

Adsett, Hugh

Note verbale

[original: English]

The Embassy of Canada to the Netherlands presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and has the honour, with reference to the Secretariat's note ICC-ASP/13/SP/07 of 18 March 2014, to inform that the Government of Canada has decided to present the candidature of Mr. Hugh Adsett for election to the Committee on Budget and Finance of the International Criminal Court at the election to be held during the thirteenth session of the Assembly of States Parties in New York in December 2014.

Mr. Adsett has in-depth experience relating to the finances and management of international judicial institutions. Mr. Adsett was first elected to the Committee on Budget and Finance in 2011 for the term from 21 April 2012 to 20 April 2015. He was Chair of the Management Committee of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (2005-2008) and, as such, was responsible for ensuring the Management Committee, composed of representatives of several United Nations member states, was able to carry out its responsibility for ensuring the effective and efficient management of the Court, in particular by providing detailed review and oversight of the Court's budget, providing timely review of proposals to enhance efficiencies, leading annual visits to the Court, facilitating contact and relationships between the Court and United Nations member states in New York, and maintaining ongoing outreach to United Nations member states on behalf of the Management Committee. Prior to being Chair, Mr. Adsett was a member of the Management Committee of the Special Court for Sierra Leone from 2004-2005.

Mr. Adsett is currently the Director General of the Legal Affairs Bureau and Deputy Legal Adviser of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development. In addition to providing advice, support and advocacy on a wide range of public international law matters, including those related to international criminal tribunals, he is also responsible for managing a team of 42 lawyers, paralegals and support staff, and managing the bureau's budget and staffing.

From 2004 to 2008, Mr. Adsett was the Legal, Economic and Social Affairs Counsellor at Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York. In this capacity, he was Canada's representative on the Sixth (Legal) Committee. He was also a member of Canada's delegation to the Assembly of States Parties for its fourth, fifth and sixth sessions.

Mr. Adsett's broad knowledge of the International Criminal Court and international criminal law, as well as his relevant experience as the Chair of the SCSL Management Committee, would be important assets for the Committee on Budget and Finance as it reviews and examines the budget, human resources and other infrastructure requirements of the Court. His significant knowledge and experience with the budgetary issues of international judicial institutions attest to his fulfilment of the requirement, set forth in paragraph 2 of the annex to the resolution establishing the Committee on Budget and Finance (ICC-ASP/1/Res.4), that members of the Committee are experts of recognized standing and have experience in financial matters at the international level.

A detailed statement of Mr. Adsett's qualifications is attached to this note.
