



**BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES**

**Tenth meeting**

3 October 2013

Agenda and Decisions

*The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Tiina Intelmann (Estonia).*

**1. Preparations for the twelfth session**

*a) Debate*

The Bureau was informed that, through consultations, Bureau members had reached an agreement about the inclusion of a general debate on the agenda of the twelfth session. The Bureau requested the President to send a letter to all States Parties suggesting possible topics which could be covered during a general debate, including, inter alia, complementarity. The agenda item would be listed as “General debate.”

In her letter, the President would also recall the possibility for States to participate in the general debate by making written submissions, which would be posted on the website of the Assembly, as was the case last year. She would further invite States in a position to do so to submit written statements only.

*b) Provisional agenda*

The Bureau approved the provisional agenda, dated 30 September 2013.

*c) Work programme for the twelfth session*

The President informed the Bureau that Mr. Abdou Diouf, Secretary-General of l’Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, and Ms. Navi Pillay, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, will address the Assembly.

The Bureau approved the provisional work programme, dated 1 October 2013, on the understanding that it would be subject to modification depending on the progress on different agenda items during the session of the Assembly.

The Bureau recommended that the Assembly, in accordance with rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties and with previous Assembly decisions, request speakers in the debate to observe a time limit of five minutes.

It was further agreed that the general debate would be held on 21 November 2013, in the morning and afternoon sessions, as well as during the lunch break and evening if necessary, in order to complete the list of speakers in the allotted time, i.e. one day, on the understanding that interpretation would be provided throughout. The list of speakers would be

opened on Monday, 21 October 2013 (Central European Time). The Bureau requested the Secretariat to indicate the time limit of five minutes for statements in the debate.

The Bureau also recommended that the Assembly, in accordance with rules 92 and 93 of the Rules of Procedure, respectively, and previous decisions, allocate 45 minutes for the participation of observers in the debate, and that a period of 45 minutes be allocated to the non-governmental organizations for the delivery of statements at the end of the debate.

## **2. Reports of the Bureau Working Groups**

The President noted that a meeting of The Hague Working Group would take place on 10 October 2013 to consider the reports to the Bureau. In light of this, the President requested that Bureau members take time to review the reports and provide any input prior to their adoption.

Members suggested that there was also the possibility for oral reports in lieu of written reports to be included in the oral report of the Bureau to the Assembly. Additionally, in the context of improving the working methods, it was considered reasonable to reflect the references to the inclusion of separate agenda items for future Assembly sessions in the omnibus resolution.

## **3. Quarterly report of the Independent Oversight Mechanism**

The Bureau took note of the third quarterly report of the Independent Oversight Mechanism (IOM), covering the period July to September 2013.

## **4. Other matters**

### *a) Recent developments*

The President updated the Bureau on recent activities, noting a number of bilateral meetings conducted during the high-level week of the sixty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly. Additionally, the President recalled her 20 September 2013 letter to the Chairperson of the African Union and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, indicating, inter alia, that the Assembly provided the opportunity to have political discussions of issues concerning the Rome Statute, and was also a place where decisions within the mandate of the Assembly, including the legal framework, are taken. She had expressed the hope that any meetings of the African Union or of African States Parties prior to the upcoming twelfth session, which would open on 20 November 2013, would focus on consolidating suggestions to be presented to all States Parties.

The President shared that the African Union would convene an Extraordinary Summit on 11 and 12 October, dedicated to reflection on the relationship between Africa and the ICC. In light of this, she expressed the hope that States Parties would signal their willingness to engage and create space for a political discussion among States Parties. Members agreed on the necessity for dialogue. Some members of the Bureau encouraged the President to consider further engagement in Addis Ababa.

The next Bureau meeting would take place on 15 October 2013, in The Hague, with a subsequent meeting in early November, in New York.