



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Twenty-fifth meeting

10 October 2026

Agenda and decisions

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Assembly, Ambassador Païvi Kaukoranta (Finland).

1. Threats against the Court

The Bureau noted with regret the 9 October 2026 announcement by the United States administration of sanctions against the International Criminal Court as an institution. The President of the Court, Judge Tomoko Akane, Deputy Prosecutor Nazhat Khan, and the Registrar, Mr. Osvaldo Zavala Giler briefed the Bureau on the immediate impacts and response. A representative of the host State, the Netherlands, also participated.

The Bureau issued a statement, *inter alia*, regretting the sanctions against the Court as an institution, underscoring the support of the Bureau for the Court, its officials, and all those who contribute to the fulfilment of its judicial mandate, and calling for the immediate revocation of the sanctions (see annex).¹

¹ Also available at: <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/node/15597>.

Annex

The Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties regrets sanctions against the ICC as an institution

Press release: The Hague, 10 October 2026

The Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties regrets institutional sanctions against the International Criminal Court (“the Court”).

The escalation in unprecedented use of coercive measures is a regrettable attempt to impede the Court and its personnel in the exercise of their independent judicial functions. Such actions aim to directly challenge an international legal institution painstakingly built to ensure that accountability, not impunity, prevails. The institutional designation of the Court follows sanctions targeting the elected officials of the Court.

We underscore our support for the Court, its officials, and all those who contribute to the fulfilment of its judicial mandate in accordance with the Rome Statute. We reiterate our resolve to uphold the principles of international justice and the independence of the judiciary and to stand united in supporting the Court, its elected officials, its personnel and those cooperating with it to carry out their roles and responsibilities under the Rome Statute.

In this context, we underline the importance of cooperation with the Court by all States Parties and stakeholders in the Rome Statute system. The Bureau calls on the international community to stand firm in defence of the Court in the face of these unprecedented measures, and to demonstrate their collective resolve to safeguard the integrity of the international rule of law.

The Bureau also calls for the immediate revocation of these sanctions.

The Assembly of States Parties is the management oversight and legislative body of the ICC. The Bureau of the Assembly consists of a President, two Vice-Presidents and 18 members elected by the Assembly for three-year terms. The Bureau has a representative character and assists the Assembly in the discharge of its responsibilities.

For additional information, please contact the Assembly of States Parties via email at asp@icc-cpi.int.

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