

**ROME STATUTE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

**23<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES  
(THE HAGUE, 2-7 DECEMBER 2024)**

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF MONGOLIA**

**by**

**MR. MUNKHTUSHIG LKHANAAJAV  
STATE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

*The Hague, 2 December 2024*

Madame President,  
Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, I wish to extend our congratulations to you, Madame President, on your election to preside over the Assembly. We are confident that your leadership will contribute to our collective efforts towards a more just world.

Mongolia, as a supporter of promoting universality of the Rome Statute, we welcome the ratification of the Rome Statute by Ukraine.

Madame President,

Mongolia remains committed to upholding the principles enshrined in the Rome Statute and stands for international justice, peace and security, and the rule of law. We commend the ICC's contributions in promoting human rights and reinforcing the rule of law.

Mongolia, as an advocate for justice, joined the ICC, endorsing its establishment as a permanent institution dedicated to upholding its principles. We envisioned an ICC that would function as a court of law—one that upholds due process, impartiality, and respect for international legal norms.

We acknowledge with concern the growing disagreements surrounding interpretations and applications of core principles by the Court, which have raised questions regarding its impartiality in preliminary examinations, investigations, prosecutions, and trials.

Madame President,

Concerning the recent ICC decisions regarding Mongolia, we strongly disagree with the legal reasoning underpinning these decisions. All arguments must be considered thoroughly. Mongolia was not heard fully. In this regard, earlier today, we have formally submitted requests for reconsideration to the Pre-Trial Chamber, expressing our hope that the Chamber will revisit its decision based on its inherent powers.

We emphasize that the integrity of proceedings, procedural justice, and the impartiality of judges are essential to ensuring fairness and upholding the principles enshrined in the Rome Statute.

Madame President,

The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) is a landmark treaty that has laid the foundation for addressing the most serious crimes of international concern.

In the pursuit of justice and accountability, we stand at a crucial juncture. In recent years, the ICC has taken multiple approaches, weakening established tenets of public international law and the ICC's own legitimacy, credibility and authority. Questions surrounding the Court's impartiality are likely to generate concerns about its ability to deliver justice consistently.

It is evident that we must undertake a comprehensive review of the Statute to address its shortcomings and ensure its effectiveness and implementation. This review should focus on enhancing cooperation among States Parties, clarifying procedural ambiguities, and ensuring that the ICC can implement its mandate in all circumstances.

We believe that the strength of the ICC lies not only in its legal framework but also in our collective will to support it. It is our responsibility to strengthen this institution so that it can fulfill its promise.

In these challenging times, Mongolia has continued to support the ICC, recognizing the importance of a legal mechanism to uphold the rule of law and protect international peace and security.

Mongolia remains concerned about the growing security threats faced by the Court, particularly in light of recent cyberattacks and the targeting of its officials. We express our solidarity with the ICC and its presidency as they confront these challenges.

We also acknowledge that it is indeed crucial that the ICC continues to cooperate with the United Nations and its member states, which is essential to the Court's effective functioning.

Madame President,

The ICC was founded on the principles of justice, fairness, and respect for international law. It is our shared responsibility to ensure that these principles are upheld. Let us work together to address these challenges and reaffirm our commitment to a Court that honors the delicate balance between justice, peace, security and stability.

I thank you, Madame President.