

Statement of qualifications

Statement submitted in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6 of the Assembly of States Parties relating to the procedure for the nomination and election of judges to the International Criminal Court

The Government of the Netherlands has decided to nominate Mrs. Wilhelmina Thomassen, currently Justice of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands, for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court at the elections to be held during the first resumption of the seventh session of the Assembly of States Parties scheduled for 19 to 23 January 2009 in New York.

The nomination of Mrs. Thomassen as a list A candidate is in accordance with article 36, paragraph 3 (b) (i) and paragraph 5, of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Mrs. Thomassen, whose curriculum vitae is attached in English, French and Spanish, is an experienced judge, versed in criminal law, as stipulated by article 36, paragraph 3 (b) (i). She started her career as a defence lawyer (1975 - 1986). Subsequently, she became a judge at the The Hague District Court (1986 - 1991) and later a justice of the Court of Appeal of The Hague (1994 - 1997). In both courts she was appointed Vice-President. Since 2004 she has been a member of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands.

In her extensive career as a judge, Mrs. Thomassen heard numerous complex criminal cases. In many of them she was a presiding judge and for several years she was an investigating judge in cases involving organized crime. She therefore has acquired a large experience in criminal law and criminal procedural law.

Mrs. Thomassen has also established an international track record, among others as a judge of the European Court of Human Rights (1998 - 2004). Her international experience led to her appointment in 2006 as professor of international human rights law at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Besides criminal law and international human rights law, Mrs. Thomassen has always taken an active interest in family and juvenile law, more specifically in the situation of women and children. She has been a children's magistrate for three years, dealing with cases concerning child protection. As a defence lawyer and as a judge she has been involved in cases concerning violence against women.

With a long-standing career as a judge, Mrs. Thomassen fulfils all the conditions of character, impartiality and integrity required for appointment to the highest judicial offices as stipulated by article 36, paragraph 3 (a), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Mrs. Thomassen is fluent in French and English, and therefore meets the criteria set out in article 36, paragraph 3 (c), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Mrs. Thomassen is of Dutch nationality.