



Special Court for Sierra Leone
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 27 February 2012

Justice Philip Waki of Kenya Sworn in as Alternate Appeal Judge

Justice Philip Nyamu Waki, a prominent Kenyan jurist, was sworn in on Monday as an alternate judge of the Special Court's Appeals Chamber.



Justice Waki made his solemn declaration before Registrar Binta Mansaray at a special ceremony held in the Special Court's courthouse in Freetown. Special Court President Justice Jon Kamanda then gave the closing address.

The solemn declaration was witnessed by Attorney-General and Minister of Justice Franklyn Bai Kargbo on behalf of the Government of Sierra Leone, and by Acting Head of Mission, UNIPSIL Berhanemeskel Nega representing the United Nations.

Justice Waki joins the Appeals Chamber in advance of any appeal which may follow judgement in the trial of former Liberian President Charles Taylor. He was appointed

jointly by the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone.

Justice Waki became a judge of the Kenya Court of Appeal in 2003, after having served as a Judge of the High Court of Kenya for nine years. Prior to 1995, he was in private law practice in Kenya since being called to the Bar in 1975. Justice Waki has worked actively for reform within the Kenyan judiciary. In 2008 he was named to head the Commission of Inquiry into Post-Election Violence in Kenya, also called the "Waki Commission," to look into the political violence committed during Kenya's 2007 elections.

In 2008 the International Commission of Jurists (Kenya) presented Justice Waki with the "Jurist of the Year Award."

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The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone. It is mandated to bring to justice those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed in Sierra Leone after 30 November 1996.