ADDRESS
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The Hague, 14 November 2017

Introduction of the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

By John Hocking, Assistant Secretary-General, Registrar, ICTY

It is my great honour to introduce Judge Carmel Agius, the President of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), who will accept the first ever Justice Administration Excellence Award on behalf of the Tribunal.

This is quite fitting, as President Agius embodies both justice and excellence.

For nearly two decades, Judge Agius has been at the forefront of international criminal justice in the making, penning some of the most notable judgements of both the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the ICTY. He is presiding over the largest appeal judgment in the history of the ICTY, Prlić et al, the delivery of which in less than 15 days will mark the completion the ICTY’s judicial work.

Justice and excellence have also defined his Vice-Presidency and then his Presidency since 2015. With expectations at their highest and resources often at their lowest, President Agius rolled up his sleeves and ensured that the ICTY continued to deliver justice and excellence every day up until our last, for the victims and for the world.

On 11 July 2017, I was with President Agius in Srebrenica, one last time in the history of the ICTY. Standing in front of this memorial of humanity at its worst, he reminded me and all of us that we can and we must become champions of reconciliation to move from war to sustainable peace. He said those words then, and every day of his service at the ICTY he lived up to them.

Thank you, President Agius, for being an inspiration to all of us.

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