



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa



# BookTalk

A Conversation on Climate Justice with:

## H.E. Ms. Mary Robinson

Former President of Ireland and UN Special Envoy on El Niño and Climate Change

and

## Ms. Vera Songwe

UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA

#### **Discussant:**

**Mr. Mithika Mwenda** Executive Director, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

#### **Book title:**

**CLIMATE JUSTICE:** Hope, Resilience and the Fight for a Sustainable Future



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lope, Resilience, and the Fight for a Sustainable Future

Mr. James Murombedzi, Chief, Climate Change Section

Monday 20 May 2019 19:30–20:40 Conference Room 2, UNCC

**#climatejustice** 

Contacts: Ms. Inderpal Dhiman, CoS (33005) Mr. Girma Dessalegn, KMSS (35022)

### Draft Agenda

Activity	Delivered by	Time -allotted
Introduction	<b>Mr. James Murombedzi,</b> Chief, Climate Change Section	19:30 - 19:35
Conversation	<ul> <li>H.E Ms. Mary Robinson</li> <li>Former President of Ireland and</li> <li>UN Special Envoy on El Nino and Climate Change</li> <li>Ms. Vera Songwe</li> <li>UN Under-Secretary-General and</li> <li>Executive Secretary of ECA</li> </ul>	19:35 - 20:05
Discussant	<b>Mr. Mithika Mwenda</b> Executive Director, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)	20:05-20:10
<b>Contributions from the floor</b> (Moderated by: Mr. James Murombedzi)	<ul> <li>Youth</li> <li>Women</li> <li>Private Sector</li> <li>Un Family</li> </ul>	20:10 - 20:30
	General Q & A	20:30–20:40
	Closing and Cocktail Reception	20:40

#### About the Book

Holding her first grandchild in her arms in 2003, Mary Robinson was struck by the uncertainty of the world he had been born into. Before his fiftieth birthday, he would share the planet with more than nine billion people--people battling for food, water, and shelter in an increasingly volatile climate. The faceless, shadowy menace of climate change had become, in an instant, deeply personal.

Mary Robinson's mission would lead her all over the world, from Malawi to Mongolia, and to a heartening revelation: that an irrepressible driving force in the battle for climate justice could be found at the grassroots level, mainly among women, many of them mothers and grandmothers like herself. From Sharon Hanshaw, the Mississippi matriarch whose campaign began in her East Biloxi hair salon and culminated in her speaking at the United Nations, to Constance Okollet, a small farmer who transformed the fortunes of her ailing community in rural Uganda, Robinson met with ordinary people whose resilience and ingenuity had already unlocked extraordinary change.

Powerful and deeply humane, Climate Justice is a stirring manifesto on one of the most pressing humanitarian issues of our time, and a lucid, affirmative, and well-argued case for hope.