

Statement of qualifications

This statement is submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of the resolution of the Assembly of States Parties on the Procedure for the nomination and election of members of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims (ICC-ASP/1/Res.7).

Mr. Felipe Michelini fully meets the criteria stipulated in paragraph 1 of the said resolution (ICC-ASP/1/Res.7): “candidates should be of high moral character, impartiality and integrity and have competence in the assistance to victims of serious crimes”.

Mr. Felipe Michelini possesses the required qualities of high moral character, impartiality and integrity. These were all decisive in his appointment by the current President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, Dr. Tabaré Vázquez, to the “Truth and Justice Working Group”. This body comprises seven citizens “whose career demonstrates independence of mind, an equable temperament and the ability to perform their duties in a fully autonomous manner...”, with a view to carrying out the key task of investigating crimes against humanity during Uruguay’s recent past (Decree CM/118 19 of May 2015).

Mr. Michelini’s reputation is well-deserved. Since the start of his career, he has worked at domestic and international level to defend victims of authoritarian governments. Particular note should be taken of his role in the United Nations technical team providing backing for the Organization’s work in support of the peace accords negotiated in the context of the Truth Commission (1992 –1993). He was also a Truth Commission delegate before the *ad hoc* Commission tasked with purging the security forces in connection with El Salvador’s reunification process.

Mr. Michelini’s commitment to the cause of justice and to the fight against impunity, which lie at the heart of the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court, is evident in his academic publications, parliamentary interventions and persistent activism. The promotion of universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute have been a constant theme throughout his parliamentary and teaching work. He was instrumental in the conception, creation and implementation of the Consultative Assembly for the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law, promoted by the non-governmental organization Parliamentarians for Global Action. He has participated in the Assembly as organizer, moderator, rapporteur and speaker, while at the same time sitting on its executive committee and heading its International Law and Human Rights programme.

In addition to his proven commitment to bringing justice for the most heinous crimes, Mr. Michelini has wide-ranging experience in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). He has held the position of Vice-President of the Executive Committee, participated in the Ibero-American Justice Conference as Vice-Minister and Secretary of Education and Culture, and has been a Member of Parliament and of PARLASUR, the legislative body of MERCOSUR. In this capacity he promoted the cooperation agreement between MERCOSUR and the International Criminal Court. In addition, he has been involved academically in various universities in Latin America, Europe and the United States.

Based on these qualifications, Mr. Felipe Michelini clearly possesses all the qualities required to fulfil the purpose and objectives of the Trust Fund for Victims in its search for funds and the establishment of equitable criteria for its operation.
