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Media Statement

RETIREMENT OF JUSTICE JOHAN FRONEMAN

An illustrious judicial career spanning about 26 years came to an end on 31 May 2020 when Justice Johan Froneman of the Constitutional Court of South Africa went on retirement. Justice Froneman was born and raised in the Eastern Cape. After matriculating at Grey College in Bloemfontein, he obtained a BA degree from Stellenbosch University. He later graduated with an LLB degree from the University of South Africa.

He did pupillage at the Pretoria Bar and went on to commence practice as an advocate in Grahamstown in 1980. In 1990 he became senior counsel and in 1994 was elevated to the Bench as a judge of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court of South Africa. Two years later he was appointed as the Deputy Judge President of the Labour and Labour Appeal Courts, a position he held until 1999. In October 2009 he was appointed as a justice of the Constitutional Court.

His legal interests went beyond legal practice and judgeship. For five years he was Professor Extraordinaire at Stellenbosch University, lecturing a course in Human Rights at LLM level. He attended Harvard and Oxford Universities in 1999 and 2008, respectively, in a visiting capacity.

He has given a number of public lectures and talks at academic and professional conferences. He has published many articles that have featured in academic and professional journals.

As a judge, Justice Froneman is one of those pioneers who made their mark quite early on in crafting our constitutional jurisprudence. This he did still sitting as a High Court judge and soon after the advent of our constitutional democracy. He was later to cement his role in developing our constitutional jurisprudence when he became a justice of the Constitutional



Court. In that capacity he was respected by colleagues and practitioners alike. He was a pillar of strength at the Constitutional Court.

He is to enjoy his well-deserved rest – in the hope that he will rest – at his home in Grahamstown.

Ends.

Issued by the Office of the Chief Justice

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