

## VIII Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court Intervention by Mr. Kula Segaran, Member of Parliament of Malaysia

## 14 December 2011 New York, UN Headquarters

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a Malaysian Parliamentarian, it is an honour to address you on behalf of Parliamentarians for Global Action, a global network of individual legislators committed to ensuring the universality of the Rome Statute and its effective implementation.

At the outset, PGA is delighted to pay a tribute to the individuals that participate for the last time as elected officials of the ICC system.

Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo – also on behalf of my colleagues from the PGA DRC Group who could not be present this week due to prevailing situation of insecurity in Kinshasa - we deeply appreciate your considerable efforts to maximise the preventative impact of the Court throughout your term in office. Prevention is the ultimate objective of the Rome Statute system and your concerted efforts on this front represent a legacy of which you can be justifiably proud. Allow us to urge you and all States attending this Assembly to utilise your best capabilities to help prevent an escalation of post-electoral violence in the DRC that might, once again, affect the lives and dignity of the civilian population.

President of the ICC, Judge Song, Outgoing President and Vice-President of this Assembly, Amb. Christian Wenaweser and Amb. Jorge Lomonaco – PGA has greatly appreciated the cooperation received from your offices, which has in turn contributed, at least in part, to the 6 ratifications of the Rome Statute that have taken place this year. The ICC jurisdictional system now protects over 115 million people living in these new States Parties from the scourge of international crimes.

PGA takes this opportunity to pledge to continue our 13 years of work to ensure the <u>universality of the Rome Statute</u>. In particular, I hope that my country, Malaysia, as well as Indonesia, Nepal, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, El Salvador, Jamaica and Bahamas will join this vital system of global justice in the near future.

Pending full attainment of universality, however, we call upon UN Member States to ensure that all the most serious situations where 'Rome Statute' crimes are believed to have occurred are referred to the ICC with appropriate provision to support such cases. Above all else, impunity is a threat to peace — our fight to prevent it must be unceasing and unrelenting. Without true universality, the shadow of selectivity will also always hang over us like a Damoclean sword.