



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Ninth meeting

23 March 2012

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Tiina Intelmann (Estonia).

1. Legal aid

The President recalled the mandate of the Assembly set out in resolution ICC-ASP/10/Res.4, as well as the 28 February request of the Bureau that The Hague Working Group conclude its discussions by mid-March at the latest, so as to allow the Bureau to adopt a decision in order to allow for the implementation of the revised legal aid scheme by 1 April 2012, in accordance with this resolution.

The Vice-President of the Assembly, Ambassador Markus Börlin (Switzerland) introduced the report of The Hague Working Group on legal aid, dated 21 March 2012, adopted by the Working Group at its second meeting, on 21 March 2012, after six rounds of intensive consultations. Furthermore, he recalled that the Working Group had received a large number of communications from bar associations and civil society, which had been considered during the informal consultations, and that stakeholders had twice been given the opportunity to raise their concerns and submit comments to the Working Group, and that some of those points had been included in the draft report of the Working Group. He indicated that the draft report had been made available to stakeholders prior to its adoption.

The Bureau adopted the report of The Hague Working Group on legal aid, and requested the Secretariat to convey the decision of the Bureau set out in the annex thereto to the Court, so that the Court could proceed to implement it as of 1 April 2012, in accordance with resolution ICC-ASP/10/Res.4.

Furthermore, the Bureau took note of the Registry's background note entitled "Assistance of States regarding the identification, tracing and seizure of property and their assets", dated 24 February 2012, and also noted that the note would be considered under the topic of cooperation. It was stated in this regard that enhancing cooperation by States with the Court would lead to increased efficiencies and reduced costs.

The President recalled that it was the responsibility of States to ensure cooperation with the Court, and indicated that the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute would be an ideal opportunity to highlight the need for such cooperation. Furthermore, the increasing number of situations and cases required increased cooperation by States, as well as different forms of cooperation.

2. Contingency Fund

The Bureau took note of the Registrar's 14 March 2012 detailed supplementary budget notification, addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance, in the amount of €417,800, to cover unavoidable costs in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo* and awaited the response of the Chair of the Committee to the Registrar.

3. Other matters

Venue of Bureau meeting

The Bureau members expressed their appreciation for the opportunity of having the Bureau meeting in The Hague.

Next Bureau meeting

The next Bureau meeting would be tentatively scheduled for 10 April 2012.
