

Assemblée des États Parties

International Criminal Court Assembly of States Parties

Fifth ICC-ASP Bureau Meeting 23 May 2008 Agenda and Decisions

The President-elect of the Assembly, Ambassador Christian Wenaweser (Liechtenstein), chaired the meeting

1. Review Conference

The facilitator for the Review Conference, Mr. Sabelo Sivuyile Maqungo (South Africa), introduced the report of the site-visit group dated 22 May 2008, which had been mandated by the Bureau to visit Uganda from 13-15 May 2008. He informed the Bureau that the site-visit group had observed that Uganda possesses the logistic capability to host the Conference. However, the group took no stand on other issues raised in the list of non-exhaustive criteria set out in the annex to the report of the Working Group on the Review Conference (ICC-ASP/6/WGRC/1). He noted that it would be up to the States Parties to apply the criteria and to make a considered judgement on these issues.

Some members stated that since they had only received the report on the previous day, they would need time to study it and consult their capitals before any substantive discussions on the content. Others sought an explanation as to why the report had been circulated to the New York Working Group before the Bureau had discussed it, which was not in conformity with the decision of the Bureau meeting of 29 April 2008. The facilitator indicated that since he would be away from New York during the resumed sixth session of the Assembly, the report had been circulated in order to facilitate its presentation by him to the Working Group.

The Chairman informed the Bureau that the New York Working Group would hold informal consultations later that day to consider the report and that the Assembly would discuss the item on 5 June.

The Bureau took note of the report, with the understanding that there were procedural concerns as to the distribution to the New York Working Group.

2. Provisional agenda of the resumed sixth session: Request of the Court for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Request for approval of transfer of funds between major programmes"

The Chairman informed the meeting that by a letter dated 7 May 2008 from the President of the Court, Judge Philippe Kirsch, addressed to the President of the Assembly, H.E. Bruno Stagno Ugarte, the Court had requested the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the resumed sixth session, "Request for approval of transfer of funds between major programmes", pursuant to rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties.

The Bureau agreed that the President of the Assembly would, at the plenary meeting to be held on 2 June, request the Assembly to take a decision on the inclusion of the additional agenda item.

3. Other matters

A representative of the Court provided a clarification on the Court's position in relation to the offer made by the Government of Uganda in a letter dated 14 April 2008, in which it proposed to pay for transportation costs for judges who will attend the Review Conference. The Court informed the Working Group that this offer was made independently by the Government of Uganda without any consultations with the Court, and stated further that the Court has not yet decided whether any judges or Court officials would attend the Review Conference, since it would be up to the Assembly of States Parties to decide whether Court officials will attend.

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