

# The Lex:lead Group

Lawyers for Economic Advancement and Development

December 2015

## *Happy New Year from the Lex:lead Group!*

Lex:lead wishes you season's greetings as it enters its **sixth** annual essay competition, awards in February, answering: **How does poor economic development contribute to health-related concerns; how can law help?** We have started including profiles of our winners—please read on.

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(Belgium) (Reappointment)

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(Tanzania) (Reappointment)

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(Gambia) (Reappointment)

Professor Paolo Novak  
(Italy) (New appointment)

Dr Irene Khan (Bangladesh)  
(New appointment)

Ms Dianna Kempe QC JP  
(Bermuda) (Reappointment)

Mr Iain Morley QC  
(UK) (Reappointment)

Ms Nankunda Katangaza  
(Canada) (Reappointment)

Mr Fasil Amdetsion  
(Ethiopia) (Reappointment)

Ms Violet Odala  
(Malawi) (Reappointment)

Chief Charles Taku  
(Cameroon) (Reappointment)

Dr Mark McQuinn  
(UK) (New appointment)

Ms Simone Scott-Sawyer  
(UK/Sierra Leone) (New)

Ms Rakhshinda Nazir  
(UK) (New)

*Sitting in January 2016*

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**Scholarship winners.** Lex:lead started 2015 again making our **highest number of awards to date** with 10 scholarships, bringing **total awards to 25** (US\$12,500). **Congratulations** to:

- 1 **Ms Lulbahri Afeworki Araya**, Eritrea; Donor: Dame Linda Dobbs DBE
- 2 **Mr Baye Tsegaw Asamro**, Ethiopia; Donor: Allen & Overy LLP
- 3 **Mr Bereket Alemayehu Hagos**, Ethiopia; Donor: Claude Moore Fdn.
- 4 **Mr Nahom Abraham Weldeabzgi**, Eritrea; Donor: Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr
- 5 **Mr Pius Ntazinda**, Rwanda; Donor: Webber Wentzel
- 6 **Mr Haftu Amare Girmay**, Ethiopia; Donor: Law Council of Australia
- 7 **Mr Lumela M Lumela**, Zambia; Donor: DLA Piper
- 8 **Mr Walter Mandela**, Uganda; Donor: DLA Piper
- 9 **Ms Mary Musoni**, Rwanda; Donor: Hogan Lovells
- 10 **Mr Dieudonné Nzafashwanayo**, Rwanda; Donor: Cozen O'Connor.

All students come from the world's least developed countries. These students (2014) wrote on: **How can tax law stimulate economic growth and finance development?** The US\$500 awards pay up to half the student's share of their degree (e.g. under Ethiopia's cost-sharing program); half a year or semester elsewhere. *Meet the winners, p3.*

**Certificates of Honourable Mention.** We also congratulate the following students who were awarded **Certificates of Honourable Mention** (for high-ranking essays where an award is not available):

- 1 **Ms Roman Girma Teshome**, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
- 2 **Mr Ivan Allan Ojakol**, Uganda Christian University, Uganda
- 3 **Mr Jean Claude Geoffrey Mahoro**, University of Rwanda, Rwanda.

**Lex:lead Internships.** In 2015 Lex:lead moved forward on an internship program to offer further opportunities to Lex:lead students. **Our first** scholarship winner, **Ms Lemlem Fiseha Minale** (Ethiopia), completed a one-semester internship January-June 2015 with the **World Bank** in Washington DC as part of her master's degree program.



New York April 2015: Lex:lead Judge Amdetsion (L), board members, and Lemlem Fiseha Minale (Ethiopia) (R).



Ms Galindo Ruhiiyyah Aliyo (Uganda) at World Bank offices, Kampala, June 2015

Building on Lemlem's success, 2013 scholarship winner **Ms Galindo Ruhiiyyah Aliyo** (Uganda) assisted World Bank partners in Uganda May-October 2015. Special thanks to law firm **Cozen O'Connor** for funding a US\$500 internship stipend for Galindo. Lex:lead is in conversation with the **World Bank**, and with sponsor **DLA Piper**, to further develop internship/fellowship opportunities for students in 2016.

### **Donations to Lex:lead**

Donations of any size – whether US\$20 or US\$200 – are always welcome and may be US Section 501(c)(3) tax deductible. Scholarship sponsorships (US\$500) are awarded in the donor's name.  
[www.lex-lead.org](http://www.lex-lead.org)

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### **Eligible Countries**

*Americas:* Haiti  
*Asia/Pacific:*  
Afghanistan – Bangladesh  
Bhutan – Cambodia  
East Timor – Kiribati  
Laos – Myanmar (Burma)  
Nepal – Papua New Guinea\*  
Samoa – Solomon Islands  
Tuvalu – Vanuatu – Yemen  
*Africa:*  
Angola – Benin  
Burkina Faso – Burundi  
Central African Republic  
Chad – Comoros  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
Djibouti – Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea – Ethiopia – Gambia  
Ghana\* – Guinea  
Guinea Bissau – Lesotho  
Liberia – Madagascar  
Malawi – Mali – Mauritania  
Mozambique – Niger – Rwanda  
Sao Tomé and Príncipe  
Senegal – Sierra Leone  
Somalia – South Sudan  
Sudan – Tanzania – Togo  
Uganda – Zambia – Zimbabwe\*

\*Eligible for LDC Status.

### **Lex:lead in West Africa, Conferences, Fellowships, Other.**

**1 Fellowship:** In 2015, former scholarship winner **Hilina Berhanu Degefa** (Ethiopia) was her country's **youngest recipient** for the **Mandela Washington Fellowship** where recipients met **US President Obama**.

**2 Accreditation:** In September 2015, **Lex:lead President/Founder Anne Bodley** and **Mary Scott** (a lawyer at sponsoring firm Addleshaw Goddard) were accredited to the *Chambres Africaines Extraordinaires* in Dakar, Senegal, to attend part of the **Hissène Habré trial**. Anne, and Secretary **Mankah Fombang** with Advisory Board Member **Rumbidzai Dube**, also met with the **University of The Gambia** on this trip.



Anne Bodley and Mary Scott at the seat of the Habré trial in Dakar, Senegal, Sept. 2015.

**3 Conference:** In January Lex:lead registered former scholarship winner **Anthony Njau** (Tanzania) to the **PRIME Finance** Conference in The Hague, Netherlands; Anthony was studying on scholarship in Amsterdam.

**Some Lex:lead Facts and Figures. 1 With women in the lead until this year**, total awards in 2015 evened out to almost exactly 50/50 between men/women (12 total awards to women; 13 to men).

**2 Ethiopia** has won 10 of the group's 25 total awards (40%) with **Rwanda** in second place winning four; **Tanzania, Uganda** and **Zambia** tie for third place with three awards each.

**All these statistics are merit-based:** Lex:lead does not play favourites and the judges cannot; they have only the student's registration number and the essay to go by. Eligible students across the least developed countries are encouraged to apply and given the same chance to succeed.

**3 Nearly US\$20,000:** With awards this round to rise to at least 35 total, the group will have transferred nearly US\$20,000 (including internships) to the world's least developed countries, **helping students, universities—and communities.**

**Competition 2015: New Winners in February.** Fundamental to the group's success, Lex:lead raised over **12 scholarships** in 2015 for this year's competition (awarded 2016). *Thank you to this year's sponsors:*

- 1 **Allen & Overy LLP**, London, UK
- 2 **Addleshaw Goddard**, London UK (new sponsor)
- 3 **Claude Moore Charitable Foundation**, Virginia, USA
- 4 **Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr**, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 5 **Cozen O'Connor**, New York USA (carryover award)
- 6 **Law Council of Australia**, Canberra, Australia
- 7 **Hogan Lovells**, London, UK
- 8 **DLA Piper**, London UK (two awards)
- 9 **Linklaters LLP**, London UK (two awards)
- 10 **Travers Smith LLP**, London UK (new sponsor)
- 11 **Mr Oliver Yaros**, London UK.

**Internships:** Both **DLA Piper** and **Linklaters** (each providing two awards) have agreed for one sponsorship to support our **internship/fellowship program** in 2016, as will **Oliver Yaros'** donation.

**Answering: How does poor economic development contribute to health-related concerns; how can law control these concerns and improve lives?**, in September we opened the 2015 competition to applicants across the world's least developed countries—**Africa, Asia** and the **Americas**. Essays due **31 December 2015**; our **next winners will be announced in February 2016.**

**Good luck** to all applicants, and **Happy New Year!**

### **Lex:lead Ambassadors**

Lemlem Fiseha Minale (Ethiopia) (Winner 2010)  
Edwin Webiro (Tanzania) (Winner 2011)  
Sousena Kebede Tefera (Ethiopia) (Winner 2011)  
Rediet Zegeye Yigezu (Ethiopia) (Winner 2012)  
Samrawit Getaneh Damtew (Ethiopia) (Winner 2012)  
Redeat Kassahun Seifu (Ethiopia) (Winner 2012)  
Hilina Berhanu Degefa (Ethiopia) (Winner 2012)  
Masalu Elias Luhula (Tanzania) (Winner 2012)  
Galindo Ruhiyah Aliyo (Uganda) (Winner 2013)  
Christopher Sengoga (Rwanda) (Winner 2013)  
Anthony Peter Njau (Tanzania) (Winner 2013)  
Milan Depakkumar Desai (Zambia) (Winner 2013)  
Soreti Berhanu Workneh (Ethiopia) (Winner 2013)  
Muchinda Muma (Zambia) (Winner 2013)  
Gloria Ludigo (Uganda) (Winner 2013)

### **New Ambassadors (2015):**

Lulbahri Afeworki Araya (Eritrea) (Winner 2014)  
Baye Tsegaw Asamro (Ethiopia) (Winner 2014)  
Bereket Alemayehu Hagos (Ethiopia) (Winner 2014)  
Nahom Abraham Weldeabzgi (Eritrea) (Winner 2014)  
Pius Ntazinda (Rwanda) (Winner 2014)  
Haftu Amare Girmay (Ethiopia) (Winner 2014)  
Lumela Lumela (Zambia) (Winner 2014)  
Walter Mandela (Uganda) (Winner 2014)  
Mary Musoni (Rwanda) (Winner 2014)  
Dieudonné Nzafashwanayo (Rwanda) (Winner 2014)

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Lex:lead: Lawyers for Economic  
Advancement and Development

**This Year's Lex:lead Winners:** The highest scores this years were:



**Lulbahri Afeworki Araya** – *Adi Keih College, Eritrea*

With one of Lex:lead's **top scores** this year, graduating law student Lulbahri submitted the **Best Country entry** in the **International Humanitarian Law essay** competition for East African Universities (2015).



**Baye Tsegaw Asamro** – *Addis Ababa Univ., Ethiopia*

A 2014 'honourable mention', Baye won one of our **top spots** this year. He graduated Addis Ababa University in law and is volunteering at the University's **Legal Aid Centre**.



**Bereket Alemayehu Hagos** (Addis Ababa Univ., Ethiopia)

Earning Great Distinction from Addis Ababa Univ. (2015), Bereket worked at their **Center for Human Rights**. He joined **DLA Piper Africa Group's** Mehrteab Leul.



**Nahom Abraham Weldeabzgi** – *Adi Keih College, Eritrea*

Law student at **Adi Keih College** in Asmara, Eritrea, in 2015 Nahom also earned **full marks** in the Eritrean Secondary Education Certificate Exam (Social Sciences).



**Pius Ntazinda** – *University of Rwanda, Rwanda*

On the **Law Students Association** executive committee, Pius interned at **Equity Juris Chambers** in Kigali, Rwanda, and is a junior associate with **Trust Law Chambers**.



**Haftu Amare Girmay** – *Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia*

A 2015 law graduate from Addis Ababa University, Haftu is training to be a **judge or public prosecutor** in Ethiopia.



**Lumela Lumela** – *University of Zambia, Zambia*

**University of Zambia** law graduate (Dec. 2015), Lumela also competed in the **World Bank 'Think Jobs'** essay competition and joined Lusaka firm **Kalokoni & Co.**



**Walter Mandela** – *Uganda Christian University, Uganda*

Uganda Christian Univ. graduate and advisor to the **Uganda Human Rights Commission**, Walter won a **full scholarship** to the European Interuniversity Centre (2015).



**Mary Musoni** – *University of Rwanda, Rwanda*

A law graduate of the **Univ. Rwanda**, Mary was one of 24 to compete in **Moot Court** in Nüremberg, Germany (2015). She works with **Spark Microgrants** in Rwanda.



**Dieudonné Nzafashwanayo** – *University of Rwanda, Rwanda*

With **first class honours** from his law degree, Dieudonné also won the **Capital Markets Authority University Challenge** essay and the **East African Moot Court**; trainee associate at **ENS Africa** in Kigali.

