Acknowledgments

I owe a deep gratitude to the distinguished attorneys-general, ministers of justice, justices and registrars and senior court officials who participated in the meetings on final appellate and regional courts, spanning a period of four years. Their composite expertise and belief in the project of the Commonwealth Secretariat infused the discussions and findings with the utmost level of expertise and insight available. This is indeed most commendable. To all, I give my outmost thanks. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the delegations of the regional courts of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ); the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Supreme Courts of Canada, New Zealand, the Eastern Caribbean, Barbados and Jamaica; the High Court of Australia; and the Court of Appeal of Guyana. The use of the work emanating from the several meetings has made this text possible, along with the generous use of papers presented by these judges, registrars and senior officials.

The Commonwealth member states, national, regional and international courts, their chief justices and presidents respectively, who hosted the author and her colleagues during these years of meetings — we appreciated your unconditional hospitality and appetite for sharing in the quest for refinement of jurisprudence.

For the support granted at the Commonwealth Secretariat, heartfelt thanks to researchers of the Law Development Section, Ms Sardia Cenac, for the three years of invaluable assistance and to Ms Yelena Hewitt, whose summer help was timely. To the editor of the Commonwealth Law Bulletin, Dr Zammit-Borda, who took time to re-read this script; and many thanks as well for the reinforcement given by the consultant to the project, Justice Austin Davies (Ret.).

Finally to my children and supportive colleagues who always helped and encouraged me in my endeavours. God Bless.