

**20<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute  
of the International Criminal Court**

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Statement by H. E. Mr. Martin Smolek, Deputy Minister for Legal and  
Consular Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

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Madam President,

The Czech Republic fully supports the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and wishes to add a few remarks in its national capacity.

Since the last year, a lot has changed. Turning to the ICC organization itself, let me congratulate to new prosecutor Mr. Karim Khan on assuming his function half a year ago. We wish to confirm that the Office of the Prosecutor can count on the Czech Republic's support. We also congratulate the new President of the Court, Judge Piotr Hofmański, upon his election, and the new President of the Assembly, Ms. Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi.

Madam President,

The ICC has proven itself a successful organization, enjoying a broad support of States and prepared to engage in the follow up of the review process. We are ready to continue to engage actively in its governance as a current Bureau member.

Without any doubts, the core functions of the Court are those of judicial nature. We are pleased to see that even in times of pandemic, the Court continued to deal with and even increased its workload. We fully recognize the link to adequate financial resources, and we are ready to pay our contribution immediately, as every year. We call on all State Parties to do the same.

Finally, let me mention that the Czech Republic will financially contribute to the Trust Fund for Victims also this year.

Thank you.