



United Nations
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International
Criminal Tribunal
for the former
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

CHAMBERS

JUDGE GWAUNZA

Ad Litem Judge Elizabeth GWAUNZA

(Member of the Tribunal since 3 March 2008)

Zimbabwe

Born: 15 June 1953

Education:

1977 Bachelor of Law – BL, University of Zimbabwe
1986 Bachelor of Laws – LLB, University of Zimbabwe

Diploma and Certificate in Legislative Drafting
Certificate in Gender Studies and Development
Diploma in Women's Law

Professional experience:

Since Nov 2002 Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court of Zimbabwe, handling appeals from the High Court, both civil and criminal, and constitutional matters

May - Nov 2002 Acting Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court of Zimbabwe

Jan 2001 - May 2002

Deputy Chairperson, Law Development Commission, with responsibility for:

- the promotion of the development and reform of the law;
- making proposals for the simplification of any branch of the law;
- proposing new or more effective procedures for the administration of the law and dispensing of justice; and
- preparation, for submission with any report, of any draft legislation considered necessary for the implementation of the Commission's recommendations.

Aug 1998 - Dec 2000

Judge of the High Court of Zimbabwe, adjudicating in both criminal and civil matters, including appeals from the magistrate's court.

Feb 1990 - Aug 1998

National Coordinator, Women and Law in Southern Africa Research Trust. Carried out long-term research into laws affecting women in seven SADC countries and was also responsible for the administration and financial management of all project funds and supervision of project staff

March 1984 - Dec 1989

Worked in the Ministry of Justice as Legal Officer, Senior Law Officer and then Chief Law Officer, giving legal advice and assistance to indigent members of the public.

Jan 1977 to May 1981

Examiner of deeds in the Office of the Register of Deeds, Companies and Patents

Publications:

Solely and/or in conjunction with others, contributed to research, the writing and production of the following publications:

A Guide to the Maintenance Law in Zimbabwe – *WLSA educational pamphlet*

Inheritance – What it Means for Families in Zimbabwe – *WILDAF educational pamphlet*

Family Law Customs and Practices in Zimbabwe – ZIM/NORAD handbook 1994

Women and Land Rights in Resettlement Areas in Zimbabwe – *WLSA educational pamphlet 1994*

Maintenance in Zimbabwe – *WLSA research report 1992*

Internet address: <http://www.un.org/icty>

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The Situation of Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances in Zimbabwe – *UNICEF commissioned study 1993-1994*

Continuity and Change: The Family in Zimbabwe – *WLSA research report 1998*

Paradigms of Exclusion: Women's Access to Resources in Zimbabwe – *WLSA research report 1998*

In the Shadow of the Law: Women and Justice Delivery in Zimbabwe – *WLSA research report 2000*

Pregnancy and Childbirth: Joy or Despair – *WLSA research report into "Women and gender-generated crimes of violence" 2001*

Other academic and judicial activities

Judge Gwaunza was admitted as a legal practitioner of the High Court of Zimbabwe in 1987. In addition she has sat on the boards of many women's Non-Governmental Organizations, including Musasa Project, a research and counselling trust for women victims of domestic and other violence, and the Women's Leadership and Governance Institute.

She was the Chairperson of the Wills and Inheritance Project – a joint venture of DFID and the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs. This was a multimedia communication project to educate the community, judicial officers and NGOs about the laws of inheritance.

Judge Gwaunza was founder member and past President of the Zimbabwe Association of Women Judges.

Furthermore, she is a member of several women's organizations who has attended countless national, regional and international workshops, seminars and conferences on women and other development issues.
