

**Mr. Alex Rugamba**



Mr. Rugamba is an infrastructure finance expert with over 30 years of diverse experience including 20 years at the African Development Bank (AfDB). He serves as a member of the board of the Industrial Promotion Services (IPS – East Africa), which is part of the Aga Khan Development Network. As a Faculty Member of International Law Institute – African Centre for Legal Excellence (ILI-ACLE), Alex is regularly called upon to facilitate executive training programmes jointly delivered by ILI-ACLE and GEORGETOWN LAW targeting public and private sector participants. In March 2020, Mr. Rugamba joined a Technical and Advisory Panel for the High-Volume Transport Applied Research Programme (HVT) that was set up by IMC Worldwide, acting on behalf of the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO) of the UK. The panel's primary function includes the evaluation of proposals to select research suppliers to carry out research project activities on low carbon transport as well as the preparation of 'think pieces', capacity building and knowledge management. Alex is based in Kampala, Uganda and is the Managing Partner of Gahinga Infrastructure Partners (GIP), which is an infrastructure advisory firm, focused on infrastructure project finance, planning, and delivery.

**Ms. Alexandra Wallace**



Alexandra Wallace is the Head of Media & Content at Verizon Media. Previously, she was Senior Vice President of NBC News and executive in charge of Today and Meet the Press. She was also previously the Executive Producer of Nightly News and Rock Center. Wallace began her career as an intern in the CBS News London bureau. She has worked with Google, Mic, and The Wall Street Journal. She has been honored with 11 Emmy Awards, 2 Dupont Awards, a Gracie Award and a Peabody Award, as well as a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement from the Columbia College Alumni Association, for which she is a member of the Board of Directors. Wallace is a member of The Council on Foreign Relations as well as a CUP board member and lives in New York City with her husband and two children.

**Dr. Arthur E. Appleton**



Arthur is a founding partner of [Appleton Luff – International Lawyers](#), a boutique international law firm with offices worldwide. He has 30 years of experience in international trade and investment law working with international businesses, sovereign States, and international and regional organizations, as well as the UK Government. He has worked throughout Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America, and has served as a Consultant for many organizations including the World Bank, IFC, WTO, ADB, IDB, UNCTAD, UNITAR, ITC, US CLDP, ILI, and the EU. He is on the List of Experts (Chairpersons) for Trade and Sustainable Development Disputes arising from a number of EU FTAs. Arthur is also an Adjunct Professor of International Law at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS-Europe) where he teaches International Trade Law. In addition, he is a member of the Visiting Faculty and the Advisory Board of the World Trade Institute (University of Bern), teaches executive education courses at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva, Switzerland), and recently joined the Visiting Faculty of IE (Madrid), where he teaches a course on Standards and Regulation. He has published widely in the field of international trade and arbitration (4 books and approximately 50 articles). He sits on the Editorial Advisory Board, of *Legal Issues of Economic Integration* and the Advisory Committee of *The Latin American Journal of International Trade Law*. Arthur is a Swiss and US national and speaks English and French. He is admitted to practice law in Maryland and Washington, DC (USA) and is a member of the Ordre des avocat de Genève (Switzerland).

**Ambassador Charles R. Stith**



Ambassador Stith is currently the Executive Chairman of The Pula Group, a family of companies focused on high value investment opportunities in Africa. Prior to assuming his present position, Ambassador Stith presented his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the United Republic of Tanzania in September 1998. He is a founder and Non-Executive Chairman of the newly established African Presidential Leadership Center, Africa, and on the Advisory Committee of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and a member of the *Council on Foreign Relations*. He is the founder and former National President of the Organization for a New Equality (O.N.E.), which focused on expanding economic opportunities for minorities and women. Ambassador Stith was formerly on the Faculty of the Boston University Department of International Relations, where he taught a course on *Africa and Globalization*, and was the founding director of the African Presidential Center at Boston University. He is a co-editor of the recently published *African Americans in US Foreign Policy: From the Era of Frederick Douglass to the Age of Obama* (University of Illinois Press 2015), the author of *For Such a Time as This: African Leadership Challenges* (APARC Press, 2008) and *Political Religion* (Abingdon Press, 1995). He also served as the Senior Editor of the annual *African Leaders State of Africa Report* and has authored many articles, which have appeared in such publications as the *African Business Magazine*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Denver Post*, *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Times*, and the *Chicago Sun Times*.

**Prof. Don Wallace Jr.**



Don Wallace, Jr, Yale University BA, Harvard University, LLB, Professor of Law, Georgetown University; Chairman, International Law Institute; US delegate to UNCITRAL; vice president UNIDROIT Foundation; member, American Law Institute; former chairman, International Law Section, American Bar Association; co-author, *International Investment Arbitration* (Oxford University Press, 2019); author, editor other books and articles; other memberships.

**Prof. Katrin Kuhlmann**



Prof. Kuhlmann is a Visiting Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center and the President and Founder of the New Markets Lab, a non-profit law and development center. She is also a Senior Associate with the Global Food Security Program of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and the Yeutter Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Nebraska College of Law – Clayton Yeutter Institute of International Trade and Finance. She serves as a member of the Trade Advisory Committee on Africa of the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and the Bretton Woods Committee and sits on several boards and advisory boards. Her areas of research and practice include the intersection between international economic law and sustainable development, international trade law and policy, agricultural law and regulation, the development dimension of regional trade agreements, and comparative law. She was previously a Lecturer on Law at Harvard Law School, a trade negotiator at USTR, and a trade and corporate lawyer at two international law firms, and she has held senior positions with several non-profit organizations and think tanks, including the Aspen Institute and German Marshall Fund. She holds degrees from Harvard Law School and Creighton University and was the recipient of a Fulbright scholarship to study international economics.

**Mr. Kifili Mbatia**



Mr. Mbatia has over 35 years banking experience in the African region with various managerial and leadership roles. He is currently the chairman of the board of directors of Stanbic Bank Holdings and Stanbic Bank Kenya. He worked with Standard Bank Africa from 2007 to 2016 as Regional Chief Executive East Africa where he oversaw subsidiaries in Kenya, Malawi, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. As Regional Director, he worked with key foreign and local clients in the region and liaised with the public sector to execute ground-breaking infrastructure initiatives. Prior to this, he was the Managing Director of Stanbic Bank Uganda Ltd. Under his leadership, the bank was floated on the Uganda Securities Exchange in a landmark IPO whose stock accounted for over 70% of the market turnover in the first year of listing. As Director General of the Kenya Wildlife Service (2016 -2017), he spearheaded the restructuring of the it's banking and financial position, transforming it from a severe financial to a cash positive situation with a good control of its finances. Mr. Mbatia holds a Masters in Banking and Finance for Development from the Instituto Finafrica in Milan, Italy and a Bachelor of Arts (Economics and Political Science) from the University of Michigan in the US.

**Dr. Louis Kasekende**



Dr. Louis A. Kasekende joined MEFMI on April ,1 2021 as the Executive Director. Prior to joining MEFMI he served as Deputy Governor at the Bank of Uganda (BOU) for a total of fifteen years between December 1999 and January 2020. His career has also seen him serve as Chief Economist of the African Development Bank (AfDB) from May 2006 to December 2009. Between 2002 and 2004, he served as Alternate Executive Director and later as Executive Director at the World Bank for Africa Group 1, where he over-saw 22 countries mostly from Anglophone Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Kasekende has previously served as a member of the United Nations Group of Eminent Persons for the Least Developed Countries and the World Bank Knowledge Advisory Commission. He also served on the Board of the African Export Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK), the International Economics Association (IEA), African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Uganda Institute of Banking and Financial Services (UIBFS) and as a member of the National Steering Committee on Capital Markets Development in Uganda. Dr. Kasekende holds a PhD and Master of Arts in Econometrics from the University of Manchester and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Makerere University. He has authored several articles in academic journals and books. Dr. Kasekende is a member of the Rotary Club of Kampala North.

**Baroness Lynda Chalker of Wallasey**



Lynda is the Founder and President of Africa Matters Ltd. She has been a member of the Lower and Upper Houses of the UK Parliament for over forty-five years. Between 1986-1997 she was Minister of State at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, holding responsibility for Africa and the Commonwealth and for Overseas Development. Lynda was made a Life Peer in 1992. Lynda was the first woman to be appointed an Advisory and then a Non-Executive Director of Unilever, a position she held from 1998 to 2007. She is a Trustee of the Investment Climate Facility for Africa ("ICF"), she is also an Executive Trustee of the Global Leadership Foundation, a member of the international advisory board of Lafarge-Holcim and advised the World Bank for over eight years. Lynda was Chairman of Board of the Medicines for Malaria Venture ("MMV") from 2006 to 2011. She was a Director of Ashanti Goldfields Co. Ltd from 2000-2004, and of Group Five (Pty) from 2001 to 2012. Lynda founded The Chalker Foundation for Africa in 2007 which supports health and community programmes in Africa. She is Vice-President of WaterAid and Patron of a number of charities working in Africa, including Sentebale and AfriKids. Lynda was also co-ordinator of the President of Nigeria's Honorary International Investment Council of former President's Obasanjo, Yar'Adua and Jonathan, and she is a member of similar bodies in Uganda and Tanzania. In June

2014, Lynda was awarded an Honorary Citizenship from President Guebuza for services to Mozambique. She is just completing her third and final year as President of the Royal Geographical Society.

**Ms. Maame Awinador-Kanyirige**



Maame Awinador-Kanyirige is an International Trade Law Expert and Consultant at Blackbridge Consulting Group. Her expertise is in international trade law, International Economics, International Relations, and the Law of the Sea. She received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Pune, India and post-graduate Honours degree in International Relations and Politics from the University of Cape Town, South Africa. She also holds an MPhil in International Law from the University of Cape Town.

She is an avid writer and the P.R and Communications lead for The New African Mind; an NGO in Ghana which promotes free entrepreneurship and business training for university graduates and young professionals. Maame is also a highly sought speaker on areas such as International Economics, International Trade, Global Politics and, Women and Youth Empowerment. She has delivered several presentations in that regard across the continent.

**Hon. Mbazhima Shilowa**



Hon. Shilowa is an experienced, insightful politician and a leader who played a critical role in the transition of South Africa into a democracy. He was part of the negotiating team which concluded the terms of South Africa's constitutional democracy and worked closely with both presidents mandela and mbeki. he started his career in the trade union movement and participated at International Labour Organisation in Geneva annually as the General Secretary of Cosatu. His greatest attribute was to build bridges and resolve conflict between various sectors of society. He served as a Premier of Gauteng Province at the age of 41 for 2 terms, becoming the first Premier to serve most of his two terms. His leadership and vision as Premier is legendary in creating many legacy projects for the Economic Development of the Province. He managed a budget of about R50b with exceptional governance protocols and no record of corruption. Over the 10 years, he accomplished the most out of the 9 Provinces after South Africa became a democracy. He left his position in October 2010 to form COPE an opposition Party to inspire a new political agenda which places South Africa first, enables South Africans to exercise their democratic rights and to hold political leaders accountable. Some of the milestones of his term as Premier are: The Gautrain, The Innovation Hub, Sci-bono, The Cradle of Humankind and his record of changing the face of Gauteng stands out as one of his many accomplishments. He is visionary, courageous and an inspiration to the many whose lives he touched with his unique ability to lead with integrity, provide perspective and insight. He always expects the best from people and as Premier appointed many women to leadership positions. He is among a limited number of South Africans who has experience of both the Trade Union movement and Politics, having been in leadership positions of both. His unique experience is now available to organisations and companies who wish to tap into his unique leadership experience. He is married to Wendy Luhabe an accomplished businesswoman and social entrepreneur with a focus on the economic participation of women.



**Mr. Nicholas Nesbitt,  
OGW**



Mr. Nesbitt is a senior advisor to the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), helping the firm support its clients in Kenya and the rest of Africa. He is an entrepreneur and mentor driving the growth in companies in telecommunications, logistics and agriculture. He is also very active in promoting Foreign Direct Investment in Kenya by helping leading international companies launch their presence in East Africa. His most recent corporate assignment was with IBM, as the General Manager of its Eastern Africa operations covering 10 countries and the IBM Research Africa Lab. Mr. Nesbitt is the Chairman of the Board of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the East African Business Council. In addition to these boards, he holds and has held board seats with Vision 2030, the Central Bank of Kenya, the Commercial Bank of Africa (now NCBA), the American Chamber of Commerce, AMREF Flying Doctors, the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, and Multimedia University. He also chairs the private sector's engagement with the Kenyan government in its negotiations on the US Kenya Free Trade Agreement. Previously, Mr. Nesbitt was co-founder and Chief Executive of KenCall, a leading international BPO/call centre outsourcing company in East Africa. The company was recognised as the top Non-European Call Center globally, and one of the best mid-size businesses in East Africa. While working in the United States, Mr. Nesbitt held senior executive positions at Qwest Communications, Schneider Electric and the Boston Consulting Group. Mr. Nesbitt is an active member of the Young President's Organization (YPO), a global membership organisation supporting the leading young CEO's around the world. He received his MBA from Stanford University and his Master's and Bachelor's of Engineering degrees from Dartmouth College in the USA. When not working, Mr. Nesbitt enjoys time with his young family playing golf and tennis and recently reigniting his long-lost passion in motocross. Back in the day, Mr. Nesbitt was a leading Kenyan motocross rider and played rugby, soccer, hockey and squash for his university and high school.

**Ms. Ory Okolloh**



Until recently, Ory was the Managing Director, Omidyar Network and Luminare Group in Africa, both part of The Omidyar Group. She serves on the Board of Directors of several organisations including the Thomson Reuters Founders Share Company, East African Breweries Limited, the Board of Trustees of the Van Leer Group and is the Chair of the Stanbic Bank Foundation. She is also an Aspen Global Leadership Network (AGLN) Fellow and has in the past served as advisory board member to Twiga Foods, Global Witness, Amnesty International Africa and Endeavor Kenya among other organisations. Prior to this, Ory was Google's policy and strategy manager for Africa. Ory was also at the forefront of developing technology innovation as a founding member of Ushahidi. She was the organization's Executive Director from inception until December 2010. Ory is also the co-founder of Mzalendo, a website that tracks the performance of Kenyan MPs. In 2011 Ory was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum, and one of Africa's most Powerful Women by Forbes Magazine. In 2014 she was named Time 100's most influential people in the world. Ory earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School and a B.A in political science from the University of Pittsburgh.

**Prof. Osagie Imasogie**



Professor Osagie Imasogie has over 35 years of experience in the field of law, finance, business management, healthcare and the pharmaceutical industry. He is a co-founder of PIPV Capital through which he has invested over \$1 Billion in institutional money. Prior to co-founding PIPV Capital, Osagie conceptualized and established GlaxoSmithKline Ventures and was its founding Vice President. Osagie has held senior commercial and R&D positions within pharmaceutical companies such as GSK, SmithKline, DuPont Merck and Endo Pharmaceuticals. Osagie has also been a Price Waterhouse Corporate Finance Partner as well as a practicing attorney with a leading US Law Firm. Osagie is a serial entrepreneur and investor. He serves as Chairman and Founder of Iberre Pharmaceuticals (NYSE:IBER.U) and Zelira Therapeutics (ASX: ZLD). In addition, he serves on the Board of a number of financial institutions such as FS-KKR Capital Corp. (NYSE: FSK), Haverford Trust and Beltraith Investment, collectively managing over \$28 Billion. Osagie served as a Senior Technical Consultant to PEPFAR. In addition, Osagie serves on the Advisory Board of the Africa Health Fund. Osagie also led the establishment of the Central Clearing House of the Nigerian Stock Exchange. Professor Osagie Imasogie is a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, and a member of its Executive Committee. For the past 17+ years, Osagie has been an Adjunct Professor of Intellectual Property at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, where he also serves as the Chairman of the Board. Osagie holds post-graduate degrees from the London School of Economics and the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School.

**Ms. Patricia Habu**



Patricia is a legally trained Ugandan international trade and development consultant. She has extensive experience in international trade research for government and development organisations as well as trade negotiations experience for government. Patricia served as a Trade Specialist with USAID/Uganda advising on trade and regional integration issues, monitoring trade programs that support the private sector and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives as well as designing capacity building programs that enhance trade. She also worked as a Senior State Attorney with the Attorney General's office Uganda advising on trade and investment related legal, policy and technical issues. She also reviewed and drafted trade agreements as well as negotiated regional trade agreements to which Uganda is a signatory including the East African Community Common Market Protocol. The Protocol provides for the free movement of goods, services, capital, persons as well as right of residence and establishment aimed at widening and deepening economic and social cooperation among the member states. Patricia holds a Master of Laws in International Trade and Investment from the University of Pretoria. Patricia is proficient in English and has knowledge of French.

**Mr. Patrick Macrory**



Patrick Macrory has practiced and taught trade law in Washington, D.C., for fifty years. He is a former English barrister who was at the firm of Arnold & Porter for 22 years, 15 as a partner. From 1990 to 1997 he was a senior partner at the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, and in 1997 he became a senior consultant (part-time) to that firm. His practice was in the field of trade remedies. He received his B.A.(1962) and M.A. (1964) from Oxford University. He practiced as a barrister in London before moving to the United States in 1968. He received his LL.M. from George Washington University in 1971. He is Director of the International Trade Law Center at the International Law Institute, Washington, D.C. and a partner in the law firm of Appleton Luff, with offices in Geneva, Brussels, Washington, Seattle, Singapore, Johannesburg, Kampala, and Warsaw. Mr. Macrory has written and spoken extensively on international trade law subjects. He has also taught courses on the subject. Mr. Macrory has had considerable experience with free trade agreements. He represented Israel in the negotiation of the U.S./Israel FTA, the first modern U.S. FTA. He represented Mexican business interests with respect to the

implementation of NAFTA. He worked with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat with respect to the Services Protocol to the Pacific Islands FTA, drafting text and advising individual countries with respect the negotiations. He also worked with the Secretariat in connection with the Economic Partnership Agreement being negotiated with the EU. He helped the Government of Botswana prepare for the negotiation of a Services Protocol to the Southern Africa Development Community. He has carried out many consulting projects on trade issues. He advised the People's Bank of China on WTO aspects of banking law reform in a project financed by the Asian Development Bank and led a team that provided WTO training to 250 senior Chinese judges in another ADB-financed project. He has advised the Government of Armenia on aspects of Armenia's accession to the WTO, in a project financed by USAID. Early in 2021 he designed and presented a course on trade remedies to the Botswana Trade Commission. Mr. Macrory was Editor-in-Chief of "The World Trade Organization – Legal, Economic, and Political Analysis" (2005). He is also the co-editor of a two-volume book called "A Business Guide to Trade and Investment" (2017 & 2018).

**Prof. Richard Macrory**



Richard Macrory is a barrister and emeritus professor of environmental law at University College, London where he set up and was first director of the Centre for Law and the Environment. Professor Macrory has served as a board member of the Environment Agency England and Wales and was a long-standing member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. He was the founding editor of the *Journal of Environmental Law*. In 2006 Professor Macrory led the Cabinet Office Review on Regulatory Sanctions and his recommendations were reflected in Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act 2008. Much of Richard's research work over the years has been concerned with various aspects of EU environmental law, and for a short period in the early 1990's he worked in the infringement unit at DG Environment as a visiting academic. Richard Macrory was the first chair of UK Environmental Law Association, and in 2016 -2018 was co-chair of UKELA's Brexit Task Force. UKELA was neutral on the Brexit referendum but is committed to ensure that whatever form of Brexit takes place, existing environmental law is not jeopardized and opportunities for enhancement are taken.

**Ms. Scheaffer Okore**



Scheaffer advises philanthropists and INGOs working intersectionally on policy, governance, and gender strategy with a feminist lens. She is a senior policy advisor at Reid Strategies and the Senior Strategy Advisor at SCOPE Impact who also doubles up as a columnist for one of Kenya's top newspapers. She's a revered voice advocating for women's equity in leadership, economic autonomy and inclusion. She is currently an Advisory Board Member at Gates Foundation's Goalkeepers (Seattle), She's The First (New York), Center for Feminist Foreign Policy (Berlin) and The She Tank (Abuja). Scheaffer is an inaugural Obama Foundation Africa leadership Fellow who has been recognised by the ONE Campaign as one of their global women of 2018. She has in the past consulted for INGOs such as Project Everyone, Malaria No More and Purpose Global. She is an intellectual polymath who has spoken at the African youth perspectives discourse at Chatham House in the UK, the 31st African Union summit on anti-corruption in Mauritania, Feminist future discourse in Berlin, Mozambique, Uganda and Singapore. Her work has been featured on Career's magazine, African Portal, African Feminism among others.

**Mr. Stuart Kerr**



Stuart has nearly 40 years of experience handling legal, regulatory, trade, dispute resolution, legal reform, and technical assistance issues throughout the developing world. He has advised international organizations, corporations, and governments in developing and emerging economies. He currently serves at the President of the International Law Institute (ILI). He is also a member of the Trade Advisory Committee on Africa at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. From 2015-2020 he was Counsel and Africa Practice Coordinator to the international law firm Jones Day. He joined the firm after a decade as the legal and regulatory director of the Millennium Challenge Corporation is an independent U.S. government development agency, founded in 2004 that provides major project grants-averaging \$300 million per country-to developing countries, primarily in Africa, that demonstrate better governance practices than their peer countries. While at MCC, he developed and helped implement projects in judicial reform, trade, alternative dispute resolution, and anticorruption. He also was senior counsel for Europe and Eurasia at the Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) for three years. Prior to CLDP, he served from 1988 to 2002 as ILI's executive director. Stuart is a regular speaker and writer on law and development subjects. While at MCC, he gave more than 100 presentations on rule of law issues at locations as diverse as the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, the Supreme Court of Singapore, the Palais Royal (Conseil Constitutionnel) in Paris, and the House of Lords in London. Stuart has served on the boards of academic organizations, foundations, NGOs, and bar groups in the U.S. and internationally.

**Mr. Swithin J. Munyantwali, Esq.**



Mr. Munyantwali is an international development lawyer with close to thirty year's experience leading law reform efforts in Africa. He is Vice Chairman and co-founder of the International Law Institute African Centre for Legal Excellence (ILI-ACLE), an affiliate of the ILI, in Washington, DC. He has led projects which include establishment of public private partnership structures, court restructuring and upgrading, procurement reform, drafting of commercial laws, parliamentary strengthening, and various technical and capacity building activities, resulting in extensive engagements in over thirty-five countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and the major bilateral and multilateral global development agencies. He is the Head of Appleton Luff 's East African Office, an international boutique law firm separately incorporated in Europe, Asia, the United States, and Africa. Representative clients have included Carnegie Mellon University, SGS, and Tessengerlo. Munyantwali has served as a party-appointed arbitrator under the auspices of the International Chamber of Commerce (power and telecoms disputes), and the World Bank International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (energy dispute) – with seats in Tanzania, and London, UK. The matters in these cases range from \$400 to \$600 million. Munyantwali has served as a guest professor at various universities and has published broadly and been cited on the subject of legal and judicial reform. Munyantwali has extensive banking experience as a director with major international banks; he serves on the Board of Directors of the Absa Group, where he serves on the Audit and Compliance and Social and Ethics Committees. He previously served as Chairman of Barclays Bank, and Absa Bank in Uganda. He serves on the Board of Directors of the International Law Institute in Washington, DC, and the African Philanthropy Forum and has served on Special Advisory Boards for Interpol and UN Habitat. He is a Judge (Vice-Chairman), on the Staff Appeals Tribunal at the East African Development Bank and a member of the Visiting Committee, at the Center for International Affairs, Case Western Reserve University. He also serves on the Advisory Boards of the Emerging and Frontier Markets Association, and The New Markets Lab and on the Dean's Cabinet for Global Legal Studies at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Munyantwali holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from St. Joseph's University, a Juris Doctor from Case Western Reserve



University School of Law, and Master's in International and Comparative Law, from Georgetown University Law Center. He is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania. Munyantwali is a Member of the *Cosmos Club* (Washington, DC), and has been honoured by *International Bar Association* (Innovation).

**Dr. Thelma Awori**



Dr. Thelma Awori is the Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Liberia to the Republic of Uganda. She has served in many senior roles within the United Nations including as Assistant Secretary General responsible for all of UNDP's work in Africa. She has a Bachelor's degree in Social Relations from Harvard University, a Masters Degree in Adult Education from the University of California Berkley and an Ed.D. in Leadership and Learning from Columbia University Teachers College in New York. She is a thought leader and innovator in the creation of partnerships between academia and communities. Dr. Awori is one of the leading champions of increasing women's leadership at all levels and is currently a member of the Steering Committee of the African Women's Leadership Network. In that initiative, she coordinates the *Empowering Women in Agriculture* programme where she seeks to link new scientific knowledge with the agricultural work that women do. She is the initiator of an Africa wide program that supports women market vendors. As part of her civic responsibility, Dr. Awori serves on a number of intergovernmental, private sector and civil society groups. She is also passionate about working with children who are intellectually challenged. Dr. Awori is Liberian by birth, Uganda by nationality with relations in Kenya and Ghana. I have advised my children she says “not to get glued to one small piece of Africa. Take a great big bite. It all belongs to you”.

**Vimal Ambat**



Vimal Ambat is the Chief Executive Officer Airtel Money – Africa from 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Prior to Airtel Africa, Vimal was the Chief Executive of Retail and Business Banking and Chief Digital Officer for Absa Regional Operations spread over 9 Countries in Africa. Vimal joined Barclays as the Head of Lending in 2011 in Dubai, providing strategic leadership and leading profitable growth of the Consumer Lending and Credit Card businesses. He was also responsible for business expansion into new segments and markets. Vimal has more than 26 years' experience in running Retail & Business Banking, Credit Cards, Consumer Loans, Retail Liabilities and Wealth Management and has worked with leading banks like Standard Chartered, ANZ Bank, ABN AMRO in Asia, Middle East and Africa. He was a member of the CEMEA Advisory board of VISA and has served as an Advisor on the International Advisory Board of China UnionPay and was also as a member of the APMEA Chip Sub Committee of MasterCard International. He speaks on Consumer Banking, Payments and Financial Inclusion for global organisations such as the Lafferty Group, Fleming Group and European Financial Management & Marketing (EFMA). Vimal holds a Master of Business Administration in Marketing and Finance and a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce.

