

Statement of qualifications

Statement submitted in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4 (a), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court relating to the procedure for the nomination and election of judges of the International Criminal Court.

(a) Judge Mohamed Shahabuddeen, the Guyanese candidate for judge of the Court, is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity, who possesses the qualifications required in Guyana for appointment to the highest judicial offices.

(b) (i) Judge Shahabuddeen is one of the prominent legal experts in Guyana and a qualified lawyer from a common law legal system, having several decades of standing at the Bar of Guyana. He has served as a Counsel, Magistrate, Crown Counsel, Solicitor General (1962 - 1973) with the rank of a Justice of Appeal and Attorney General (1973 - 1987). From 1978 to 1987, Judge Shahabuddeen served as Minister of Legal Affairs and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and has also held the position of First Deputy Prime Minister and Vice-President within the Government of Guyana. Judge Shahabuddeen also has extensive international legal experience, having served as a judge at the International Court of Justice, (1988 - 1997) and currently sitting as judge on the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and in the Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal for Rwanda. In recognition of his vast legal experience and suitability in accordance with the stipulations of article 36, paragraph 4 (a) (i), of the Rome Statute, the Government of Guyana has decided to nominate Judge Mohamed Shahabuddeen as a judge of the Court.

(b) (ii) Judge Shahabuddeen is nominated as Guyana's candidate for judge of the Court for inclusion in list B, in accordance with article 36, paragraph 5, of the Rome Statute.

By virtue of his distinguished service as a judge of the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (1997 to the present, and twice as Vice-President of that Tribunal) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in the Appeals Chamber, Judge Shahabuddeen has developed considerable experience and expertise in relevant areas of international law pertinent to the judicial work of the Court, such as international humanitarian law, human rights law and law pertaining to violence against women and children. He is an ardent advocate of the rule of law and respect for human rights.

(c) Judge Shahabuddeen is fluent in English, which is his mother tongue.

(d) The information relating to article 36, paragraph 8 (a), of the Rome Statute is as follows:

- (i) Judge Shahabuddeen is qualified for appointment to the highest judicial offices in Guyana.
- (ii) Judge Shahabuddeen is a national of Guyana, which is a member of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.
- (iii) Judge Shahabuddeen is male.

(e) Judge Shahabuddeen is a national of Guyana and does not possess the nationality of any other State.