

ARGENTINA 's STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF BELGIUM, MONGOLIA, SENEGAL, SLOVENIA AND THE NETHERLANDS – FIRST SEGMENT COOPERATION PLENARY

- It is my privilege to stand here today on behalf of the Core Group of the MLA initiative, consisting of Argentina, Belgium, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Senegal and Slovenia.
- As some of you might know, last May the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention on the investigation and prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity, War Crimes, and Other International Crimes was adopted by consensus.
- The negotiations took place in Ljubljana and 68 States, as well as 7 international organizations and 11 Civil Society Organizations participated therein.
- The Ljubljana-The Hague Convention aims to provide national authorities with a modern legal framework to cooperate with one another in the investigation and prosecution of core international crimes.
- As such, it touches upon many of the issues that are also dealt with in the Hague working group on cooperation, but on the horizontal rather than the vertical level.
- Although the Convention was adopted outside of the ICC framework the commonalities are numerous; by enhancing domestic adjudication it makes the principle of complementarity more effective, the convention uses the Rome Statute definitions of crimes and both the Rome Statute and the Ljubljana-The Hague Convention aim to end impunity for the most serious international crimes.
- On the 14th and 15 of February 2024 the signing conference for the Convention will take place in The Hague. It goes without saying that we hope to welcome many of you there and call upon all States to consider becoming a party to this important convention.
- Thank you.