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Miranda Team

HARARE

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Rufaro Marira (Labour Court)
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Anxious Mbalanga (Labour Court)
Wadzanai Mugadza (Master's Office)

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Rungano Victor Mahamadi (Magistrates' Court)

MANICALAND

Rumbidzayi Zimunya (Mutare Magistrates' Court)

MASHONALAND CENTRAL

Holder Mangumbi (Bindura Magistrates' Court)

MASHONALAND WEST

Takesure Gora (Chinhoyi Magistrates' Court)

MATABELELAND SOUTH

Servious Dube (Gwanda Magistrates' Court)

MIDLANDS

Mandla Masundulwane (Gweru Magistrate's Court)

MASHONALAND EAST

Tendai Nzou (Marondera Magistrates' Court)

EDITOR'S MEMO



Reader, welcome to the final edition of The Miranda for 2016, which highlights major events in the Judicial Service Commission.

In this edition, we covered work being undertaken by the Judicial Service Commission in its mission to ensure the smooth delivery of Justice countrywide.

The final quarter of the year saw the retirement of veteran judges, Justices Vernanda Ziyambi and November Mtshiya, who called it quits at the ripe age of 70.

The quarter was fun-filled and those with an appetite for human interest stories, development stories and pictures, this is your best read.

I say thank you to The Miranda team players who contributed to the success of the publication.

Gentle reader, as we come to the end of 2016, The Miranda wishes you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2017.

Enjoy your read.

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From the Secretary's Desk

Justice Rita Makarau

Secretary of the Judicial Service Commission

A *fabulous Christmas to you all and an equally fantastic and Happy 2017 (even without the bond notes and all)!*

Christmas time gives us yet another good excuse to be cheerful and to spread love all around us. It is a time for giving and even if we do not have much in the form of material things to give to others, we can give love, lots and lots of smiles and goodwill all around. Trust me, love and goodwill always come back to you ten- fold!

2016 has been yet another phenomenal year for us in the Judicial Service Commission and that is more than enough to be grateful for. We have good reason to smile all the way into 2017. We have been highly favoured above many. I will not catalogue all the successes that we notched in 2016 but suffice it to say, we had a splendid year.

To each and every member of the Judicial Service, I say "thank you" for making 2016 a memorable year and for keeping the trajectory and profile of the JSC up.

Elsewhere in this edition is a picture of officials from the Namibian Office of the Judiciary who came to benchmark their operations against ours in September 2016. We continue to be humbled by overtures from the sub-region for assistance in matters of court administration. It is rewarding to realise that even visitors to this country notice our small efforts to make a difference in whatever we do.

As we look back upon 2016 with much satisfaction, we pray that the Almighty continues to view us all with great mercy not only in 2017 but beyond.



Celebrations at the launch of the strategic plan

JSC LAUNCHES 2016-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

BY STEVEN GWATSVAIRA

Chief Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku has launched the Judicial Service Commission's second five-year strategic plan (2016-2020) which seeks to create two standalone benches of the Supreme and Constitutional Courts, among others.

The strategic plan provides general direction to the Commission's operations during the period in question.

Currently, judges of the Supreme Court are the same who preside over cases at the

"The pressure on both courts (Supreme and Constitutional) has over the years increased to levels where it has become essential to facilitate the complete separation of the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court, each supported by a dedicated registry."

Constitutional Court.

The judges sit for Supreme Court cases four days a week, while one day is dedicated for Constitutional Court cases.

Part of the strategic plan reads:

"The pressure on both courts (Supreme and Constitutional) has over the years increased to levels where it has become essential to facilitate the complete separation of the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court, each supported by a dedicated registry."

The strategic plan was officially launched during the grand opening of the new Goromonzi Magistrates' Court building in November.



Chief Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku flanked by Justices Ziyambi (left) and Mtshiya at the farewell dinner. (Pic by Steven Gwatsvaira)

TREND-SETTING ZIYAMBI, MTSHIYA BOW DOWN IN HONOUR

MIRANDA WRITER

The Judicial Service Commission has, for the first time since inception, hosted a special dinner to honour and celebrate achievements by its long-serving and dedicated judges,

Justices Vernanda Ziyambi and November Mtshiya, who retired this quarter after clocking the mandatory retirement age of 70.

Justice Ziyambi, who sat on the Supreme Court and Constitutional Court benches, was the first woman to be appointed to the Supreme Court and played a significant role in ensuring gender balance on the bench.

Her retirement comes at a time when the Constitutional Court bench now boasts six men and six women, excluding the Chief Justice.

In the High Court, Justice Mtshiya was a father figure, friend and

advisor to younger judges.

Speaking at the dinner, Chief Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku hailed Justices Ziyambi and Mtshiya for their contribution to the Judiciary. “What is evident from the history of the two judges is the selfless dedication to duty. They have served on the bench with much honour and dignity. They have led blameless careers on the bench and through their conduct, they demonstrated that the profession of a judge is more of a calling than a venture to accumulate wealth.

“On behalf of the Judiciary, JSC, the people of Zimbabwe and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to express my utmost gratitude and appreciation for the distinguished service that the two judges rendered during their time on the bench.”

Chief Justice Chidyausiku said the pair led exemplary lives which younger judicial officers should emulate.

“I sincerely hope that through such conduct, hard work and dedication to duty, they have led by example and left a few lessons to other younger judges about the values and ethos of being a judge,” he said.

In his parting shot, Justice Mtshiya voiced concern over the disregard of court orders by some arms of Government which he felt had an effect of eroding people’s confidence in the Judiciary.

“I am sure you all agree with me that reluctance or refusal by other arms of Government to obey court orders does not augur well for confidence in the Judiciary. I am really worried about that aspect as I leave the bench. I am, however, happy that the JSC is alive to that problem and hope that very soon a solution shall be found.”

Deputy Chief Justice Luke Malaba said Justice Ziyambi will be greatly missed on the Constitutional Court bench.

“The Chief Justice was about to say, but did not say it, that he will miss the whisper of advice that always came from his left side (in terms of the judges sitting arrangement).

“When the Chief Justice is away, that advisory whisper would come from my right side.

“We will miss those grammatical corrections

that we always got from Justice Ziyambi. After writing a judgment, we always thought we had done well. But the moment it had been sent to Justice Ziyambi for proof reading, there were always several changes to grammar,” said the Deputy Chief Justice.

Justice Lavender Makoni hailed Justice Mtshiya for his skills in settling disputes at pre-trial stage without belabouring the court with trials. “Justice Mtshiya had skills in settling matters at pre-trial conference stage. Most of his PTCs would settle, thereby reducing pressure on the bench,” she said.

Justice Mtshiya’s close friend at the High

“

I sincerely hope that through such conduct, hard work and dedication to duty, they have led by example and left a few lessons to other younger judges about the values and ethos of being a judge, . . .

”

Court, Justice Joseph Musakwa described him as a humorous friend and a father figure.

Justice Ziyambi was born and educated in the West Indies and moved to Zimbabwe upon marriage to the late Mr Tarisai Ziyambi. She once worked at the Attorney-General Office and in private practice before her elevation to the bench.

Justice Mtshiya had a stint with the private practice and also served as Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development. He served as corporate secretary for the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe and the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe before being appointed judge of the Administrative Court. He was later moved to the Labour Court and finally to the High Court.

PAY US ON TIME, SAY MAGISTRATES

BY RUMBIDZAI ZIMUNYA

MAGISTRATES are seething with anger over their paymaster's decision to tag them as "rest of civil service", a group that is usually the last to be paid saying this makes them appear as less important.

Government is facing teething cashflow challenges forcing it to stagger salary payments for people in its employ.

Magistrates Association of Zimbabwe president Mr Ignatio Mhene was livid over the arrangement.

"We are not happy at all with the way we are being treated in terms of salary payments. We are the last to get salaries while being labelled 'rest of civil

servants' when in terms of the Constitution, we are not part of the public service. We want our salaries on time," fumed Mr Mhene.

He said magistrates were an educated group of people who had decided to register their concerns peacefully.

"We did not make noise about it but we

raised our concerns with the authorities. Our colleagues in the police force, prisons and other organisations earn their salaries on time," he said.

The magistrates, Mr Mhene said, must get their salaries on time to prevent corruption.

"We end up asking for favours from our landlords to bear with us and to allow us to pay rent later. When you ask for a favour from the landlord, what prevents him or her from also asking for favours from me?"

Mr Mhene also voiced concern over the disparity between their grades and salaries.

"Our grading systems do not tally with the

s a l a r i e s .
There must be incentives for provincial magistrates and resident magistrates to differentiate t h e m from their subordinates

"We did not make noise about it but we raised our concerns with the authorities. Our colleagues in the police force, prisons and other organisations earn their salaries on time, . . ."

at work. For example, in the police force, district heads (Dispols) drive single cab Ford Rangers while provincial heads drive Navaras, Double Cab Ford Rangers and other beautiful cars. Magistrates do not enjoy all that when they are the ones who do much of the work," said Mr Mhene.



Justices Amy Tsanga and Ben Hlatshwayo showcasing their dancing skills. (Pic by Steven Gwatsvaira)

THE DAY THE JUDICIARY DANCED THE NIGHT AWAY

MIRANDA WRITER

If you thought the lives of members of the Judiciary were all about seriousness and interpreting the law, you stand to be corrected.

Truly so, because on December 5, these learned fellows could be seen waltzing on the dance floor with the nimble-footed among them soaking it out as though they were at a dancing competition.

Alick Macheso, his former dancer Franco Slomo or

even the famous Manyowa, who used to dance for John Chibadura, would turn green with envy seeing judges of the High Court, Supreme Court and Labour Court exhibiting fancy footwork during the farewell dinner hosted in honour of Justices Vernanda Ziyambi and November Mtshiya who retired this quarter.

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) held a dinner at Wild Geese Lodge in Harare to celebrate the great work done by the pair and their contribution to the Judiciary.

Little did the JSC know that the event would be used by judges

to showcase their hidden talents.

When musical outfit “The Talking Guitars” played the yesteryear classic “Murambinda” by Paul Mpfu, Supreme Court judges Justices Anne Mary Gowora and Elizabeth Gwaunza stormed the stage.

Justice Lavender Makoni was not to be outdone. She joined the pair, showing the crowd what she is really made of, to the guests’ applause.

A rendition of Les Wanyika’s Sina Makosa added fuel to the already explosive dance floor. Justice Edith Mushore sprang into action, resulting in more Judges like Justices Joseph Mafusire, Pilda Muzofa, Emilia Muchawa, Gladys Mhuri, Garainesu Mawadze and several following suit.

Justices Ziyambi and Mtshiya also later joined their colleagues, turning the farewell gig into a big dancing party.

The master of ceremonies Justice Gowora briefly interrupted the dancers asking people to give accounts on how they related with the two retirees.

After this, Justices Hlatshwayo and Amy Tsanga swung to the beat of “UmoyaWami” by Lovemore Majaivana.

Justices Bharat Patel and Gowora joined them on the stage as they celebrated the achievements by the two brilliant judges.

After the Majaivana hit, some judges could be heard crying for more with others requesting Jah Prayzah’s “Mudhara Vachauya”.

HUNT FOR CHIDY AUSIKU SUCCESSOR ON

MIRANDA WRITER

THREE top judges on December 12 underwent public interviews to replace outgoing Chief Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku who retires next February.

Deputy Chief Justice Luke Malaba and Supreme Court judges, Justices Rita Makarau and Paddington Garwe were grilled as part of the selection process at Rainbow Towers in Harare.

The top judges appeared before a seven-member panel comprising JSC Commissioners.

Chief Justice Chidyausiku chaired.

Judge President George Chiweshe, who was also shortlisted for the interviews, decided not to attend.

The Commission has since forwarded the names of the successful candidates to the President, who is expected to appoint the most suitable judge for the top position.

The process had hiccups after a University of Zimbabwe fourth year law student Romeo Taombera Zibani filed an urgent application to stop the interviews on the 11th hour.

The High Court granted the interdict but JSC's lawyer Mr Addington Chinake filed a notice of appeal at the Supreme Court.

On the basis of the appeal, which suspended the High Court's interdict, JSC proceeded with the interviews as scheduled.

DCJ Malaba has 35 years' experience as a judicial officer and joined the High Court bench in the early 90s. He is also deputy chairman for the JSC. Justice Makarau is Acting Secretary for the JSC and has served as Judge President of the High Court and a Member of Parliament. She also chairs the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission.

Justice Garwe once served as Chief Magistrate, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs as well as Judge President before his elevation to the Supreme Court.



DID
YOU
KNOW

AFRICAN UNION ANTHEM

Let us all unite and celebrate together
The victories won for our liberation
Let us dedicate ourselves to rise together
To defend our liberty and unity

**Oh Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make Africa the Tree of Life**

Let us all unite and sing together
To uphold the bonds that frame our
destiny
Let us dedicate ourselves to fight
together
For lasting peace and justice on earth

WATER woes at Chivhu Magistrates' Court are affecting court business, hence a borehole is urgently needed to avoid triggering serious health challenges.

Chivhu Resident Magistrate Mr Archie Wochiunga appealed to the Judicial Service Commission for a borehole to be sunk or at least to be provided with a water storage tank to ensure constant supplies.

"We get water three to four times a week, a development that poses a health hazard at a busy public institution like ours.

"We need a borehole here to ensure there is water supply all the time. We are appealing to JSC to intervene and facilitate the sinking of a borehole or at least provide us with a storage tank that will take care of our water needs," said Mr Wochiunga.

He said at times court officials were forced to travel three kilometres away to fetch water.

"Once or twice we had to go and fetch water from public boreholes, 3km away for the toilets and other uses. We have made a formal request for a borehole and we trust JSC will bring a solution soon," he said.

Despite water challenges, judicial officers at Chivhu Court and their support staff have managed to rise to the occasion and cleared the backlog of cases.

Commenting on the backlog, Mr Wochiunga said the station was on top of the situation.

"We have managed to clear our backlog and there is nothing to talk about in terms of outstanding cases. We are indeed on top of the situation and we are only dealing with cases as they come," said Mr Wochiunga.

He showered praises on his team for a job well done.

"All this success is attributed to teamwork. Fellow magistrates, support staff and our colleagues from the National Prosecuting Authority deserve a pat on the back for the good work.

"We, as a team, agreed that no matter must be



Mr Archie Wochiunga – Resident Magistrate Chivhu

WATER WOES HIT CHIVHU COURT

postponed for no good reason. We agreed that, where possible, all witnesses must be available on the date of trial to avoid unnecessary delay in finalising matters," said the Resident Magistrate.

Mr Wochiunga works with regional magistrate Mrs Fadzai Mthombeni and two other magistrates in the provincial court – Mr Dennis Mangosi and Ms Winfilda Tiyatara.

Chivhu Magistrates' Court is situated in a farming community that is mostly dominated by farmers.

The common offences in the area, Mr Wochiunga said, were stock theft, assault, theft and domestic violence.

On average, the court receives six or seven criminal cases and about eight civil matters daily.

2016 IN PICTURES











NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR DRIVERS

“When we were still at the Old Supreme Court Building, we had an office but our relocation to Mashonganyika Building had left us exposed to all kind of weather.”

BY WADZANAI MUGADZA

AFTER spending years exposed to the vagaries of weather, the once “homeless” drivers at the Supreme Court in Harare now have a roof over their heads.

In the rainy season, it was not uncommon to see drivers seated in their cars or squatting in other people’s offices.

In winter, they would busk in the sun while seated on chairs at the main entrance to the Supreme Court registry, disturbing the free-movement of litigants, lawyers and other visitors.

Such problems are however, now a thing of the past.

This follows the recent construction of a beautiful and up-to-standard structure to house the chauffeurs.

The Miranda visited the excited drivers during one lunch break and captured their comments. Said Mr Nyasha Chiwara, a driver: “We really appreciate JSC’s efforts to provide us with decent shelter. We are happy about the new structure which restores our dignity as opposed to the old scenario of loitering here as if we are people of no-fixed abode.

“When we were still at the Old Supreme Court Building, we had an office but our relocation to Mashonganyika Building had left us exposed to all kind of weather.”



The drivers' rendezvous at the Supreme Court. (Pic By Steven Gwatsvaira)

Another driver Mr Oscar Bumhe said: “The material used on the doors makes it easier for the drivers to notice their judges as they arrive. Whenever judges need us, we can easily be located.”

Chief Registrar of Superior Courts Mr Sithembinkosi Msipa said he intended to improve the structure and to ensure the room was air-conditioned.

“Due to the size of the building, it’s difficult to find convenient furniture for the building, maybe a coffee table will do but I will definitely put air conditioning”.

The building was completed towards the end of July 2016.

Although the office is small, it houses all the 15 judges’ drivers.

YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE, MASTER LEARNS

MIRANDA WRITER

“You are never alone. You are eternally connected with everyone,” writes Amit Ray an Indian author in his book, *Meditation: Insights and Inspirations*. These words turned into a powerful lesson to the Master of High Court Mr Eldard Mutasa on November 29 2016, which happened to be his birthday.

Mr Mutasa knew of his birthday, but due to financial challenges, celebrating the day was nowhere near his plans.

Literally, he had resolved to allow the day to pass like a “chicken’s birthday”.

Just before lunch he was planning to drive to the World Bank offices to follow up on his outstanding allowances after an international business trip, but strangely, his secretary kept on discouraging him from leaving.

She advised him to make inquiries through the telephone.

The unsuspecting Master kept on trying to call until his deputy Mrs Nomonde Mazabane entered the office and invited him for “lunch”.

Little did he know that it was a surprise birthday bash organised by his subordinates.

Mr Mutasa could not believe his eyes as he set foot into a well-decorated and colourful room which was full to capacity.

Upon entering the room, the team of officers broke into song and dance celebrating Mr Mutasa’s 40th

birthday.

While in a state of shock, the “birthday boy” was ushered to the high table where he sat with Mrs Mazabane, Additional Master Mr Reuben Mukavhi and Chief Accountant Mr. Naison Mudekunye.

Mr Mutasa could not hide his joy.

“I never expected this. I really want to appreciate this surprise gesture. I am actually humbled,” said Mr Mutasa.

Mr Mutasa, who is also a man of the cloth, took the opportunity to preach the gospel of moral uprightness to his subordinates.

He warned the officers against corruption.

“Be morally upright and feel pity to those clients who come here with their problems. Do not take a cent from them, but assist them professionally. You must be good ambassadors of the Master of High Court’s Office,” he said.

Speaking at the same occasion, Assistant Master of High Court Mr Simon Madi described Mr Mutasa as a humble and caring man who has played an integral role in uniting the team of officers.

“The Master is a humble man who strives to bring us together as a team. He is a unifier and has managed to lead by example as many take him as a role model.

“He is a hard worker who has achieved a lot in the first 40 years of his life. As we all know, life begins at 40 and may the Lord abundantly bless him in his new journey of life,” said Mr Madi.



Master of the High Court Mr Eldard Mutasa



Headman Murambinda lays the law to members of the Judiciary

THE DAY JUDICIARY, TRADITIONALISTS CLASHED

MIRANDA WRITER

NO matter how educated or powerful one may be, submission before traditional courts is an obligation.

JSC, funded by the Royal Danish Embassy, embarked on a massive project that has seen the construction of 22 state-of-the-art magistrates' court buildings countrywide with a view to bringing justice to the masses.

When the courthouses are completed, an official opening ceremony organised by JSC to open the doors to the public is done.

When other courts were opened in most areas, it was pomp and funfair as the respective beneficiaries of the buildings celebrated the milestone. However, Murambinda Magistrates' Court opened with a difference.

Headman Murambinda pulled a shocker and convened a court session outside the new building demanding to know why JSC had disrespected him for constructing the court without his knowledge.

Headman Murambinda had this to say: "These people have disrespected me. How could they just come here and start building

a public building like this one without my knowledge. They were supposed to have come and officially inform me of their acquisition of the land from council as well as their plans to construct a courthouse.

"In terms of our tradition, such notification is followed by my visit to the stand and the pegging of the piece of land. With my blessings, the stand owners will embark of the construction of the structure. However, JSC did not do that.

They only invited me to attend the opening ceremony. Opening what? That is a sign of disrespect," said Headman Murambinda.

Representatives of JSC's development partners, The Royal Danish Embassy, were puzzled as they tried to put together the unfolding drama. But JSC, in the spirit of respecting court orders and the traditional leadership, swallowed its pride and bowed down in honour of the headman.

JSC Deputy Secretary Mr Walter Chikwana and Chief Magistrate Mr Mishrod Guvamombe, who were clad in designer suits pleaded with Headman Murambinda while on their knees.

As the court proceedings dragged further, the duo had to sit on the floor as the traditional leadership read the Riot Act.

SCULPTURES GIVE COURTS GLITTER

BY JUNIOR DHAURAMANZI

Entering the High Court in Harare and Bulawayo, two magnificent black sculptures catch one's eye.

The beautiful artwork showing the Scales of Justice at the buildings' main entrances were donated by Harare-based youthful lawyer-cum sculptor David Ngwerume a few years back. A new look was put to the buildings and several people are seen having photo shoots next to the sculptures.

If one were to ask "the tourists" on the significance of the sculptures, most of them would simply take it as a beautiful decoration to the High Court.

Yes, it is indeed a marvel to watch but at the same time it communicates an important message.

It is not coincidence that the sculptures were erected right at the entrance to the buildings. The idea is to communicate a message.

Art is an effective form of communication, which speaks louder than words.

Asked on the significance of the sculptures, Ngwerume said:

"My message to the people is justice. It reminds the people of the importance of justice and fairness in society," he said.

The shining spring stone and opal, acquired from Chiweshe and Guruve serves as a reminder to judicial officers, litigants, lawyers and other stakeholders in the justice delivery system that their main objective is to ensure the prevalence of justice.

In a typical jigsaw fitting, the sculptures dovetail with the Judicial Service Commission's service tagline: "Striving towards World Class Justice."

Since the first modern-day legal system began in Rome, the scales of justice have been used to symbolize the balance between truth and fairness sought after in the justice system. Although often depicted alone, the scales are frequently held by Lady Justice (or Justitia, in Latin), the Roman goddess of justice.

Along with the concept of truth and fairness, the image is also used to depict the balance between the support and opposition of a case, with Lady Justice responsible for weighing the two and reaching a fair and just verdict.

Throughout the world, the scales of justice are an ever-present symbol of the ideals aspired to in the legal system. They remind attorneys, judges, and juries of the heavy task before them. Each side of the scales can be thought of as one side of a case before the court. As each side presents evidence and argument, the scales tip to one side or the other. The judge, or jury, is responsible for determining which side is heavier when all the evidence and argument has been presented.

The origins of Lady Justice are thought to date as far back as the ancient Egyptian goddesses Maat and Isis, and later the Greek goddess Dike, the goddess of mortal justice. The Roman goddess generally carries the scales, a sword, and wears a blindfold.

Her sword is symbolic of the power of justice. The blindfold often worn by Lady Justice is where the term "justice is blind" comes from in modern speech. Presents which incorporate the image make excellent gifts for lawyers, judges, or anyone involved in the legal system.



Lawyer-cum sculptor Mr David Ngwerume. (Pic By Steven Gwatsvair)



Members of the Namibian delegation with "Team JSC"

MIRANDA WRITER

Namibian permanent secretary for the Judiciary Mrs Rolanda Lucretia Van Wyk has hailed Zimbabwe for effectively running an independent judicial system.

Mrs Van Wyk visited Zimbabwe in October while accompanied by her two deputies, director of administration, public relations officer and a personal assistant on a benchmarking tour to learn the best practices from JSC.

In an interview during her two-day visit to benchmark on the judicial administration in Zimbabwe, Mrs Van Wyk said the JSC model was one of the best in Africa and countries on the continent should take a cue from the successful operation.

"We came here to see the model used by the Judicial Service Commission. We wanted to see what systems they put in place after they became independent.

I am impressed with the strides made by JSC in ensuring the independence of the judiciary in Zimbabwe.

It is indeed an independent arm and as a continent, we should all be proud of Zimbabwe. The JSC model is one that other African countries should follow to achieve judicial independence," she said.

Mrs Van Wyk said her team learnt a lot from Zimbabwe and they will implement some of the systems in Namibia.

"We learnt a lot from the JSC and time was actually too short for us. Now that we have picked up some tips on how to improve on our judiciary, we will have to go back and discuss with the others before implementing some of the systems we saw here. Definitely we will implement most of the systems in Namibia."

NAMIBIA HAILS ZIM JUDICIARY

In another show of the growing admiration of the JSC by other regional countries the Chief Justice of Mozambique Hon. Recently requested Chief Justice Chidyausiku for permission to tap into the JSC's mechanisms of performance measurement in both the magistrates' courts and the superior courts.

JSC secretary Justice Rita Makarau said the commission also picked up some important ideas from interacting with the Namibian team.

"We had a fruitful interaction with the Namibian delegation. Although they came to check on how we are managing, we also learnt a great deal from the interactions. I also realised that Zimbabwe and Namibia have a lot in common," she said.

The delegation made courtesy calls on Chief Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku, Deputy Chief Justice Luke Malaba and Judge President George Chiweshe before touring the superior courts in Harare and convening a series of meetings with the JSC secretariat.

The judiciary in Namibia had been operating under the Ministry of Justice until December last year when it was weaned.

The now independent arm is in the process of setting up structures and gathering ideas on how to improve its operations to ensure total independence.

JSC became independent on June 10, 2010.

Prior to that, the judiciary was operating under the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs.



LEGAL CODEBREAKER

SET BY MAYOR

Each number in this puzzle represents the same letter throughout. To the right of the grid are clues to the 17 expressions required. You must decide on your own where each word goes in. The clues are arranged in no particular order.

CLUES

- A grant of freedom
■■■■■■■■■■
- Fraud
■■■■■■■■■■
- The head of a judiciary
■■■■■■■■■■
- Court headed by
■■■■■■■■■■
- Final appeals body
■■■■■■■■■■
- Surname of the current 2 ACROSS
■■■■■■■■■■
- Supreme law
■■■■■■■■■■
- Felony
■■■■■■■■■■
- Subject to a court process
■■■■■■■■■■
- Book of meanings
■■■■■■■■■■
- Member of a jury
■■■■■■■■■■
- Need for water
■■■■■■■■■■
- Unfair punishment
■■■■■■■■■■
- Concept
■■■■■■■■■■
- Action rhyming with [Judge]
■■■■■■■■■■
- Self-regulating
■■■■■■■■■■
- Legal practitioner
■■■■■■■■■■

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	1	4	
10	■	11	■	■	■	■	■	2	■	■	■	4
11	7	12	13	4	■	■	■	3	1	1	■	14
8	■	4	■	■	■	■	■	15	■	2	■	16
9	■	17	■	3	11	6	7	8	9	3	1	4
3	12	4	18	■	■	7	■	9	■	12	■	19
9	■	11	■	■	■	15	■	■	■	22	■	19
7	■	12	■	20	■	10	■	■	21	18	3	20
9	2	4	8	18	7	15	7	8	■	7	■	4
3	■	11	■	23	■	■	■	■	■	8	■	14
10	■	9	15	22	■	■	■	1	15	1	14	4
11	■	■	■	4	■	■	■	■	■	24	■	11
■	8	7	17	15	4	14	4	1	10	7	15	9

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Across

- 2. Unjust
- 7. High Court
- 8. Lawyer

Down

- 1. Brothels
- 3. Judiciary
- 4. Mistrial
- 5. Legal
- 6. Abuse