



## Capacity Building Workshop on Drafting, Revising and Implementing Competition Regulations in Air Transport Services in Africa

MAY 6-8, 2026, Kampala, Uganda



### SPEAKER

### AKRAM RAFIA

#### Job title

Lecturer, University of Pretoria

### CURRICULUM VITAE

Pretoria, specializing in International Economic Law and Transnational Business Law. Currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Geneva, her research is at the forefront of trade innovation, specifically focusing on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), intellectual property, and digital trade. She has authored significant work on the Pan-African Payment System and has organized high-level colloquiums on digital trade in collaboration with UNCITRAL. Her academic contributions often explore the integration of Ubuntu philosophy into trade frameworks to ensure human-centered harmonization and equitable economic development across the Global South.

Her professional expertise is further defined by extensive consultancy for the South African government and international organizations. She has led legal teams in training officials from State parties and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the implementation of AfCFTA rules and regulations. Rafia's policy impact includes advising the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) on the EU-SADC Economic Partnership Agreement, international air service agreements, and the formalization of the informal business sector. Furthermore, she has spearheaded legislative modernization for small businesses, notably leading the legal advisory team for the Small Enterprise Development Act and the establishment of the Small Business Ombuds.



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