

## **BRIEF PROFILE OF SHEILA YAA NYANTEKYIWAH MINKAH-PREMO ESQ.**

Sheila Y. N. Minkah-Premo Esq. is a senior lawyer, development consultant and human rights activist. She holds a law degree from the University of Ghana, Legon and was called to the Ghanaian Bar in 1989. She also holds a master's in law (LL.M) from the Georgetown University Law Centre, Washington DC, in the United States of America where she specialised in human rights law. She is the Managing Consultant of ALC Law Consult (formerly Apex Lawconsult), a law firm in Accra that provides legal services in civil law including Corporate, Land, Family law and Mining and has several clients.

**DEVELOPMENT WORK:** She is also a development consultant and been involved in several researches and the preparation of a number of policies including the following:

- Family Law Coordinator for the GTZ Legal Pluralism and Gender Project (2001 to 2004) which led to the publication of a number of publications under the Access to Justice Series including research into Marriage Forms in Ghana published as No. 7 of Access to Justice Series, 2006. It was an action research project that included research into all the three forms of marriages in Ghana and made recommendations for changes.
- Executive Secretary for the GIZ funded project on Ascertainment and Documentation of Customary Law on Land and Family for the National House of Chiefs and Law Reform Commission under a bilateral programme with the Ministry of Justice (2007-2011) which resulted in the publication of seven (7) volumes under the Ascertainment of Customary Law Series, 2011.
- Co-consultant in drafting the National Policy and Plan of Action to Implement the Domestic Violence Act (NPPoA) of 2009;
- Technical Coordinator for the World Bank funded project on Ascertainment and Documentation of Customary Law on Land and Family II (2012-2017) at the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources where she served on the Working Group that worked on the Land Act, 2019 (Act 1036).
- Worked as a consultant on the human rights aspects of Harmful Traditional Practices at the African Union for GIZ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (2013)
- National Consultant for the drafting of the Child and Family Welfare Policy, 2015 and Justice for Children Policy, 2015 (Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection with funding from UNICEF);

- Consultant for review of the National Plan and Policy to Implement the Domestic Violence Act (NPPoA), the Domestic Violence Act, 2007 (Act 732) and the National Gender Policy for the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (with funding from UNFPA).
- Consultant for the development of a victim protection manual for Judicial Service, DOVVSU and Department of Social Welfare (with funding from UNICEF)
- She is a lecturer in family law at The Law Institute, a paralegal training Centre in Accra.
- She is a resource person at the Judicial Training Institute where she trains staff of the Judicial Service on Gender Based Violence related issues.

**AFFILIATIONS:** She is a member of the following organisations:

- Ghana Bar Association (GBA) and chairs its Women and Minors Rights Committee. She is also the first President of the Women’s Forum of the GBA, which was formalised in 2022.
- She belongs to several human rights organisations including: African Women Lawyers Association, the Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa (LAWA) Ghana Alumnae Incorporated; ZONTA Accra II.
- She is the Convener of the Affirmative Action (Gender Equality) Law Coalition

**BOARDS:** She is currently on the following Boards and Councils:

- National Executive Council of the Ghana Bar Association
- Legal Advisor to the Executive Council of the Christian Council of Ghana
- National Information Technology Authority
- Rocksure International Limited
- Mampong Technical College of Education
- Board Chair of the Presbyterian Women’s Centre, Abokobi
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Tema Joint Church
- Appeals Board of University of Health and Allied Sciences