CONFERENCE AGENDA — DAY ONE - 27 JANUARY 2027

07:00 – 07:50	**Registration**
07:50 – 08:00	**Opening Remarks**
08:00 – 08:40	**Opening Keynote Address**
08:45 – 09:25	**Panel Discussion: SADC Data Protection in Practice: Are We Moving Towards a Harmonised Regional Privacy Framework?** • One Region, Different Rules: How aligned are SADC Data Protection Laws? • Cross-Border Data Flows • Strengthening Regional Regulatory Cooperation • Towards a SADC Privacy Framework: What Would Harmonisation Look Like?
09:30 – 10:10	**Fireside Chat: Data Breach Response & Cyber Resilience: From Incident to Regulatory Accountability** • What happens in the first 72 hours • Regulatory Reporting • Protecting Affected Data Subjects & Minimising Reputational Risk (students, staff and parents) • Forensics, Evidence & Accountability • Lessons learned and strengthening the privacy programme
10:15 – 10:35	***Mid-Morning Break***

BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

	STREAM A Industry & Business Breakaway	STREAM B Education Breakaway
10:40 – 10:45	***Moderator Introduction:***	***Moderator Introduction:***
10:45 – 11:30	**Economics of Data:** Data ownership, monetisation, competition law, data trusts. - How can data create economic value, and who should control that value?	**Panel Discussion: Are Universities Privacy-Ready? Governing Research Data, Ethics & Privacy** • Research Data Governance & Accountability • Research Ethics, Consent & Vulnerable Data Subjects • Data Sharing, Collaboration & Third-Party Access

		• Open Research, Innovation & Privacy: Where Should Universities Draw the Line?
11:35 – 12:15	**Panel Discussion: Data Privacy in Financial Services: Managing High-Risk Personal Information** • Managing Financial & Sensitive Personal Information • Customer Profiling, Analytics & Automated Decision-Making • Fraud Prevention vs Privacy Rights • Building Customer Trust & Meeting Regulatory Expectations	**Navigating EdTech:** Balancing Digital Innovation with Student Privacy & Trust
12:15 – 12:25	***Insights, Key Takeaways and Closing***	***Insights, Key Takeaways and Closing***
12:30 – 13:30	***Lunch Break***	
13:35 – 14:10	**Media & Data Protection**: Balancing Press Freedom, Privacy & Public Interest	
14:15 – 14:55	**Panel Discussion: PAIA in Practice: Balancing Access to Information with the Right to Privacy** • PAIA vs POPIA: Balancing information access with privacy obligations • Third-Party Data Risks: Managing personal information shared with service providers and external parties • Access Requests & Exemptions: Navigating refusals, third-party information and record-keeping • Integrated Compliance: Strengthening the role of Information Officers across PAIA, POPIA and third-party obligations	
15:00 – 15:10	***Afternoon Break***	
15:15 – 15:45	**Address:**	
15:50 – 16:10	**Brain Teaser: What Are Your Thoughts?** A dynamic closing reflection inviting delegates and speakers to share their perspectives on the day's key themes, from SADC regulatory harmonisation and privacy rights to research, data breaches and accountability. What challenges remain, and what should organisations do differently to build responsible, trusted data practices?	
16:15 – 16:20	***Closing Conference – Day 1***	

CONFERENCE AGENDA — DAY TWO – 28 JANUARY 2027

08:00 – 08:50	**Registration**
08:50 – 09:00	**Opening remarks – recap of day 1**
09:00 – 09:45	**Opening Keynote Panel Discussion: When AI Writes the Rules. Who Governs AI-Assisted Policy & Decision-Making?** • Can We Trust AI-Generated Policy and Regulatory Content? • Human Oversight & Accountability: Who Signs Off When AI Does the Drafting? • Transparency & Public Trust: Should the Use of AI in Government Be Disclosed? • From South Africa to SADC: What Governance Standards Should Apply?
09:50 – 10:20	**Address: Generative AI & Personal Information**: Are Employees Creating a New Privacy Risk?
10:25 – 10:50	**Address:**
10:55 – 11:10	***Mid-Morning Break***

BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

	STREAM A Industry and Business	STREAM B Insurance and Health Data
11:15 – 11:25	***Opening remarks:***	***Opening remarks:***
	Fireside Chat: Data Retention & Secondary Use: Balancing Business Value with Privacy Obligations • How long is too long? • When secondary use becomes a privacy concern • Who Decides When data has reached the end of its useful life? • Business Value vs Privacy Risk: Where should organisations draw the line?	**Panel Discussion: Protecting Health & Insurance Data: Navigating Privacy, Profiling & Digital Risk** • Health Information as Sensitive Personal Data: Getting Collection & Use & Consent Right • Insurance Profiling & Data-Driven Risk Assessment • Third-Party Data Sharing: Who Is Responsible When Health & Insurance Data Moves Across the Ecosystem? • Automated Decisions, AI & the Right to Fairness

12:10 – 12:40	**Privacy by Design:** Moving Privacy from the Legal Team into Technology	**From Compliance to Trust: Privacy as a Competitive Advantage.** • Moving beyond POPIA compliance to responsible data stewardship • Building patient, member and policyholder trust through transparent data practices • Embedding Privacy by Design into digital health, insurance products and AI • Can privacy become a competitive differentiator rather than simply a regulatory obligation?
	Insights, Key Takeaways and Closing	***Insights, Key Takeaways and Closing***
13:00	***Lunch & Close of Conference***	

Our programme is carefully curated and accurate at the time of publication. Speakers, sessions, and timings may be updated as the programme evolves.