## **Advancing Refugee Debates Through Radio Podcasts**

Dear Friends, Greetings from London,

This is to inform you that I host a weekly half-hour radio talk show on SOAS Radio in a programme called *SOAS Refugee Forum*. Participants for this talk show are drawn from; lecturers, researchers, refugees, refugee serving agencies (*inter alia*; CSO, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs), students, UN workers, government officials, and guests from outside UK, to discuss issues related to refugees. This programme engages its guests on issues including but not limited to; laws and policies governing refugees, refugee livelihood and self-reliance, health, education, conflict-related sexual violence, homophobia, xenophobia, and refugee activism.

The main objective of this talk show is to raise awareness on the plights of refugees in and out of SOAS community. Through a careful selection of guests, the talk show provides space for refugees to share their stories, researchers to share knowledge, and refugee service providers to share experiences and services offered. This weekly talk show is hosted by student volunteers who are passionate about refugees.

In the coming weeks, we will publish podcasts of interesting discussions on SOAS Radio website.

## **Expect the following (in no particular order);**

- Interview with Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond OBE, Emerata Professor and Associate, a Legal Anthropologist who founded/directed the Refugee Studies Centre (1982- 96). Previously she conducted research in West Africa from 1967-1982, while employed by the Departments of Anthropology, University of Edinburgh and University of Illinois-Urbana, USA, the Afrika Studiecentrum, Leiden, Holland, and the Faculty of Law, University of Warwick. On retirement from the Refugee Studies Centre, Dr Barbara conducted research in Kenya and Uganda (1997-2000), and was Honorary Adjunct Professor, American University in Cairo (2000-2008). In July 2016, she was awarded an honorary doctorate at SOAS.
- Interview with Christopher Eades, Executive Director of St. Andrews Refugee Services (StARS). StARS is an organization based in Cairo, Egypt and have been working on a programme designed to halt the exodus of young unaccompanied adults to Europe.
- Interview with Susan Alupo, Deputy Programme Manager, Access to Justice, Refugee
   Law Project (RLP). RLP is a community outreach center of the School of Law, Makerere
   University, Uganda. RLP envisions a context where all persons enjoy their human
   rights irrespective of their legal status.

- Interview with Hyab Y, student of SOAS, University of London, a courageous gentleman who sought asylum not in many countries and now resettled in the UK.
   Hyab is currently pursuing Masters of Arts in Migration and Diaspora Studies of SOAS, University of London.
- Mrs. Charity Ahumuza Onyoin, Programme Manager, Access to Justice, Refugee Law Project, Uganda. RLP is a community outreach center of the School of Law, Makerere University, Uganda. RLP envisions a context where all persons enjoy their human rights irrespective of their legal status. Charity will be discussing Uganda's 'generous' refugee management policies.
- Emilia, student of SOAS, University of London pursuing MA Anthropology of Development. Emilia's academic studies have been influenced by her mixed Italian and Ecuadorian cultural background.
- Florí, student of SOAS, University of London, pursuing MA Migration and Diaspora Studies. Florí is half Italian and half Beninese, with also a Chinese cultural background. Florí and Emilia were hosted jointly to discuss "Lost in Identity: The Struggle to Belong"
- And many more from our production team.

We look forward to your comments and questions. Meantime, contact us if you would like to be hosted on the show.

David Onen Ongwech

