

***Cape Town, South Africa, August 20 (Infosplusgabon) – Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng on Tuesday saluted one of Africa's legal giants who has stepped down following a lengthy term on the Constitutional Court.***

Edwin Cameron, hailed by Nelson Mandela as "one of South Africa's new heroes", worked as a human rights lawyer during the apartheid era and fought for gay and lesbian equality.

He was appointed to South Africa's highest court by President Kgalema Motlanthe in 2009.

Cameron who has been HIV positive since 1999, has been openly gay since the early 1980s and he oversaw the gay and lesbian movement's submissions to the drafters of the South African Constitution.

Addressing the Constitutional Court on Tuesday, Mogoeng described Cameron as "brave and bold because this is a condition like any other that requires medical attention".

"For the sake of those suffering masses, he not only spoke, but he acted. He moved around and mobilised support. Thanks to him, the lives of many South Africans, the lives of many Africans, the lives of many people across the globe, have been saved."

"We have enjoyed this man..." Mogoeng added.

Among those who attended the special sitting were retired deputy chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke, Justice Minister Ronald Lamola and National Assembly speaker, Thandi Modise.

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