



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Eleventh meeting

2 July 2025

(hybrid)

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President, Ambassador Paivi Kaukoranta (Finland). Vice-President Ambassador Margareta Kassangana (Poland), also participated.

1. Special session of the Assembly – Organizational matters

a) Nomination of the members of the Credentials Committee

The Bureau decided to recommend to the Assembly the appointment of the following States Parties to the Credentials Committee, pursuant to rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties: Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cyprus, France, Japan, Senegal, Slovenia and South Africa.

b) Nomination of a Rapporteur

The Bureau took note that consultations between the Asia-Pacific group and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States towards identifying a Rapporteur were on-going. The President encouraged the groups to continue their consultations.

The Bureau agreed that, once the candidate had been identified, the President would recommend that the Assembly appoint him/her.

c) Credentials of States Parties for the special session

The President reminded delegations that the deadline for submission of credentials was Friday, 4 July 2025. Observer States were likewise requested to submit the names of their representatives, alternates, and advisers by the same date.

As of 7 July 2025, credentials and other communications should be submitted directly to the Secretariat in New York, no later than 24 hours after the opening of the session.

The President encouraged all States to comply with the deadline, in order to facilitate the work of the Credentials Committee.

d) Appointment of the Chair of the Working Group on the Kampala Review

The Bureau decided to recommend to the Assembly the appointment of Ambassador Juan José Quintana (Colombia) as Coordinator of the Working Group on the Kampala Review at the special session.

The President noted that Ambassador Quintana was currently serving as Chair of the Working Group on Amendments.

e) General debate

The President recalled the Bureau's decision of 26 June regarding the modalities for the General Debate, scheduled to take place on 7 July during the first and second plenary meetings, as follows:

- Ministerial-level speakers would be given precedence.
- Only in-person statements would be delivered.
- Speaking would be strictly limited to two and a half minutes, in line with rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure.
- All statements would be delivered from national seats.
- Given the time constraints, States and other speakers inscribed on the list of speakers that may not be accommodated in the General debate would be invited to submit written statements in lieu of in-person statements, which will be posted on the webpage of the Assembly.
- 15 minutes would be allocated for Observer States under rule 92.
- 10 minutes would be allocated for non-governmental organizations at the conclusion of the general debate.

The President urged all delegations to respect the time limit of 2.5 minutes per speaker and encouraged early registration on the list of speakers. The time-limit would be strictly enforced.

f) Approval of the revised provisional agenda and revised work programme

The Bureau took note that the revised provisional agenda and work programme for the special session, which it had approved on 20 June 2025, had been circulated to States Parties and all stakeholders, and posted on the webpage of the special session. The programme of work remained subject to change, depending on progress during the session. The President thanked delegations for their flexibility and collaboration during the preparatory phase.

The Advance version of the Journal of the Assembly had been disseminated on 25 June and the next version would be disseminated by 4 July. Further, all plenary meetings of the special session would be webcast in the floor language, and in Arabic, English, French and Spanish on the UN Web TV.

g) Trust Fund for the participation of the least developed countries in the activities of the Assembly

The Bureau took note with appreciation that the Government of Belgium had made a generous voluntary contribution to the Trust Fund for the participation of the least developed countries and other developing States in the activities of the Assembly. The contribution had enabled the participation of one delegate in the special session.

h) Arrears: requests for waivers from the loss of voting rights

The Bureau took note of the provisions of article 112, paragraph 8, of the Rome Statute.¹ The President recalled the Bureau's 2024 discussions on the development of criteria for assessing requests for waivers from the loss of voting rights and noted that, at its 12 March 2025 meeting, the Bureau had decided to assign the topic "Criteria for the waiver of loss of voting rights" to the Budget management oversight facilitation in The Hague Working Group. Discussions were ongoing in that facilitation.

The Bureau considered how to approach requests for waiver at the special session, in the absence of agreed criteria. There were 15 States Parties subject to article 112, paragraph 8, and the Secretariat had sent notes verbales to them on 29 April and on 26 June 2025. Three requests for a waiver of the loss of voting rights had been received- from Venezuela, the Republic of the Congo and Gabon.²

The past practice had been that the Bureau would make a recommendation to the Assembly to grant waivers when requested. At the opening plenary on 7 July, the Assembly would take a decision on the waivers requested.

The Bureau agreed with the President's proposal that, in light of its past practice, it would recommend that the Assembly grant requests for waivers at the special session, while emphasizing that consultations needed to continue on the development of agreed criteria for assessing such waivers in the future.

A Bureau member drew attention to a joint non-paper that it had submitted to the facilitation, along with some other delegations, which underscored that the criteria and procedures in relation to article 112, paragraph 8, had been defined in several Assembly resolutions and should be implemented.

2. Bureau procedure upon receipt of the OIOS report

The Bureau continued its consideration of the procedure for handling the forthcoming fact-finding report from the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) concerning alleged misconduct by the ICC Prosecutor. The OIOS report was still being prepared, with no clear completion date. The OIOS has underlined that the investigation is a matter of priority to it. The President emphasized the need to respect the independence of the OIOS investigation and avoid exerting any pressure or interfering in the process.

The President recalled the Bureau's 4 June 2025 decision to assign the OIOS report, once received, to an external Panel of three judicial experts, each acting independently. The ASP Presidency had confirmed in its 24 June statement³ that this Panel would review the report under the Court's legal framework,⁴ in assistance of the Bureau's consideration of the matter.

As regards the Panel's mandate and operational framework, the Presidency had, with the input of the Secretariat and the Registry, prepared the Terms of Reference for the Panel. The Panel will have an advisory role in relation to the Bureau. It would focus strictly on the

¹ "8. A State Party which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions towards the costs of the Court shall have no vote in the Assembly and in the Bureau if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a State Party to vote in the Assembly and in the Bureau if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the State Party."

² Dated 12, 23 and 25 June 2025, respectively.

³ See "Statement by the ASP Presidency concerning the assignment of the OIOS fact-finding report on alleged misconduct by ICC Prosecutor to an external judicial expert Panel": <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/statement-asp-presidency-concerning-assignment-oios-fact-finding-report-alleged-misconduct-icc>

⁴ The Rome Statute, the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Court and relevant administrative instruments.

legal characterization of facts in the OIOS report, and not on fact-finding. The Panel would operate independently, upholding due process, confidentiality, and integrity.

The OIOS report would be transmitted to the Panel immediately upon receipt by the President of the Assembly. Once the Panel has completed the legal characterization of the OIOS fact-finding, the Bureau would consider the OIOS fact-finding together with Panel's advice.

Regarding its composition, the Panel members represent African, Caribbean, and European nationalities, and both genders are included.

The President emphasized that the OIOS report would remain confidential. The Bureau will receive the necessary documentation after the Panel has completed its work. States Parties would get access to these materials if, in case of serious misconduct, formal removal proceedings were to be initiated under article 46 of the Rome Statute and rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly. The President also requested the Bureau's support in upholding confidentiality and underscored the importance of due process to safeguard the investigation and any future actions.

A Bureau member relayed regional concerns about the need for a prompt response once the OIOS report had been submitted and conveyed the region's strong sense of urgency. The President acknowledged the calls for transparency while reminding of the need to secure due process.

The Bureau would continue to monitor the situation, and the Presidency would update the Bureau in light of developments.
