



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Fourteenth meeting

8 October 2025

(hybrid)

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Païvi Kaukoranta (Finland). Vice-Presidents Ambassador Michael Imran Kanu (Sierra Leone) and Ambassador Margareta Kassangana (Poland) participated.

1. Briefing by the President of the Court

The President of the Court, Judge Tomoko Akane, briefed the Bureau on current issues related to the Court. She informed the Bureau that the leadership of the Court remained committed to ensure that the Court can continue to fully discharge its mandate. The staff of the Court remain a high priority for the leadership, including those working in the field. The ICC President stressed, however, that the primary responsibility to protect the Court lies with States Parties and invited them to take concrete steps to support the Court.

The ICC President stated that, despite the challenges it faced, the Court would continue to carry out its judicial mandate in all situations and cases, and provided an overview of the current judicial activities. This included the trial judgment issued on 6 October 2025, in the case against Mr Abd-Al-Rahman (Ali Kushayb), which was the first conviction in a situation referred to the Court by the UN Security Council, for crimes that included murder, torture and rape. She noted, further, that there were currently six persons detained by the Court; one suspect had been detained in a State Party and could be surrendered to the Court; and 32 suspects were at large, with a number of arrest warrants under seal.

2. Briefing by the Registrar of the Court

The Registrar of the Court, Mr. Osvaldo Zavala Giler, briefed the Bureau on the measures taken by the Registry in relation to challenges which the Court faced.

In responding to the briefings by the President of the Court and the Registrar, States Parties thanked the leadership of the Court for the measures taken and the resilience of staff members, and welcomed the engagement with staff in the Field. They expressed their continued solidarity and support for the Court, its elected officials and staff.

3. Discussion on sanctions

The Bureau considered the text of a draft statement and proposed amendments thereto. The President would circulate the revised draft to Bureau members, inviting their comments.

4. OIOS report- update

The Bureau recalled that, at its 3 September 2025 meeting, the President had informed members that the OIOS had advised that, absent any unforeseen circumstances, the OIOS investigative report will be completed at the end of October 2025. The target date has remained unchanged since the previous meeting.

The Bureau considered the procedures to be followed upon receipt of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) fact-finding investigations, and made proposals. The President would circulate a paper for the consideration of the Bureau.

5. Appointment of the Chair of the dedicated sub-group of the Working Group on Amendments

Further to the Assembly's establishment of a dedicated sub-group of the Working Group on Amendments pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/S-1/Res.1,¹ the President was aware that Vice-President, Ambassador Kanu, was consulting with delegations in New York in order to identify a Chair of the sub-group. Once she received a nomination, she would circulate it to the Bureau for appointment of the Chair of the sub-group under a silence procedure.

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

a) General debate

(i) Thematic debate- Concept note

The Bureau decided to recommend that the Assembly hold a thematic debate during the twenty-fourth session, and considered a Concept note thereon, prepared by the Presidency of the Assembly. The President would circulate the Concept note for the consideration of Bureau members. A Bureau member proposed a specific high-level segment in parallel to the General debate, to increase the likelihood of broad ministerial presence.

b) Elections

(i) Committee on Budget and Finance- recommendations by the Bureau

Election of six members of the Committee

The Bureau recommended that the Assembly dispense with a secret ballot pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.5² and elect by acclamation the five candidates nominated by the Eastern European, Latin American and Caribbean, and Western European and other States regional groups:

Mr. Karl-Heinz Heller	Germany
Mr. Daniel McDonnell	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Pascual Tomás-Hernández	Spain
Mr. Urmet Lee	Estonia
Ms. Ana Patricia Villalobos Arrieta	Costa Rica

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

² Paragraph 11: The election shall be by secret ballot. The requirement may be dispensed with if the number of candidates corresponds to the number of seats to be filled or in respect of candidates endorsed by the respective regional groups, unless a delegation specifically requests a vote on a given election.

Further, the Bureau took note that two States Parties, Burkina Faso and Madagascar, had presented a candidate each for election to the one seat on the Committee allocated to the African group.

Casual vacancy on the Committee

The Bureau recommended that the Assembly dispense with a secret ballot and elect by acclamation the following candidate:

Ms. Mateja Vraničar Erman

Slovenia

Vacant seat pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/22/Res.8

As regards the vacant seat in the expanded composition of the Committee pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/22/Res.8, the Bureau took note that the President had extend the nomination period for the nomination of candidates for a third and final time, pursuant to resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.5,³ until 20 October 2025.

The Bureau invited the Eastern European group to nominate a candidate for election to the additional seat allocated to the group.

(ii) Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims: status of nominations

Further to its 3 September 2025 decision to open the nomination period for the presentation of candidates to fill the vacancy that would arise on the Board of Directors in December 2025, upon the resignation of the member from the Asia-Pacific group, the Bureau took note that no nominations had been received.

The Bureau encouraged the Asia-Pacific group to nominate a candidate to fill this vacancy.

c) Credentials Committee

Further to the President's 3 September 2025 request that Bureau members consult within their regional groups to identify States willing to be appointed to the Credentials Committee pursuant to rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties, the Bureau took note that no candidates had been identified.

The Bureau requested all regional groups to inform the Secretariat about the respective candidates for appointment by the Assembly as soon as possible, but no later than 31 October 2025.

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

Further to the President's request that Bureau members of the Asia-Pacific group and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States consult in order to agree on one nominee for the position of Rapporteur for the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly, the Bureau took note that no candidate had been identified.

The Bureau requested the two regional groups to inform the Secretariat regarding the candidate identified as soon as possible, but no later than 31 October 2025.

³ Para. 4.

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

The Bureau took note that, as at 6 October 2025, no State had made contributions to the Trust Fund to enable the participation of delegates from least Developed Countries and other Developing States in the work of the twenty-fourth session.

The Bureau requested States Parties considering making a contribution to the Trust Fund to do so by 17 October, at the latest.

7. Other matters

a) Nomination of candidates for the Evaluation Programme Committee

The Bureau recalled that, on 7 May 2025, it had established the IOM Evaluation Programme Committee and adopted the Terms of Reference of the Committee.⁴ It took note that, further to the President's invitation to Bureau members to inform her of their interest in serving on the Committee no later than 30 May 2025, there had been no expressions of interest in serving on the Committee.

The President invited States Parties to indicate their interest in serving on the Committee and to inform the Secretariat as soon as possible.

b) Vacancy on the Audit Committee

The Bureau took note of the 2 October 2025 resignation of Mr. Mika Tapio (Finland) from the Audit Committee of the International Criminal Court. Mr. Tapio had been appointed by the Assembly on 6 December 2024 as a member of the Audit Committee for a term of three years starting on 1 January 2025.⁵ The resignation was necessitated by Mr. Tapio's recent appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General to the position of Executive Secretary of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU).

The Bureau considered the modalities for the selection and appointment of a member of the Audit Committee to fill the vacancy that arose upon the resignation of Mr. Tapio, bearing in mind the current ongoing process for the appointment of three members of the Committee (see vacancy announcement on the ICC website),⁶ as well as the amended Terms of Reference of the Committee, adopted by the Assembly on 6 December 2025.⁷

The Bureau requested the Registry to post a new vacancy announcement in relation to this vacancy. The President requested the Secretariat to approach the Registrar in this regard,

c) Information on intended withdrawal of certain States Parties from the Rome Statute

The Bureau took note of the announced intended withdrawal of three Sahel Region States from the Rome Statute: Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

The President had discussed the situation with the Ambassador of one of these States in Brussels, who had indicated that his State's withdrawal did not mean that it was abandoning

⁴ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2025-Bureau8-Agenda-Decisions.pdf

⁵ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/ICC-ASP-23-Res.6-ENG.pdf (section K).

⁶ <https://career5.successfactors.eu/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=24138&company=1657261P>

⁷ https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/ICC-ASP-23-Res.6-ENG.pdf (section K, para. 4 and annex).

the values of justice and human rights. He was not in a position to provide details of the status of the withdrawal nor on the initiative to establish a new Sahelian criminal court.

The President intended to have similar discussions with the Ambassadors of the other two States Parties.

d) Election of Rapporteur of the Committee on Budget and Finance

The Bureau recalled that, on 3 September 2025, it had taken note that, following its 12 March and 2 April 2025 consideration of the issue of the election of the Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Committee had, at its forty-eighth session,⁸ elected Mr. Jun Yamada (Japan) as Chair, and Ms. Ana Patricia Villalobos Arrieta (Costa Rica) as Vice-Chair.

The President had subsequently been informed, on 19 September 2025 that, at its September 2025 session, the Committee had decided to replace Ms Ana Patricia Villalobos, the previous Rapporteur who had been elected Vice-Chair, with a new Rapporteur.

The Committee had elected Mr. Werner Druml as Rapporteur.

e) Letter from the Arcadia Foundation

The Bureau took note that the President had received a letter addressed to her and to the Bureau members, dated 22 September 2025, from the Arcadia Foundation on the subject “Management-oversight request under Article 112(2)(b) - Request to the Registry for an administrative certification of counsel appearances and to the IOM for a focused evaluation of conflict-of-interest safeguards”.

The President would, together with the Secretariat, prepare an appropriate response.

f) Activities of the President

The Bureau took note that since its 3 September meeting, the President had visited New York from 23 to 26 September 2025, where she held meetings with, inter alia, the Informal Ministerial Network for the International Criminal Court, chaired by H.E. Ms. Sabine Monauni, Deputy Prime Minister of Liechtenstein and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Environment and Culture; the Informal Network of Women Foreign Ministers; Ms. Elinor Hammarhjöld, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel; and representatives of civil society.

In addition, on 30 September 2025, the President had briefed the meeting of the International Criminal Court Sub-area of the Public International Law Working Group of the Council of the European Union (COJUR-ICC) in Brussels on the following topics: the Special session of the Assembly held on 7-9 July 2025; the update of the OIOS investigation; current challenges facing the Court and States Parties; and preparations for the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly.

g) Visit to a State Party of an individual subject to an ICC arrest warrant

The Bureau took note of the intended visit of Mr. Vladimir Putin to the territory of a State Party, for the purpose of a State visit and the Council of CIS Heads of State meeting in October 2025.

As the visit was imminent, the President had sent a letter on 7 October 2025 to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of that State Party, in which she had noted the obligation of States Parties under

⁸ Held on 1 to 12 September 2025.

article 86 of the Rome Statute to cooperate fully with the Court in its investigation and prosecution of crimes within its jurisdiction. She had also recalled that article 89 (1) placed a specific obligation on States Parties to comply with requests from the Court for arrest and surrender. She had indicated, inter alia, that “It is essential that all States Parties meet this duty and not allow Mr. Putin to enter their territory without meeting their obligations to arrest and surrender him to the International Criminal Court.”
