

# NATIONAL BAR CONFERENCE PROGRAMME:

CAPE TOWN: 5-10 APRIL 1988

## TUESDAY 5 APRIL 1988

12h00-21h30 Delegates arrival and registration  
18h30-21h30 Welcoming cocktail party for delegates

## WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 1988

Full day Leisure and sports programme

## THURSDAY 7 APRIL 1988

08h15-09h15 Conference registration and check-in  
09h30-09h35 Welcome by H P VILJOEN SC, Chairman, General Council of the Bar of South Africa  
09h35-09h50 Formal opening by the Honourable Mr Justice P J RABIE, Acting Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa

### *Morning topic*

#### **The future of the legal profession in South Africa: is fusion the answer?**

(Chairman: P J RABIE ACJ)

#### *Keynote Address*

09h50-10h50 The Rt Hon Lord  
BENSON, GBE, FCA  
– 'The English experience'  
10h50-11h15 Tea  
11h15-11h35 Mr S W VAN DER MERWE, Immediate past President, Association of Law Societies of the RSA.  
– 'An attorney's perspective'  
11h35-11h55 M D KUPER SC, Chairman Johannesburg Bar Council  
– 'The view from the Bar'  
11h55-12h45 Open discussion  
12h45-12h55 P J RABIE ACJ  
– Summary  
**12h55-14h15 LUNCH**

### *Afternoon topic*

#### **Coping with the costs of litigation**

(Chairman: C F ELOFF DJP)

14h15-14h25 The Hon Mr Justice C F ELOFF, Deputy Judge President, Transvaal Provincial Division, and Chairman of the Legal Aid Board  
– 'Legal Aid – the present system'  
14h25-14h45 S A CILLIERS SC, member of the Johannesburg Bar and of the Legal Aid Board  
– 'Funding access to justice and necessary reforms'  
14h45-15h05 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE, Director General, Department of Justice  
– 'The role of the state'  
15h05-15h45 Open discussion  
15h45-15h50 C F ELOFF DJP  
– Summary  
**EVENING FREE**



## FRIDAY 8 APRIL 1988

### *Morning topic*

#### **Human rights and the legal process in a changing society**

(Chairman: M M CORBETT JA)

- 09h30-09h45 The Hon Mr Justice  
M M CORBETT, Judge of Appeal  
– ‘Setting the scene’
- 09h45-10h15 I W B DE VILLIERS SC, Chair-  
man, Pretoria Bar Council  
– ‘Human rights and group rights’
- 10h15-10h45 Tea
- 10h45-11h15 Prof L W H ACKERMANN, in-  
cumbent of the Chair for Human  
Rights at the University of Stel-  
lenbosch  
– ‘Meeting the challenge of chan-  
ge’
- 11h15-12h15 Open discussion
- 12h15-12h25 M M CORBETT JA  
– Summary
- 12h30-13h30 LUNCH**

### *Afternoon topic*

#### **Appointment to the judiciary: who and how?** (Chairman: G G HOEXTER JA)

- 13h30-13h45 The Hon Mr Justice  
G G HOEXTER, Judge of Appeal  
– ‘An overview of the problem’
- 13h45-14h15 The Hon Mr Justice  
P J J OLIVIER, full-time Member,  
S A Law Commission  
– ‘A broader bench’
- 14h15-14h45 H P VILJOEN SC, Chairman, Ge-  
neral Council of the Bar  
– ‘Does the answer lie in chan-  
ge?’
- 14h45-15h30 Open discussion
- 15h30-15h40 G G HOEXTER JA  
– Summary
- 15h40-15h45 M SELIGSON SC, Chairman,  
Steering Committee, National  
Bar Conference  
– Closing remarks
- 19h30 FORMAL DINNER DANCE**

## SATURDAY 9 APRIL 1988

Free day/Leisure Programme

## SUNDAY 10 APRIL 1988

Delegates depart

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### **THE LORD BENSON, GBE, FCA**

Lord Benson was born and educated in South Africa (St John's College and Parktown High School, Johannesburg). During the war he served with the Grenadier Guards. He is a chartered accountant who was formerly senior partner of Coopers & Lybrand. On retirement from active professional practice in 1975, he became adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England until August 1983. He was president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales in 1966 and chairman of the Royal Commission on Legal Services 1976 to 1979. He was a member of the Roskill Commission on Fraud Trials in 1984/1985 and has also served as chairman or been a member of a wide variety of committees appointed to enquire into the Steel Industry, Railways, Transport, New Zealand Shipping, the National Trust, the Racing Industry, the Royal Dockyards and others. From 1980 to 1986 he was chairman of the Joint Disciplinary Committee of the Accountancy Profession. He was made CBE in 1946, was Knighted in 1964, made GBE in 1971, and created a Life Peer in 1981.

#### **Note**

The **Royal Commission on Legal Services** was required to inquire into the law and practice relating to the provision of legal services (which included legal aid), and to recommend what changes were desirable in the public interest in the structure, organisation, training, regulation of and entry to the legal profession. The Commission comprised fifteen persons drawn from the legal profession and several other organisations and occupations. The full Commission met on 74 occasions and made 369 recommendations.