

Statement of qualifications

In accordance with the provisions of article 36(4) of the Rome Statute and paragraph 6 of resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6, the Government of the Republic of Madagascar hereby nominates Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa, Senior Judge at the Court of Cassation of the Supreme Court of Madagascar, for the election of judges under list B criteria, to be held during the 13th session of the Assembly of States Parties scheduled to take place in New York in December 2014.

Statement in support of the nomination for list B (article 36(3) of the Rome Statute)

- a) Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa has performed her duties with distinction and impeccable morality, integrity and impartiality. As a member of the *Mouvement pour l’Ethique et la Déontologie de Madagascar* (Movement for Ethics and Professional Conduct in Madagascar), a national discussion forum for study, training and outreach for those involved in the judicial field, she works on its behalf and shares the values of the Movement (letter of comfort attached). Members of the Council for Ethics and Professional Conduct, including Madagascar’s former senior judges, also support her nomination (letter of support appended).
- b) Since 1999, the candidate has been a judge at the Court of Cassation of the Supreme Court, the highest court in Madagascar since 2009. She has recognised expertise in the handling of criminal cases.

During the course of her career as a judge from 1980 to date, the candidate has held senior positions (Deputy Public Prosecutor, Judge and Investigating Magistrate, Head of Court, Senior Adviser). She has made constant use of her solid experience in criminal matters and in criminal proceedings. She was responsible for important case files dealing with conflicts associated with the political crises in the country (attacks on persons and property, ethnic and community conflicts).

- c) Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa is an active member of various associations and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) working to protect international human rights associated with the work of the Ministry of Justice. She is one of the authors of periodic reports for the treaty bodies on these activities.

The candidate has helped to implement a system to monitor cases of human rights violations in various areas in Madagascar (in prisons, during political crises, in cases of mob justice).

Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa has attended and organised several national and international seminars and conferences on human rights.

As a current Member of the Special Commission for Amnesty and National Reconciliation at the Supreme Court, she not only works towards strengthening social peace following the successive political crises that have rocked the country but has also helped to restore human rights.

She is an expert in her field and her experience is clearly of interest for the judicial work of the Court.

- d) The candidate is fully fluent in French, which is the working language in the legal field in Madagascar. She also has a sound knowledge of English, which is a mandatory language at secondary school in Madagascar, which she further improved at the American Cultural Center as part of her work.

Nomination (article 36(4) of the Rome Statute :

- a) The nomination of Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa was presented by the Minister for Justice at the Cabinet meeting held on 8 July 2014. Following the Cabinet Memorandum dated 10 July 2014, the Government of Madagascar approved and supported this nomination.
- b) The candidate has Malagasy nationality.

Other information in support of the nomination (article 36(8) of the Rome Statute)

- a) Mrs Ratiaraisoa Harimahefa is a judge in a French-speaking legal system.
- b) As Madagascar's candidate she lives in Southern Africa.
- c) She is female and she could help to encourage gender equality at the International Criminal Court.
- d) She is a lecturer at prestigious professional academies responsible for issues associated with violence against women and children (National College for the Judiciary).

In addition she is also involved in work to do with protection, gender equality and children's rights as a result of her involvement in various associations (see the Curriculum Vitae).

These are the skills and qualifications of the candidate whose profile meets the provisions of article 36 of the Rome Statute.

* * *