



Tenth ICC-ASP Bureau Meeting

10 April 2012

Agenda and Decisions

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

1. Working Groups: Appointment of facilitators

Further to the appointment of facilitators for the mandates assigned to the Working Groups at its sixth and seventh meetings, the Bureau appointed the facilitators for the following topics:

New York Working Group

Geographical representation and gender balance in the recruitment of staff of the Court: Ms. Gina Guillén Grillo (Costa Rica)

Plan of Action for achieving the universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute: Ms. Anca Cristina Mezdrea (Romania)

The Hague Working Group

Reparations: Ambassador Mohamed Karim Ben Becher (Tunisia)

Furthermore, the Bureau noted that the Coordinator of the Working Group, Ambassador Markus Börlin (Switzerland), continues to conduct consultations to identify a facilitator for the topic “Victims and affected communities and Trust Fund for Victims”.

2. Non-cooperation

Further to its consideration of this issue at its 1 March 2012 meeting, the President recalled that she had written a letter, dated 2 March 2012, to all States Parties concerning the issue of non-cooperation by Chad. This letter had been brought to the attention of several States Parties and regional organizations.

The President suggested that, in due time, the Bureau would consider compiling a report on this matter to the Assembly of States Parties.

She also continued to be in touch with the authorities of Malawi.

Regarding the regional focal-points on non-cooperation, the President stated that she had received expressions of interest from the African and Asia-Pacific Groups, which she was following up on before proceeding to the appointments. She invited members of the Group of Western European and Other States and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States to conduct consultations with a view to identifying volunteers to serve in this function.

3. Eleventh session of the Assembly of States Parties

The Bureau continued its consideration of the provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Assembly of States Parties and will revert to the matter at its next meeting given the lack of agreement about the inclusion of the general debate as an agenda item.

4. Other matters

a) Advisory Committee on Nominations

The President recalled the mandate given to the Bureau in operative paragraph 19 of resolution ICC-ASP/10/Res.5, wherein the Assembly “request[ed] the Bureau to start the process of preparing the election, by the Assembly of States Parties, of the members of the Advisory Committee on nominations of judges of the International Criminal Court [...]”

She suggested that, at its next meeting, the Bureau opens a 12-week nomination period for members of the Advisory Committee on Nominations. A Bureau Working Group, composed of one member from each regional group, would then be created with a view of suggesting nine candidates for nomination by the Bureau and subsequent election by the Assembly.

The Bureau decided to place this suggestion under a silence procedure.

b) Election of the Deputy Prosecutor

The Bureau took note of the extension of the deadline for submission of applications for the post of Deputy Prosecutor until 15 April 2012 and renewed the request for broad dissemination of the vacancy at the national level by States Parties. One delegation requested information on the reasoning behind the extension of the above deadline.

c) Activities of the President

The President informed the Bureau that she had visited the seat of the Court on 8 March 2012 to take part in the solemn undertaking ceremony for five judges elected at the tenth session of the Assembly. In addition, she had used that opportunity to hold meetings with Court officials and representatives of States Parties, including the group of ambassadors from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

As agreed at the previous Bureau meeting on 13 March, the President had addressed a letter to States Parties on the organization of events to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute. On 16 March, she took part in a seminar on the relationship between the United Nations Security Council and the Court at Chatham House.

After the ninth Bureau meeting held on 23 March 2012 in The Hague, where the revised legal aid scheme had been adopted, the President had taken part in a symposium organized by the International Criminal Bar in Geneva from 29-31 March 2012. Furthermore, she had used the opportunity of her presence in Geneva to meet with representatives of States

Parties and other stakeholders to discuss how to utilise the Human Rights Council to promote membership in and full implementation of the Rome Statute. This meeting had resulted in the creation of a Geneva “Friends of the ICC” group.

In addition, the President had held meetings with a number of development actors in the United Nations system, including the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of UN WOMEN.

d) Follow-up to the election of the Prosecutor

The focal point on the follow-up to the election of the Prosecutor, Mr. Duncan Laki Muhumuza (Uganda), informed the Bureau that the deadline for submission of views had expired without his having received a large number of responses. The President joined the focal point in calling on States Parties to submit their views on the election of the Prosecutor.

e) Location of Bureau meetings

Concern was expressed that a number of Bureau meetings had been held in The Hague, where not all delegations were represented. The President recalled that an overwhelming majority of Bureau meetings were held in New York and that out of ten Bureau meetings eight had been held in New York and two in The Hague. Meetings held in The Hague had dealt with issues that had previously been taken up by The Hague Working Group. The President also recalled that the practice of holding at least some Bureau Meetings in The Hague had been established previously.

The view was expressed that when dealing with technical topics that had previously been discussed in the context of The Hague Working Group, it might be wise to hold meetings in The Hague. It was also noted that a balance had to be struck, between the issue of representation on the one hand, and the fact that the Court was located in The Hague on the other. It was suggested that meetings in The Hague be programmed well in advance, allowing non-represented delegations to make appropriate arrangements. The view was also expressed that the Bureau should consider which principles to apply in deciding where to hold its meetings and to continue consideration of this issue.

The Bureau would revert to this topic at a future meeting.

f) Next Bureau meeting

The next Bureau meeting would be held on 1 May 2012.
