



Voices from the Rwanda Tribunal

Official Transcript: Erik Møse (Part 14 of 14)



Role:	Judge
Country of Origin:	Norway
Interview Date:	22 October 2008
Location:	Arusha, Tanzania
Interviewers:	Robert Utter Donald J Horowitz
Videographer:	Max Andrews
Interpreter:	None

Interview Summary

Erik Møse addresses the mission of the ICTR, his role and contributions as both judge and Vice President of the court. He speaks about the various lessons learned by the institution; the need to increase efficiency by adding trial judges and establishing a separate prosecutor dedicated to the ICTR and not shared with the ICTY, and amending the court rules of procedure and evidence. He discusses the relationship between common and civil law, and between judges and court interpreters. He speaks about the cases he has been involved in, and about the role of victims in the justice process.

The transcript of Part 14 begins on the following page.

Part 14

- 00:00** Donald J Horowitz: **With that caveat, I'm going to ask you what would you like to say to the future, okay? And perhaps you've already said it and, and that's fine but ten years from now, 20 years from now, 50 years from now and your grandchildren are watching and so forth, and, and what would you like to say to the future about this court and your impressions of what contributi-, howe-, whatever you'd like to say. I don't want, even want to circumscribe it.**
- 00:45 This court was the first international court at the African continent. It was the first international criminal court at this continent and it was the second one, after the ICTY, established since the Second World War. With other words, the two ad hoc tribunals were the first to, to practice in this field from the 1990s.
- 01:32 That was an extraordinary challenge and it was inevitable that it would not be unproblematic. You had to build up two courts from scratch, and in particular here in Arusha with limited infrastructure. It was not easy. In spite of that, I think this court has shown that it did a good job after some trial by error in the beginning.
- 02:06 It has become a full-fledged international efficient fair court, fully equipped to deal with the task, namely to decide the guilt or innocent of the leadership of those involved in the 1994 events in Rwanda.
- 02:30 Our institutional knowledge is considerable. The – we were to some extent a transitional period between Nuremberg and Tokyo on the one hand, and the International Criminal Court on the other hand.
- 02:47 It will be interesting to see for the future to what extent ad hoc solutions will be used or whether we were just, together with a few other ad hoc tribunals, a step on the road towards more permanent institution.
- 03:02 I think maybe the trend will be permanent institution with a general competence instead of these ad hoc institution with specific competence.
- 03:16 It has been, again – and this is repetition – it has been an extraordinary experience to be part of this. I say to those who want to listen to us in the future that we did as best as we could. It was a privilege to be part of this.
- 03:38 DJH: Thank you. How has this, if it has, how has this changed you as a person?**
- 03:46 No one can be unaffected by ten years in Arusha.
- 04:04 DJH: Thank you.**