



Statement by Ambassador Sérgio França Danese

Permanent Representative of Brazil

**at the Special Session of the Assembly of States Parties to the
International Criminal Court**

7 July 2025

[check against delivery]

Madam President,

Brazil reaffirms its support for the International Criminal Court, especially at this unprecedented moment.

Our position on the ongoing review process is rooted in a firm commitment to the integrity of the Rome Statute, legal certainty, and the unity of State Parties.

In our deliberations, we should be mindful of the risks of any amendments or outcomes that could undermine the Court's credibility and legitimacy.

This is especially true in a context of increased attempts to politicize the Court's jurisdiction and relativize international law.

While some States strongly advocate for expanding the Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression, they selectively turn a blind eye to certain acts of aggression, including those taking place in the Middle East.

While some decisions of the Court are promptly endorsed, others are questioned or even entirely dismissed, all depending on the nationality of their target.

Instead of strengthening the Court, such behavior can only do it harm.

At this moment of unprecedented challenges to the Court's authority, we should also be guided by the imperative of preserving the unity of States Parties.

Brazil firmly believes that, at this juncture, any outcome document must be adopted by consensus and should avoid promoting divisions amongst the membership.

Now more than ever, the court needs solid foundations and unquestionable legitimacy to carry out its work - not the instability of controversial constructs.

The Court has reached a critical juncture. Several of its officials have warned that the institution is under existential threat.

Non-States Parties have imposed illegal and illegitimate sanctions and issued unacceptable threats against the Court and its officials, in a blatant attempt to disrupt the mandate entrusted to the ICC by us, the States Parties.

Let us take this review conference as an opportunity to reflect and come together in upholding the remarkable agreements that made the Rome statute possible.

Allowing contingent political calculations to influence our appraisal of the Statute, leading to a possible failure to achieve consensus and to express our collective support for the Court, would send a deeply negative political message and amount to a historical setback for international criminal justice.

Madam President,

I reiterate Brazil`s strong commitment to engaging constructively in the negotiations during this Special Session. We must reach an outcome that safeguards the integrity of the Rome Statute and reinforces the unity of States Parties in their support for the Court.

Thank you.