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The Embassy of Australia 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 to refer to its note ICC-ASP/4/S/2 dated 14 March 2005 which invited States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to nominate candidates for six seats on the Committee on Budget and Finance of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court which will become vacant on 20 April 2006 following the expiration of the terms of office of six incumbents.

The Embassy of Australia has the further honour to advise that Australia has decided to present the candidature of Dr. David Dutton for re-election to the Committee on Budget and Finance.

Pursuant to paragraph 2 of the annex to the resolution establishing the Committee on Budget and Finance (ICC-ASP/1/Res.4), the Embassy of Australia is pleased to advise that Dr. Dutton is an expert of recognised standing and experience in financial matters at the international level.

Dr. Dutton has served as a member of the Committee on Budget and Finance since his election at the First Session (Resumed) of the Assembly of States Parties on 21 April 2003 and has demonstrated expertise in the financial affairs of the International Criminal Court. In this capacity, Dr. Dutton has regularly served as rapporteur of the Committee on Budget and Finance and has been closely involved in the Committee's work in providing management oversight to the Presidency, the Prosecutor and the Registrar regarding the administration of the Court and considering and deciding the budget for the Court. As a member of the Committee on Budget and Finance, Dr. Dutton has reviewed and made recommendations to the Assembly of States Parties in respect of proposed programme budgets for the Court and on a range of other administrative issues.

Dr. Dutton has recently served as Australia's delegate to the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations and has demonstrated expertise in the financial affairs of the United Nations, including the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the Former Yugoslavia. In that role, Dr. Dutton reviewed and made recommendations concerning proposed programme budgets for the United Nations and reviewed reports concerning its financial operations.

A curriculum vitae presenting Dr. Dutton's qualifications for re-election as a member of the Committee on Budget and Finance is attached to this note.

Australia remains a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court and is therefore pleased to present in Dr. Dutton a particularly strong and well qualified candidate for the Committee on Budget and Finance. Australia is confident that the re-election of Dr. Dutton would facilitate the work of the Committee on Budget and Finance in providing independent and expert advice in budgetary and finance matters to the Assembly of States Parties and the organs of the International Criminal Court.

The Embassy of Australia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court the assurances of its highest consideration.

THE HAGUE  
7 October 2005