



CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Statement by the CCJ's President on the passing of Lady Beverley Walrond, QC

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC) and the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) are deeply saddened by the passing of Lady Beverley Walrond, QC. We all fully expected Lady Beverley to join us this week for the Commission's last meeting for the year on 13 December and so, we were especially shocked and grieved to learn of this horrible tragedy.

Lady Beverley was a well-rounded legal professional of unparalleled distinction, well-known for her dedication, legal acumen and sharp mind. She was always a voice of reason and was a principled individual with unflinching integrity. She distinguished herself as an Attorney-at-Law, both in public and private practice and as an acting High Court Judge. She was also a trained Mediator. In her private law practice, she was deeply committed to the cause of children, one of the most vulnerable groups within our society.

Through her role as a member of the RJLSC, Lady Beverley contributed much to the strengthening of the institutions which serve the CCJ and the broader Caribbean Community. From her initial 3-year appointment in 2016 up to the time of her untimely passing, Lady Beverley was an exemplary member of the Commission. She played an active role on several of its sub-committees and we are honoured to have so greatly benefitted from her passion, wisdom, candour and collegiality. The Commission and by extension the Court, the CARICOM Competition Commission, and the soon-to-be established Caribbean Community Administrative Tribunal are all beneficiaries of Commissioner Walrond's rich legacy.

Lady Beverley will be sorely missed by all those she worked with and whose lives she touched. The entire region has unquestionably lost a tremendous daughter. We at the Commission and the Court extend our heartfelt condolences to Lady Beverley's husband, Sir Errol Walrond, her children, family, colleagues and all those who mourn her. Their grief is not shared, it is multiplied.

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About the Caribbean Court of Justice

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) was inaugurated in Port of Spain, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on 16 April 2005 and presently has a Bench of seven judges presided over by CCJ President, The Honourable Mr. Justice Adrian Saunders.

The CCJ has an original and an appellate jurisdiction and is effectively, therefore, two courts in one. In its original jurisdiction, it is an international court with exclusive jurisdiction to interpret and apply the rules set out in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC) and to decide disputes arising under it. The RTC established the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). In its original jurisdiction, the CCJ is critical

to the CSME and all 14 Member States of CARICOM (including their citizens, businesses, and governments) can access the Court's original jurisdiction to protect their rights under the RTC.

In its appellate jurisdiction, the CCJ will be the final court of appeal for countries in the Caribbean replacing the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council for the further development of Caribbean jurisprudence through the judicial process. At present four states access the Court in its appellate jurisdiction, these being Barbados, Belize, Dominica and Guyana.

The Court is the realisation of a vision of our ancestors, an expression of independence and a signal of the region's coming of age.

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