

PROFESSOR FHOLISANI SYDNEY MUFAMADI

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

PROFESSOR SYDNEY MUFAMADI is a lifelong opponent of apartheid who commenced his political activism in his teens. He played a key role in the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the launch and maiden leadership of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) in 1985. He represented the African National Congress (ANC) at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) in which the constitutional framework for the new South Africa was negotiated and helped draft the National Peace Accord of 1991.

In 1994, he was one of the two youngest members of Cabinet at age 35. He was appointed the foundation Minister for Safety and Security in the post-apartheid republic. Subsequently (1999-2008), he was twice appointed Minister for Provincial and Local Government.

He has been involved in mediation in Mozambique, Lesotho, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe. In addition, he has served as Expert Advisor to the African Union High-Level Panel on Darfur.

He holds an MSc in State, Society and Development and a PhD in Political Studies from the University of London. His current research focuses on complex emergencies associated with insurgency and counter-insurgency campaigns in the Horn of Africa.

He is the Director of the Centre for Public Policy and African Studies at the University of Johannesburg School of Business. He is also a Professor of Mediation and Strategic Diplomacy at the same university.

He is a Visiting Professor at Nelson Mandela University and is currently seconded to the South African Government as National Security Advisor to the President.

SHORTENED BIO

Professor Sydney Mufamadi has dedicated his life to fighting against apartheid, advocating for change from a young age. He was critical in organisations such as the United Democratic Front and Congress of South African Trade Unions. In 1994, he became the foundation Minister for Safety and Security in the post-apartheid republic and served twice as the Minister for Provincial and Local Government. Professor Mufamadi's expertise has extended beyond South Africa, as he has mediated in various countries like Mozambique, Lesotho, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zimbabwe. He holds an MSc in State, Society and Development and a PhD in Political Studies from the University of London. His current research focuses on complex emergencies associated with insurgency and counter-insurgency campaigns in the Horn of Africa. He is the Director of the Centre for Public Policy and African Studies at the University of Johannesburg School of Business and is a Visiting Professor at Nelson Mandela University. Additionally, he currently serves as the National Security Advisor to the President of South Africa.