

AFRICAN LEGAL LUMINARIES AT THE LAW SCHOOL

The Law School has been enormously privileged to host the Hangzhou stage of the 4th Course of the China-Africa Legal Professionals Exchange Project. This project is part of the Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China Africa Cooperation's Action Plan (2016-2018) aimed at enhancing mutual understanding and friendship, deepening practical cooperation between China and Africa in the legal sector, and promoting the development of a Chinese-African comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership. This collaborative project is being administered under the framework of the Legal Forum on China Africa Cooperation.

The Hangzhou training, hosted at the Law School, has been co-organised with the International Investment Committee of Hangzhou Lawyers Association, the International Trade Committee of Hangzhou Lawyer Association and the China-Africa Bridge Cross-border Trade Service Platform. The visitors are senior legal professionals from all over Africa, including judges, procurators, private lawyers, government and international organisation legal advisors, in-house legal counsel to large enterprises, and academics.

The Law School had the privilege of organising a very special welcome event on Wednesday 30 May 2017, where we were able not just to greet our distinguished visitors but also to introduce them to some of our African students.



The distinguished visitors meeting our students on arrival



Introductions and welcome

Professor Suzannah Linton, Distinguished Professor at the Law School, hosted the event. Vice-Dean Song Jie, one of the organisers, also attended. Three students gave formal presentations: Ghanaian Charles Owusu Asamoah (14Q), South African Maajida Mia (15Q) and Egyptian-Omani Nazly Ahmed Amir Hafez Sadik (15Q). They spoke eloquently about their reasons for coming to study here and their experiences of China, how they had matured as persons and professionals, as well as of their ambitions and hopes for the future.



Charles, the first student to address the gathering



Maajida speaking about her experiences



Nazly addressing the visitors

Several other students also joined in to express their excitement about being able to welcome and meet the eminent legal experts, and in China, and to share their own experiences: Tshepo Mpuru Ledwaba (South Africa), Timukudze Tariro Stephanie Maroveke (Zimbabwe), Nyasha Cassandra Chimangah (Zimbabwe) and Lucia Blessing Viriri (Zimbabwe).

The visitors were inspired to give powerful and memorable interventions in response to the students. They shared their own trajectories in life, and gave priceless advice about how to manage personal development, studies, career plans, making their dreams come true and dealing with the challenges that lie ahead. They urged the students to take every opportunity to benefit from the unique opportunity and experience of being Africans with an international law education at a Chinese university. Ms Qi Meng from the China Law Society also spoke of the significance of the event, and expressed China's warm embrace of her friends from Africa.



Professor Khomotso Moshikaro, University of Cape Town, South Africa



Professor Guillaume Moumouni, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin



Madam Odunayo Yetunde Oluwatoyin, Legal Officer, Ekiti State Civil Service Commission, Nigeria



Professor Tamasang Christopher Funnie, Vice Dean, Faculty of Laws and Political Science, University of Yaounde II, Cameroon



Mr. Mohamed El Sayed, Senior Prosecutor, International Cooperation Office of Public Prosecution, Egypt



Madam Qi Meng, Senior Program Officer, International Department of China Law Society