



Chair: The Hon. Mr Justice Peter Jamadar– Caribbean Court of Justice
Vice Chair: The Hon. Chief Justice Roxane George (Guyana)

MEDIA RELEASE

(For immediate release)

No. 01:2024

18 November 2024

REGIONAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS EMBRACE HOLISTIC APPROACHES TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Hamilton, Bermuda. From 21-23 November 2024, approximately 100 judicial officers, including Chief Justices, Judges, Magistrates, Registrars, and Court Administrators, from across the Caribbean will meet at the Hamilton Princess Hotel, Bermuda, for the 8th Biennial Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) Conference under the theme “*Justice 360: Holistic Approaches to the Administration of Justice*”. For this CAJO Conference, the host judiciary is the Judiciary of Bermuda. The Conference is also supported by the Government of Bermuda and the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ).

The CAJO Conference will commence with an opening ceremony and headline the feature speaker, the Honourable Mr Justice Adrian Saunders, President of the CCJ, elucidating on the topic of “*Celebrating Caribbean Jurisprudence: Intersections between Law, Politics, and Society*”. Plenary and breakout sessions will be conducted on artificial intelligence in Caribbean judiciaries, management of high-profile matters, breaking cycles of violence against women and girls, conflict management within the judiciary, and many other issues pertinent to courts in the region.

This Conference will be one with a difference, offering participants a genuinely interactive experience. The programme is designed to strengthen participant engagement by learning through doing, spanning two and a half days. By engaging different teaching-learning models, such as small group work, panel discussions, lecturettes, and question-and-answer segments, the programme offers participants a variety of session topics and ways to interact with the subject material. Fully embracing the wellness theme, this year’s programme includes a dedicated segment that will offer participants practical tools to aid their wellbeing. Also, the use of music and performance has been added not only to stimulate the senses but also to utilise creative outlets as a means of consolidating learning. Notably, this year’s programme is constructed to allow participants sufficient time to rest and recover from long conference days and encourage interaction among their regional colleagues.

Speaking on the upcoming Conference, CAJO Chair and CCJ Judge, the Honourable Mr Peter Jamadar, stated, “Caribbean Judiciaries are facing increasingly complex issues both jurisprudentially and administratively. In addition, what it means to be a judiciary is evolving. Court-user-centric approaches informed by human rights standards, the impact of technology, including artificial intelligence, and the central importance of judicial officers’ and judiciary staff wellness, as all integral to judicial and judiciary excellence, have changed how court systems operate and interact with stakeholders. This CAJO Conference recognises these changes and responds with sessions that facilitate discussions on holistic approaches to the administration of justice in the Caribbean. I anticipate an engaged and engaging conference, robust discussions, and many constructive takeaways.”

The CAJO Management Committee looks forward to the 8th Biennial Conference with great enthusiasm and trusts that all participants will find the experience rewarding and the material engaging to spread the holistic approach to regional jurisprudence.

-End-

About the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers

The Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) brings together the region’s Chancellors, Chief Justices, Judges, Masters, Registrars, Magistrates, Tribunal Members, Executive Court Administrators, and other judicial staff. The CAJO is a non-profit organisation registered in Trinidad and Tobago. The first meeting of judicial officers across the region took place in June 2009 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and this marked the birth of the CAJO. With its own Constitution and membership, the CAJO was ably headed by Hon. Mr Justice Adrian Saunders, President of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), who served as Chair from 2009 to 2019. The CAJO is led by a Management Committee comprising judicial officers elected at the Association’s Business Meeting, held biennially. The Management Committee comprises 16 members from almost all countries in the region. The CAJO provides a host of judicial education engagements for judicial officers across the region, including its Biennial Conference, training programmes and workshops on various topics and areas of law and practice, and a biannual Newsletter, CAJO News.