



**BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES**

**Seventh meeting**

5 July 2023

*(via remote link)*

Agenda and decisions

*The meeting was chaired by the President, Ms. Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi. Vice-President Ambassador Kateřina Sequensová (Czech Republic) also participated.*

**1. Implementation of IER recommendation R169: Joint statement and discussion of strategy to counter measures against Court officials**

Further to the Bureau's preliminary discussion at its 14 June meeting, and pursuant to the strategy adopted by the Bureau on 29 July 2022 for responding to threats or attacks against the Court, its officials and those cooperating with it,<sup>1</sup> the Bureau considered the response to measures taken against the Prosecutor and pre-trial judges involved in the Ukraine situation.

The Registrar, Mr. Osvaldo Zavala Giler, briefed the Bureau on the security situation at the Court. He outlined the mitigating measures that had been taken in light of possible risks, including in cooperation with the host State. Regarding the costs of security measures, he indicated that costs related to cyber, building and personal security would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2024. In addition, the Court was in the process of identifying one-off security costs which might benefit from the establishment of a Trust Fund. He emphasized that it was imperative that all stakeholders demonstrated unity and took proactive measures in order to guarantee the security of the Court and its personnel in The Hague and in the countries in which it operates.

The Registrar also emphasized the importance of ratifying the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court. The President concurred, indicating that she had written to all States Parties on this topic on 3 July 2023, underlining the importance of the Agreement for enhancing legal protection and legal clarity.

Bureau members thanked the Registrar for his briefing and expressed their strong support for the Court and its officials.

Bureau members expressed support for the timely issuance of the draft joint statement, dated 27 June 2023, prepared by the Presidency. A Bureau member had not yet received final instructions, but indicated that they would inform the President of their position by the end of the week so that the statement could be issued.

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<sup>1</sup> The strategy adopted by the Bureau on 29 July 2022 is available at: <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/asp/files/2022-08/Bureau-Proposal-Rec-169-ENG.pdf>. An annex approved by the Bureau on 2 December 2022 is available at: <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/asp/files/2022-12/PASP-Request-R169-Good-Practices.pdf>.

## **2. Twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute- update**

The President updated the Bureau on the commemorative events being organized to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute.<sup>2</sup> As regards the event to be held in The Hague on 12 July, she indicated that the invitation and programme would be sent in the coming days.

The final programme for the 17 July event to be held in New York, including the list of participants and their biographical information, would also be disseminated in the coming days. The deadline for inscription on the list of speakers for the Ministerial Roundtable had been extended to 5 July at the request of some delegations. It was hoped that the extended deadline and the opportunity for deputy Ministers to speak would help to achieve a more balanced regional representation. The list of speakers would be available at the conference officer's desk at the Trusteeship Council Chamber in the morning of 17 July. Regarding the Treaty Ceremony segment, the President informed the Bureau that France intended to hand over to the President of the Court an instrument of ratification of the Agreement on the Enforcement of Sentences, and Belgium intended to hand over to the Registrar an instrument on the Agreement on the Release of Persons. Furthermore, States would be given the opportunity to sign or announce imminent signature of voluntary cooperation agreements with the Court during the segment, as well as to make any announcements or pledges regarding contributions to the Trust Fund for Victims or treaty actions in respect of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (APIC). The President once more underscored the importance of the APIC for enhancing the protection of all persons involved in Court proceedings. States were invited to inform the Secretariat by the end of Wednesday, 12 July if they wished to make any announcements or pledges.

The President recalled that the 17 July event would be webcast via UN WebTV for those who cannot attend in person and for the general public.

Regarding the commemorative event to be held on 12 and 13 October in Italy, which was being organized in collaboration with the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, the President indicated that due to logistical constraints the event would be held in Rome rather than Siracusa. Additional information would be available in due course.

## **3. Extension of contract of the Head of the IOM**

The Bureau continued its consideration of a possible extension of the contract of the Head of the IOM, and also discussed the modalities for the recruitment of the next Head of the IOM. It was agreed that a facilitator would be appointed as soon as possible to undertake consultations regarding the possible extension and the modalities for the recruitment.

## **4. Other matters**

### *a) Status of contributions*

The Bureau took note that, as at 30 June 2023, the Court had received 79 per cent of the assessed contributions to the approved budget for 2023. The President expressed her appreciation to States Parties that had paid their assessed contributions.

### *b) Composition of the Committee on Budget and Finance*

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<sup>2</sup> <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/asp-events/25a-Adoption-RS>.

The President informed the Bureau that the facilitator on the composition of the Committee on Budget and Finance, Ms. Mosammat Shahanara Monica (Bangladesh), who was based in New York, was actively engaged in consultations on that topic. The President would invite her to provide a briefing on the progress made and the possible way forward at the next Bureau meeting.

*c) Next meeting*

The President noted that the next Bureau meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 6 September 2023. If there was a need to convene a meeting in the intervening period the Secretariat would send the usual notification.

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