

Lawyers for HIV & TB Justice: Strategic Litigation, Legal Defence and Advocacy Training

FAQs FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Johannesburg, South Africa
20-23 February 2018

THE TRAINING

1. What can I expect to get out of the training?

Participants can expect a mixture of both theoretical and practical content to enable effective legal responses to issues concerning HIV and TB criminalisation. This will include:

- information from experts on the human rights and public health impacts of using coercive state action and criminal law to control and prevent HIV and TB;
- discussions with people who have experienced the effects coercive and criminalising laws and policies;
- information from medical experts on HIV and TB; and
- engagements with lawyers from across the world with experience in litigation and legal defence of people subjected to coercive and criminalising laws and policies on HIV and TB.

The schedule is structured to provide opportunities for participants to ask questions and engage with the speakers and facilitators and to network with each other. The fourth day of the training will be a practical component where participants have an opportunity to develop litigation and advocacy strategies on the subject matter.

Participants can expect an intensive, interesting and engaging four days together with other legal professionals with an interest in human rights law and litigation from across the African continent.

For more information, please consult the Concept Note.

2. When is the training?

The training will be from Tuesday 20 – Friday 23 February 2018.

3. How long is the training?

The training will run over four full days, from 08:30-17:00 each day, breaking for two tea breaks and for one hour over lunch each day. On some evenings there will be optional activities.

4. Who are the speakers, facilitators and trainers?

The co-hosts have developed a programme with speakers and facilitators with extensive experience on the subject matter including legal practitioners, medical experts, activists and academics. This will include medical experts to explain the science behind HIV and TB, transmission risk and issues that arise in evidence during litigation. Speakers will also include activists and people living with HIV and TB with experience of the effects of coercive and criminalising laws and policies. Finally, speakers and facilitators will include lawyers with expertise on various aspects and experience in litigating public interest cases and doing legal defence work for people subjected to HIV and TB criminalisation.

A detailed programme and biographies of all the speakers and facilitators will be shared in advance of the training.

APPLICATION PROCESS

5. What is the deadline for applications?

The deadline for applications is 31 October 2017.

6. Will applications be received after the deadline?

Due to the volume of applications received during previous trainings and the need to advance bookings, the organisers are not in a position to accept late applications.

7. What are the eligibility criteria to attend?

Any practising lawyer in Africa with 3+ years' legal experience and an interest in human rights and HIV and TB is welcome to apply.

8. How do I apply?

Applications are made by submitting a completed application form to SALC by email to applications@salc.org.za by no later than 31 October 2017. Applicants should please use the subject line: "HIV & TB Justice Training Application".

9. What are the organisers' criteria for selecting participants?

The organisers will select participants on the basis of their fulfilment of the eligibility criteria and the prospect of the training being likely to be applied on the participant's return to their home country. In addition, consideration will be given to the following factors:

- A balance of participants from across the continent.

- Gender balance.
- Indicators that the participant is likely to apply the knowledge gained in providing pro bono legal services, support to activists and civil society, or leadership within the legal community.
- The organisers will strive to be inclusive in the selection of participants. For this reason, applicants from previously disadvantaged backgrounds, people living with HIV, members of key populations, and people with disabilities will be favourably considered.

10. How many participants will be selected?

The organisers will select between 35 and 40 participants to attend the training.

11. I have attended previous trainings by SALC. Can I apply again?

Yes absolutely! Lawyers who have attended previous trainings run by SALC are welcome to apply.

12. When can I expect to know the outcome of my application?

Successful applicants will be notified by 20 November 2017.

While the organisers will endeavour to inform all applicants of the outcome of their applications, due to the volume of applications expected and human resource limitations, we can unfortunately not guarantee that all unsuccessful applicants will be notified. We thank you for your understanding.

LOGISTICS

13. Where will the training be held?

The training will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) will provide return flights and transport, accommodation and meals in South Africa.

14. Where will participants stay?

Participants will be accommodated in a hotel in Johannesburg. The training will be held at the hotel. Once the venue is secured, participants will be informed.

15. What is the dress code?

There is no dress code for the training. In the past, participants have dressed “business casual”. However, you are invited to dress as you are most comfortable to enjoy being in a learning environment amongst your fellow professionals.

16. I have special needs. Will I be accommodated?

The organisers wish to be inclusive in the trainings and to ensure that all participants are comfortably accommodated during their time in Johannesburg. Please do let us know if you have any special needs and how we may best accommodate you, whether related to dietary preferences, disability, health or otherwise.

EXPENSES

17. How much does it cost to attend the training?

There are no fees to attend the training. The meeting is funded under the Africa Regional Grant on HIV, a regional grant funded under the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the principal recipient.

18. What expenses will be covered?

SALC will cover the follow expenses for all participants:

- Economy class return flights to Johannesburg.
- Travel insurance for the duration of your trip.
- Accommodation for a maximum of 5 nights in Johannesburg.
- Airport transfers in Johannesburg.
- All meals while at the hotel.

In addition SALC will reimburse visa expenses on condition that SALC is notified in advance of your departure of the exact amount required for reimbursement and receipts from the Embassy are provided.

SALC will not cover any additional expenses and will not be liable for the costs of cancelled or changes to flights and bookings. Any costs billed to the participants' hotel room are at their own expense.

All payments and reimbursements will be made in South Africa rands (ZAR) at the estimated exchange rate on the date on which the expense is incurred.

19. Will I receive a per diem?

Participants will receive a modest subsistence allowance to cover extra meals and incidental expenses. These amounts will be paid to participants on registration at the training each day. All participants will be notified in advance of your departure of exactly what amounts you may expect to receive. Subsistence allowances will be paid in South African rands.

20. Will by ground travel costs in my home country be covered?

No, your ground travel to the airport in your home country will not be paid for separately or reimbursed by the organisers. It is anticipated that the subsistence allowances referred to above may be used to contribute to ground travel expenses in your home country.

21. Will my visa fees be covered?

Yes, SALC will cover the costs of your visa fees on condition that you notify SALC in advance of your departure of the exact amount for the visa fee and that you provide a receipt for the fee on your arrival in South Africa.

22. Who are the organisers?

The **Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC)** is responsible for organising the training. SALC is a regional human rights organisation that uses public interest litigation, training, research and advocacy in eleven southern African countries to realise and advance the rights of marginalised and vulnerable groups and to strengthen the rule of law.¹ SALC was established in 2005 as a joint initiative between the International Bar Association and the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa. Headquartered in Johannesburg and operated in the form of a trust. SALC's programme areas include health rights, prisoners' rights, disability rights, LGBT and sex workers' rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, international criminal justice, freedom of expression, and regional advocacy.

The training is co-hosted by HIV Justice Worldwide, the Stop TB Partnership, the AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), and the Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN).

HIV Justice Worldwide is a growing, global movement to shape the discourse on HIV criminalisation as well as share information and resources, network, build capacity, mobilise advocacy, and cultivate a community of transparency and collaboration.² The mission of HIV Justice Worldwide is to seek to abolish criminal and similar laws, policies and practices that regulate, control and punish people living with HIV based on their HIV-positive status. HIV Justice Worldwide believes that this HIV criminalisation is discriminatory, a violation of human rights, undermines public health, and is detrimental to individual health and well-being.

The **Stop TB Partnership** was founded in 2001 with a mission to serve every person who is vulnerable to TB and ensure that high-quality diagnosis, treatment and care is available to all who need it.³ Together, 1500 partners are a collective force that is transforming the fight against TB in more than 100 countries. They include international and technical organizations,

¹ For more information, consult SALC's website here: <http://www.southernafricalitigationcentre.org/>.

² For more information consult HIV Justice Worldwide's website here: <http://www.hivjusticeworldwide.org>.

³ For more information consult the Stop TB Partnership's Website here: <http://www.stoptb.org/>.

government programmes, research and funding agencies, foundations, NGOs, civil society and community groups and the private sector. The Partnership operates through a secretariat hosted by UNOPS in Geneva, Switzerland and seven working groups whose role is to accelerate progress on access to TB diagnosis and treatment; research and development for new TB diagnostics, drugs and vaccines; and tackling drug resistant- and HIV-associated TB.

The **ARASA** is a regional partnership of non-governmental organisations working together to promote a human rights approach to HIV/AIDS and TB in southern Africa through capacity building and advocacy.⁴ The organisation currently has 106 partner organisations representing diverse stakeholders, including networks of people living with HIV, key populations groups, women's groups, youth groups, and religious leaders. ARASA conducts its work under two programme areas: (i) Training and Capacity Strengthening (including an online training facility); and (ii) Advocacy. Both programme areas have international, regional and national components.

KELIN was formed in 1994 and registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in 2001.⁵ Their goal is to advocate for a holistic and rights-based system of service delivery in health and for the full enjoyment of the right to health by all, including the vulnerable, marginalized, and excluded populations. While originally created to protect and promote HIV-related human rights, their scope has expanded to also include sexual and reproductive health and rights, key populations, and women, land and property rights.

The training is funded under **Africa Regional Grant on HIV: Removing Legal Barriers**.⁶ The Grant aims to address human rights barriers faced by vulnerable communities in Africa, and facilitate access to lifesaving health care. The Grant is the first of its kind and covers 10 countries, including Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, the Seychelles, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The programme is supported through a three-year grant by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the Principal Recipient of the grant and implements in collaboration with four African civil society organizations - the AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), ENDA Santé, KELIN, and the Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) – with recognized expertise in documenting human rights violations, strategic litigation, advocacy and capacity-strengthening.

23. Who can I contact for more information?

For more information please consult the Concept Note and SALC's website. You may also email Annabel Raw, SALC's Health Rights Lawyer at AnnabelR@salc.org.za.

⁴ For more information consult ARASA's website here: <http://www.arasa.info/>.

⁵ For more information consult KELIN's website here: <http://www.kelinkenya.org/>.

⁶ Read more information here: <http://www.africa.undp.org/content/rba/en/home/about-us/projects/africa-regional-grant-on-hiv.html>.

