RESOLUTION ON THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT RESOURCES PROVIDED TO THE COURTS

Noting that jurisprudence and international conventions recognise that institutional independence is one of the fundamental pillars of judicial independence,

Noting that in every Commonwealth country there are pressures to reduce the cost of providing justice,

Noting that courts are expected to deliver results faster and with fewer resources, and

Noting that there is an ever increasing tension between governments who have the responsibility to fund the administration of justice and the courts that have the obligation to deliver justice,

Whereas, Paragraph IV of the Commonwealth (Latimer House) Principles on the Three Branches of Government states that adequate resources should be provided for the judicial system to operate,

The Commonwealth Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association notes with concern the continued lack of sufficient resources provided to the courts in many Commonwealth countries.

Therefore, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association records that the provision of sufficient resources to the courts is a fundamental constitutional obligation of the Executive branch of government.

Commonwealth Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association

17th September 2015