

# STEVEN GATEMBU KAIRU

CURRICULUM VITAE

**ADDRESS**

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**CONTACTS**

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**DATE OF BIRTH**

20th July, 1960

**NATIONALITY**

Kenyan

**PROFESSION**

Advocate of the High Court of Kenya,  
Member Law Society of Kenya,  
Commissioner for Oaths, Notary Public  
Proprietor – Steven Gatembu Kairu Advocates,  
Lecturer, Commercial Law Department, School of Law University  
of Nairobi.  
Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

**EDUCATION**

Masters of Laws, (LL.M) (Banking Law) Boston University,  
Boston, MA, USA;  
Bachelor of Laws, (LLB) (Hons), University of Nairobi, Kenya;  
Diploma, Kenya School of Law, Nairobi, Kenya.

**LANGUAGES**

English  
Kiswahili  
Gikuyu

## KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Steven Gatembu Kairu holds an LLB degree from the University of Nairobi [1984] and an LLM degree from Boston University [1990].

He was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya in 1985. He has practised law in Kenya as a commercial litigation lawyer since 1985. He was until April 2009 a partner in Kairu & McCourt Advocates, a law firm he co-founded in 1993. He retired from the partnership in April 2009 to go into full time Arbitration and Mediation work under his own name.

He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. As an Arbitrator he has adjudicated upon numerous commercial disputes between parties and rendered Awards. He has also mediated commercial and family disputes.

Mr. Kairu has been trained as a trainer of trainers in Alternative Dispute Resolution by the Centre for African Peace and Conflict Resolution, California State University California USA. He has trained and facilitated training workshops in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Steven Gatembu Kairu has been a Lecturer in Commercial Law in the Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi since 1990, where he teaches Alternative Dispute Resolution. He has also taught Civil Procedure and Practice, Banking Law, HIV/Aids and the Law, the Law of Torts, Law of International Institutions.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2009-PRESENT

Proprietor, Steven Gatembu Kairu Advocate, Nairobi, Kenya.  
Arbitration and Mediation practice.

1993 – 2009:

**Partner, Kairu & McCourt Advocates, Nairobi Kenya**

Have undertaken Civil Litigation in the High Court and the subordinate courts and the Court of Appeal as well as Arbitration Proceedings in the following areas;

**Banking Law:**

Disputes involving negotiable Instruments and other bearer instruments; Securities including legal mortgages, legal charges, guarantees and indemnities; Chattels mortgages, hire purchase and debt collection and foreign exchange transactions.

**Commercial Law:**

Enforcement and defending claims arising under contracts; Analysis and interpretation of different classes of contracts including opinions thereon; Carriage, freight and transport and credit card and consumer litigation.

**Insurance Law:**

Accident cases, claims arising from insurance policies, third party risks. Liability under workmens compensation and general insurance disputes.

**Arbitration:**

Have been involved in Dispute Resolution both as Arbitrator and Counsel in Commercial Arbitrations, Construction Industry Arbitrations.

1990 – PRESENT:

**Lecturer, University of Nairobi, Kenya**

Lecturer at Law, Commercial Law Department, Faculty of Law.  
Taught subjects include:

Alternative Dispute Resolution (including negotiation mediation and Arbitration) and supervision of Dissertations, Civil Procedure and Practice, Banking Law, Law of Torts, Law of International Institutions HIV/Aids and the Law.

1990 – 1993:

**Associate, Kimani Kairu & Company Advocates, Nairobi, Kenya**

Trial Lawyer, Civil Litigation in the Court of Appeal, High Court and Subordinate Courts. Enforcement of financial institutions lenders rights, realization of properties, legal opinions, matrimonial causes, banking, commercial law, employment law and insurance law.

**1986 – 1988:**

**Associate, Kimani Kairu & Company Advocates, Nairobi, Kenya**

Trial Lawyer, Civil Litigation in the Court of Appeal, High Court and Subordinate Courts. Enforcement of financial institutions lenders rights, realization of properties, legal opinions, matrimonial causes, banking, commercial law, employment law and insurance law.

**1985 – 1986:**

**Legal Assistant, Hamilton Harrison & Mathews Advocates, Nairobi, Kenya**

Trial Lawyer in Banking Law Section, Court Department, Banking, Civil Litigation, enforcement of statutory and non-statutory remedies and commercial law.

## WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS:

- MARCH 1991:** Kenya: Participated in workshop on “Development of teaching materials for 8:4:4: syllabus, Faculty of Law” held at Masinga Dam Lodge, Kenya.
- JULY 1991:** Kenya: Participated in training seminar on “Legal Aspects of Debt Management” organised by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in conjunction with East African Development Bank (EADB) at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi.
- JULY 1992:** Tanzania: Participated in the Inter-University Council for East Africa International Trade and Investments Law subjects meeting held at Hotel 77 Arusha, Tanzania.
- SEPTEMBER 1992:** Kenya: Presented paper at a seminar “The Role and Duties of Company Director” at the School of Professional Studies.
- MARCH 1999:** Kenya: Participated in Law Society of Kenya/Canadian Bar Association Seminar on ADR at Utalii Hotel, Nairobi.
- NOVEMBER 2000:** Kenya: Participated in The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Special Member Course at the Mayfair Hotel, Nairobi.
- MARCH 2001:** Kenya: Participated in The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Seminar on Mediation – Nairobi.
- SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2004:** USA: Completed Alternative Dispute Resolution Training of Trainers Workshop at the Centre for African Peace and Conflict Resolution, California State University, Sacramento.
- JANUARY 2005:** Kenya: Fida Kenya – Resource Person – ADR Awareness Workshop for Members of the Civil Society Nairobi.

**MARCH 2005:** Kenya: Member committee of the ADR Task Force of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators tasked to work with Rules Committee of the Judiciary.

**MARCH 2005:** Kenya: Participated in The Law Society of Kenya – Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights, Kenya.

**JULY 2005:** Kenya: Kenya Law Reform Commission – Workshop on the Development of a Policy and Legal Framework for Small Claims Court. Presented paper by Mr. Okech-Owiti on “The necessary and viability of small claims Courts of Kenya”.

**JULY 2005:** Tanzania: Participated in Inter University Council for East Africa and Makerere University, Faculty of Law Meeting on Legal Education in East Africa.

**AUGUST 2005:** Kenya: Participated in The Law Society of Kenya - Seminar on Capital Market’s Authority, Nairobi Stock Exchange and Central Depository System. Session Chair.

**AUGUST 2005:** Kenya: FIDA Kenya – Trainer, ADR training and mediation clinic.

**OCTOBER 2005:** Kenya: Attended Fast Track Fellowship Assessment Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

**NOVEMBER 2005:** Kenya: The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators - Mock Arbitration.

**FEBRUARY 2006:** Kenya: Attended The United States Mission to Kenya and The Kenya School of Law Conference on Ethics in Government, The Judicial Process and Court Administration.

**JUNE 2006:** Kenya: The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Award Writing Course.

- OCTOBER 2006:** Kenya: Law Society of Kenya – Trainer – introduction to ADR.
- DECEMBER 2006:** Kenya: FIDA – Trainer – Access to Justice through ADR.
- AUGUST 2007:** Kenya: Attended Environment and Conflict Prevention Initiative Regional Consultative Workshop-Africa Case Study. UNEP Headquarters, Gigiri, Nairobi.
- NOVEMBER 2007:** Kenya: FIDA – Facilitator at workshop on ADR
- MARCH 2008:** Kenya: The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Award Writing Course.
- JUNE 2008:** Kenya: Participated in workshop on Curriculum Review for the University of Nairobi School of Law, Mombasa, Kenya.
- MAY 2009:** Kenya: Consultant and trainer for FIDA at a training workshop in Mombasa Kenya.

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