

## Foreword

This volume of the African Law Study Library is dedicated to the 4<sup>th</sup> regional conference, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya in September 2016 and was organized by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation under the Rule of Law Program for Sub-Saharan Africa.

The conference about “Requirements for an independent and effective judiciary in Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda – current problems in criminal and civil proceedings” gathered highly qualified and experienced lawyers from different East African countries.

Most of the participants were former members of the Rule of Law seminars organized by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation with African universities since 2008.

The concept of the regional conference was based on previous regional conferences assembling post graduated lawyers from Burundi, DR Congo and Rwanda. The last 3<sup>rd</sup> regional conference integrated also participants from the Tanzanian-German-Centre for Eastern African Legal Studies at the University of Dar Es Salaam.

The development of an effective judicial system based on transparency and independency is a key-issue of the Rule of Law. A functioning judicial system requires independent judges and clearly defined, transparent and effective judicial proceedings.

Several important aspects of civil and criminal proceeding matters were discussed from various national perspectives: e.g. the appointment of judges, procedural challenges in enforcing civil judgements and the collaboration of investigative authorities.

The participants hold lectures about these aspects focused on their specific national judicial systems. The following discussions contributed to a comparative approach. This volume presents the lectures in written form either as articles or as reports.

The international conference offered a platform for a regional exchange between the participants. The lawyers worked in international teams and developed proposals on how to improve concrete judicial issues. The results of the workshop groups are attached as an annex. The content of the papers does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the respective reporter.

Opinions expressed in the articles published in this volume are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily represent our opinion or those of Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

*Karima Ameziane*

*Hartmut Hamann*

*Arne Wulff*