

Media Release

Retirement of FWC President

MELBOURNE, Monday 7 November 2022

After serving 10 years 8 months as President of the Fair Work Commission and over 25 years as a tribunal member/judicial officer, Justice Ross has written to the Governor General resigning his Commission as President of the Fair Work Commission and as a judge of the Federal Court, effective midnight Friday 18 November 2022.

In informing FWC Members and staff of his decision a short time ago, Justice Ross said:

'We have recently concluded the review of modern awards; ¹ our digitalisation strategy is on track and we are meeting or exceeding all of our performance targets ². Of course there is always more to be done. But at some point all things end. And for me, now is the right time.

We are in good shape as an institution and are well placed to successfully implement any legislative change determined by Parliament. Leaving now will mean that whoever is chosen as my successor will be fully involved in the implementation of those changes from the outset, rather than splitting that responsibility between myself and the next President. I think it is in the interests of the institution that there is continuity of leadership through the implementation of any legislative change.'

Justice Ross thanked the Commission Members and staff for their commitment and effort during another busy and productive year and wished them all the very best for the future.

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¹ [2022] FWCFB 189; [2022] FWCFB 177

² President's Performance Statement for first guarter of 2022-23