



Note No. 135/2008

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties and has the honour to refer to the latter's note No. ICC-ASP/7/S/PA/21 regarding the Secretariat's request for information relevant to promotion of the ratification and full implementation of the Rome Statute.

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations has the honour to inform the Secretariat, in accordance with the plan of action, that Australia has sought to promote accession to the Rome Statute within the Asia-Pacific region through a number of measures. In particular, Australia has actively supported efforts through the Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network to encourage Pacific Islands countries to accede to the Rome Statute, and has continued to promote awareness of the Statute among key officials from those countries. Australia has also taken opportunities to encourage certain countries in the Asia-Pacific region to consider acceding to the Rome Statute.

Australia has been working closely with a number of countries in the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen key aspects of their criminal justice systems and increase their capacity to engage in international crime cooperation, particularly through improved mechanisms for the surrender of fugitives and the provision of mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. This technical assistance has not focussed on measures relating specifically to the International Criminal Court. However, the strengthening of key frameworks for international cooperation will ensure countries within the Asia-Pacific region are in a better position to effectively implement, and meet their obligations, under the Rome Statute in the near future.

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations has the further honour to advise the Secretariat that Australia will continue to promote the ratification and full implementation of the Rome Statute, particularly within the Asia-Pacific region.

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the the Assembly of States Parties the assurances of its highest consideration.



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