

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUSTICE IRENE CHIRWA MAMBILIMA

(31 March 1952 to 20th June 2021)



It is with profound sadness that we write on behalf of the Zambia Association of Women Judges (ZAWJ) to convey to the Leadership of International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ), the IAWJ global family, and our sisters and friends, the devastating news of the untimely passing of Her Ladyship, the Chief Justice of Zambia, Hon Justice Irene Chirwa Mambilima on the 20 June 2021 in Cairo, Egypt.

Chief Justice Mambilima was a founding member of our Association and served the Zambian Chapter of IAWJ as Vice President and subsequently as President for two terms. During her leadership, the Association successfully hosted the Africa Regional Conference in Livingstone in 2011 and rolled-out the Justice Jurisprudence Access and Accountability programme (JJAAP). This program equipped adjudicators and other Court users on jurisprudence trends, international and domestic instruments at the disposal of the Court for GBV cases. Judge Mambilima was a remarkable judge, who was committed to promoting gender equality and an enabling environment for access to justice. Her immense contributions to upholding the rule of law led to her election to the Board of Directors of the IAWJ as African Regional representative. Until her demise, Judge Mambilima was an active and valuable member of both ZAWJ and IAWJ.

Many members of the IAWJ and the legal fraternity, both locally and abroad have been inspired by the life of Justice Mambilima. We are grateful for the numerous thoughts and tributes that we have so far received from colleagues and members of the International Association of Women Judges. In keeping her legacy alive, we are committed to continuing close collaboration with the IAWJ.

We invite our colleagues to join us in commemorating and celebrating the remarkable life of Judge Irene Mambilima. Tributes may be sent through the email of the Vice President of ZAWJ Hon Justice Nicola Sharpe-Phiri – nsharpephiri@gmail.com

We deeply mourn the loss of Her Ladyship, Justice Irene Mambilima.

May Her Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

Zambia Association of Women Judges