## **HON. DORCAS ACHIENG ODUOR AGIK**

Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya  
 Term Commenced: July 2025  
 Preceded by: Hon. Justin B. Muturi  
 Historic Distinction: First woman to serve as Attorney General in Kenya's history

### Early Life and Education

Dorcas Oduor was born and raised in Kenya, where she demonstrated early brilliance in academics and a strong sense of justice. Coming from a humble background, she rose through grit, discipline, and unwavering focus.

She pursued her legal studies at the University of Nairobi, earning a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B). After completing her Postgraduate Diploma in Law at the Kenya School of Law, she was admitted to the Bar as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya.

To deepen her expertise in criminal justice, she later earned a Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Criminal Justice and Governance, where she focused on institutional frameworks for justice systems and the fight against impunity.

She has also undertaken further professional training in:

* Public Prosecution and Anti-Corruption
* Counter-terrorism legal frameworks
* Transnational organized crime and international cooperation
* Gender and human rights law  
   from institutions in the Netherlands, South Africa, and the United States.

### Professional Career Trajectory

#### Early Roles in the Criminal Justice System

Dorcas began her legal career in the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice, serving as a state counsel. Over time, she developed a deep understanding of governance, legislation, and public legal services.

#### Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)

When the ODPP was restructured and made independent under the 2010 Constitution, she transitioned into it and quickly rose through the ranks.

Her notable roles included:

* Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions
* Head of Economic, International & Emerging Crimes Division
* Secretary of Public Prosecutions (SPP) – the highest-ranking administrative officer, managing operations, policies, and external relations of the ODPP.

During her time at the ODPP, she was a key player in prosecuting:

* High-profile corruption cases involving state officers
* Cases involving cross-border terrorism
* Major economic crimes and public resource mismanagement
* Gender-based violence and crimes against children

### Key Contributions and Impact

### Legal Reforms & Policy Development

* She co-authored The National Prosecution Policy (2015) that standardized charging decisions and case management.
* Played a critical role in drafting the ODPP Strategic Plans and performance-based evaluation frameworks.
* Contributed to the development of plea-bargaining guidelines, alternative justice systems, and witness protection frameworks.

#### Institution Building

* Helped establish specialized divisions in ODPP such as:  
  + Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes
  + Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
  + International and Emerging Crimes
* Introduced a prosecutor training curriculum and mentorship scheme for junior state counsel.

#### Human Rights & Victim-Centered Justice

* Advocated for survivor-sensitive prosecution, especially for GBV and child-related cases.
* Championed the use of video-link technology to protect vulnerable witnesses.
* Worked closely with civil society to expand legal access for poor and marginalized populations.

#### Global & Regional Representation

* Represented Kenya in:  
  + East African Association of Prosecutors
  + United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
  + International Association of Prosecutors (IAP)
* **Advocated for regional cooperation on wildlife crimes, cybercrime, and terrorism.**

### **Appointment as Attorney General**

In July 2025, Dorcas Oduor was appointed as the Attorney General of Kenya following the retirement of Hon. Justin B. Muturi. Her appointment was hailed by legal professionals, women’s rights groups, and governance bodies as a landmark for inclusion and meritocracy.

Her vetting process before Parliament was overwhelmingly positive, with Members of Parliament praising her knowledge, track record, and vision for legal reform.

### **Vision and Priorities as Attorney General**

1. Strengthening Rule of Law and Constitutionalism:  
    She is committed to ensuring that all legislation, executive actions, and public policies comply with the Constitution of Kenya 2010.
2. Digital Transformation of Legal Services:  
    Advocates for the automation of registries, digital filing systems, and e-consultation for public legal services.
3. Independence and Restructuring of the State Law Office:  
    She supports delinking the Office of the Attorney General from other government departments to improve autonomy and service delivery.
4. Welfare of Legal Officers in Public Service:  
    She has pledged to address stagnation, delayed promotions, and welfare challenges facing legal professionals in government.
5. Legal Aid and Public Awareness:  
    Working closely with the National Legal Aid Service (NLAS) to scale up free legal aid clinics and civic education, especially in rural and underserved areas.
6. Inter-Agency Legal Coordination:  
    As the government’s chief legal advisor, she’s facilitating better coordination between the ODPP, judiciary, investigative agencies, and ministries.

### **Personality, Leadership Style, and Symbolism**

* Firm yet empathetic: Known for her balanced approach to tough decisions and humane understanding of law.
* Disciplined and principled: Maintains a strict ethical code in public life and demands accountability.
* Mentor and advocate: She is deeply invested in growing the next generation of ethical lawyers and prosecutors.

Dorcas Oduor is not just the Attorney General in title—she is a symbol of transformation, gender equity, and professional excellence in Kenya’s legal and governance system.

### **Legacy in the Making**

Hon. Dorcas Oduor Agik’s legacy is already being written—not just as a trailblazer for women, but as a technocratic AG driven by constitutionalism, accountability, and institutional reform.

She is expected to leave behind a transformed Office of the Attorney General, where access to justice, efficiency in service delivery, and public trust are its core pillars.