



**Plenary session on cooperation of the eighteenth session of the Assembly of States Parties
5 December 2019
Concept Note**

Inter-state and inter-institutional cooperation at the heart of cooperation issues

The work programme of the co-facilitators, in accordance with the mandate set out in the resolution on cooperation as well as in the omnibus resolution, identified the following priorities for 2019: arrests; follow-up to the Paris Declaration on financial investigations and asset recovery, as well as voluntary agreements. These are the priority themes for cooperation identified by the facilitation, in coordination with the Court, with a view primarily to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation and assistance provided by States Parties, other States (i.e. non-State Parties) and other stakeholders to enable the Court to fulfil its mandate as set out in the Rome Statute.

For the plenary meeting on cooperation of the eighteenth session of the Assembly of States Parties, the co-facilitators, in accordance with their desire to adopt a concrete and pragmatic approach, chose to address the challenges of cooperation from the perspective of good experiences of inter-state or inter-institutional cooperation.

Following the keynote interventions of high-level speakers from States Parties to the Rome Statute who will clarify the State perspective on the importance of cooperation with the ICC in general, two speakers will present concrete examples of inter-State or regional cooperation to strengthen the capacity of States Parties to investigate, prosecute and try crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the Court and thereby enhance their ability to cooperate with the Court.

Segment I: Examples of inter-State and regional cooperation initiatives for the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Court

The objective of this first segment is to highlight examples of concrete and successful cooperation initiatives implemented by States. This segment will be an opportunity to focus on/ inform on regional initiatives adopted in different geographical areas regions but also of different types: judicial cooperation, professionalization of judicial systems.

Segment II: Court's priorities and challenges in terms of cooperation

The second segment of the plenary session will allow the Court to take stock of current priorities and challenges in cooperation, including those relating to voluntary cooperation and arrests. This segment also provides an opportunity for a State Party, on the verge of signing an agreement with the Court, to share a positive example of national experience in voluntary cooperation.

At the end of the presentations by the various speakers, the States Parties will be able to express their views on this subject or on cooperation more generally, and share the progress made at the national level, where appropriate, in relations with the possibility of signing voluntary agreements with the Court. Observers and civil society representatives may also intervene.

Format (2 hours total):

Participants will be able to register on a list in order to be able to intervene at the end of the second segment.¹ Speakers are requested to limit their interventions to a maximum of three minutes.

The co-facilitators for cooperation would like to express their appreciation to the European Commission for the financial support provided for this event.

¹ Requests for inscription should be sent to the Secretariat by 3 December 2019 at: iccaspcoperation@gmail.com