

Presentation delivered at the Special Session  
on the 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Creation of the  
Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey  
Ankara, 26 April 2018

*Mr. Moussa LARABA*  
*Secretary General of CCJA*

**Excellency, Mr. President, Excellencies, the Members of the  
Constitutional Jurisdictions, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would like first to express my sincere thanks to the President of the Constitutional Court of Turkey Prof. Dr. Zhutu ARSLAN for inviting the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA) to share with you the celebration of the 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of your Honourable Court.

The CCJA is an organization that includes the African constitutional jurisdictions (Constitutional Councils, Constitutional Courts, Constitutional Tribunals, Supreme Courts and Constitutional Chambers).

At the initiative of Algeria, and with the support of the Venice Commission, the African Union adopted at the fifteenth session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government held from 25 to 27 July 2010 in Kampala, Uganda, the decision to create an African Constitutional Justice space.

The creation of this space meets an imperative: bringing together the African mechanisms of constitutional justice in a continental area to enable them to participate in the promotion and dissemination of universal values and principles of state law, democracy and human rights, enshrined in the preamble to the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

The permanent headquarters of the CCJA, is in Algiers.

Today, the CCJA comprises no less than forty-five (45) full members and three (3) observer members, including the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey.

The CCJA maintains cooperative relations with the Asian Association of Constitutional Courts (AACC), with which it is bound by a Memorandum of Understanding signed at Solo, Indonesia, on 8 August 2017.

I would like to underline the important role of the Constitutional Court of Turkey in the dissemination of constitutional culture in Asia and in the world, through the organization of a “Summer School” each year.

The CCJA, with the support of the Constitutional Court of Turkey, intends to draw on this experience of “Summer School” and replicate it in Africa, as soon as the means allow it.

The remarkable participation of President Arslan in Algiers in November 2017, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CCJA International Symposium, further strengthened cooperation and exchange links between the CCJA and the Constitutional Court of Turkey.

This visit was preceded by the announcement on 5 October 2017 of the request by the Constitutional Court of Turkey to become a CCJA member with the Observer status.

This request was unanimously approved by the members of the Executive Board of the CCJA meeting in Cape Town – South Africa on 24 and 25 January 2018, who consider that this membership will be a great contribution for the establishment of constitutional justice in Africa in view of the rich experience of the Constitutional Court of Turkey.

I seize this opportunity to inform you that my country, Algeria, has been chosen, with the support of Turkey and other countries, to host the next WCCJ in 2020 whose theme will be **“The Constitutional Justice and Peace.”**

To conclude, I would like to thank you for the warm welcome and hospitality, the perfect organisation, the strict compliance with the programme, the interest in the theme, and the quality of debates.