

The Eighteenth Assembly of States Parties  
Plenary Session on  
Review of the Court  
4 December 2019, 11:30 – 12:30  
World Forum

Remarks of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

At the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to you, the Vice Presidents of the Assembly, and the Bureau for your excellent leadership and hard work regarding the review of the Court.

Although the Court has undeniably contributed to promoting the rule of law by holding the most serious criminals accountable, it is evident that it faces diverse challenges in this complex and sensitive environment. How we cope with these challenges in a timely manner is crucial to the future of the Court and international criminal justice. Identifying the issues is just the starting point of this process.

In this regard, my delegation highly appreciates the prompt initiative undertaken by the Presidency of the Assembly and the Bureau to prepare the terms of reference for the independent expert review of the Court, as well as the timely submission of the independent experts' list. We fully support the Presidency's work and hope these efforts will result in a productive and efficient review and provide constructive suggestions for the improvement of the Court.

The Republic of Korea supports the view that discussions on strengthening the Court and the Rome Statute system should mainly be State Parties-driven, though in close cooperation with the Court and related entities. Considering the limited resources and urgency of the matter, the prioritization of issues and the pursuit of efficiency are also imperative in the process of strengthening the Court.

Mr. President,

We believe that the ongoing process of dealing with the current challenges is an opportunity for the Court to open a new chapter as a mature and respected institution. The Republic of Korea wishes to give its full support to the ICC on its way forward.

Thank you, Mr. President. / End /