

## **Bossa, Solomy Balungi (Uganda)**

[Original: English]

### **Statement to the nomination**

This statement is made pursuant to article 36, paragraph 4 (a) of the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

1. Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa fulfills the requirements in article 36, paragraphs 3(a), (b) and (c) of the Statute in that:

(a) She enjoys a reputation of high moral character, impartiality and integrity. As a sitting Judge on the United Nations Mechanism for International Tribunals, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court of Uganda with over 20 years' judicial experience and an additional 10 years' experience as an Advocate of the Courts of Judicature in Uganda, she qualifies for appointment to the highest judicial office in Uganda.

(b) She possesses established competences in criminal law and procedure. As a Judge, she has sat in complex criminal trials in the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for nine and half years (from August 2003 to February 2013) and in the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals from June 2012 to date. As a Judge in Uganda, she has sat in criminal trials in the High Court from August 1997 to July 2003, and in criminal appeals in the Uganda Court of Appeal from August 2013 to date. As an advocate, she represented accused persons in criminal trials before superior and subordinate Courts from 1988 to 1997.

(c) She possesses established competence in international criminal law, international humanitarian law, international rules of procedure and evidence and the law of human rights by virtue of her experience as a Judge on the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals. Additionally, since September 2014, she sits in the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, which addresses violations of human rights by States on the African continent. She has rendered many ground breaking judgments that have addressed the rights of victims of grave and simple crime and remedies for victims of violations of human rights, thus contributing to enforcing accountability for impunity for the violations of human rights by States and individuals at the international, regional and national levels.

(d) As a legal practitioner between 1988 and 1997, she represented indigent women in courts of law to ensure realization of their rights including security, share of matrimonial property, child support, parental rights and consortium. As President of the Uganda Law Society she chaired and expanded the Legal Aid Project that proffered free legal advice and representation to indigent women and children. She also chaired the Legal Aid Project of the Law Development Centre that dealt with children in problems with the law.

(e) She possesses an excellent command of both written and spoken English, a working language of the Court. She took all her formal and higher education in English and has worked in the same language in all courts at the international, regional and national levels.

2. Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa is being nominated for inclusion in List A for the purpose of article 36, paragraph 5 of the Statute.

3. The election of Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa, who comes from the African region and from a common law country, will serve the need for the representation of the principal legal systems of the world, will give Africa a fairer representation on the Court for female judges and will not undermine gender balance on the Court.

4. Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa has legal competence and experience on issues relating to the rights of victims of crime, the protection of witnesses, jurisprudence of equality and remedies of victims of violations of human rights. This is exemplified by her long service as a judge on various International, Regional and national Courts, and as an Advocate of the

Courts of Judicature in Uganda. Additionally, she is a member of several not for profit human rights organizations.

5. Taking into account her strong personal character and integrity, her internationally recognized competence in criminal law and procedure, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, international criminal procedure and rules of evidence and the law of human rights (as exemplified by her curriculum vitae), Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa is bound to make a substantial contribution to the work of the Court.

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