



Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies

Encouraging international cooperation on law reform

CALRAs Conference 2026

Law Reform in a Changing World

SINGAPORE

Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th July 2026

Venue: The Fullerton Hotel, 1 Fullerton Square, Singapore

In the Boardroom, Lower Lobby

Monday 13 July 2026	
8.30 – 9.00am	Registration
9.00– 9.15am	Opening of Conference: The Hon Anthony North KC, President of CALRAs and Chairperson of the Victorian Law Reform Commission Rosemary Kumitsonyo, Vice President of CALRAs and the Law Commissioner of Malawi Malcolm McMillan, General Secretary, CALRAs
9.15– 9.30 am	Welcome address by Justice Hri Kumar Nair, Judge of the Court of Appeal of Singapore
9.30 – 10.30 am	Law Reform in South East Asia Chair: Reshma Sharma KC, Solicitor General of the Cayman Islands Panel: • Law Reform in Singapore: Yeong Zee Kin, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Academy of Law • Law Reform in Malaysia: Institutional Framework, Practice and Constitutional Considerations: Salwani Abdullah, Deputy Commissioner of Law Revision and Law Reform, Attorney General's Chambers, Malaysia Questions and discussion
10.30 – 11.00 am	Coffee/tea break
11.00 – 12.30pm	Implementation of Law Reform Recommendations: working with Legislative Counsel Chair: Jeanne Lee, Chief Legislative Counsel, Singapore Panel: • A view from Legislative Counsel embedded within a law reform agency: Jessica de Mounteney, First Parliamentary Counsel and Permanent Secretary, UK

	• A view from a law reform agency: Christine Agimba, Chairperson, Kenya Law Reform Commission • What legislative counsel looks for from law reformers: Andy Beattie, Chief Parliamentary Counsel, Scotland and Immediate Past President of the Commonwealth Association of Legislative Counsel Questions and discussion
12.30 – 1.30 pm	Lunch break
1.30 – 3.00 pm	Law Reform in Action: Asia Launch of the Practitioner’s Guide to a Human Rights- based approach to the Decriminalisation of Poverty and Status Chair: Olivia Lwabukuna, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London Panel: • Christopher Roberts, Law School, Chinese University of Hong; Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London • Susan Jarvis, Legal Adviser, Legislative Support and Law Reform, Commonwealth Secretariat Questions and discussion
3.00 – 3.30 pm	Coffee/tea break
3.30 – 5.00 pm	The Role of Regional Associations in Law Reform Chair: Fleur Kingham, Chair, Queensland Law Reform Commission Panel: • Association of Law Reform Agencies of Eastern and Southern Africa, by Rosemary Kumitsonyo, the Law Commissioner of Malawi • Australasia Law Reform Agencies, by Fleur Kingham, Chair, Queensland Law Reform Commission • The 5 jurisdictions of the UK, Ireland and Jersey; by Matt Jolley, Head of Legal, Law Commission of England and Wales • The Federation of Law Reform Agencies of Canada, by Shauna Van Praagh, President, the Law Commission of Canada
5:00pm	End of Day 1.

Tuesday 14 July 2026

9.00 – 10.30 am	Law Reform: Working with Academia Chair: Mathew Jolley, Head of Legal, Law Commission of England and Wales Panel: • The Law Commission of Canada experience: Shauna Van Praagh, President of the Law Commission of Canada • Criminal law project: working with the Criminal Law Reform Now Network: Penney Lewis, Commissioner, Law Commission of England and Wales • Academics working with law reform agencies on a law reform project: Jens M. Scherpe, Professor of Comparative Law, University of Aalborg, Denmark Questions and discussion
10.30 – 11.00 am	Tea/coffee break
11.00 – 12.30pm	Roundtable Discussion on Law Reform in the Pacific Islands Chair and Facilitator: Tavake Barron Afeaki, Acting Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Chancellor of the Kingdom of Tonga Panel: • Philip Kanairara, Chairperson, Solomon Islands Law Reform Commission Questions and discussion
12.30 – 1.30 pm	Lunch break
1.30 – 3pm	Law Reform in Small States/Small Jurisdictions Chair: Sabir Kadel, Chief Executive Officer, the Law Reform Commission of Mauritius Panel: • Reflections from Mauritius: Sabir Kadel, Chief Executive Officer, the Law Reform Commission of Mauritius • Reflections from Tasmania: Jeremy Prichard, Director, the Tasmania Law Reform Institute

	- Overcoming the Challenges in a Small Jurisdiction, Taylor Portelli, Legal Researcher, South Australia Law Reform Institute - Reflections from the Seychelles: Yohan Liyanage, Director, the Seychelles Law Commission Questions and discussion
3.00 -3.30pm	Coffee/tea break
3.30 – 5.00pm	Law Reform and Legal Education Chair: Charles Garland, Treasurer, CALRAs Panel: - Teaching the Theory of Law Reform by Micheil Paton, Australian National University - A postgraduate qualification in law reform, by Kenneth Mundia, Commissioner of the Namibian Law Reform and Development Commission and Lecturer at the University of Namibia - Teaching law reform: Why? How? Where? By the Hon David Goddard KC Questions and discussion
5.00-5.15pm	Concluding Remarks By the Hon Anthony North KC, President of CALRAs and Chairperson of the Victorian Law Reform Commission
5.15pm	Close of Conference
6.30pm	CONFERENCE DINNER Informal buffet dinner at the Town Restaurant, the Fullerton Hotel