

Profile of Gill Marcus



Gill Marcus was born in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1949. Both her parents were anti-apartheid activists and in 1969 the Marcus family went into exile in the United Kingdom. During this time she completed a B Comm degree from the University of South Africa.

She joined the African National Congress (ANC) and in 1970 Ms Marcus started working for the ANC's Department of Information and Publicity (DIP) and later became the DIP's deputy secretary.

In 1990 after the unbanning of the ANC, Ms Marcus returned to South Africa and established the ANC's Information Department. She was elected to the ANC's National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee and held these positions until 1999. In 1994 she was elected to Parliament and served as the first chairperson of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance.

In 1996 she was appointed as Deputy Minister of Finance and in 1999 as Deputy Governor of the South African Reserve Bank. After serving as the first female Deputy Governor of the South African Reserve Bank for a period of five years, she took up the position of Professor Policy, Leadership and Gender Studies at the Gordon Institute of Business Science in 2004.

In 2007 she became the non-executive Chairperson of the Absa Group. She held this position until her appointment as Governor of the South African Reserve Bank on 9 November 2009. Gill Marcus is the ninth Governor but the first female to become Governor of the South African Reserve Bank.

Ms Marcus has previously served as chairperson of a number of regulatory and supervisory bodies, including the Financial Services Board and the Standing Committee for the Revision of the Banks Act. She has also served as a non-executive director of Gold Fields Ltd, the Advisory Board of the Auditor General and was a member of the Millennium Labour Council.

Ms Marcus is currently the Chairperson of the Rhodes Scholarship Fund.

She is the patron of the Pretoria Sungardens Hospice and the Working on Fire Programme and a supporter of the Johannesburg Children's Home.