



International Development  
Law Organization  
40 YEARS OF CREATING A CULTURE OF JUSTICE

# ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES PARTNERSHIP FORUM 2023

## IDLO AT 40: BUILDING A MORE PEACEFUL, JUST, AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

28 November 2023 | 2:00 to 4:00 PM CET

### CONCEPT NOTE

Halfway to the SDG deadline of 2030, the world is facing a perfect storm of crises, including the rising levels of conflict, the severe consequences of climate change and food insecurity, as well as the lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The compounding effects of these intersecting crises have a close correlation with the global decline in the rule of law.

This is reflected in the democratic backsliding, declining trust in multilateralism, attacks on the independence of the judiciary, shrinking civic space, and the alarming rise in corruption. The justice gap is growing dangerously wide, particularly for women, youth, and other marginalized and vulnerable communities that are at risk of being left behind. The Secretary-General has warned that “unless we act now, the 2030 Agenda could become an epitaph for a world that might have been.”<sup>1</sup>

The causes and effects of these intersecting crises – and the actions needed to address them – are interconnected and deeply rooted in issues of human rights, justice, equity, inclusion, accountability, and good governance. The rule of law and SDG 16, as critical enablers and accelerators of the 2030 Agenda, serve as a compass to navigate the multiple intersecting crises, guiding us towards solutions that prioritize peace, justice, strong institutions, and inclusive societies as the fundamental pillars of transformative change.

On the occasion of IDLO’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, this year’s special edition of IDLO’s Partnership Forum will celebrate IDLO’s contributions in building a culture of justice worldwide. Drawing from the experiences of a distinguished set of speakers, the discussion will underscore the enduring relevance of IDLO’s mandate in addressing the multiple intersecting global crises. Finally, it will offer a forward-looking perspective on ways to reinvigorate international support for the rule of law to accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda and build a more peaceful, just and sustainable future.

Held annually in conjunction with IDLO’s Assembly of Parties, the Partnership Forum is a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue. It brings together IDLO Member Parties, senior government officials, representatives of multilateral organizations, civil society, youth, academia, and the judiciary to stimulate dialogue on critical rule of law issues, share experience, and facilitate partnerships.

---

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special edition, Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet (2023), p. 2, available at: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/>.

**Moderator:**

- **Ms. Jan Beagle**, Director-General, IDLO

**Speakers:**

- **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, Director-General, World Health Organization
- **Hon. Justice Bashe Yusuf Ahmed**, Chief Justice and President, Supreme Court of Somalia
- **Mr. Todd Robinson**, Assistant Secretary of State, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, United States Department of State
- **Mr. Diego García-Sayán**, Former UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers
- **Mr. Ferdinando Nelli Feroci**, President, Istituto Affari Internazionali
- **Ms. Lynrose Jane D. Genon**, Executive Council Member, Young Women+ for Peace and Leadership (YW+PL-PH)