



THE PROMISE KEPT OR
"A DREAM DEFERRED"?

ISFL 4th CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Hilton Trinidad & Conference Centre

**THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AT 35 YEARS:
THE PROMISE KEPT OR "A DREAM DEFERRED?"**

November 13- 15, 2024

Day 1: Wednesday, November 13, 2024

SOCIAL PROGRAMME: TOUR - 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon. (Port of Spain and Environs)

FORMAL PROGRAMME

OPENING CEREMONY: & COCKTAIL RECEPTION: 6:00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

WELCOME

GREETINGS

Introduction of Featured Speaker by: *Mrs. Natasha Lamy-Ramsden.*

FEATURE ADDRESS: "The Convention on the Rights of the Child at 35 years: The Promise Kept or 'A Dream Deferred?'"

Mrs. Faith Marshall-Harris, Member, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

A Child Rights Acrostic: St. Monica's Preparatory School

SPECIAL ADDRESS & Declaration to Open the Conference: Her Excellency, Christine Kangaloo O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago.

VOTE OF THANKS: Senator Hazel Thompson-Ahye, Conference Convener.

CULTURAL PROGRAMME

National Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.

Pan Medley: St. Margaret Boys E. C. School. (Twelve times Panorama Champions.)

Cocktail Reception

Day 2: Thursday, November 14, 2024

Welcome & Conference Overview: Senator Hazel Thompson-Ahye, H.B.M., ISFL Vice-President & Conference Convener

Session 1: Children's Right to Protection from Abuse – 9:00 a.m-10:15 a.m.

Moderator: Senator Hazel Thompson-Ahye, ISFL Vice-President & Conference Convener

Dr. Christine H. Descartes: *Safeguarding the Rights of Caribbean Children: A Review of the Evolution of Child Maltreatment and the Corresponding Legal Implications.* (St. Lucia & Trinidad and Tobago)

Hanif E. A. Benjamin: *Addressing Trauma, Child Abuse and Neglect in Trinidad and Tobago.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Dr. Alfredo E. Walker: *The Forensic Pathology Investigative Approach to Suspected Fatal Child Abuse.* (Trinidad and Tobago, and Canada)

Dr. Merel Griffith-Lendering & Ms. Tamara Salsbach: *Family Relationships, Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment in the Caribbean Netherlands.* (Curaçao)

COFFEE BREAK: 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Session 2: Children's Rights, Parental Responsibilities -10:30 a.m. -12:00 noon

Moderator: Dr. Maria Dillon-Remy

Justice Anthony Gafoor: *The Convention on the Rights of the Child and Paternity.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Justice Patrick Thompson Jr.: *Are Two Homes Better Than One? The Case for a Commonwealth Paradigm Shift.* (St. Christopher and Nevis)

Master Sydelle Johnson: *A Child's Right to Maintenance* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Prof. Dr. Ram Rivlin: *Children's Decision -Making Rights, Parental Responsibilities and the Nature of Consent.* (Israel)

LUNCH 12:00 noon. – 1:00 p.m.

Session 3: Emerging Threats to Children’s Rights – 1:00p.-3:00 p.m.

Moderator: Master Sydelle Johnson

Prof. Dr. Patricia Gorisch: *Unaccompanied Refugee Children: Upholding the Promise of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. (Brazil)*

Mrs. Aleisha Fournillier: *Protecting Child Returnees in Trinidad and Tobago: Insights on the 35th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

Ms. Renee Joseph and Ms. Bellina Barrow: *CSA in the Age of Cryptocurrency. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

The Honourable Madam Justice Nirala Bansee Sookhai and Ms. Sasha-Lee Huggins: *Combatting Internet Crimes Against Children in Trinidad and Tobago: Insights on the 35th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

Ms. Dane-Marie Marshall: *Trafficking in Children an Egregious Abuse of Children’s rights. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

COFFEE BREAK 3.00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Session 4: Children’s Right to Education and Play - 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Moderator: Ms. Roxane Romeo

Ms. Anna Maria Mora: *Child Rights in Education: How 25 cent pieces Changed the Course of My Career. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

Ms. Denelle Singh: *Child Rights in Education. (Trinidad and Tobago)*

Prof. Dr. Lilla Garayova: *Right to Play: A Forgotten Right in a Forgotten World. (Slovakia)*

.....



CONFERENCE BANQUET/DANCING: 8.00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Day 3: Friday, November 16, 2024.

Session 5: Protecting the Vulnerable Child – 9:00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.

Moderator: Ms. Denyse Gouveia

Mr. Garth St. Clair: *Pipeline from School to Prison.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Mrs. Leah Paddier Harvey: *Paraprofessional Training for Professionals Working with Children.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Ms. Gemma Murray and Mrs. Michelle Anderson-Harricoo: *Permanency Planning in the Child Welfare System: Children in Institutional Care in Trinidad and Tobago.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

COFFEE BREAK 10: 30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Session 6: Children’s Rights, Law and the Justice System 10:45 a.m.- 12:00 noon.

Moderator: Mr. Dorwin Manzano

Her Honour Judge Paula Blake Powell: *Children’s Rights to Incarcerated Parents.* (Jamaica)

Ms. Namrata Mishra: *Efficacy and Loopholes of India’s Child Protection Legislation.* (India)

Ms. Krystle Ahye: *How Ready are We for the Voice of the Child in Criminal Proceedings from Arrest to Court?* (Trinidad and Tobago).

LUNCH 12:00 NOON – 1:00 p.m.

Session 7: The Child Justice System and Law Reform. 1: 00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Moderator: Mr. Roshan Ramcharitar

Ms. Mala Ramesar: *Deconstructing the Nature of Adolescent Offending: Exploring Adolescents’ Potential for Rehabilitation and the Legislative Support Required.* (Trinidad and Tobago.)

Magistrate Ngaio Dominique Emanuel: *The U.N Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Context of Child Justice Reform in Antigua and Barbuda.* (Antigua and Barbuda)

Ms. Althea Deanie Mc Bean: *The Incarceration of Children in the Caribbean: Pathways to Correction or Re-offending.* (Jamaica)

Session 8: Law Reform in the Context of the CRC. 2: 15 p.m.- 3.00 p.m.

Moderator: Mrs. Barbara Lodge-Johnson

Dr. Margaret Burgess: *The Impact of the UNCRC on Child Protection Laws in the Commonwealth Caribbean.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Ms. Candace Alexander: *The Legislative Mechanisms in Place in Trinidad and Tobago to Give Effect to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and a Critical Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Law.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

COFFEE BREAK 3:00 p.m.- 3:15 p.m.

Session 9: Keeping the Promise: A Paradigm Shift from Law to ADR? 3:15 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.

Moderator: Ms Lynette Seebaran Suite

Dr. Chinwe Egbunike-Umegbolu: *Domestic Violence in Mediation- To Mediate or Not to Mediate?* (Nigeria/Trinidad and Tobago)

Ms Julie Malloy and Ms. Nikki Chamblee: *From Hostility to Harmony: Developing Effective Communication for Difficult Situations.* (USA)

Senator Hazel Thompson-Ahye: *Implementing Restorative Practices from a Child Rights Perspective.* (Trinidad and Tobago)

Session 10: The Courts and the Convention: An Interpretive Tool? 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Moderators: Her Honour Judge Paula Blake Powell & Justice Patrick Thompson

Mr. Ankit Malhotra: *A Preliminary Reading of International Child Law in English and Indian Courts.* (India) (Virtual):

GENERAL DISCUSSION on the CRC as an Interpretive Tool.

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS 5:15 p.m.– 6:00 p.m.

TRINI LIME 7:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Panyard Jam.

Day 4: Saturday, November 17, 2024.

Beach Lime 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

(Swimming, bake and shark/Doubles)



“Goodbye, farewell, I hate to see you go....”

“Parting is such sweet sorrow...”

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 4TH ISFL CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE.