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SECRETARIAT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Concept Note: Thematic General debate, Concrete Measures to Strengthen the International Criminal Court

Twenty-fourth session of the Assembly

1 to 6 December 2025

During the intersessional period, several events have tested the resilience of the International Criminal Court. Sanctions have been imposed by the United States on elected officials of the Court, the Prosecutor, two Deputy Prosecutors and six Judges, as well as those cooperating with the Court. These sanctions, impacting the ability of nine elected officials of the Court to function in their everyday lives, are in direct response to the discharge by these officials of their mandates in full compliance with the Rome Statute. The Court has also been targeted by a sophisticated cyber-attack, which sought to infiltrate its IT systems and disrupt its operations.

Despite these challenges, the Court has continued to fulfil its mandate and conduct its work without interruption, demonstrating its determination and commitment to deliver justice to victims of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole.

As the architects of the Rome Statute system and the governing body of the Court, States Parties play a vital role. In this context, States Parties are invited to use the opportunity of the General debate of the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly of States Parties to express their continued support for the Court and to discuss concrete measures that the Assembly can take to protect the Court and to strengthen the Rome Statute system.

A desired outcome of the thematic debate will be a document committing to certain concrete measures to strengthen the Court's resilience.
