

SADC Lawyers' Association pays tribute to the late Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala of the Kingdom of Eswatini



The late Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala of the Kingdom of Eswatini

The SADC Lawyers' Association (SADC-LA) received with deep sadness the news of the passing of the Honourable Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala, Chief Justice of the Kingdom of Eswatini, who died on 10 September 2026. Chief Justice Maphalala led the Judiciary of Eswatini since his appointment in November 2015, serving as President of the Supreme Court, Chairperson of the Judicial Service Commission, and Chairperson of the Southern and Eastern Africa Chief Justices' Forum.

SADC-LA extends its heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Chief Justice, the Judiciary of Eswatini, and the Law Society of Eswatini. We stand in solidarity with the Law Society of Eswatini and the Kingdom of Eswatini as they mourn this profound loss, and we share in the grief felt across the legal fraternity of the region.

Chief Justice Maphalala's dedicated service strengthened the rule of law and judicial independence in Eswatini and across the SADC region. His legacy will continue to guide the legal community he served with distinction. May he rest in eternal peace.