

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### **Unisa will host Former First Vice President of the International Criminal Court, Judge Sanji Monageng who will deliver the International Women's Day Lecture**

**Approved for Public Release**  
**Friday, 28 February 2025**

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the United Nations declared the International Women's Year in 1975 at which IWD was commemorated by the United Nations for the first time. The year 2025 is also the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which is universally recognized as the world's most comprehensive, visionary plan ever created to achieve the equal rights of ALL women and girls.

The United Nations Women have declared the theme for IWD 2025 as: **“For ALL women and girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment.”** This is the same theme under which UNISA will host the International Women's Day Lecture.

The keynote address will be delivered by the Former First Vice President of the International Criminal Court (ICC), **Judge Sanji Mmasenono Monageng** where she presided over cases involving crimes against humanity.

Judge Monageng is the most qualified person to deliver the Keynote Address given her expertise, experience and profile as an international law judge who, apart from serving as the First Vice President of the ICC, she has also been a member of many international organisations including the International Association of Women Judges, the International Commission of Jurists and the International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law and served as the founding Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Botswana for many years.

We look forward to hearing her insights on the provisions of the Rome Statute and the jurisprudence of the International Criminal Court on the rights of women and girls as well as how international human rights law and international humanitarian law

instruments and forums (courts and tribunals) could be used as effective measures to protect rights of women and girls and contribute towards gender equality and women empowerment.

The following prominent discussants will provide insight on the theme:

- **Advocate Thando Gumede**, the international human rights defender, Thought Leader and Social Entrepreneur who has established a name for herself as a firebrand who is not afraid to tackle the most difficult topics without fear or favour.
- **Advocate Zandile Mshololo**, A member of the Ilembe Group of Advocates who has gained prominence due to her work on some prominent legal cases.
- **Dr Hazel Gooding** of the UN Women Office in South Africa.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover lecture as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday, 4 March 2025

**Time:** 09:30 for 10:00am

**Venue:** Functions Hall, 4th Floor, Kgorong Building, Unisa Muckleneuk Campus, Tshwane.

**- Ends -**

For RSVPs and interviews requests, please contact the following Senior Media Officer: Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / [humartm@unisa.ac.za](mailto:humartm@unisa.ac.za) OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / [ratheme@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ratheme@unisa.ac.za)

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