

Kozaki, Hitoshi (Japan)

[Original: English]

Note verbale

The Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of the Netherlands presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and, with reference to the Secretariat's note ICC-ASP/16/SP/08, has the honour to inform the latter that the Government of Japan has decided to nominate **Mr. Hitoshi Kozaki** as a candidate for member of the Committee on Budget and Finance (the Committee) for the term 2018-2021 at the elections to be held during the sixteenth session of the Assembly of States Parties scheduled to be held in New York from 4 to 14 December 2017.

Mr. Kozaki, who currently serves as Chairperson of the Committee, has extensive experience and recognized standing in financial matters at the international level. From August 2003 through October 2007, he served as Japan's representative to the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, where he demonstrated expertise and leadership in the international negotiations on United Nations management reform, regular budget and budgets for peacekeeping operations, human resources management and other related issues. Subsequently he joined the United Nations Department of Field Support (DFS) as Senior Programme Management Officer till February 2011 to coordinate interdepartmental and intergovernmental processes within the Office of the Under Secretary-General for DFS, and to formulate budgets of the United Nations Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions. In 2012, he was selected as a member of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on behalf of the United Nations General Assembly, where he served as Rapporteur of the Board in 2012 and a member of the Budget Working Group in 2013 and 2017. Mr. Kozaki has been serving as member of the Committee since April 2015, being elected to the Committee's Vice Chairperson in 2016 and then to Chairperson in April 2017.

Such experience and expertise, as outlined in Mr. Kozaki's curriculum vitae attached herewith, attest to his fulfillment 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 be experts of recognized standing and experience in financial matters at the international level.

Japan has consistently supported the activities of the International Criminal Court since its establishment, and having formally become a State Party to the Rome Statute on 1 October 2007 and consistently being the largest contributor to the Court's budget, intends to remain a strong supporter of the Court. The decision of the Government of Japan to present the candidature of Mr. Kozaki for re-election

to the Committee on Budget and Finance reflects its firm commitment to continue exerting its utmost efforts to facilitate the activities of the Court. The Government of Japan is fully confident that the candidate possesses the necessary experience, expertise and knowledge in financial and budgetary affairs, as well as recognized standing at the international level, to make a strong contribution to the important work of the Committee.
