

**PRESS RELEASE**

No.: ASP2004.005-EN

8 September 2004

**STATES PARTIES TO INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT ELECT  
MS. FATOU BENSOU DA OF THE GAMBIA  
DEPUTY PROSECUTOR (PROSECUTIONS)**

The Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) today elected Ms. Fatou Bensouda of the Gambia to the office of Deputy Prosecutor (Prosecutions).

Before her election by an absolute majority (58 of the 78 votes cast) in the first and only round of a secret ballot, the Assembly decided that the term of office of the Deputy would be nine years, starting on 1 November 2004. The term of the Prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo of Argentina, who took up his post on 16 June 2003, is nine years.

The new Deputy Prosecutor (Prosecutions) was selected from an initial group of three candidates submitted by the Prosecutor to the States Parties on 15 July 2004. The other candidates in today's election were Ms. Nicola Crutchley of New Zealand and Mr. Josaia Naigulevu of Fiji.

As Deputy Prosecutor (Prosecutions), Ms. Fatou Bensouda will be responsible for the management, supervision and direction of the Prosecution Division of the Office of the Prosecutor, which consists of a Prosecution Section and an Appeals Section. She will report directly to the Prosecutor.

Ms. Fatou Bensouda has worked as a lawyer, a prosecutor, and a government Minister in the Republic of the Gambia. She began her career as a Public Prosecutor in 1987 and rose successively to the offices of Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Solicitor General, Attorney General and Secretary of State (Minister) for Justice of her country. In May 2002, she took up the post of Legal Adviser and Trial Attorney at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. She was the manager of a leading commercial bank and a delegate of the Gambia to the meetings of the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court in New York in 1999.

Ms. Bensouda will report to the Prosecutor Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo (Argentina) and will work in close cooperation with Mr. Serge Brammertz (Belgium), Deputy Prosecutor (Investigations).

\* \* \* \* \*

Contacts for the press:

For information on the third session of the ASP please contact:

Ms. Claudia Perdomo

Mobile: + 31 (0)625221177

For information on the International Criminal Court:

Ms. Sonia Robla

Telephone: +31 (0)70 515-8089

Mobile: +31 (0)646166013

For information on the ICC Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. Christian Palme

Telephone: +31 (0)70 515-8487

Mobile: +31 (0) 646163997