



Peter Lewis

Registrar of the International Criminal Court

Presentation of the Proposed Programme Budget for 2022

20th Session of the Assembly of States Parties

The Hague

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Your Excellency, President of the Assembly of States Parties,
Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,
Mr President,
Mr Prosecutor,

As you are aware, the Court proposed a budget for 2022 involving an increase over 2021 approved budget of **€14.13 million in 9.5 per cent.**

The budget proposal for 2022 was driven by

-) an increase in Judicial workload with a doubling of the trials from two to four and one of the new trials- Darfur, a case of real significance in trials of its size and complexity;
-) a change of leadership in the Court, in particular, a new Prosecutor with a clear compelling agenda to reform his office;
-) a recent history over several years of reductions in the capacity of the Court, leaving limited ability to deal with these new challenges.
-) and all this in the context of the unparalleled challenges faced in maintaining our business through COVID , where the Court, has demonstrated, resilience, initiative and maintained business continuity.

In preparing the budget, I would like to express my deep appreciation, to President, Piot Hofmański and Prosecutor, Karim Khan, for their vision, leadership and collective approach.

The collaborative approach to this budget, is a very good for the effective leadership of the Court in the years ahead.

The Court's budget proposal was then revised by the Committee of Budget and Finance and they proposed a reduced increase of 7.3 million or 4.9% against 2021 budget.

I would like to thank the **Committee on Budget and Finance and its Chair, Ambassador Werner Druml**, for the very careful consideration they gave to what is a very complex and detailed budget proposal.

While we were disappointed by the reduction, we were pleased that the committee did reconsider the need for additional capacity to support the increase in trials as well as supporting the plans of the Prosecutor including the reorganisation of his office.

Following the CBF report, the Court budget proposal has now been in the very capable hands of the budget facilitator Ambassador Frances Lanitou, of Cyprus.

I want to thank the Ambassador for taking on this tedious task and for her amazing resilience, energy and good humour. This has been the most difficult budget negotiations I have witnessed and the fact that we are still all talking to each other is a great tribute to her.

I also want to thank the state Parties for the way in which they have engaged with us particularly over these last few weeks, in particular their willingness to understand our concerns and receive additional papers from us have been much appreciated.

Thank you.