

Ladies and Gentlemen,

France would like to reiterate its unwavering support for the International Criminal Court. This support can only be achieved through full cooperation in the area of arrests. The enforcement of arrest warrants is crucial to the Court's ability to implement its mandate. As in other areas of cooperation, the Court is once again dependent on States.

States are encouraged to introduce a number of practical measures to improve their cooperation with the Court, in particular with the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry. These measures include the following:

- The spontaneous sharing of information when the State is in possession of information on fugitives,
- raising awareness of the Court's mandate among national police and investigation services,
- the organisation of regular meetings with the relevant national services, either prior to a request for assistance or in response to such a request,
- making air assets available for the transfer of an individual subsequent to his or her arrest, or
- the identification of national contact points who can respond rapidly to urgent requests from the Court, in particular those concerning confirmation of information relating to the whereabouts of a fugitive.

Each State relies on different means, depending on its resources or on the national context, yet we all share a common goal, namely to support the Court and bring justice to victims. Hence, France encourages all States, parties and non-parties alike, to identify the best practices in terms of cooperation, share them and implement those that they are equipped to apply.

Thank you