



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Nineteenth meeting

22 July 2026

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Päivi Kaukoranta (Finland). Vice-President Margareta Kassangana (Poland) also participated.

1. Preparations for the special session of the Assembly on disciplinary proceedings involving an elected official

The Bureau continued its consideration of the preparations for the special session of the Assembly on disciplinary proceedings involving an elected official, to be held on 24 July 2026 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

a) Credentials Committee

The President informed the Bureau that France, Germany and Ghana had indicated their availability to serve on the Credentials Committee for the special session. The President requested Bureau members to inform the Secretariat of other States Parties willing to serve on the Committee.

b) Nomination of national tellers

The Bureau agreed to recommend that the Assembly appoint Ms. Pauline Gbornyah (Liberia) as a national teller for the special session. The President requested Bureau members from the remaining regional groups to inform the Secretariat of the representatives willing to act as national tellers.

c) Nomination of a Rapporteur

The Bureau requested the members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Asia-Pacific Group to continue consultations in order to identify an individual for appointment as Rapporteur, and to inform the Secretariat as soon as possible.

d) Requests for waivers of the loss of voting rights

The Bureau recalled its 8 July 2026 decision to recommend, in light of the exceptional circumstances surrounding the special session, that the Assembly grant any requests for waivers of the loss of voting rights at the session. The President noted that requests for waivers had subsequently been received from Antigua and Barbuda, Gabon, Grenada and Suriname, and that these requests, as well as any other requests received by the Secretariat before the session, would be presented to the Assembly during the opening plenary meeting.

The President recalled that the Bureau had undertaken to continue its consideration of waivers for the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly at a future meeting. As no detailed supporting documentation had been submitted with the requests, the Bureau agreed that it would not be necessary

to seek technical advice from the Committee on Budget and Finance under resolution ICC-ASP/24/Res.3.

2. Evaluation Programme Committee: appointment of members

The Bureau had before it an expression of interest in membership of the Evaluation Programme Committee.¹ The Bureau appointed the following member of the Evaluation Programme Committee:

- Mr. Yudathadei Olivary Kway (Tanzania).

The President noted that one seat remained vacant on the Evaluation Programme Committee. She encouraged expressions of interest in the Committee, noting that the Bureau would be able to appoint the remaining member at a later stage.

3. Other matters

a) Threats against the Court

The President noted with concern the recent public statements against the Court by the government of the United States, and acknowledged those States Parties who had made statements in support of the Court in response. On 17 July 2026, the Day of International Criminal Justice, the President had issued a statement in which she paid tribute to all those who contribute to the Rome Statute system and reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of the Assembly of States Parties to safeguarding the independence, integrity and future of the International Criminal Court for the benefit of victims of mass atrocities and of present and future generations.² The President's statement had also noted that it was imperative to reinforce support for the Court, its officials and those who cooperate with it.

b) Modalities for public roundtables with judicial candidates

The Bureau approved the proposed modalities for the public roundtables with judicial candidates, as agreed by the New York Working Group on 15 July 2026. The roundtables would take place on 4 and 5 November 2026 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

c) Appointment of a mandate-holder

The Bureau was informed of the need to appoint a replacement for Ms. Pauline De Decker (Belgium) as co-focal point of the Study Group on Governance, due to the conclusion of Ms. De Decker's posting in The Hague. Vice-President Kassangana informed the Bureau that Ms. De Decker's successor, Ms. Anne-Sophie Massa, was willing to take up the role for the remainder of 2026. The Bureau appointed Ms. Anne-Sophie Massa (Belgium) as a co-focal point of the Study Group on Governance.

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¹ The Bureau established the Evaluation Programme Committee and adopted its Terms of Reference on 7 May 2025 (see https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/2025-Bureau8-Agenda-Decisions.pdf). The Terms of Reference were amended on 5 November 2025 (see https://asp.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/asp_docs/Bureau15-agenda%20and%20decisions.20Nov25.2000b.pdf).

² <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/node/15117>.