



## BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

### First meeting

New York

1 April 2016

### Agenda and decisions

*The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, H.E. Mr. Sidiki Kaba (Senegal)*

#### **1. Election of one member of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims**

Pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/14/Res.4, annex III, and in the absence of a consensus candidate, the Bureau proceeded with an election by a secret ballot to fill the fifth member of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims the Eastern European group.

The election by the Bureau was conducted in three rounds. In the third round, 17 ballots were cast, of which none was invalid and 17 were valid; the number of States Parties voting was 17 and the required two-thirds majority was 12. Ms. Alma Taso Deljković (Bosnia and Herzegovina) obtained the highest number of votes (12) and a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting. The term of office of the member elected shall run concurrently with the term of the office of the other members of the Board and thus end on 30 November 2018.

#### **2. Activities of the President**

The President informed the Bureau of his continual efforts to maintain a dialogue with the highest authorities of several countries in Africa, in order to raise awareness about the Court and its role in the fight against impunity for mass crimes. The President held bilateral meetings during the high-level conference on the Syrian crisis on 4 February 2016 in London.

The President also informed that on the important theme of strengthening the relations between Africa and the Court, his office had delivered a message on his behalf at a seminar on the future of international criminal justice in Africa organized in Addis Abeba on 17 March 2016 by the Institute for Peace Studies.

The President also intends to convene in April a meeting of African judges regarding training on and implementation of international standards of international criminal justice. He also intends to organize another seminar for journalists to present a lexicon on justice and to increase their understanding of the Rome Statute and the functioning of the Court.

The President also indicated that he would hold meetings in The Hague where he will be present for the inauguration of the Court's permanent premises on 19 April 2016. He also intends to visit several countries to promote the values of the Rome Statute and to request the support of States

for the Court through an excellent cooperation; his consultations will also encompass the topics of universality and complementarity.

### **3. Activities of the United Nations Security Council**

The United Kingdom, recalling letter S/2016/173, from the Acting Chairperson of the African Union Commission to the President of the Security Council, informed the Bureau that the Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on ICC of the African Union wishes to engage with the Security Council on all concerns of the African Union in its relationship with the ICC, and to discuss the withdrawal of the referral case in Sudan as well as suspension of proceedings against Mr. William Samoei Ruto of Kenya until African proposals at the ICC are considered. Under the chairmanship of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, the members of the Ministerial Committee requested a meeting with the Security Council.

On 23 March 2016, Spain had raised the letter as an any other business item in the Security Council and had proposed that the Council should respond in a positive manner to the request for a meeting. There was no objection to this proposal.

### **4. Other matters**

#### *a) Provisional amendment to rule 165 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence*

The Bureau recalled the letter dated 29 February 2016 from Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi addressed to the President of the Assembly, regarding the adoption of the provisional amendments to rule 165 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence by the judges of the Court, as well as the “Report on the Adoption by the Judges of Provisional amendments to Rule 165 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.” The provisional amendments were adopted pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 51 of the Rome Statute by the judges and will “apply until adopted, amended or rejected at the next ordinary or special session of the Assembly of States Parties”.

The Bureau decided that the provisional amendments shall be discussed in the framework of the Study Group on Governance in The Hague and then continue to be discussed in the Working Group on Amendments in New York. That process would allow States Parties to prepare themselves better for consideration of the amendments at the fifteenth session of the Assembly.

#### *b) Depositary notification by the United Nations Secretary General: amendment to article 124 of the Rome Statute*

The Bureau took note of the depositary notification by the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the amendment to article 124 of the Rome Statute, C.N.7.2016 TREATIES XVIII.10.

#### *c) Bureau decisions adopted via silence procedure*

The Bureau also decided to recall the decisions on several appointments it had taken via silence procedure in 2016 (see annexes).

## **Annex I**

On 24 February and 10 March 2016, the Bureau appointed via silence procedure the following facilitators, focal points, as well as the Chairpersons of the Study Group on Governance and the Working Group on Amendments:

### **The Hague Working Group**

#### *Budget*

Ambassador Werner Druml (Austria)

#### *Cooperation*

Ambassador Maymouna Diop Sy (Senegal) and Ambassador Jan Lucas van Hoorn (Netherlands)

#### *Strategic planning process of the International Criminal Court*

Ambassador Enrique Eduardo Rodríguez Veltze (Bolivia)

#### *Study Group on Governance*

Chairpersons - Ambassador María Teresa de Jesus Infante Caffi (Chile) and Ambassador Masaru Tsuji (Japan)

*-Focal point for Cluster I (Increasing the efficiency of the criminal process)*

Ms. Marisa MacPherson (New Zealand)

*-Co-focal points for Cluster II (Governance and budgetary process)*

Mr. Reinhard Hassenpflug (Germany) and Ms. Lourdes Suinaga (Mexico)

### **New York Working Group**

#### *Arrears*

Mr. Sebastian Rogač (Croatia)

#### *Geographical representation and gender balance in the recruitment of staff of the Court*

Ms. Georgina Guillén Grillo (Costa Rica) and Mr. Patrick Luna (Brazil)

#### *Omnibus resolution*

Ms. Damaris Carnal (Switzerland)

#### *Review of the procedures for the nomination and election of judges*

Mr. Stefan Barriga (Liechtenstein)

### **Mandates assigned to ad country focal points**

#### *Complementarity*

Botswana and Sweden

*Plan of action for achieving universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute* Cyprus and Denmark

*Pledging ceremony on the ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court*

Belgium

*Non-cooperation (regional focal points)*

Senegal, on behalf of the President of the Assembly (African group); Japan (Asia-Pacific group); Czech Republic (Eastern European group); Peru (Group of Latin American and Caribbean States); and Australia (Western European and other States group)

**Working Group on Amendments** (10 March 2016)

Chairperson - Ambassador May-Elin Stener (Norway)

**Annex II**

**Oversight Committee on the permanent premises<sup>1</sup>**

On 22 January and 22 February 2016, the Bureau appointed via silence procedure the following members of the Oversight Committee on the permanent premises:

Ecuador (22 January)

Canada and Norway (22 February)

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<sup>1</sup> These appointments were made pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/14/Res.5, para. 73. The term for the members appointed via silence procedure would end on the same date as the members which had been elected at the fourteenth session of the Assembly.