



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Thirteenth meeting

3 September 2025

(Hybrid format)

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Päivi Kaukoranta (Finland).

1. Decision of Pre-Trial Chamber I in the situation in the State of Palestine (24 July 2025)

The Bureau had before it the 24 July 2025 decision of Pre-Trial Chamber I in the situation in the State of Palestine.¹ The Bureau recalled the Assembly's procedures on non-cooperation,² the toolkit for the implementation of the informal dimension of the Assembly procedures relating to non-cooperation,³ and previous decisions of the Court relating to non-cooperation.⁴

The Ambassador of Hungary, H.E. Mr Dániel Horogszegi Szilágyi-Landeck, had been invited, pursuant to paragraph 14(c) of the Assembly procedures on non-cooperation, to attend the meeting "in order to discuss the implications of the Court's decision regarding Hungary's non-cooperation and present its views on how it would cooperate with the Court in the future". The President recalled paragraph 12 of the Assembly's procedures on non-cooperation.⁵

Ambassador Szilágyi-Landeck addressed the Bureau regarding the decision of Pre-Trial Chamber I (PTCI). He maintained what was detailed in Hungary's submission in response to PTCI's request to provide submissions, dated 22 May 2025. In Hungary's view, the arrest warrant against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was a politically motivated tool. Hungary's submissions of 6 August 2025 set out its position on the jurisdiction of the Court, including with respect to Israeli citizens.

¹ ICC-01/18, available at: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/CourtRecords/0902ebd180c2a33e.pdf>

(Finding under article 87(7) of the Statute on Hungary's non-compliance with the Court's request to cooperate in the provisional arrest of Benjamin Netanyahu and referral to the Assembly of States Parties.)

²² ICC-ASP/10/Res.5, as amended by ICC-ASP/11/Res.8, annex I, and ICC-ASP/17/Res.5, annex II.

³ ICC-ASP/15/31/Add.1, as revised by ICC-ASP/17/31, annex III.

⁴ <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/non-cooperation>

⁵ "All actors involved must ensure that their participation in these procedures does not lead to discussions on the merits of the Court request or otherwise undermine the findings of the Court."

As regards future cooperation by Hungary, he indicated that on 3 April 2025, the Government of Hungary had initiated withdrawal from the Rome Statute. The Parliament had adopted the relevant law, which had been published in Hungary's gazette. Hungary had deposited its instrument of withdrawal with the United Nations Secretary-General on 2 June 2025, which would take effect on 2 June 2026. Its goal was to ensure that withdrawal was as smooth as possible.

In response to a query regarding the position of Hungary as regards the arguments of the Court for the arrest warrant, the Ambassador reiterated Hungary's position that the arrest warrant against Mr. Netanyahu could not be considered a legal act but was a political tool. Regarding a query about a possible prior notice by Hungary, according to article 97, the Ambassador referred to Hungary's 22 May 2025 submission to PTCTI, which contained all relevant legal arguments.

The Bureau took note of the statement and response of Ambassador Szilágyi-Landeck, and of the decision of the Government of Hungary to withdraw from the Rome Statute which would take effect on 2 June 2026. The President thanked Ambassador Szilágyi-Landeck for his presentation to the Bureau.

As regards the next steps, it was suggested that the topic of non-cooperation be considered at the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly, in a plenary or special segment dedicated to non-cooperation. The topic could also be considered in a meeting on Cooperation in The Hague. The President noted that even though the focal points on non-cooperation worked in New York, this did not preclude a discussion in The Hague. Further, she recalled that the Assembly had, at its twenty-third session, decided to include on the agenda of future sessions of the Assembly the consideration of non-cooperation issues arising during the intersessional period,⁶ so there would be an item on non-cooperation at the upcoming session. The Assembly would therefore proceed in this manner.

2. Update on sanctions against Court officials

The Bureau took note that, on 20 August 2025, the United States Administration had announced sanctions against four additional officials of the International Criminal Court under Executive Order 14203.⁷

The Bureau further took note that on 20 August and on 21 August 2025, respectively, the Court and the Presidency of the Assembly of States Parties had issued public statements in response.⁸

The Bureau took note of the President's memorandum of her 17 July 2025 meeting with the four judges of the Court who had been sanctioned by the US Administration on 5 June 2025,⁹ which referred, inter alia, to the personal impact of the sanctions. The Bureau took note with concern of the impact of the sanctions and expressed solidarity with the Court and its personnel.

In this connection, the Bureau agreed that a thematic General debate at the twenty-fourth session would increase visibility of the support of States Parties for the Court and measures to strengthen the Rome Statute system.

⁶ ICC-ASP/23/Res.1, para. 36.

⁷ Judge Kimberly Prost (Canada) and Judge Nicolas Yann Guillou (France) of the Trial Division, as well as Deputy Prosecutors Nazhat Shameem Khan (Fiji) and Mame Mandiaye Niang (Senegal).

⁸ <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/icc-strongly-rejects-new-us-sanctions-against-judges-and-deputy-prosecutors>

<https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/presidency-assembly-states-parties-expresses-deep-concern-and-objects-additional-us-sanctions>

⁹ Vice-President Reine Adelaide Sophie Alapini Gansou (Benin), Judges Solomy Balungi Bossa (Uganda), Luz del Carmen Ibáñez Carranza (Peru), and Beti Hohler (Slovenia).

The President informed the Bureau that the Registrar would be invited to address the Bureau at its next meeting.

The Bureau considered the request of designated individuals to address the Assembly and will return to this topic at its next meeting.

3. Bureau procedure upon receipt of the OIOS report

The President indicated that the OIOS had informed her that the investigation was proceeding smoothly and that, barring any unforeseen developments, it is currently estimated that the report would be finalized and issued by the end of October 2025. The Bureau took note of the status of the OIOS report.

In addition, the Director of the Secretariat and some Secretariat staff had met with the members of the ad hoc Panel. The members had the opportunity to meet each other and the Secretariat outlined the process and applicable procedures, as well as the Terms of Reference.

The Bureau took note of the recruitment status of the Panel, that they would be on stand-by to begin working as soon as the OIOS report was received.

The Bureau took note of confidential communications that the Presidency had received, and expressed views thereon. Bureau members expressed support for the measures that the President had put in place and indicated that they would continue to be supportive and constructive to the process that had been launched.

4. Preparations for the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly

a) Seating arrangements

In accordance with Assembly decision ICC-ASP/1/Dec.4, the President drew lots to determine the State Party that would occupy the first desk on the Assembly floor: Gambia.

Programme of work

The Bureau approved the programme of work for the twenty-fourth session,¹⁰ on the understanding that that it would be updated in the coming weeks and would be subject to modification during the session depending on the progress on different agenda items.

b) General debate

The Bureau decided to inform States that the General debate will begin on Monday, 1 December from 15:00 to 18:00 and on Tuesday, 2 December from 10:00 to 13:00 and 15:00 to 18:00, with ministerial and vice-ministerial level representatives speaking first.

The Bureau further decided that the general debate would only allow for in-person speakers. States and other stakeholders could submit pre-recorded videos but these videos would not be played during the plenary, only posted on the webpage of the Assembly, together with written submissions.

¹⁰ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/ASP24-ProvWP.pdf

(i) *Time limits*

The Bureau recommended, on the basis of rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure and previous decisions of the Assembly on time limits for statements in the general debate, that the Assembly request speakers to limit their interventions to five minutes.

The Bureau requested the Secretariat to inform States of the opening of the list of speakers on 20 October 2025 (Central European Time), and of the time limit of five minutes for such statements.

(ii) *Participation of observers and non-governmental organizations*

On the basis of previous Assembly decisions, the Bureau recommended that the Assembly allocate 45 minutes for the participation in the general debate of observers pursuant to rule 92 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

The Bureau also recommended that 45 minutes be allocated to non-governmental organizations for the delivery of statements at the end of the general debate.

c) *Elections: status of nominations*

The Bureau took note that, at the close of the nomination period for the election of members of the Committee on Budget and Finance on 24 August 2025, the status of nominations was as follows:

Committee on Budget and Finance	Number of vacant seats	Nominations received
Regular vacancies	six ¹¹	six
Vacancy pursuant to ICC-ASP/22/Res.8	one	-
Casual vacancy	one	one

The Bureau noted that, for the Group of Eastern European States, the number of candidates remained less than the number of seats available for this group in (a) the election to fill the six regular vacancies and in (b) the election to fill one seat pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/22/Res.8. The President had therefore extended the nomination period for two weeks, pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.5.¹²

The President encouraged the Eastern European group to consider nominating one candidate for the seat allocated to it in each of these categories.

d) *Credentials Committee*

The Bureau took note that, pursuant to rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties, the Credentials Committee shall be composed of nine States Parties.

The President requested Bureau members to consult within their regional groups to identify States willing to be appointed to the Committee and to inform the Secretariat about the respective candidates, preferably before the end of October 2025.

¹¹ One regional group, the African group, submitted two candidates for the one seat allocated to that group: <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/elections/committee-on-budget-and-finance/2025>

¹² Para. 4.

e) Nomination of a Rapporteur for the twenty-fourth session

As regards the appointment of a Rapporteur for the twenty-fourth session, the President noted that he/she should be a representative of a State Party on the Bureau, and should be from a regional group that is not represented in the Presidency of the Assembly.

The President requested the Bureau members of the Asia-Pacific Group and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States to consult in order to agree on one nominee for the position, and to inform the Secretariat, preferably before the end of October 2025.

f) Appointment of Coordinators for the twenty-fourth session

The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Assembly the appointment of the following Coordinators for the twenty-fourth session:

- Working Group on the Programme Budget: Ambassador Jorge Carvajal San Martín (Chile)
- Omnibus resolution: Ms. Beatrice Maillé (Canada)

g) Side events

The Bureau decided that side events may tentatively be organized during the Assembly session, from 1 to 6 December 2025, and should not overlap with the meeting times of the Assembly. Further details regarding organization of the side events are reflected in the “Guidelines for the preparation and conduct of sessions of the Assembly”.¹³

The Bureau decided that States, observers and non-governmental organizations wishing to tentatively hold side events during the twenty-third session should submit to the Secretariat information regarding side events by 31 October 2025, with a view to the preparation of a draft Advance Journal for dissemination during the week of 3 November 2025.

In light of the increasing number of side events at Assembly sessions, the Bureau requested States, observers and non-governmental organizations to make an attempt to limit the number of side-events, to exercise discipline and collaborate, in order to allow all delegations to participate.

Further, side-event slots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and requests must be submitted within the designated application period.

The Bureau took note that the Secretariat will reserve one of the four smaller rooms, Oceania Foyer, that can hold up to 142 people (48 around table with microphones and 94 behind), for the duration of the session (before 10:00, during lunchbreak and after 18:00) to ensure there is always a room for informal consultations, if need be. Another small room will be reserved daily before 10:00 for possible Bureau meetings.

The Bureau further took note that all participants attending side events at the World Forum must be accredited to the session in order to receive a badge. In this connection and in order to limit the logistical burden of the issuance of day passes, it requested States Parties co-hosting side events to only request day passes for side events for speakers/panellists who are not otherwise accredited to the session and to do so by 21 November 2025.

¹³ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/Guidelines-preparation-conduct-ASP-with-appendix-ENG.pdf.

In addition, the Bureau noted that, within World Forum premises, all persons are required to comply with safety and security regulations, as well as previously mentioned guidelines. Any act that disrupts the normal functioning of the session, such as public displays of any form, including, but not limited to, clothing, banners, placards or other written or visual means, as well as vocal/audio sounds, gatherings or demonstrations of any kind, including passive, is not allowed. The Bureau requested all attendees to refrain from taking pictures or making audio or visual recordings of participants without their consent.

All individuals present on the World Forum premises are expected to fully cooperate with security officers at all times. Refusal to comply with applicable regulations may result in removal from or denial of access to the premises.

h) Trust Fund for the participation of Least Developed Countries and other Developing States

The Bureau encouraged States in a position to do so to contribute to the Trust Fund, preferably by the end of October 2025.

5. Restructuring of the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties

The Bureau recalled its 3 July and 2 October 2024¹⁴ consideration of the evaluation of the Secretariat by the Independent Oversight Mechanism, dated 26 June 2024, and its referral of recommendation 3, concerning the redesign of the Secretariat's organizational structure, to the Budget Management Oversight facilitation, noting its overlap with recommendations made by the former External Auditor. Pursuant to paragraph 88 of the omnibus resolution of December 2024,¹⁵ the Bureau was requested to proceed, in the first trimester of 2025 and with the assistance of the Human Resources Section, with the implementation of the redesign of the Secretariat along functional lines and, as appropriate, to undertake a review of the classifications of positions in the Secretariat.

The Bureau further recalled that, under paragraphs 9 and 10 of the budget resolution,¹⁶ the Assembly had decided to suppress the post of Executive Secretariat/Executive Secretary to the Committee on Budget and Finance and the Audit Committee, while ensuring continued substantive servicing, as well as administrative and technical assistance to both Committees, in accordance with their respective mandates and competencies.

The Director of the Secretariat, Ms. Gabrielle McIntyre, presented an overview of the current functioning and status of the Secretariat.

In response to a query, the Director indicated that the budget submitted for the Secretariat for 2026 was the same as the budget for 2025. As regards recruitment, there were long outstanding posts that had not been previously recruited, a position of Legal Officer based in New York was under recruitment, and she planned to fill the gap with rotating Visiting Professionals and Interns.

The staff formerly dedicated to the Committee on Budget and Finance were now back in the structure of the Secretariat. She noted that the internal restructuring was a decision of the Assembly.

The President noted that restructuring was a work in progress. The Bureau would return to this item at its future meetings.

¹⁴ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2024-Bureau7-Agenda-Decisions.pdf

https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2024-Bureau10-Agenda-Decisions.pdf

¹⁵ ICC-ASP/23/Res.1: https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/ICC-ASP-23-Res.1-ENG.pdf

¹⁶ ICC-ASP/23/Res.6 : https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/ICC-ASP-23-Res.6-ENG.pdf

6. Other matters

a) Confidential letter from the UN Legal Counsel

The Bureau took note of a confidential letter, dated 28 August 2025, which the President had received from the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel, Ms. Elinor Hammarskjöld.

b) Resignation of a member of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims

The Bureau took note that, on 28 July 2025, Ambassador Tareque Muhammad (Bangladesh), had informed the President of his decision to withdraw from the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims in December 2025, following the conclusion of his posting in The Hague. The Bureau extended its sincere gratitude to Ambassador Muhammad for his dedicated service and valuable contributions to the work of the Board and wished him every success in his future endeavours.

The Bureau decided that the election to fill the vacancy would be held during the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly. The Bureau therefore decided, pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.7,¹⁷ to open the nomination period for this vacancy to run for 12 weeks, from 8 September to 30 November 2025 at 17:00 hours (Central European Time).

c) Election of the CBF Chair

Further to its 12 March and 2 April 2025 consideration of this issue,¹⁸ the Bureau took note that, at its current session, the Committee had elected Mr. Jun Yamada (Japan) as Chair, and Ms. Ana Patricia Villalobos Arrieta (Costa Rica) as Vice-Chair. The President congratulated the Chair and Vice-Chair on their election and thank them for taking up these responsibilities on behalf of the Assembly.

d) Next meeting

The next meeting of the Bureau was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 8 October 2025.

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¹⁷ Procedure for the nomination and election of members of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for the benefit of victims.

¹⁸ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2025-Bureau6-Agenda-Decisions.pdf
https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2025-Bureau7-Agenda-Decisions.pdf