



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

SAHRA HERITAGE MONTH 2025

INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL SEMINAR

Day 3: Restitution of cultural artefacts to Countries of origin-
Solidarity in restoring the cultural heritage of descendant
communities

18 September 2025



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AN AGENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE



Restitution of cultural artefacts to Countries of origin - Solidarity in restoring the cultural heritage of descendant communities

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) is proud to host a G20-focused webinar on the Restitution of Cultural Property, bringing together global voices to explore pathways for the return, and protection of cultural heritage. This dialogue will reflect on international best practices, highlight Africa's experiences in restitution, and consider how G20 collaboration can strengthen policy, diplomacy, and ethical stewardship to include voluntary disclosures by the host/holding Countries. By engaging experts, governments, and heritage practitioners, the webinar seeks to advance a shared commitment to justice, reconciliation, and sustainable cultural heritage management.

Date: 18th September 2024

Platform: Microsoft Teams

Time: 09:00am – 17:00

Programme Director: Mr Ben Mwasinga

(Participants admission from **08:30am** for a prompt start at 09:00am)

Introduction

- 1) **Ms Elodie Seotseng Tlhoale:** Chairperson of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Council | Welcome and Opening | **09:00 am**
- 2) **Adv. Lungisa Malgas:** SAHRA Chief Executive Officer | Introduction and Purpose

Opening Remarks

Hon Minister Gayton Mckenzie (MP), Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, South Africa

Main Session

Panel 1: Facilitating the Return – Experiences from Successful Returns

Facilitator- Mr Motsaathebe Serekoane | 09:30 am

- **Dr Purity Kiura:** National Museums of Kenya | **Kenya**
- **Golda Ha-eiros:** Curator at the National Museum of Namibia | **Namibia**
- **Prof. Kokunre Agbontaen-Eghafona:** Digital Benin, Nigeria | **Nigeria**
- **Shaaban Abdel-Gawad:** Director General of the Repatriation of Antiquities Department and Head of the Central Administration for Archaeological Ports in Egypt | **Egypt**
- **All | Open Discussion**

BREAK: 11:45

Panel 2: Empty Closet of Curiosities – Unsuccessful Attempts. What are the blockages to facilitating the return, the role of the State, and Museums



Facilitator- Dr Sibongile Masuku | 12:00pm

- **Divine Kwame Owusu-Ansah: Director,** Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts, Ghana - |Ghana
- **Dr Motsane Seabela:** Ditsong Museums of South Africa | **South Africa**
- **Mr Terence Besaka:** - Conservator and Coordinator of collections in storage at the National Museum of Cameroon | **Cameroon**
- **Director Catalina Ceballos:** Cultural Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia | **Colombia**
- **Prof Albert Gouaffo:** University of Dschang, Cameroon | **Cameroon**
- **Prof Ciraj Rassool:** University of Western Cape, South Africa | **South Africa**
- **All | Open Discussion**

BREAK LUNCH : 14:00

Panel 3: Enabling Voluntary Disclosures and Returns- International cooperation; Inventories and innovation

Facilitator: Mr Clinton Jackson | 14:30

- **Prof Alphonse Kumaza:** Policy/Projects/Management Consultant, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Arts, Ghana | **Ghana**
- **Ms Yus Sa'diyah Broersma:** Project Manager – CDI, Radboud University & IISG, Indonesia Return | **Netherlands**
- **Ms Victoria Phiri Chitungu:** Director of Livingstone National Museum in Zambia | **Zambia**
- **Mr Camiel de Kom:** Digital Heritage Coach, Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands Colonial Collections Consortium | **Netherlands**
- **All | Open Discussion**

Closing Session | 16:45-17:00

- **Chairperson of South Africa G20 Culture Work Group:** Closing Remarks
- **Pastor Peter Mokwena:** Chairperson of the Heritage Management Committee of SAHRA Council | Vote of thanks

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