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01 July 2025

Our Ref: OA/UCT

RE: ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS in re UCT LAW

ORATE AFRICA MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

1. Orate Africa Trust began as an informal association in 2012 with a bold dream and just nine pioneering schools. Initially known as the Books Botswana Speaking Championships Organizing Committee, the initiative was driven by a passionate group of university students who believed in the power of the spoken word and oration to transform young lives.

Growth and Regional Expansion

2. In 2013, the Championships marked a major milestone by welcoming its first international participant—a school from South Africa—signaling growth and regional appeal. By 2014, the event had blossomed into a continental gathering, attracting over 250 participants from more than 25 schools across 5 African countries. To date, Orate Africa has been attended to by schools from Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia, Lesotho, eSwatini, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa and Liberia.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN GOING

3. Orate Africa was first registered in 2014 under the Deeds Registry Act and re-registered in 2016 under the Trust Property and Control Act. However, for all intents and purposes, the formal imparting of skills and knowledge on secondary school students commenced in 2012 and as such, 2025 marks its 13th year of impact.



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WHAT GAVE YOU THE IDEA OF ORATE AFRICA

4. We have always had a passion for oration from secondary school as will more fully appear in the Curriculum Vitae enclosed.
5. However, what was lacking was a formal arrangement that would guarantee long lasting and measurable impact.
6. The name Orate Africa stems from the word oration with a focal base for Africa. We believe in nurturing oratory skills through competition and training as it gives students the opportunity to interact, sharpen their skills and at the same time broaden their scope and ability to reason. We also believe that oration programs and projects allow beneficiaries to be empowered individuals and through this process, helps them deal with problems in status quo more accurately and diplomatically.
7. More specifically, schools Moot Court competitions are a form of child development. Child development is not only about the provision of basic needs to a child. It is also about the social and intellectual stimulation of children such that they are able to critically analyze issues and provide solutions to problems over and above being able to defend their stance with reason.
8. This is a co-curricular activity that stimulates and develops critical thinking and as such, a direct enhancement of the education system in our respective countries. Moot court competitions promotes SDG 4 -quality education, since it supplements the education systems of most developing countries.
9. Through various international competitions and training sessions, the Orate Africa Moot Court program gives students the opportunity to cross pollinate, participate, and learn from other students from across Africa



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10. To implement this, Orate Africa conducts workshops, trainings and competitions for all secondary school students irrespective of their social class or background. We aim to relegate the submerging effect the education system of our African countries has on the students and give them a voice to engage in state dialogue, become creative in the arts and groom individuals with open minds and the ability to strive for self-actualization.
11. The modus of operation for Orate Africa stems from and is greatly inspired by that of the Chrisof Heyns All Africa Human Rights Moot Competitions. In particular, Orate Africa has been inspired by the style of All Africa by hosting across various African Countries.
12. We have found this to be very effective as it draws in different regions and cultures with countries looking forward to host and share in the shine.

WHERE DO YOU SEE ORATE AFRICA IN 5 YEARS

13. Orate Africa is redefining the future of youth empowerment and civic education across the continent. By 2030, Orate Africa will have registered in at least 6 African States spreading across Africa with a target reach of at least 60 000 student alumni. It is not only about expanding our reach but also deepening our impact—particularly in underserved and vulnerable communities.
14. As at 2025, Orate Africa's Alumni from the Orate Africa Championships held in Maseru, Lesotho in 2023, then a student at Heritage College Zimbabwe, Ms. Tafara Mwayera is a participant at Chrisof Heyns All Africa Human Rights Moot Court Competitions 2025 held in Cape Town 2025 now representing the University of Zimbabwe.
15. Equally important, as a mark of its excellence and impact, as at 2021, Orate Africa has been handpicked by Lucara Botswana (Mother body being Lucara Diamond Corp) to coordinate and organize the Canadian mining company's corporate Social Responsibility project geared at addressing Gender Based Violence in the Boteti



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region. The project entails moot court and public speaking training and is dubbed as “Rare gems competition”.

16. The program, running from 2021 has attracted over 300 students from the vulnerable and disenfranchised community of Boteti, which was (and is no longer) the worst hit Gender Based Violence Districts in Botswana.
17. We are proud to state that the program has since produced, from its 1st 2021 cohort, 2 law students (Now in 1st year at University of Botswana, 4 top achievers (Country Wide), 1 of whom has secured a Maru-a-Pula School Merit Scholarship award, a first in their School.

IN WHICH YEARS DID YOU COMPETE IN THE ALL AFRICA MOOT AND WHERE WAS THAT YEARS COMPETITION HELD

18. Ms Mokgabo Thobega competed at the 2014 Edition of the All Africa Human Rights Moots hosted by University of Nairobi, Kenya whilst Mr Kamohelo Khoboko participated at the 2019 edition of the All Africa Human Rights Moots hosted by University of Botswana, Gaborone.
19. Ms Thobega is now Founder and Lead Attorney of Thobega Law Group in Gaborone, Botswana with 8 years post qualification whilst Mr Khoboko is Founder and Partner of Khoboko Law Chambers in Maseru, Lesotho. Mr Khoboko bags 5 years post qualification.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ALL AFRICA MOOT ALUMNI

20. Being an Alumni not only confers honor but also a responsibility to be an intentional change maker. For us, the meaning is in four folds.
21. Firstly, it means recognizing a deep sense of responsibility to respond meaningfully to the human rights issues we care about—not as distant observers, but as active agents of justice in our communities. The skills acquired through the All Africa Human Rights Moot competitions being legal analysis, advocacy,



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and critical thinking are not only for the courtroom, but also for equipping others, especially students at secondary school level as is our target, to understand their rights and the power they hold in shaping their societies.

22. Secondly, it means being entrusted with the noble task of advancing human rights education in Africa, particularly in places where the need is urgent and resources are scarce. As alumni, we become ambassadors of transformation, using the platform to extend the reach of human rights discourse beyond academic spaces and into the lives of ordinary citizens.
23. Thirdly, the experience of participating in the moot inspired the transformation of Orate Africa. It revealed the gap in access to legal education and civic awareness among high school students. Orate Africa was born out of the belief that the tools of oration and advocacy should not be reserved for the privileged few—but introduced early, creatively and should be accessible to the next generation.
24. Fourth, the competition instilled in us a pan-African consciousness. Engaging with fellow students from across the continent cultivated the idea that our struggles are connected, and that change must be collaborative. This became central to Orate Africa's mission—to build a cross-border movement that empowers youth from Lesotho to Lagos, from Gaborone to Ghana. As an example, the surge Gender Based Violence is of paramount concern across Africa, and therefore, a Moot Question on Gender Based Violence is relatable across most African States.

BOTSWANA MOOT COURT

25. Following the Founder's participation at the All Africa Human Rights Moot Court competitions in 2014, Orate Africa introduced the Moot Court Segment of Access to Law, training and knowledge testing through competition. The 1st annual Botswana schools moot court competition was hosted on the 15th of September 2018 at the Gaborone High Court and annually thereafter.



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LESOTHO MOOT COURT

26. As part of its expansion plan, the moot court initiative in Lesotho was launched in November 2019 at the Lesotho High Court (Palace of Justice) by the then Minister of Youth, Sports and Recreation, Dr. Mahali Phamotse.
27. The Orate Africa Trust Lesotho is currently under the stewardship of **Mr. Kamohelo Khoboko**, a practicing advocate in the courts of the Kingdom of Lesotho. He is an alumnus of the All-Africa Human Rights Moot Court Competitions that were hosted at Gaborone, Botswana in 2018. See the attached certificate of participation and a more comprehensive extracurricular Curriculum vitae is as attached herein and marked.
28. With the assistance of Webber Newdigate Attorneys in Maseru¹, Orate Africa Trust successfully registered Orate Africa Lesotho branch in accordance with the Lesotho Deeds Registry Act 1967. From time of registration, Lesotho, Maseru has hosted its first competition sessions at the Palace of Justice on the 1st of April 2022 and has since been graced by the presence of her Ladyship Justice of the High Court Hlaele J and Dr Tsietsi Tsotang (A UCT Faculty of Law Alumni-2021; Doctorate).

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

29. To date, Orate Africa hosts its international Schools Moot Court competitions for African Schools and has been doing so annually. The largest team registrations were from Gaborone, Botswana 2024 Competitions dubbed as Home Coming which attracted 26 Teams from Botswana, Lesotho and Zimbabwe.

¹ <https://webbernew.com/p64/social-commitment/webber-newdigate-community-projects.html>



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30. Further Orate Africa has hosted in Botswana (Gaborone), Kenya (Nairobi), Tanzania (Dar Es Salaam), Lesotho (Maseru), Namibia (Windhoek), South Africa (Randfontein) and will for the first time this December, host in Zimbabwe (Harare).

