

Media Releases 2007

Tribute to Judge Michael Corbett

Born 14 September 1923

Died 16 September 2007

It is with sadness that SARS receives news of the passing of former Chief Justice of South Africa, Judge Michael Corbett. In 1997, during an illustrious career, Judge Corbett played a guiding role in the ensuing transformation of SARS. He chaired the Advisory Board, to the Minister of Finance and the Commissioner for SARS, that was appointed to facilitate change efforts at the Revenue Service.

Steering the work of the Board, Judge Corbett advised on the streamlining and alignment of organisational plans and the business focus of SARS as well as the future shape and direction. He was able to do with a wealth of experience behind him, having officially retired as Chief Justice of the country a year earlier. At a time when the Revenue Authority was grappling with the challenges of transition, Judge Corbett brought an approach of inclusive leadership thus pioneering an important element of the organisational culture at SARS.

During his time as Chairperson, Judge Corbett displayed an integrity and leadership that won over his fellow Advisory board members. They were disappointed when Judge Corbett had to leave in April 2001 due to ill health.

SARS is grateful for the contribution made by Judge Corbett in its evolution. The organisation's achievements over the past years form part of the legacy inspired by leaders such as Judge Corbett.

Our condolences go to his wife Peggy and his children.

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