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# 2019 Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Environmental Law Scholars' Conference

04 - 05 Nov 2019

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- Hassan First University of Settat, Morocco

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## Theme

Law, Climate Change, Middle East and North Africa

## Overview

Building on the success of its inaugural conference held at the College of Law and Public Policy at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), Qatar in 2018, the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities (ASELLMU) will be hosting its second conference on November 4-5, 2019.

Sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme, the 2019 Conference is hosted by the College of Law, Hassan First University of Settat, Morocco, and organized in strategic partnership with the College of Law, HBKU, Qatar; Laboratory for Research on Comparative Democratic Transition, Morocco; and LexisNexis Middle East and North Africa.

The aim of this conference is to bring together leading environmental law scholars, practitioners, and policy leaders, to discuss legal innovations and approaches for addressing climate change impacts in the region. Particular attention will be paid to how MENA countries can advance investment in climate-smart infrastructure, i.e. buildings, structures and systems that reduce GHG emissions and improve society's ability to adapt to, and cope with, the risks posed by climate change.

This conference also provides an interactive platform for environmental law lecturers in the region to examine how to develop, integrate, and mainstream the teaching of climate change law in law school curricula.

## Topics

- **Climate and Environmental Law Teaching in the MENA Region:** Current opportunities, challenges, best practices and innovations in teaching environmental law in universities in the Middle East region. How can climate law be effectively integrated into university curricula in the region?
- **Climate Change Impacts on the Arab World:** Challenges and opportunities for enhancing climate mitigation and adaptation measures. The role of law in confronting challenges and the opportunities it presents for strengthening climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in MENA countries.
- **Green and Climate Resilient Infrastructure:** How can MENA countries advance investment in climate-smart infrastructure, i.e. buildings, structures and systems that reduce GHG emissions and improve society's ability to adapt to, and cope with, the risks posed by climate change.
- **Climate Finance Initiatives and the Law:** How can MENA countries attract and promote climate financing through green bonds, sukuk, debt for nature, public-private partnerships and other financing mechanisms to aid climate response?
- **Building Capacity for the Green Economy:** What are the regional and national priorities and needs with respect to clean technology innovation, entrepreneurship, food security, agriculture, climate, ocean and coastal management?
- **Agriculture and Food Security in a Climate-Stressed Region:** What are the innovative legal tools, best practices, research, resources and models on agriculture and land management that can enhance food production in arid regions?
- **Institution Building:** Regional and sub-regional coordination and cooperation to promote climate action.

## Keynote and Plenary Speakers

- Professor Dr. Riyad Fakhri, Vice President, Hassan First University of Settat, Morocco (Conference Chair)
- Elizabeth Mrema, Director of the Law Division, United Nations Environment Programme
- Randall S. Abate, Rechnitz Family Endowed Chair in Marine and Environmental Law and Policy; and Professor of Law, Monmouth University, USA
- Dr. Damilola S. Olawuyi, Associate Professor, College of Law, Hamad Bin Khalifa University; and Chair, Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities
- Patricia Mbote, Professor of Law, University of Nairobi; and Chair, Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in African Universities
- Aisa Mustafa Hammadeen, Regional Vice-Chair for West Asia, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

## Workshop Chairs

- Arrach Abdeljabbar, Professor, Hassan First University of Settat, Casablanca, Morocco
- Ayman Cherkaoui, Coordinator, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco
- Dr. Ardit Memeti, Associate Professor of Law, Kuwait International Law School, Kuwait
- Dr. Mohsen Abdollahi, Associate Professor, International and Environmental Law, Shahid Beheshti University, Iran

### Organized by:



Association of Environmental Law Lecturers  
in Middle East and North African Universities  
جمعية محاضري القانون البيئي في جامعات الشرق الأوسط وشمال إفريقيا



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## Registration

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