



EMBASSY OF FINLAND
The Hague

HAA7W0009-87

VERBAL NOTE

The Embassy of Finland presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties of International Criminal Court and has the honor to refer to its note no. ICC-ASP/12/S/008 dated 13 February 2013, containing a request to convey information referred to in paragraph 6 subparagraph h, of the Plan of Action of the International Criminal Court, and in recommendations 1 through 5 of the Plan of Action contained in Annex I to the resolution ICC-ASP/6/Res.2, as well as implementing legislation questionnaire prepared by the Court.

As concerns the information relating to the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute by Finland, the Embassy wishes to refer to the earlier responses to corresponding requests by the Secretariat in 2007-2009 and in 2011-2012.

As noted in its earlier responses, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland has a separate fund for providing financial assistance to projects related to the fight against impunity. During the past 12 months, the fund has been used, inter alia, for sponsoring various ICC and ASP projects and funds. These include such as the Legal Tools project and the Internship and Visiting Professionals Programme. Finland also supported the ICC Trial Competition in 2013. Finland has also contributed to the Trust fund For Victims and the LDC Fund. Finland has also supported other institutions that strengthen directly or indirectly the universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute, such as the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC).

Finland is currently in the process of preparing the ratification of the amendments (crime of aggression and the amendment to war crimes) to the Rome Statute adopted in Kampala in 2010. An expert level working group is currently preparing the government proposal for the Parliament. The proposal is expected to be finalized, and presented to the Parliament during 2014.

The ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda visited Helsinki, Finland on 27 - 28 November 2012 at the invitation of Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja. Prosecutor Bensouda was the main speaker at the seminar organized related to the decade-long history of the ICC, organized under the title "Peace and Justice: Reflections from the ICC Prosecutor". The seminar was arranged by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Eric Castrén Institute of International Law and Human Rights of the University of Helsinki.

Finland has also taken action to promote universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute through European Union's plan of action. In this regards the Embassy wishes to refer to the information



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submitted on behalf of the European Union.

The Embassy of Finland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties of International Criminal Court the assurance of its highest consideration.

2 October 2013



Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties
International Criminal Court