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World Netball Congress 2021

Service Award Citation



Citation for Muditambi (Ntambi) Ravele

“Passion leads to greatness”. Muditambi has been involved in netball as a player, coach, umpire, and administrator prior to the coming of democracy in South Africa. Unfortunately, during apartheid, black South Africans were not allowed to represent the country.

In 1994, after democracy was established and Netball South Africa (NSA) formed, she became a member of the organization’s first executive committee. Muditambi was involved in Schools, Club and University Netball. She was the team manager of the national under 21 netball team that represented South Africa at the Confederation of Southern Africa Netball Association (COSANA) Games in Botswana in 1996, and a national coach of the Universities netball team to the Confederation of University as well as Colleges Sports Association Games (CUCSA) in Zambia 1999

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Registered Office: Suite 6.02, Floor 6, Tomorrow, MediaCityUK, Salford, M50 2AB, United Kingdom

Directors: Liz Nicholl CBE, Sue Taylor AM, Ann Tod, Shirley Hooper, Cecilia Molokwane, Gaby Hochbaum, Marva Bernard OD, Lyn Carpenter, Wainikiti Bogidrau

In 1995, after an all-white team's participation at the World Championship as it was called then, she was entrusted to ensure that the national team that represented South Africa later in the year at the All Africa games in Harare, Zimbabwe reflected the demographics of the country. She diligently executed this assignment but unfortunately, the whole team refuted this and as a result, a completely new transformed team was selected. This team represented the country and returned with a gold medal. Since then, every national netball team has had a number of black players named to it.

In 1999, she was appointed to lead NSA as the first black Netball President after a Commission of Enquiry into netball was held. Muditambi was tasked to turnaround netball, transform and position it to a business entity. She was then elected to World Netball as one of the Directors.

Muditambi used these positions to change the face of netball in South Africa, Southern Africa, and the continent of Africa. She strengthened the COSANA Games and hosted the first World Netball Board meeting on African soil during these Games in Durban. She initiated the formation of a Netball Association in Africa and started sending South African coaches to the rest of Africa to develop netball in the continent. That gave birth to the Confederation of African Netball Association (CANA) which today is called Africa Netball. And today the family of netball prides itself with the legacy which is a platform to help and nurture the skills and performance of the continent to the world of netball.

During her leadership, she invited world netball to conduct courses in Africa during the COSANA Games. These courses included Administration, Umpiring and Grading. Muditambi positioned NSA to be recognized by the top countries in the world of netball and hosted the first Tri-Nation series with South Africa, Australia and New Zealand in Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg and Pretoria. This was the first time Australia and New Zealand were playing together in a third country outside the World Cup event.

Muditambi served three terms as Netball South Africa's President and as a World Netball Board Member. She made netball a sport of choice, increased netball participation to 1.2 million active members, and brought sponsors into netball including the broadcast of netball championships and the national netball league. She purchased wooden sprung floors to host international events with teams such as England, Australia, and New Zealand. Muditambi served on the World Netball Marketing Committee which initiated a lot of training programmes with the University of Manchester. She attended all netball World Cups since 1999 to 2019 as well as the Fast Five Netball World Series in England and the Netball World Youth Cup in Botswana (2017) even at her own expense. Muditambi is still today a die-hard fan of netball, loyal supporter, and a passionate netballer.

Muditambi Ravele gave her outstanding and exceptional service to netball locally, nationally, regionally, and internationally. We thank her for her remarkable contribution to netball including mentoring future leaders in Netball.

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