



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Fourth meeting

5 February 2025

(via remote link)

Agenda and decisions

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

1. Introduction of the new Head of the Independent Oversight Mechanism

The Bureau welcomed the new Head of the Independent Oversight Mechanism (IOM), Mr. Silvain Sana, who had taken up the position on 2 December 2024. Mr. Sana outlined his priorities for the coming period, including building understanding of the IOM and its mandate within the Court, improving the efficiency of investigations, and implementing the evaluation policy of the Court which had been formally launched on 27 January 2025. Mr. Sana also touched on the challenges facing the IOM, including the limited resources available to deliver its mandate. Bureau members expressed support for Mr. Sana and the work of the IOM. In response to a query regarding how the IOM managed possible conflicts of interest or apprehensions of bias, Mr. Sana noted that a Standard Operating Procedure had been developed for such situations.

2. Recruitment of the Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly: panel report

The Bureau continued its consideration of the confidential report of the recruitment panel for the Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, submitted pursuant to the terms of reference adopted by the Bureau.¹ The Bureau decided to conduct interviews with the candidates recommended by the recruitment panel and decided on the procedure by which the successful candidate would be selected. It was noted that the terms of reference for future Bureau-led recruitment processes would benefit from careful consideration.

Noting that Ms. Christiane Bourloyannis had ended her term as Director ad interim on 31 January 2025, the President expressed appreciation on behalf of the Bureau for Ms. Bourloyannis' service to the Secretariat and the Assembly.

3. Update on threats against the Court

The Bureau discussed updates on recent threats against the Court and the various measures being taken in response.

4. Appointment of Assembly mandate-holders

The Bureau appointed mandate-holders nominated by the New York Working Group (see annex) and took note that consultations were ongoing to identify nominees for the remaining mandate-

¹ See agenda and decisions of the thirteenth meeting of the Bureau, held on 13 December 2023, annex, available at: https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2023-Bureau13-Agenda-Decisions.pdf.

holders in The Hague and New York. In relation to the facilitation on arrears, the importance of making progress on the development of criteria for assessing requests for waivers from the loss of voting rights was emphasized. In this regard the view was expressed that, if a facilitator could not be identified in the New York Working Group, the work on the loss of voting rights could be taken up in the Hague Working Group.

5. Preparations for the special session on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression

The Bureau received an update on preparations for the special session on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression, to be held from 7 to 9 July 2025 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.² The President noted that the invitation and provisional agenda had been circulated, and that a dedicated page had been created for the session on the Assembly website.³ Substantive preparations had also commenced, with the first meeting of the Working Group on Amendments taking place on 30 January 2025. As regards logistical arrangements for the special session, the Bureau decided that interpretation would be provided on the same basis as for regular sessions of the Assembly.⁴ A Bureau member recalled a previous offer concerning the venue; in this connection the Rome Statute provision regarding the venue of Assembly sessions was recalled.⁵

6. Status of contributions

The Bureau took note that, as at 31 January 2025, the Court had received 70 per cent of the assessed contributions to the approved budget for 2025. The total amount of outstanding contributions was €83 million, of which €59 million related to the 2025 budget, and €24 million to prior years. A total of 39 States Parties had outstanding contributions of more than one year, and 17 of those were ineligible to vote under article 112, paragraph 8, of the Rome Statute. The President welcomed the early payments that had been made and encouraged all States Parties to make their contributions to the budget of the Court as soon as possible.

7. Other matters

No other matters were raised.

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² See resolution ICC-ASP/23/Res.1, annex I, para. 16(b).

³ <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sessions/documentation/special-session-2025>.

⁴ Interpretation in the four languages of the Assembly which are also official languages of at least one State Party: Arabic, English, French and Spanish (see rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, as amended by resolution ICC-ASP/7/Res.6).

⁵ Article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute: "The Assembly shall meet at the seat of the Court or at the Headquarters of the United Nations ...".

Annex

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Assembly mandate-holders appointed by the Bureau on 5 March 2025

New York Working Group

- **Geographical representation and gender balance in the recruitment of staff of the Court**
Facilitator: Mr. Marvin Ikondere (Uganda)
- **Non-cooperation**
Ad-country focal points: Finland, Mexico, Poland, Sierra Leone, Vanuatu

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