



**Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute
Special session on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression
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**Statement by
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Madame President,

Let me start by reaffirming Norway's unwavering commitment to the ICC and its mandate.

The ICC is facing unprecedented pressure. At this Assembly it is more important than ever that we show our united and strong support to the Court.

Our ultimate goal with the creation of the ICC is to end impunity for all four core international crimes. Norway attaches high importance to support the international norm that criminalizes aggression.

That is why the Norwegian government has taken steps to ratify the Kampala amendments, and we are now preparing a proposition to the Parliament.



We are looking forward to tomorrow's session on lessons learnt from the Kampala amendments. This will be an important stocktaking exercise, contributing to creating a common understanding of the progress made and challenges that remain.

Madame President,

The resolution in Kampala was a delicate and carefully negotiated compromise, adopted by consensus.

Now that we are embarking on a review of the Kampala amendments, Norway would like to stress the importance of maintaining this consensus.

A show of unity is the best way to express our support for the ICC.

Another crucial aspect in considering the proposed amendments is ensuring legal clarity and predictability. We recognize that legal questions remain. These must be carefully considered before a decision on harmonization of the Court's jurisdiction can be taken.

This is important for us States Parties, as well as our common effort to reach universal accession to the Rome Statute. Lack of legal clarity could also prejudice the effective functioning of the Court.



The risk of politicization of the Court and its mandate is unfortunately very real. As States Parties, we cannot cower to political attacks, but we must ensure that our decisions are beyond reproach.

Madame President,

Norway will engage constructively at this Assembly to reach a consensus outcome and find common ground for moving forward.

Thank you.