

PREFACE

On occasion of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute, which coincided with the fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Statute, States Parties and civil society gathered to celebrate the landmark event at United Nations Headquarters, where a substantial part of the negotiations on the draft Statute took place, and to reflect on the means to assist the Court in fulfilling its mandate.

In the decade since its adoption, the Statute had entered into force earlier than anyone had expected, giving rise to numerous challenges inherent to setting up a novel institution. After overcoming the legal, logistical and administrative hurdles of its start-up phase, the Court has become operational and is dealing with several situations and investigations, as well as judicial proceedings. The dynamic activities of the Court have been the result of referrals by States as well as by the United Nations Security Council.

Although the Court has yet to complete a full cycle of investigation and trial, its support among the international community has continued to be reinforced, as evidenced by the accession of two additional States in July 2008, which has brought the total number of States Parties to 108.

The organizers of this celebratory event, the Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the United Nations and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, hope that the dissemination of this publication contributes to increasing the awareness of and support for the Court.

Ambassador

Christian Wenaweser

Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the United Nations

October 2008