

Kambuni, Lucy Muthoni (Kenya)

[Original: English]

Statement of qualifications

Statement pursuant to the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee on Nominations of Judges

Ms. LUCY MUTHONI KAMBUNI SC, the nominee of the Republic of Kenya, is an eminent legal practitioner of high moral character with established competence and experience in both criminal and international law.

Ms. Kambuni has practised law for over thirty-two years, in addition to holding key positions of governance in the private sector and serving the nation in delicate undertakings of great public interest. She has also taught law at undergraduate level and at the Kenya School of Law, the Bar School for Kenya. She was also, in 2005, elected as the first woman Vice-Chairperson of the Law Society of Kenya. In 2012, Ms. Kambuni was conferred the rank of **Senior Counsel (SC)** by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Kenya pursuant to section 17 (1) of the Advocates Act Chapter 16 of the Laws of Kenya, in recognition of exemplary service to the legal and public service.

Ms. Kambuni has throughout her academic career exhibited a marked leaning and interest in international law. She has studied relevant course units at Masters Level at the University of Nairobi, including, International Criminal Law, International Litigation and Conflict Resolution, International Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law, International Environmental Law, International Air and Space Law and International Intellectual Property Law.

In 2012, the Honourable Attorney General of Kenya appointed Ms. Kambuni as a member to the Working Committee to Advise the Government on the case before the International Criminal Court involving Kenya Citizens. This presented an excellent opportunity to Ms. Kambuni to study and understand the case before the Court, appreciate the workings of the Court and advise the Government as appropriate.

Ms. Kambuni has taught relevant courses, including Trial Advocacy and the Law of Evidence at the Kenyatta University School of Law. At the Kenya School of Law, Ms. Kambuni, taught Professional Ethics and Practice, testimony to her commitment to contribute to the professionalism and ethical conduct of the Kenyan Bar.

Ms. Kambuni has, over her professional career, undertaken criminal litigation. Of significant mention, however, is the role she played in 2012 when she was appointed by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Kenya, as Lead Assisting Counsel, to the Commission Investigating the Crash of Helicopter 5Y-CDT in the Kibiku Forest, Ngong on 10 June 2012, an accident that robbed Kenyans of all six passengers on board, including the then Interior Security Minister, Hon. George Saitoti and his Assistant Minister, Hon. Joshua Orwa Ojode. Ms. Kambuni's role involved, alongside the State Counsel assigned to the Commission, the interviewing and preparation of numerous witness statements and the presentation of all relevant evidence to the Commission and finally, the preparation and presentation of the Submissions on the Investigation.

In 2008, Ms. Kambuni was appointed Commissioner to Independent Review Commission commonly known as '*the Kriegler Commission*' that looked into the General Elections held in Kenya on 27 December 2007 and in particular, the Presidential elections that were gravely contested, occasioning the post-election violence of 2007-2008. The Commission was established pursuant to the settlement brokered by the Kofi Annan-led Panel of Eminent African Personalities, under the auspice of the African Union. The Report of the Kriegler Commission was an integral document in the review of the Constitution and in particular, the election laws.

In 2015, the President of the Republic of Kenya appointed Ms. Kambuni as the Lead Assisting Counsel to the Commission of Inquiry into the Petition to Suspend the Makueni County Government, following numerous complaints by residents, including that both the County Executive and County Assembly had grossly misappropriated funds allocated for the development of the County. Ms. Kambuni, alongside the State Counsel assigned to the Commission, ensured that all relevant witnesses were interviewed and their evidence adduced before the Commission. Ms. Kambuni participated in the drafting of the Report of the Commission.

Ms. Kambuni, as is evident from her bio-data and curriculum vitae attached hereto, has vast experience as a legal professional and has variously served in the public and private sectors. She continues to serve the community, including on a pro bono basis and is committed to contributing to the promotion of ethical values in the Society. Her wealth of experience, not only in African – Kenyan issues but, also, her understanding and appreciation of International Law will be an invaluable asset to the Advisory Committee.
