laude) at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies.

Mr. Jeggan Grey-Johnson

joined OSF’s Africa Governance, Monitoring and Advocacy Project (AfriMAP), as Advocacy and Communications officer in 2009. He is now leading the Anti-Corruption Cluster of Africa Regional Office, which is supported by the Open Society Foundations. Jeggan has worked in the area of development, journalism and high-level advocacy for over fifteen years. He led the 11before2011 campaign, which was a continental effort with the Pan African Parliament, which ushered in the African Charter on Democracy and Elections in 2012. Jeggan was also the focal point on an eleven country study aimed at influencing policy reforms on media legislative frameworks in Africa. He has overseen the publications of AfriMAP’s systematic audits over the years, which include: the African Peer Review Mechanism review reports; Justice Sector and Rule of Law; Political Participation and Democracy studies; and Delivery of Public Services in Education focusing on over 23 African countries. Prior to joining OSF, Jeggan worked for Liberal International in Whitehall, London, and UNICEF in The Gambia. He graduated from Virginia Wesleyan College in the US.
Mr. Ebrahim Deen is a researcher at the Afro-Middle East Centre, a research institute based in Johannesburg, South Africa. His interests include political Islam, Middle Eastern politics, development issues, and climate change. He is a frequent media commentator on political events in the Middle East-North Africa region. He is the author of the book ‘Hezbollah vs. the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood: A social democratic perspective’ (2012). He holds a Masters in International Relations from the University of the Witwatersrand and is a Wigan Athletics supporter.

Barrister Festus Okoye is a Barrister, Solicitor, and Notary Public of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. He holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LLB) from the University of Jos (1984) and was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1985. Between 1993 and 1994 he undertook a Graduate Program in International Human Rights Law at the University of Minnesota as a Hubert Humphrey Fellow (HHF). He served as the Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association, Kaduna Branch in 1997 and was elected as the National Publicity Secretary of the Nigerian Bar Association in 1997. Mr. Okoye served as Secretary and Chairman of the Civil Liberties Organisation between 1989 and 2002 and as the Chair of the Transition Monitoring Group (TMG) between 2002 and 2006. He is the Executive Director of Human Rights Monitor (HRM) and the National Coordinator of the Independent Election Monitoring Group (IEMG). He served as a member of the Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) in 2007 and as a Civil Society Delegate to the 2014 National Conference. He also maintains a weekly column in the New Telegraph Newspaper in Nigeria known as “Hard Choices” and contributes opinion articles to Nigerian newspapers and magazines.

Ms. Christine Ndayishimiye is a barrister in Bujumbura. She holds a bachelor’s degree in language and French literature as well as a bachelor’s in law. She is also a BRIDGE facilitator (Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections). She has observed numerous elections mainly with the African Union (AU) but as has also worked in this field with ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African States), the International Organisation of la Francophonie and EISA. As a former minister of human and gender rights, her interests are focused primarily on good governance based on the state of law, equity with special attention to gender and inclusiveness of vulnerable people such as minorities and persons living with disabilities.
Mr. Deus Kibamba

is a Political and Policy Analyst based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He doubles as Chairman of the Tanzania Constitutional Forum and Executive Director of the Tanzania Citizens Information Bureau. Deus holds a Masters degree in International Studies from the University of Sheffield in the UK; a Postgraduate Diploma in Governance, Democratization and Public Policy awarded by the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague and a Bachelors in Political Science majoring in International Relations and Diplomacy. For the past 20 years, Deus has actively participated, moderated and coordinated Civil Society processes in Tanzania mainly in the areas of information rights, Constitutional reforms, Elections and the African Peer Review Mechanism. Mr Kibamba is a member of various Boards and expert committees including Action Aid international, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Foundation, JUKWAA LA KATIBA TANZANIA and the Coalition on the Right to Information in Tanzania. He is a seasoned commentator, writer and Speaker on issues related to the Political Economy and Governance in the African continent.

Mr. Jasper Moturi Nyaboga

holds a Masters degree in Human Resource Management & Development and a BA in Economics & Political Science. Mr. Nyaboga has over fifteen years of experience in the administration and management of political parties, as a Party official, and then chairing the policy and planning committee of the Democratic Party of Kenya from 2004 to 2006, as the Chairman/Executive Director of PNU from its inception in 2007 to 2008, and the Executive Director from 2009 to date. As a management consultant, he has over 20 years of experience, specializing in organization design and restructuring, strategic planning, job evaluation, designing and implementing performance management systems, training needs analysis, the development of training programs and facilitating in workshops, seminars and training programs. Mr. Nyaboga is an excellent facilitator and trainer, with the ability to train at all levels, from the grassroots to the Board room.

Hon Ababu Namwamba

EGH, MP is a Constitutional and International Human Rights Lawyer trained in Nairobi and Washington DC, USA. He holds a Master of Laws Degree (LLM) in International Law from American University’s Washington College of Law; a Honours Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of Nairobi and a Diploma in Legal Practice from the Kenya School of Law. He is a distinguished Hubert Humphrey Fellow and alumnus of the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship. Today Ababu is serving his second-term in the National Assembly, having recaptured his seat in March 2013. In his first term, he was Kenya’s Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs. For the entire duration of that term, 2008 to 2013, he served as Parliamentary Secretary for ODM. He currently Chairs Accountability Kenya, a registered non-profit umbrella platform of all key agencies mandated to champion accountability in the use of public resources. He has previously chaired Parliament’s Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Justice and Legal Affairs Committee and the landmark Parliamentary Select Committee on Cost of Living. He has been Secretary of Bunge Football Club, Parliament’s popular soccer team, of which he is the lead striker holding the all-time record of most goals scored! From 2013, he anchored the African Organization of Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC), whose Secretariat he brought to Nairobi in September, 2013. Most significantly, Ababu co-chaired the Parliamentary Select Committee on Constitution Review that shepherded Kenya to a new constitutional dispensation in 2010.
Ms. Ilona Tip

A founder member of EISA, Ilona Tip has been employed with EISA since its establishment in 1996, initially as the Senior Advisor, Conflict Management, Democracy and Electoral Education, and currently Operations Director. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of the Witwatersrand and a Diploma in Education from the Johannesburg College of Education. Ms Tip has over 20 years of experience in curriculum development having designed and developed curriculum and capacity building programmes in voter and civic education, electoral observation, electoral conflict management, party agent poll watch training and capacity building for local councillors amongst others. She oversaw the formation of the SADC Election Support Network, a network of SADC NGOs working in the field of elections and governance and the SADC Election Commission Forum, a network of Election Management Bodies in the SADC region, facilitated by EISA. She has participated in over 16 election observation missions in Africa as well as represented EISA at continental, local and international events.

Mr. Miguel de Brito

Miguel de Brito is a Mozambican citizen, and was born on 20 October 1963. He holds a BA (Hons.) degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Mozambican Institute of International Relations (1991) and an MA degree in International Politics and Security Studies from the Peace Studies Department at Bradford University in the UK (1992). Mr. de Brito’s main fields of expertise are elections, Mozambican politics, and political party and legislative development, and he has been Mozambique Country Director for the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) since December 2006. Prior to his current position, Mr. de Brito was Senior Democracy and Governance Advisor with USAID in Mozambique, after several years as a researcher on peace and conflict issues and lecturer of International Relations. Mr. de Brito also has extensive experience in election observation, having observed more than 25 electoral processes in Africa and elsewhere over the past 15 years, in addition to providing technical assistance to African Union and SADC observer missions, and to citizen observer groups in several. Within the field of election observation, Mr. de Brito has particular interest in parallel vote tabulation (PVT), and the use of technology in elections.
Symposium Overview

For the past nine years, EISA has held an annual continental symposium, each of which focused on a selected democracy and governance issue. The first Annual Symposium, in November 2006, examined the challenges of conflict, democracy and development in Africa. The second, in October 2007, focused policy discussion around the prospects for sustainable democratic governance in Africa in an environment of dire socio economic conditions and entrenched poverty. The third, in October 2008, dealt with the challenges facing civil society engagement with the African Peer Review Mechanism. The fourth Symposium focused upon the problem of persistent, violent election-related conflicts in Africa with a view to understanding their causes, magnitude and consequences for democratic governance. The fifth in November 2010 provided a platform for political parties from across Africa to develop benchmarks to support political parties in institutional development and to enhance democratic systems of governance through political parties. The sixth Symposium in November 2011 explored the role of ICT in promoting political change in Africa. It provided a platform for stakeholders from across the continent to share experiences and learn best practices on the use of ICT, democracy and elections. The seventh EISA Symposium in March 2012 reviewed the two decades of election observation in Africa since the re-introduction of multi-party elections. The eighth, in September 2013, focused on causes and consequences of political party alliances and coalitions in Africa. The ninth Symposium held in December 2014 offered the platform to share experiences, harness lessons, and examine best practices regarding gender equality and participation of men and women in politics in Africa.

The tenth symposium focuses on recent constitutional reforms and promotion of constitutionalism and how these impact on the progress of democratic governance in Africa. It seeks to take stock of the identifiable trends, challenges and lessons learned on fostering constitutional democracy on the continent.