



Statement from STL President on the Resignation of Mr. David Tolbert

12 January 2010: In relation to the resignation of the Registrar, Mr David Tolbert, the President of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon Antonio Cassese issued the following statement:

I sincerely regret the departure of the Registrar, Mr. David Tolbert, an excellent international civil servant and a personal friend. In the few months he spent at the Tribunal, building upon the solid foundations established by his predecessor, Mr. Tolbert made a significant contribution to streamlining procedure, improving working methods, and preparing the 2010 budget approved by the Management Committee. He has combined his great competence and experience as a lawyer and former prosecutor with outstanding managerial skills, as well as human warmth. As a result, while being strict in the discharge of his functions and responsibilities, he has enjoyed the support of all the staff and excellent personal relations with the other Principals (Prosecutor, Head of Defence Office and myself).

While feeling that Mr. Tolbert's departure will deprive the Tribunal of his unique competence, I fully appreciate the personal and family reasons that have prompted Mr. Tolbert to go back to his home country after so many years of service spent abroad. I am also confident that Mr. Tolbert, in his new and prestigious position, will remain a close friend of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and, more generally, will greatly contribute to the cause of international criminal justice.