



**Twelfth ICC-ASP Bureau Meeting
9 September 2009
Agenda and Decisions**

The President of the Assembly, H.E. Mr. Christian Wenaweser (Liechtenstein), chaired the meeting

1. Review Conference

On the issue of the duration of the Review Conference, the Chairperson recalled that at its eleventh meeting, the Bureau confirmed its understanding that the Conference should start on 31 May 2010, but that divergent views were expressed in relation to the duration of the Conference with some members expressing preference for a total of 8 working days (6 plus 2) from Monday, 31 May to Tuesday, 8 June 2010, with Saturday, 5 June counting as a working day, while others preferred one week.

The Bureau agreed to defer consideration of this issue until after 30 September, upon expiry of the deadline for submission of proposals for amendments to the Rome Statute to be considered at the Conference.

2. Other matters

(a) Briefing by the President of the Court

The President of the Court, Judge Sang-Hyun Song, briefed the meeting on the issue of the Review Conference and on the latest developments concerning his office.

On the Review Conference, the President recognized that the Court cannot take any position concerning amendments to the Statute as this was the role of States but indicated that the Court has an interest in the success of the Review Conference. He expressed hope that the stock-taking exercise would include issues of cooperation, complementarity and State support; as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of the Court. He also encouraged States to involve victims and affected communities during the Conference. Furthermore, he stated that the Court was interested to hear what expectations the Assembly has of the Court - both in preparations leading to the Review Conference as well as at Kampala. In this regard he informed that the Court stands ready to provide its views if requested by the Assembly.

The Chairperson informed the President that the Assembly was interested in the Court's views and would consult the Court on relevant issues related to the Review Conference.

The President also referred to developments concerning his office, including Committee on Budget and Finance recommendations on staffing levels within the Presidency; the possible implications of a decision of the Assembly on family visits vis – à - vis the judicial independence of the Court; and consideration of ways to improve and enhance the governance structures of the Court. He further requested the Assembly to explore ways of expediting the procedures for filling judicial vacancies so as to avoid delays in the judicial work.

(b) Briefing by the Registrar

The Registrar of the Court, Ms. Silvana Arbia, briefed the Bureau on the work of her office during the past year. She provided an update on a number of issues including the status of contributions, human resources and recruitment procedures, the cases before the Court, victims and witnesses, defence counsel, outreach and public information.

(c) Judicial vacancies

The Chairperson informed the Bureau that, as at 9 September 2009, the Secretariat had received four nominations for the election to fill two judicial vacancies, i.e. from Argentina, Colombia, Guyana and Japan.

The representative of Estonia on behalf of the Eastern European States introduced a non-paper on the elections during the eighth session of the Assembly. She indicated that following the ratification of the Rome Statute by the Czech Republic on 21 July 2009, and in accordance with paragraph 27 (d) of resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6, the Eastern European Group will be underrepresented and thus entitled to nominate candidates at the upcoming elections. She requested that this be acknowledged, adding however that, in the spirit of cooperation, the Group will refrain from nominating candidates for the elections to be held at the eighth session of the Assembly.

The Bureau took note of the issues contained in the non-paper and (by a subsequent silence procedure) raised no objection to the request by the Eastern European Group that its right to nominate a candidate be acknowledged.

(d) Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims

As regards the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims, the Chairperson informed the Bureau that, as at 8 September 2009, the Secretariat had received two nominations for the election of the Board, i.e. from Kenya and Mongolia. Since no nominations had been received from the Group of Eastern European States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and Other States, the nomination period had been extended for a third time, until 22 September 2009.

* * *