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Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance on the work of its fiftieth session

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Executive Summary

1. The Committee on Budget and Finance (“the Committee”) held its fiftieth session in The Hague from 11 to 15 May 2026. Over the course of the session, the Committee held a workshop with the Court on budget matters and considered a range of issues relevant to its mandate, including financial and budgetary matters, budget performance, Office of the Prosecutor (“OTP”) Trust Funds and secondees, Human Resources matters, and Information Technology (“IT”) and cybersecurity.
2. The Committee was briefed in a closed session by the Registrar on the operational implications of the external threats the Court is facing and on the ongoing activities to mitigate their impact on its operations. A coordinated range of measures is being undertaken in the most critical areas. Beyond the topic of institutional resilience, attention has also to be given to the Court’s workplace culture which is particularly challenged in the current atmosphere of uncertainty.
3. The Committee hosted the traditional **budget workshop** with the Court, which dealt with the presentation of the budget and the legal framework for conversion of General Temporary Assistance (“GTA”) positions into established posts.
 - Regarding the presentation of the budget, the Court informed the Committee that it plans to strengthen the alignment of the budget with the Strategic Plan 2026–2029, and to work on its linkage with savings and efficiency measures. The Committee supported the Court’s intent to streamline the format and improve overall coherence in the budget document, while maintaining appropriate levels of transparency and scrutiny. The Committee considered, in particular, options to refine the presentation of GTA within the budget document. The Committee recommended specific presentational requirements for new requests, for ongoing positions, for previously unapproved GTAs, and for discontinued positions. GTA requests should be presented in a uniform manner across the Court. The Committee’s recommendations on a consistent and standardized approach are made with the intent to preserve corporate memory and support robust scrutiny.
 - The Court also sought to clarify the process for converting GTA positions into established posts. It was confirmed that any such transition requires robust scrutiny by the Committee followed by approval by the Assembly of States Parties. The Committee also discussed options to strengthen prioritization within the process. With a view to avoiding sustained growth in fixed costs and maintaining organizational flexibility, the Committee considered whether measures such as workforce ceilings or requirements for compensating reductions could be beneficial.
4. On **financial and budgetary matters** the Committee noted that, as at 30 April 2026, the cash balance of the General Fund amounted to €118.4 million, while the cash balances of the Working Capital Fund and the Contingency Fund stood at €13.3 million and €7.0 million, respectively. The Committee also noted that the Court had not encountered liquidity constraints, as approximately 94 per cent of assessed contributions had been received as at 30 April 2026.
5. During its review of **budget performance in 2025**, the Committee observed that the costs for established posts and GTA were implemented at a rate of 98.0 and 76.6 per cent, respectively. A part of that underspend was used to cover higher-than-budgeted costs in respect of other commitment items, such as individual contractors for the OTP and established posts in the Registry. The Committee recommended that, in the preparation of the 2027 budget, the Court undertake a comprehensive and realistic review of budget lines related to staff costs.
6. The Committee considered the updates presented on **OTP Trust Funds and secondees**:
 - The Trust Fund for Advanced Technology and Specialized Capacity has continued to allocate resources across its three priority areas. As at the end of December 2025, contributions amounting to €40.27 million were pledged as follows: (i) 66 per cent to technological tools; (ii) 10 per cent to psychological support; and (iii) 24 per cent to specialized capacity relating to sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children. In the current threat environment, the Committee

considered that these capabilities should also be assessed from an operational-resilience perspective, including the extent to which they depend on specific suppliers, jurisdictions, service providers or technical architecture.

- The Trust Fund for Geographic Diversity had received contributions totalling €702.57 thousand. No expenditures have yet been incurred under this OTP-administered fund. Four candidates have been selected, and implementation will begin in 2026.
- The Trust Fund for Complementarity and Cooperation has received contributions totalling €1.11 million and the total expenditure incurred by the end of December 2025 was €160.66 thousand. Currently, the OTP engages with national authorities in Central African Republic, Ukraine, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea to provide assistance and support and to engage their own national proceedings.
- Since the inception of the secondment programme, there have been 132 confirmed secondees from 23 States Parties. An average of 55 experts were on board from 2022 to 2024, decreasing to 43 in December 2025. The anticipated level by the end of 2026 is 21 secondees. In light of decreasing numbers of secondees, learning and knowledge transfer has become an important part of the secondment programme.

7. On **IT and cybersecurity**, the Committee welcomed the progress achieved in implementing the Security Blueprint. It recommended that the Court provide an updated comprehensive financial report of the Security Blueprint and related business-continuity measures at the fifty-first session of the Committee. The Committee noted the Court's explanation that certain Security Blueprint activities were postponed in 2025 because resources had to be redirected to urgent emerging operational business-continuity measures. The Committee recommended that the Court implement as soon as operationally possible the delayed or postponed Blueprint activities.

The Committee was informed that the Court is in practice managing the Security Blueprint together with "Operation Tech Autonomy", in view of the handling of risks arising from the external threat environment and from the dependency on technologies that may lead the Court to operational disruption scenarios. The Committee considered that this initiative is strategically relevant to the Court's institutional resilience and should be reported in a structured manner.

8. On **Human Resources** matters, the Committee took note of the activities of the Court in 2025 and the first quarter of 2026 on various aspects of workplace culture and efforts to improve recruitment processes. The vacancy rate had reduced from 18 per cent at the beginning of 2025 to 14 per cent by the end of the year. The Committee recommended that the Court continue its efforts to lower vacancy rates and review and improve recruitment processes, to fulfil recruitment and talent acquisition needs in a timely manner. The Committee noted the results of the 2025 Staff Engagement Survey and recommended that the Court review and strengthen its internal reporting channels and take comprehensive measures to protect staff confidentiality and prevent retaliation, with a clear view to addressing workplace misconduct and related concerns. The Court provided statistical data on geographical representation and gender distribution in the staff of the Court from 2020 to 2025 and the first quarter of 2026. The Committee noted that significant progress in gender balance was observed across most major programmes but further noted that challenges remain, despite these gains. The Committee also recommended the continuation of targeted efforts to address remaining imbalances in geographical representation.

9. The Committee recommended that the reporting of **Key Performance Indicators** ("KPIs") under the current Strategic Plan shall include all KPIs and incorporate the historical series of results and, to the extent possible, take into account the key indicators of previous strategic plans, thereby facilitating comparability and progress over periods.

I. Opening of the fiftieth session

1. The fiftieth session of the Committee on Budget and Finance (“the Committee”) was held in The Hague from 11 to 15 May 2026, in accordance with the decision of the Assembly of States Parties (“the Assembly”) at its twenty-fourth session.¹ The agenda of the session is contained in annex I and attendance and participation by observers are detailed under “Other matters”.

2. The President of the International Criminal Court (“the Court”), Judge Tomoko Akane, delivered welcoming remarks to the Committee. The Vice-President of the Assembly, Ambassador Margareta Kassangana, welcomed the Committee at the opening of the session.

II. Consideration of the agenda of the Committee

Institutional resilience

3. The President of the Court, in her welcoming remarks, underlined the Court’s commitment to continuing its activities with independence and impartiality, undeterred by coercive measures and threats. These threats have brought about a transformative shift in how the Court operates, the paramount consideration being to ensure its institutional resilience.

4. The Committee was briefed in a closed session by the Registrar on the operational implications of the external threats the Court is facing and on the ongoing activities to mitigate their impact on its operations. A coordinated range of measures is being undertaken in the most critical areas to ensure business continuity. Beyond the topic of institutional resilience, attention has also to be given to the Court’s workplace culture which is particularly challenged in the current atmosphere of uncertainty.

5. The Committee will continue to closely monitor these developments and to support the Court in addressing these evolving challenges.

Budget workshop

1. Budget presentation

6. At its twenty-fourth session, the Assembly, in line with the Committee’s recommendation on the presentation of budget proposals, acknowledged the efforts made by the Court in the presentation of the budget and encouraged the Court to continue improving. The Assembly also requested the Court to provide, at the Committee’s fiftieth session, an update on the measures taken.²

7. The Court informed the Committee that it plans to strengthen the alignment of the budget with the Strategic Plan 2026–2029, and to work on its linkage with savings and efficiency measures. In addition, the Court plans to focus the narratives on strategic and more important issues.

8. The Committee noted these efforts and was, in principle, in support of a more focused and strategic narrative in the preparation of the budget, but noted that the challenge would be to find the right balance between keeping the document concise and giving sufficient information.

9. The Committee noted the information provided by the Court during the session on the comparison of budget assumptions/parameters and actuals for the year 2025.

10. The budget workshop also considered options to refine the presentation of General Temporary Assistance (“GTA”) within the budget document. The Committee supported the Court’s intent to streamline the format and improve overall coherence in the budget document, while maintaining appropriate levels of transparency and scrutiny.

¹ ICC-ASP/24/Res.6, annex I, para. 18(a).

² ICC-ASP/24/Res.4, section D, para. 7.

11. The Committee's recommendations on a consistent and standardised approach are made with the intent to preserve corporate memory and support robust scrutiny. GTA requests should be presented in a uniform manner across the Court to preserve a consistent corporate record, enable effective understanding and scrutiny of all requests and a coherent presentation of position history (financial and Human Resources data). The information provided should support the Committee's assessment of whether the GTA modality remains appropriate, whether partial funding would be more realistic, or whether the function should be discontinued, converted or otherwise regularised.

RECOMMENDATIONS

12. **The Committee recommended that the Court proceed with its proposed measures for the presentation of the budget, but requested the Court to keep in mind the need to provide the necessary information to the Committee.**

13. **The Committee recommended that, for its future spring sessions, the Court should include additional information when providing the comparison of budget assumptions/parameters and actuals: specifically, the equivalent figures for the preceding two years, as well as the preliminary assumptions/parameters for the forthcoming year.**

14. **The Committee recommended that GTA requests should be presented in a uniform manner across the Court. In this regard:**

- a) **All new GTA requests should continue to be presented in full, within the core body of the budget document;**
- b) **Ongoing GTA requests should be listed in the main body of the budget, with the original rationale (updated where appropriate) included in an annex;**
- c) **GTA positions previously not approved, but now being re-submitted, should be included within the core body of the budget document; and**
- d) **Discontinued GTA positions should be presented within GTA tables to show a net position and where prioritisation decisions have been taken.**

15. **The Committee recommended that a clearer view of GTA requirements be presented from the 2027 proposed programme budget onwards. The Court should coherently present a position-level implementation profile for GTA-funded positions, including where appropriate: the year of first approval, the projected end-date of the need, vacancy history, encumbered months, actual expenditure, recruitment status/forecast and current functional justification.**

2. Other GTA issues

16. The Court also sought to clarify the process for converting GTA positions into established posts. It was confirmed that any such transition requires robust scrutiny by the Committee on Budget and Finance, followed by approval by the Assembly.

17. While recognising that conversion from GTA to established posts appropriately attracts additional scrutiny, the Committee also discussed options to strengthen prioritisation within the process. With a view to avoiding sustained growth in fixed costs and maintaining organisational flexibility, the Committee considered whether measures such as workforce ceilings or requirements for compensating reductions could be beneficial.

18. The Committee noted that the Court continues to rely significantly on GTA-funded positions and other flexible workforce modalities to address operational needs. The Committee recognised the importance of flexibility in the Court's operating environment, particularly in light of unforeseen judicial, investigative and security-related developments. At the same time, the Committee considered that the continued use of GTA-funded positions should be assessed against actual implementation. In particular, the Committee considered that long-standing, vacant, partially implemented or repeatedly continued GTA positions should be traceable

over time and should not be treated as automatically justified solely because they were approved in previous budget cycles.

RECOMMENDATION

19. The Committee recommended that, at next year's budget workshop, the Court present practical and deliverable options designed to enhance efficiency and reinforce prioritisation within overall workforce planning. This should include sufficient consideration of workforce ceilings/envelopes and a proposal identifying reductions that would be implementable within the 2028 proposed programme budget.

Financial and budgetary matters

1. Status of contributions and States in arrears as at 31 December 2025

20. Based on the information provided in the monthly financial situation report as at 31 December 2025, the Committee noted that the total cash inflow for the year 2025 was €227.1 million, including a total of €47.7 million of contributions received in 2025 related to 2026 contributions. As at 31 December 2025, the total amount of outstanding contributions was €27.9 million of which €8.8 million related to the 2025 budget and €19.1 million related to prior years. As at 31 December 2025, a total of 41 States had outstanding contributions for 2025, and 12 States were in arrears and subject to the loss of voting rights under article 112, paragraph 8, of the Rome Statute.

21. Table 1 below shows the trend for outstanding contributions over the last ten years.

Table 1: Analysis of the trend in outstanding contributions over the past ten years³

	Programme budget incl. HSL	End of period - Outstanding budget contributions incl. HSL (incl. for prior years)	Outstanding contributions (in per cent)
2016	139,590.60	18,405.00	13.18%
2017	144,587.30	31,047.90	21.47%
2018	147,431.50	21,121.90	14.33%
2019	148,135.10	25,771.70	17.40%
2020	149,205.60	38,401.70	25.74%
2021	148,259.00	36,266.70	24.46%
2022	154,855.00	40,707.50	26.29%
2023	173,234.30	27,693.80	15.99%
2024	187,084.20	29,244.31	15.63%
2025	194,553.30	27,906.80	14.34%
2026*	196,852.90	28,914.10	14.69%

*The forecast for 2026 is based on 2025 trends of contributions received. As at 31 March 2026, the total outstanding contributions for the programme budget (including Host State Loan contributions and prior years) was €57,161,414.

2. Status of contributions and States in arrears as at 30 April 2026

22. The Committee noted that, as at 30 April 2026, the cash balance of the General Fund amounted to €118.4 million, while the cash balances of the Working Capital Fund ("WCF") and the Contingency Fund ("CF") stood at €13.3 million and €7.0 million, respectively. The Committee also noted that the Court had not encountered liquidity constraints, as approximately 94 per cent of assessed contributions had been received as at 30 April 2026, and that it had therefore not been necessary to access the WCF.

23. The Committee further noted that, as at 30 April 2026, total outstanding contributions amounted to €45.2 million, of which €18.9 million related to the 2026 approved budget and €26.3 million to prior years.

³ Prior years do not include other receivables such as the Contingency Fund or Working Capital Fund.

24. The Committee further noted that, as at 30 April 2026, 38 States Parties had outstanding contributions of more than one year, with total arrears of €16.6 million attributable to the 14 States Parties subject to the loss of voting rights under article 112, paragraph 8, of the Rome Statute.

RECOMMENDATION

25. The Committee reiterated its encouragement to all States Parties to pay their assessed contributions in full and in a timely manner, and urged those States Parties with outstanding arrears, including long-outstanding contributions from prior years, to engage with the Court with a view to settling their obligations as soon as possible, including, where appropriate, through structured payment arrangements.

3. Programme performance of the 2025 budget

General considerations and budget flexibility

26. The Committee recognizes that adherence to the Financial Regulations and Rules (“FRR”) is essential to preserve the Court’s operational independence, efficiency, and credibility. In this regard, flexibility becomes a tool that enables the Court to reallocate resources within approved parameters in response to urgent priorities, temporary surges in workload, or emerging investigative opportunities, without incurring undue administrative delay.

27. At the same time, the Committee underlines that an excessively broad expansion of discretionary authority within the Court’s administration may create unintended incentives, including imprecise budget forecasting, gradual institutional expansion, or the normalization of what should remain exceptional expenditures. From this perspective, maintaining clearly defined budget ceilings, becomes an important safeguard, as it encourages strategic prioritization, efficiency gains, and more disciplined management practices across the institution.

28. A cautious approach to budget flexibility is therefore particularly important in the current international context, where many organizations are operating under increasing financial pressures and competing global priorities, as well as facing new unforeseen challenges. Within this environment, the prudent application of the FRR, including well-defined budget ceilings and the careful use of tools such as transfers of funds between appropriation sections, not only supports fiscal discipline but also reinforces the Court’s capacity to allocate resources in a more strategic, transparent, and effective manner.

Programme budget performance

29. The Committee considered the “Report on activities and programme performance of the International Criminal Court for the year 2025”,⁴ which was based on preliminary unaudited figures. The Committee noted that the Court’s total expenditure in 2025, including the interest and capital repayment on the premises of €3.59 million, amounted to €186.56 million, representing an implementation rate of the regular budget of 95.4 per cent of the approved budget of €195.48 million. Table 2 below provides a summary of the Court’s budget performance in 2025 by item of expenditure.

⁴ Report on activities and programme performance of the International Criminal Court for the year 2025 (CBF/50/7).

Table 2: Budget performance in 2025 by item of expenditure (amounts in thousands of euros)

	Approved budget 2025	Actual expenditure 2025	Variance (thousands of euros)	Implementati on rate in %
ICC	[1]	[2]	[3]=[1]-[2]	[4]=[2]/[1]
Judges	6,906.1	6,248.6	657.5	90.5
Subtotal judges	6,906.1	6,248.6	657.5	90.5
Subtotal staff	114,859.6	112,579.1	2,280.5	98.0
General temporary assistance	25,712.0	19,686.0	6,026.0	76.6
Individual contractors	1,291.1	2,452.3	(1,161.2)	189.9
Temporary assistance for meetings	590.1	324.8	265.3	55.0
Overtime	309.4	388.2	(78.8)	125.5
Subtotal staff costs	142,762.2	135,430.5	7,331.7	94.9
Travel	3,516.7	3,321.1	195.6	94.4
Hospitality	32.0	16.3	15.7	51.0
Contractual services	4,880.1	4,116.3	763.8	84.3
Training	907.5	631.2	276.3	69.6
Consultants	1,126.6	1,485.2	(358.6)	131.8
Counsel for defence	3,966.2	4,570.3	(604.1)	115.2
Counsel for victims	1,794.3	1,163.9	630.4	64.9
General operating expenses	21,411.1	21,151.4	259.7	98.8
Supplies and materials	1,283.8	1,596.6	(312.8)	124.4
Furniture and equipment	3,309.8	3,240.8	69.0	97.9
Subtotal non-staff	42,228.1	41,293.0	935.1	97.8
Total	191,896.4	182,972.2	8,924.2	95.3
Host State Loan	3,585.1	3,585.1	(0.0)	100.0
Total including Host State Loan	195,481.5	186,557.3	8,924.2	95.4

30. In 2025, the Court submitted three notifications to the Committee requesting access to the CF, in accordance with the FRR, to address unforeseen and unavoidable expenditures that could not have been reasonably anticipated during the budget planning process. These requests amounted to a total of €5.29 million.

31. The actual implementation rate for the CF notifications at year-end was 82.2 percent, equivalent to €4.35 million out of total CF notifications amounting to €5.29 million. This increased the total expenditure under the approved 2025 budget to €190.91 million, representing an overall implementation rate of 97.7 per cent. The Committee observed that the Court was able to absorb the actual expenditure related to the CF notifications within the approved 2025 budget, which demonstrates both the exceptional nature of the 2025 implementation year and indicates the reprioritization capacity within the regular budget.

Staff costs

32. The Committee observed that the costs for established posts and GTA were implemented at a rate of 98.0 and 76.6 per cent, respectively. A significant part of that underspend was used to cover higher-than-budgeted costs in respect of other commitment items, such as individual contractors for the OTP and established posts in the Registry. The Committee considered that this pattern requires careful attention in future budget proposals and in Human Resources planning, as significant under-implementation of GTA may indicate not only recruitment or timing constraints, but also a degree of flexibility in the approved staffing envelope which should be transparently reflected when assessing new or continued resource requests.

33. The Committee noted that the Individual Contractors budget line was over-spent by 189.9 per cent (€2,452.3 thousand spent versus €1,291.1 thousand budgeted). This was mainly due to the high utilization of individual contractors by OTP, to support the investigative and prosecutorial activities of the Unified Teams and to provide different language skills, namely in the situations in Palestine, Ukraine and the Philippines. For that purpose, OTP stated that it was more efficient to hire individual contractors than staff with the required skills, as it ensures the availability of a later pool of resources to manage peaks in workload.

34. The Committee observed that the overtime budget line was over-implemented by a rate of 125.5 per cent (€388.2 thousand spent versus €309.4 thousand budgeted). According to the Court, this had been required to ensure the physical safety and security of its elected officials following the issuance of arrest warrants in the situations in Ukraine and Palestine. The Court indicated that it continues to implement flexible solutions, including a new work planning approach aimed at providing security services more efficiently.

RECOMMENDATIONS

35. **The Committee recommended that, in the preparation of the 2027 budget, the Court undertake a comprehensive and realistic review of budget lines related to staff costs, taking into account recurring practices that create sustained pressure on specific appropriations, particularly those concerning individual contractors. The review should also consider the actual implementation pattern of GTA resources, including vacancy rates, encumbered months, and the extent to which underspending in GTA resources may have been used to off-set budgetary pressures in other areas of the budget.**

Non-Staff costs

36. The Committee noted that the total non-staff costs had an implementation rate of 97.8 per cent (€41,293.0 thousand spent versus €42,228.1 thousand budgeted). An overspend was noted for consultants and legal aid (counsel for defence), as well as supplies and materials.

Travel

37. The implementation rate for travel was 94.4 per cent, with total expenditure of €3.32 million against the approved budget of €3.52 million, which represented a result of reduced operational requirements in 2025 as compared to 2024.

Consultants

38. The budget for consultants was overspent by €358.6 thousand, reflecting an implementation rate of 131.8 per cent (€1,485.2 thousand spent versus €1,126.6 thousand budgeted). The majority of this overspend occurred in the Registry, and related to the Court-wide ethics function, Human Resources-related initiatives and the replacement of the Medical Officer during periods of annual leave or unavailability; in the OTP the funds were used for consultants with specific technical skills such as forensic experts, to participate in fact-finding missions and for legal or investigative consultants to provide advice and support to investigation teams.

Furniture and equipment

39. The Committee observed that furniture and equipment was implemented at a rate of 97.7 per cent. The OTP over-implemented its budget for furniture and equipment at 271.3 per cent, reflecting costs incurred for investigative and forensic equipment for specific projects and to ensure consistency within the Court's IT/IM strategy.

40. The budget lines for Training, Hospitality, and Contractual Services were underspent, which contributed to off-setting the overall budgetary excess. The Committee noted that such off-sets may be a legitimate part of budget implementation, particularly in an exceptional year, but should not obscure the need to distinguish between genuine efficiencies, delayed implementation, changes in accounting classification and recurring expenditure pressures.

RECOMMENDATIONS

41. The Committee recommended that the Court adopt an efficiency-conscious approach to the utilization of non-staff resources in order to remain within the approved budget envelope and avoid the excessive use of transfers of funds to the detriment of certain budget lines, thereby limiting their ability to effectively fulfil their intended purposes.

42. The Committee further recommended that the Court strengthen its review of the classification of funding requests so as to ensure that expenditures are charged to the appropriate budget lines, thereby enhancing the clarity, transparency, and accountability of the presentation of the Court's activities and resource needs.

Transfers of funds

43. The Court reported six transfers of funds of an amount greater than €200.0 thousand in 2025:

- i. An amount of €336,125.00 was transferred from furniture and equipment to supplies and materials within the Information Management Services Section to cover IT supplies.
- ii. An amount of €440,000.00 was transferred from counsel for victims to counsel for defence within the Counsel Support Section to cover defence counsel costs.
- iii. An amount of €213,511.16 was transferred from GTA in the Security and Safety Section to staff costs in the Human Resources Section to cover the payroll run for November. This was an intra-staff-costs transfer.
- iv. An amount of €522,900.85 was transferred from GTA to staff costs in the Security and Safety Section to cover the payroll run for December. This was an intra-staff-costs transfer.
- v. An amount of €217,161.00 was transferred from staff costs in the Language Services Section to the Office of the Director of the Division of Judicial Services to cover the payroll run for December. This was an intra-staff-costs transfer.
- vi. An amount of €200,000.00 was transferred from general operating expenses to furniture and equipment within the Information Management Services Section to cover equipment costs.

Contingency Fund Notifications in 2025

44. The Committee noted that the significant increase in the level of the sanctions-related notification during 2025, and its subsequent implementation within the approved budget, illustrates the extent to which the regular budget was reprioritised during the year to address urgent business-continuity and institutional-resilience requirements. Table 3 below reflects the CF access notifications.

Table 3: Contingency Fund access notifications

<i>Date</i>	<i>Justification</i>	<i>Amount notified</i>
July 2025	Unforeseen and unavoidable expenses related to sanctions	Initial amount of €843.3 thousand updated later in the year to €3,193.8 thousand
September 2025	Unforeseen and unavoidable expenses in the situation in the Republic of the Philippines	€1,459.8 thousand
October 2025	Unforeseen and unavoidable expenses in the Kony case	€640.1 thousand
Total:		€5,293.7 thousand

45. The Committee noted that the reported transfers were made within the applicable regulatory framework and, in several cases, reflected practical implementation needs or accounting classification requirements, including the re-classification of certain IT-related expenditure between general operating expenses, supplies and materials, and furniture and equipment. At the same time, the Committee considered that the recurrence or materiality of such transfers may point to a broader budget-formulation issue. Where the distinction between commitment items depends significantly on accounting classification at the

implementation stage, the Committee's ability to scrutinise the original budget proposal and assess the reality of individual budget lines may be reduced.

RECOMMENDATION

46. The Committee recommended that, in preparing the 2027 proposed programme budget, the Court review its budget formulation methodology, particularly regarding budget lines subject to recurrent or significant transfers of funds, including reclassifications between expenditure categories. It further recommended that the Court clarify in future budget implementation reports whether such transfers reflect accounting adjustments, changing operational priorities, or shortcomings in the original budget formulation, in order to strengthen budgetary planning and financial oversight of resources.

4. Budget performance 2026 first quarter

47. The Committee considered the "Report on budget performance of the International Criminal Court as at 31 March 2026",⁵ and noted that the actual rate of implementation of the Court's programme budget at that date was 28.7 per cent, representing €55,542.4 thousand spent against the approved budget of €193,267.8 thousand, excluding the interest and capital repayments of €3,585.1 thousand in respect of the permanent premises. Including interest and capital repayments on the permanent premises, the actual implementation rate was 30.0 per cent, representing €59,127.6 thousand spent against the approved budget of €196,852.9 thousand.

48. No CF notifications were submitted to the Committee during the first quarter of 2026. However, two letters were submitted to inform the Committee that, in light of certain developments, the Court may have to access the CF in 2026 to meet unforeseen and unavoidable expenses.⁶ The first letter concerned the financial sanctions imposed on the Court, its officials and personnel, and the second letter concerned judicial developments with regard to the situation in the Republic of the Philippines.

49. There were no transfers of funds in excess of €200.0 thousand during the first quarter of 2026.

Table 4: Budget performance as at 31 March 2026 by Major Programme (thousands of euros)

Major Programme / Programme	Approved budget 2026	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2026*	Variance as at 31 March 2026	Implementation rate in %
	[1]	[2]	[3]=[1]-[2]	[4]=[2]/[1]
Major Programme I: Judiciary	15,582.2	3,678.9	11,903.3	23.6
Major Programme II: Office of the Prosecutor	63,077.4	15,626.4	47,451.0	24.8
Major Programme III: Registry	99,627.5	33,454.7	66,172.8	33.6
Major Programme IV: Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties	3,351.6	550.1	2,801.5	16.4
Major Programme V: Premises	4,689.8	406.8	4,283.0	8.7
Major Programme VI: Secretariat of the Trust Fund for Victims	4,833.8	1,324.6	3,509.2	27.4
Major Programme VII-5: Independent Oversight Mechanism	1,168.3	265.3	903.0	22.7
Major Programme VII-6: Office of Internal Audit	937.2	235.6	701.6	25.1
Subtotal	193,267.8	55,542.4	137,725.4	28.7
Major Programme VII-2: Host State Loan	3,585.1	3,585.1	(0.0)	100.0
Total	196,852.9	59,127.6	137,725.3	30.0

* Includes commitments of €1.98 million.

⁵ CBF/50/8.

⁶ Financial Regulations and Rules 6.6 and 6.7; ICC-ASP/24Res.4, section H para 6.

50. The Committee noted that, as at 31 March 2026, certain budget lines, such as individual contractors, with an implementation rate of 88.1 per cent, and consultants, with an implementation rate of 76.4 per cent, already showed high levels of implementation, which could lead to end-of-year overspending in these areas, as well as increased reliance on transfers of funds or other mechanisms to finance them. In view of the 2025 experience, the Committee considered that early over-implementation in such lines should be monitored together with recruitment, GTA implementation and any emerging CF-related requirements, as these elements may interact and affect the presentation of resource needs in the 2027 proposed programme budget (see recommendations on budget performance 2025).

5. Proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations and Rules on access to the Contingency Fund

51. The Committee acknowledged and welcomed that, following the recommendations made at its forty-eighth session,⁷ the Assembly, at its twenty-fourth session, had taken important decisions regarding the precautionary reserves of the Court. Notably, the Assembly had decided to reinstate the notional level of the CF to its original level of €10.0 million, and had authorized the Court to exceptionally resort to the CF during 2026 in order “to cover (a) any costs related to the preparation for potential sanctions against the Court, its officials or personnel; or (b) any costs required to address actually imposed sanctions”.⁸

52. Court officials indicated to the Committee that flexibility and other financial and budgetary tools provided by the Assembly for 2025 and 2026 have been, so far, adequate enough to face current and potential challenges to business continuity.

53. The Committee also considered a proposal⁹ by the Court for an amendment to regulation 6.6 of the FRR to introduce an additional access criterion to the CF.¹⁰

54. The Committee observed that the language included in the proposal was much more general than the current criteria under the FRR, as well as the relevant past Assembly resolutions allowing for exceptional access to the CF.

55. The Committee recognised that the Court’s evolving operational environment, including external threats, coercive measures and sanctions-related risks, may require a more predictable degree of budgetary flexibility. Where such needs are recurring or structural rather than purely exceptional, the Committee considered that a carefully framed amendment to the FRR may be preferable to repeated ad hoc decisions of the Assembly. Any such amendment should, however, preserve the exceptional character of the CF and be subject to clear conditions, justification and reporting requirements.

56. The Committee stands ready to consider a proposal on an amendment to the FRR that reflects the views expressed above.

Report on the Court’s Key Performance Indicators

57. At its thirteenth session, the Assembly called for the Court to intensify its efforts to develop qualitative and quantitative indicators to better demonstrate its achievements and needs, and enable States Parties to assess the Court’s performance in a more strategic manner.

58. At its forty-seventh session, the Committee recommended that the Court align the Strategic Plan for 2026-2029 with the resource plans, and enhance its ability to track delivery against the stated objectives and intent through the effective use of key performance indicators (“KPIs”).

⁷ ICC-ASP/24/25, paras. 264 and 269.

⁸ ICC-ASP/24/Res.4, sections G and H. The Assembly also decided to replenish the WCF to its level of one-twelfth of the approved programme budget.

⁹ CBF/50/4.

¹⁰ Regulation 6.6 includes the following three access criteria: (a) Costs associated with an unforeseen situation following a decision by the Prosecutor to open an investigation; or (b) Unavoidable expenses for developments in existing situations that could not be foreseen or could not be accurately estimated at the time of adoption of the budget; or (c) Costs associated with an unforeseen meeting of the Assembly of States Parties.

59. The Committee noted that the Court Report on the 2025 KPIs did not include all the key indicators, nor the historical series of results to allow evaluation of the performance and progress of strategic management and accountability.

60. The Committee remained concerned in relation to the underperformance of certain organizational indicators, and encouraged the Court to address the underlying causes.

RECOMMENDATION

61. **The Committee recommended that the reporting of KPIs under the current Strategic Plan shall include all KPIs and incorporate the historical series of results and, to the extent possible, take into account the key indicators of previous strategic plans, thereby facilitating comparability and progress over periods.**

OTP Trust Funds and secondees

OTP Trust Fund for Advanced Technology and Specialized Capacity

62. As at the end of December 2025, contributions amounting to €40.27 million had been pledged to the OTP Trust Fund for Advanced Technology and Specialized Capacity, which supported the three priority areas: (i) technological tools (66.0 per cent); (ii) psychological support (10.0 per cent); and, (iii) specialized capacity relating to sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children (24.0 per cent). The current expenditure (including obligations) amounted to €25.8 million.

63. The implementation status of the European Commission grant (earmarked to the IT area – Priority One, with a total volume of €7.25 million) had almost reached 100.0 per cent.

64. The Committee noted that certain technology capabilities financed through the Trust Fund for Advanced Technology and Specialized Capacity were becoming embedded in the OTP's investigative and analytical work. In the current threat environment, the Committee considered that these capabilities should also be assessed from an operational-resilience perspective, including the extent to which they depend on specific suppliers, jurisdictions, service providers or technical architecture. The Committee underlined that resilience-driven changes to such arrangements may require replacement, migration, duplication or reconfiguration of existing capabilities, and may therefore generate both one-off and recurrent implications for the regular budget.

65. The following table shows the income, allotment and expenditure:

OTP Trust Fund for Advanced Technology & Specialized Capacity	Amount
Total contributions pledged	€40,272.4
Total contributions received (a)	€37,943.1
Total interest revenue	€932.7
Total funds available for allotment(b)	€41,205.1
Total amount allotted	€34,136.0
Expenditure (December 2025)	€25,803.0
Total Balance carried forward as at 31 December 2025	€15,402.1

OTP Trust Fund for Geographic Diversity

66. The establishment and terms of reference for the Trust Fund for Geographic Diversity were formalized in the last quarter of 2023. Subsequently, the Office initiated discussions with various States Parties regarding their potential participation in the secondment programme through the fund. The current expiration date of the Trust Fund is set for 31 December 2028.

67. The Objective of this Trust Fund is to strengthen the geographical representation of States Parties in the secondment programme. Four candidates have been selected, and come from States Parties in the Group

of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) (1 candidate), the African Group (2 candidates) and the Asia-Pacific Group (1 candidate). The implementation will begin in 2026.

68. The following table shows the income, allotment and expenditure:

OTP Trust Fund for Geographic Diversity	Amount
Total contributions pledged	€702.6
Total contributions received (a)	€702.6
Total interest revenue	€22.7
Total funds available for allotment (b)	€725.3
Total amount allotted	€0
Expenditure (December 2025)	€0
Total Balance carried forward as at 31 December 2025	€725.3

OTP Trust Fund for Complementarity and Cooperation

69. The OTP Trust Fund for Complementarity and Cooperation was established in 2024. The current end date of the Trust Fund is 31 December 2028.

70. The fund recorded total contributions amounting to €1.11 million. Of this amount, €872.7 thousand has been allotted for programme activities. The total expenditure incurred by the Trust Fund at the end of December 2025 was €160.66 thousand. Consequently, a balance of €957.4 thousand had been carried forward.

71. This Fund supports national authorities in investigations and prosecutions relating to international crimes and assists national jurisdictions to deal with international crimes.

72. Implementation has begun with national authorities in Central African Republic, Ukraine, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea to provide assistance and support and to engage their own national proceedings.

73. In the Central African Republic, the OTP supports the Special Criminal Court; in Ukraine, it provides assistance to national authorities in digital forensics and supports the rollout of protocols on the investigation of gender crimes, including with a forensics coordinator based in-country; in Colombia, the OTP engages in the Special Jurisdiction that has enabled continued national proceedings, including training and capacity-building over the past two years; in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the OTP supports national prioritisation efforts; and in Guinea, proceedings had concluded recently in relation to a 2021 case, where the Office supported national authorities and continued engagement through sentencing. On that basis, the preliminary examination was closed and an investigation was not required.

74. The following table shows the income, allotment and expenditure:

OTP Trust Fund Complementarity and Cooperation	Amount (thousand)
Total contributions pledged	€1,114.8
Total contributions received (a)	€1,114.8
Total interest revenue	€3.3
Total funds available for allotment(b)	€1,118.1
Total amount allotted	€872.7
Expenditure (December 2025)	€160.7
Total Balance carried forward as at 31 December 2025	€957.4

Update on secondees

75. The secondment programme was established in June 2022. According to the Court, since the start of the secondment programme, seconded national experts have been integrated into various teams within the Office, including both Unified Teams and those with specific technical or thematic expertise. All national experts have been based at the ICC Headquarters in The Hague.

76. The Court reported that since the inception of the secondment programme, there have been 132 confirmed secondees from 23 States Parties. An average of 55 experts were on board from 2022 to 2024, decreasing to 43 in December 2025, out of which 4 were incoming and 9 were extended secondments in the fourth quarter of 2025. The anticipated level by the end of 2026 is 21 secondees. The most proposed specialized profiles include Satellite Imagery, All Source and Open-Source Analysts, and Forensic video and Imagery Analysts.

77. According to the Court, learning and knowledge transfer has become an important part of the secondment programme. This takes three forms: In House Training, External Engagement and Connect-Share-Learn. In House Training secondees serve as trainers in child forensic interviewing, GIS awareness, and technical tools training. Under external engagement, secondees present at NGO workshops, roundtables, and conferences and contribute to OTP Working groups. Connect-Share-Learn was launched in March 2023 by a senior secondee. Over 65 events had been hosted, covering artificial intelligence, geospatial intelligence and ballistics. Secondees lead as presenters and coordinators.

78. Thirty-five memorandum of understanding (“MoU”) have been concluded with releasing entities from 24 States Parties: 11 from the Western European and Other States Group, 12 from the Eastern European Group and two from the Asia-Pacific Group.

RECOMMENDATION

79. The Committee requested that the OTP update the Committee on all its Trust Funds and on secondees at its fifty-third session.

Performance of the Court’s legal aid system in 2025

80. The legal aid expenditure for defence and victims in 2025 totalled €6,130.8 thousand, which comprised €5,735.0 thousand charged to the regular budget and €395.7 thousand charged to the CF. Legal aid for the defence exceeded its budget by €999.8 thousand, while legal aid for victims experienced under-implementation of €629.6 thousand. The over-implementation in legal aid for defence was off-set by under-implementation in legal aid for victims of €604.1 thousand in the regular budget, and supplemented by the CF of €395.7 thousand. The overall budget implementation rate for legal aid was 99.6 per cent in respect of the regular budget and 95 per cent in respect of the CF. The budget for the defence covered eleven cases, whereas the budget for victims counsel covered seven cases.

81. The Committee took note of resolution ICC-ASP/24/Res.4, section J, regarding the Legal aid policy-Step 5, and the request therein, from the Assembly to the Court, to include Step 5 in its Proposed Programme Budget for 2027.

RECOMMENDATION

82. The Committee recommended that the Court report to the Committee on the impact of Step 5 on the relevant budgetary framework during the fifty-first session of the Committee.

Security Blueprint, IT/IM Costs and cybersecurity

Security Blueprint implementation

83. The Committee recalled its recommendations at its forty-eighth session requesting comprehensive implementation and financial data on the Security Blueprint and the Special Fund for Security, including information on programme support costs and the “lights-on bridge” between non-recurrent investments and future recurrent cost implications. The Committee noted that the Court had provided a consolidated overview of the Security Blueprint financial framework, covering the Special Fund for Security, the 2024 realigned

IT/IM investments, the 2025 recurrent baseline increase and the ring-fenced 2025–2027 non-recurrent investments.

84. The Committee further noted that the total cost of the Security Blueprint is estimated at €15,252.4 thousand, of which €8,017.6 thousand had been spent as at 31 December 2025. The Committee also noted that, of the €3,410.3 thousand allocated under the 2025 ring-fenced non-recurrent envelope, €2,809.1 thousand had been spent and €601.2 thousand carried forward to 2026. The Committee considered that the Court had sufficiently responded to the reporting request made at its forty-eighth session.

85. The Committee welcomed the progress achieved in implementing the Security Blueprint, including the deployment of managed devices, the reduction of BringYourOwn Device use, the migration and decommissioning of legacy systems, the replacement of end-of-life infrastructure, the strengthening of preventive controls, penetration testing, improvements to physical access controls and the development of information security policies. The Committee noted from the Court's presentation that, out of 69 measures, 23 had been fully implemented, 33 partially implemented and 13 remained planned, and that implementation had been affected by the priority given to business continuity, changes in technical architecture and the establishment of a new managed security provider in 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

86. **The Committee recommended the Court implement, as soon as operationally possible, the delayed or postponed Blueprint activities, in particular those relating to data security, organization-wide security capabilities, working methods, governance and supply-chain controls.**

Improving the reporting

87. The Committee noted the Court's explanation that certain Security Blueprint activities were postponed in 2025 because IMSS resources had to be redirected to urgent sanctions-related business-continuity measures. The Committee further noted that the CF notifications in 2025 included IT/IM-related measures. The Committee was assured that these urgent activities were necessary to preserve short-term business continuity and were broadly consistent with the resilience objectives underpinning the Security Blueprint. At the same time, the Committee considered that the relationship between the Security Blueprint, CF notifications, ordinary IMSS budget implementation, transfers between budget items, carry-forwards and future recurrent cost implications could be presented in a more integrated and transparent manner.

88. The purpose of such reporting would be to enhance transparency and accountability while enabling the Committee to distinguish between one-off emergency measures and changes that may have recurring budgetary implications.

RECOMMENDATION

89. **The Committee recommended that the Court provide an updated comprehensive financial report on the Security Blueprint and related business-continuity measures at its fifty-first session. Such a report should present planned versus implemented expenditure and distinguish between:**

- (a) Special Fund for Security expenditure;**
- (b) 2024 realigned IT/IM investments;**
- (c) 2025–2027 ring-fenced non-recurrent Blueprint expenditure and carry-forwards;**
- (d) recurrent baseline costs already incorporated into the IMSS budget;**
- (e) Contingency Fund-notified sanctions-related IT/IM and business-continuity expenditure;**
and
- (f) any current or expected future lights-on cost implications.**

Operation Tech Autonomy initiative

90. The Committee was informed that the Court is in practice managing the Security Blueprint together with Operation Tech Autonomy in view of the handling of risks arising from the external threat environment and from the dependency on technologies that may lead the Court to an operational and disruption scenario. The Committee considered that this initiative is strategically relevant to the Court's institutional resilience and should be reported in a structured manner.

RECOMMENDATION

91. **The Committee recommended that, for its fifty-first session, the Court provide a dedicated table or another suitable presentation modality showing, for example, the objectives, milestones, implementation status, financial implications and dependencies of Operation Tech Autonomy, including its links to the Security Blueprint, business-continuity measures and any expected future budget requests.**

Lights-on cost

92. The Committee noted the Court's statement that implementation of the Security Blueprint had not resulted in further increases to recurrent or lights-on costs for 2026, and that the SecOps recurrent cost for the configuration management database had been off-set by efficiencies and absorbed into the 2025 baseline. The Committee emphasised, however, that one-off IT security, resilience and business-continuity measures may generate future recurrent costs, including maintenance, licensing, managed services, storage, monitoring, staffing, supplier diversification or on-premises infrastructure costs.

RECOMMENDATION

93. **The Committee recommended that any such recurrent implications be clearly identified, linked to the original non-recurrent measure, and accompanied by information on off-sets, decommissioning of legacy systems and containment measures, in the context of the 2027 proposed programme budget and future performance reporting.**

Human Resources matters

Annual report on Human Resources Management

94. The Committee considered the 'Report of the Court on Human Resources Management'¹¹. It took note of the activities of the Court in 2026 on core values, leadership development, learning and development, performance management, staff engagement and wellbeing, continuous improvement and automation, recruitment and staff selection, legal and policy matters, geographical representation and gender balance ("GRGB"), and the work of the Gender Equality Focal Point. The Committee also considered the Junior Professional Programme and the Internship and Visiting Professionals Programme.

Recruitment as a strategic priority

95. As of 31 December 2025, the total number of Court personnel employed was 1,113, excluding elected officials. Of this total, 840 occupied established posts, 154 were GTA, and 119 were STA ("short-term assistance"). At its forty-eighth session,¹² the Committee recommended that recruitment continue to be treated as a strategic priority for the Court. It encouraged the Court to maintain and strengthen its ongoing efforts to reduce recruitment timelines, lower vacancy rates, and enhance the overall candidate experience. The Committee was updated on these efforts by the Human Resources Section.

¹¹ Report of the Court on human resources management (CBF/50/3).

¹² ICC ASP/24/15, para. 102.

96. In 2025, the Court filled 123 established posts through competitive recruitment processes. Of these appointments, 45 (or 36.6 per cent) were filled by external candidates, while 78 (or 63.4 per cent) were filled by staff members already working for the Court.

97. The Court filled in 2025 57 fixed-term GTA positions. The majority of the positions (70 per cent) were filled in the OTP. There were 74 short-term appointments (“STA”): 32 in the Registry and 31 in the OTP. The Court also reported that there was only a modest increase in 2025 in the number of recruitments initiated (219 recruitment processes, compared to 217 in 2024). This recruitment activity was mainly concentrated on filling fixed-term established posts.

98. The vacancy rate had reduced from 18 per cent at the beginning of 2025 to 14 per cent by the end of the year.

99. The Court reported that the Selection Review Board is crucial to ensuring that the recruitment process is conducted fairly and transparently, however its workload has increased significantly. The number of members of the Selection Review Board has remained unchanged since the Board was established. This creates a significant bottleneck during peak workload periods. This capacity constraint directly affects the average time required to finalize recruitment processes. The Court also reported that the number of requests received by the Classification Advisory Board has increased significantly.

RECOMMENDATION

100. The Committee recommends that the Court continue its efforts to lower vacancy rates and review and improve recruitment processes, including the Selection Review Board and the Classification Advisory Board, to enable the Human Resources Section to fulfil recruitment and talent acquisition needs in a timely manner.

Staff Engagement, Wellbeing and Workplace Culture

101. The Committee noted the results of the 2025 Staff Engagement Survey, which had received a staff response rate of 76 per cent - the highest rate since the Court’s first engagement survey in 2018.

102. The Committee observed that overall the OTP and the Secretariat of the Assembly received the lowest staff engagement survey results. The Committee was concerned by the survey results that showed a perception among staff that some of the organs of the Court will not take allegations related to ethics and standards of conduct seriously. The Committee was also concerned by the survey results that showed a fear of retaliation that prevents staff from reporting cases of discrimination, harassment and abuse of authority.

RECOMMENDATION

103. The Committee recommended that the Court review and strengthen its internal reporting channels and take comprehensive measures to protect staff confidentiality and prevent retaliation with a clear view to addressing workplace misconduct and related concerns.

104. The Committee recommended that the Court work under the One Court Principle to work towards a positive workplace culture, including by aligning initiatives related to staff wellbeing and professional conduct to ensure a consistent institutional approach. The Committee recommended that the Court identify concrete management actions, expected timelines and indicators of progress, and that lessons learned be considered in the Court-wide follow-up to the 2025 Staff Engagement Survey and 2026 Pulse Survey.

Geographical distribution and gender balance

105. The Human Resources Management report provided statistical data on geographical representation and gender balance in the staff of the Court from 2020 to 2025, and the first quarter of 2026. The Committee reviewed the data provided and made a comparison between 2026 and 2016, as reflected in annexes III and IV.

Geographical distribution

106. As at 31 March 2026, the geographical distribution of staff among States Parties showed notable shifts compared to 2016. The number of over-represented States increased from 19 to 23, and the staff from these States rose significantly from 163 to 257, a 57.6 per cent increase. The number of States classified as in balance grew from 16 to 21, with staff numbers more than tripling from 38 to 116. Under-represented States decreased slightly from 29 to 27, with their staff numbers falling from 90 to 75, a reduction of nearly 17 per cent. The number of non-represented States declined from 60 to 54, while non-States Parties with staff increased from 21 to 25, and the respective staff numbers rose from 40 to 50.

107. When examining established professional staff by regional group, the total number increased from 331 in 2016 to 496 in 2026. The Western European and Others Group (“WEOG”) remained the largest, though its share fell marginally from 59.8 per cent to 59.07 per cent. The Eastern European Group was the only regional group to increase its percentage share, rising from 8.5 per cent to 9.68 per cent. The African Group, the Asia-Pacific Group, and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (“GRULAC”) all saw slight declines in their proportional representation.

108. At the higher professional levels (P-4, P-5, and D-1), nationals from WEOG hold a majority of established posts at every grade (holding 66.7 per cent of D-1 posts, 64.3 per cent of P-5 posts, and 64.7 per cent of P-4 posts). Notably, no nationals of a State Party from the African or Eastern European Group held a D-1 position. One D-1 post was filled by a national from the Asia-Pacific Group, and one by a national from GRULAC. These figures highlight persistent geographical imbalances at senior levels.

RECOMMENDATION

109. The Committee recommended the continuation of targeted efforts to address the remaining imbalances in geographical representation.

Gender balance

110. As at 31 March 2026, significant progress in gender balance was observed across most major programmes, compared to 2016. The total number of professional staff (including elected officials and language staff) rose from 367 to 534, with the overall female proportion increasing from 47.1 per cent to 54.5 per cent.

111. In the Judiciary, female representation increased from 48.5 per cent to 70.3 per cent, while the number of male staff decreased from 17 to 11. OTP shifted from a male majority (56.2 per cent male) to a female majority (53.8 per cent female), with female staff significantly increasing from 63 to 136. The Registry maintained near-balance, moving from 50 per cent to 50.9 per cent female. Other programmes saw the most dramatic change, rising from 41.7 per cent to 70.8 per cent female, with female staff increasing from 5 to 17 and male staff remaining unchanged at 7.

112. At higher grade levels, notable improvements were also achieved. At D-1 level, female representation rose dramatically from 9 per cent (1 out of 11) in 2016 to 50 per cent (3 out of 6) in 2026. At P-5 level, women increased from 39 per cent to 45 per cent. At P-4 level, the proportion of women increased from 34 per cent to 38 per cent. Across all other professional grades combined, female representation grew from 54 per cent to 55 per cent.

113. Despite these gains, the Committee observed that challenges remain. While overall gender balance has improved significantly, including at the most senior D-1 level, women remain slightly underrepresented at P-4 and P-5 levels, relative to their overall share of the professional workforce. The continued underrepresentation of certain regional groups in senior leadership positions also remains a concern.

Update on the United Nations Volunteers programme

114. At its twenty-fourth session,¹³ the Assembly requested the Court to continue engaging in negotiations with the United Nations with the aim of concluding an MoU on the establishment of the United Nations Volunteers programme, within existing resources, and to report on its progress to the Committee at its fiftieth session.

115. The Committee was informed of the progress in the negotiations and the ongoing legal revision process, and encouraged the Court to finalize the memorandum as soon as possible.

III. Other matters

Participation of observers

116. The Committee discussed matters of common interest with the Hague Working Group facilitator for the budget, Ambassador Engelbert Theuermann (Austria), and the focal point for the topic of budget management oversight, Ambassador Paul Teesalu (Estonia).

117. Representatives from the Presidency, the OTP, the Registry, the Trust Fund for Victims, the IOM, the Staff Union Council, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, and the ICC Bar Association participated in the session and addressed the Committee. The Committee also met the UN panel for the review of the IOM evaluation function.

118. The Committee wished to thank the observers for their input to the discussions.

Attendance and services for the fiftieth session

119. Sixteen members of the Committee attended the fiftieth session. The Secretariat provided the necessary substantive and logistical support to the Committee.

¹³ ICC-ASP/24/Res.4, section O, para. 7.

Annex I: Agenda

Opening of the session

- (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
- (b) Participation of observers
- (c) Welcoming remarks by the President of the Court

1. Budget workshop

- (a) Budget presentation
- (b) Court's framework for the conversion of GTA positions into established posts

2. Other financial and budgetary matters

- (a) Status of contributions and States in arrears
- (b) Report on activities and programme performance of the Court for the year 2025
- (c) Report on the Budget Performance of the Court as at 31 March 2026 (Q1)
- (d) Report of the Court on KPIs for 2025
- (e) Proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations and Rules on access to the Contingency Fund

3. OTP Trust Fund

- (a) Update on the OTP Trust Funds and secondees

4. Legal aid

- (a) Annual report on the implementation of the legal aid system

5. Security Blueprint and IT

- (a) Report of the Court on the Security Blueprint and the Special Fund for Security

6. Human resources matters

- (a) Human Resources Management report, including recruitment as strategic priority
- (b) Update on the UNV MOU

7. Other matters

- (a) Briefing by the Registrar
- (b) UN Panel on the IOM review of the evaluation function

Annex II: Status of outstanding assessed contributions as at 31 March 2026¹⁴

Outstanding Contributions ¹									
	State Party	Working Capital Fund	General Fund				Other Funds ²	Grand Total / All Funds	Outstanding Period
			Prior Years		Year 2025				
			Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL	Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL			
1	Afghanistan	-	3,529	84,006	706	19,327	-	107,568	2021-2026
2	Albania	-	-	-	-	40,973	-	40,973	2026
3	Andorra	-	-	-	-	16,428	-	16,428	2026
4	Antigua and Barbuda	-	1,488	59,839	186	8,117	-	69,630	2015-2026
5	Argentina	-	-	4,504,002	-	2,006,893	-	6,510,895	2024-2026
6	Armenia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Austria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Bangladesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Barbados	-	-	28,263	-	28,604	-	56,867	2025-2026
11	Belgium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Belize	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Benin	-	-	50	430	19,327	-	19,807	2025-2026
14	Bolivia, Plurinational State of	-	-	128,545	-	73,635	-	202,180	2024-2026
15	Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Botswana	-	-	-	2,269	53,342	-	55,611	2026
17	Brazil	-	-	-	416,882	5,779,287	-	6,196,169	2026
18	Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Burkina Faso	-	165	19,097	165	19,327	-	38,754	2025-2026
20	Cabo Verde	-	-	-	143	4,059	-	4,202	2026
21	Cambodia	-	-	-	441	19,327	-	19,768	2026
22	Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Central African Republic	-	-	36	143	4,059	-	4,238	2025-2026
24	Chad	-	770	58,409	154	19,327	-	78,660	2021-2026
25	Chile	-	-	1,115,664	-	1,531,841	-	2,647,505	2025-2026
26	Colombia	-	-	-	-	806,893	-	806,893	2026
27	Comoros	8	1,372	42,996	143	4,059	46	48,624	2007-2026
28	Congo	335	6,774	192,383	706	20,486	73	220,757	2012-2026
29	Cook Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Costa Rica	-	-	-	-	2,866	-	2,866	2026
31	Côte d'Ivoire	-	-	-	1,563	98,373	-	99,936	2026
32	Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Czechia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	-	-	32	19,327	-	19,359	2026
36	Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Djibouti	-	-	-	143	8,117	-	8,260	2026
38	Dominica	-	715	16,197	143	4,059	-	21,114	2021-2026
39	Dominican Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	Ecuador	-	-	268,977	-	266,323	-	535,300	2024-2026
41	El Salvador	-	-	98,206	-	53,342	10,168	161,716	2024-2026
42	Estonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43	Fiji	-	430	12,046	430	12,369	-	25,275	2024-2026
44	Finland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46	Gabon	-	10,758	249,604	1,793	45,031	-	307,186	2020-2026
47	Gambia	-	250	7,496	143	4,059	-	11,948	2024-2026
48	Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
49	Germany	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50	Ghana	-	-	13,885	1,986	102,432	-	118,303	2025-2026

¹⁴ As per the Monthly financial situation report prepared by the Court.

Outstanding Contributions ¹									
	State Party	Working Capital Fund	General Fund				Other Funds ²	Grand Total / All Funds	Outstanding Period
			Prior Years		Year 2025				
			Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL	Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL			
51	Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52	Grenada	-	429	10,719	143	4,059	-	15,350	2023-2026
53	Guatemala	-	-	-	2,309	188,436	-	190,745	2026
54	Guinea	134	1,372	92,851	143	16,428	84	111,012	2011-2026
55	Guyana	-	-	-	143	45,031	-	45,174	2026
56	Honduras	-	-	31,176	1,136	40,973	-	73,285	2025-2026
57	Hungary	-	-	-	5,589	380,351	-	385,940	2026
58	Iceland	-	-	-	-	143,405	-	143,405	2026
59	Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60	Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
61	Japan	-	-	-	-	11,734,328	-	11,734,328	2026
62	Jordan	-	-	-	-	86,004	-	86,004	2026
63	Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	770	-	-
64	Kiribati	-	-	4,010	-	4,059	-	8,839	2025-2026
65	Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66	Lesotho	-	-	-	143	4,059	-	4,202	2026
67	Liberia	-	1,263	26,409	143	4,059	-	31,874	2016-2026
68	Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
69	Lithuania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70	Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
71	Madagascar	-	-	-	430	16,428	-	16,858	2026
72	Malawi	-	574	19,004	287	12,369	-	32,234	2024-2026
73	Maldives	-	-	-	143	16,428	-	16,571	2026
74	Mali	-	574	20,120	574	19,327	-	40,595	2024-2026
75	Malta	-	-	-	-	81,946	-	81,946	2026
76	Marshall Islands	-	-	-	86	4,059	-	4,145	2026
77	Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	Mexico	-	-	3,898,155	-	4,656,981	-	8,555,136	2025-2026
79	Mongolia	-	-	-	-	16,428	-	16,428	2026
80	Montenegro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
81	Namibia	-	-	-	-	28,604	-	28,604	2026
82	Nauru	-	-	-	-	4,011	-	4,011	2026
83	Netherlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
84	New Zealand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
85	Niger	-	518	26,500	287	16,428	-	43,733	2024-2026
86	Nigeria	-	-	-	12,785	614,398	-	627,183	2026
87	North Macedonia	-	-	-	1,136	32,856	-	33,992	2026
88	Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
89	Panama	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
90	Paraguay	-	-	-	1,388	94,121	-	95,509	2026
91	Peru	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
92	Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93	Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
94	Republic of Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
95	Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	-	24,545	-	24,545	2026
96	Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
97	Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
98	Saint Lucia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	1,092	143	4,059	-	5,294	2025-2026
100	Samoa	-	-	7,466	-	4,059	-	11,525	2024-2026
101	San Marino	-	-	-	-	8,117	-	8,117	2026
102	Senegal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
103	Serbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
104	Seychelles	-	-	-	143	8,117	-	8,260	2026
105	Sierra Leone	-	-	3,590	143	4,059	-	7,792	2025-2026
106	Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
107	Slovenia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
108	South Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
109	Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
110	State of Palestine	-	-	-	706	22,612	-	23,318	2026
111	Suriname	-	1,323	28,150	441	8,117	-	38,031	2023-2026
112	Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
113	Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
114	Tajikistan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
115	Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	31	-	31	2026
116	Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	6,356	-	135,094	-	141,450	2025-2026
117	Tunisia	-	-	-	5,112	73,635	-	78,747	2026
118	Uganda	-	580	19,097	850	19,327	-	39,854	2025-2026
119	Ukraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
120	United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Outstanding Contributions ¹									
	State Party	Working Capital Fund	General Fund				Other Funds ²	Grand Total / All Funds	Outstanding Period
			Prior Years		Year 2025				
			Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL	Host State Loan	Budget excl. HSL			
121	United Republic of Tanzania	-	-	-	893	19,327	-	20,220	2026
122	Uruguay	-	-	1	-	323,530	-	323,531	2025-2026
123	Vanuatu	-	286	7,496	143	4,059	-	11,984	2024-2026
124	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	-	854,640	14,288,267	89,087	282,558	-	15,514,552	2014-2026
125	Zambia	-	-	91	850	19,327	-	20,268	2025-2026
	Total	477	887,810	25,390,251	553,977	30,317,758	11,141	57,161,414	

Notes:

All amounts are in euros

1) The amounts of outstanding contributions at the end of the month do not necessarily represent the full amount of contributions assessed for the current or prior years, as partial payments may have been made by States Parties.

Detailed information is available at <https://icctrinet.sharepoint.com/sites/AssessedContributions>

2) Regards outstanding amounts of assessed contributions to i) Contingency Fund and ii) the Court's permanent premises by new States Parties that joined the Court after 2015.

Annex III: Geographical Distribution

(1) Distribution of States Parties as at 31 March 2026

	2016 Number		2026 Number		Change			
					Number		(%)	
	States	Staff	States	Staff	States	Staff	States	Staff
Over-represented	19	163	24	260	5	97	26.31	59.51
In-balance	16	38	20	113	4	75	25	197.37
Under-represented	29	90	28	74	-1	-16	-3.45	-17.78
Non-represented	60	0	53	0	-7	0	-11.67	0
Non-State Party	21	40	25	50	4	10	19.05	25

Red: Negative trend.

(2) Distribution of Established Professional staff by Regional Group as at 31 March 2026¹⁵

	2016		2026		Change (percentage points)	
	No. Staff	(%)	No. Staff	(%)	No. Staff	(%)
Africans	56	16.9	83	16.73	27	48.2
Asians	23	6.9	34	6.84	11	47.8
East Europeans	28	8.5	48	9.68	20	71.4
GRULAC	26	7.9	38	7.66	12	46.2
WEOG	198	59.8	293	59.07	95	48.0
Total staff numbers	331	100	496	100	165	

(3) Distribution of higher grade level of Professional staff by Regional Group as at 31 March 2026

	Africans		Asians		Eastern Europeans		GRULAC		WEOG		Total Per Grade
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
D-1	0	0	1	16.67	0	0	1	16.67	4	66.67	6
P-5	9	21.43	2	4.76	3	7.14	1	2.38	27	64.29	42
P-4	11	16.18	4	5.88	5	7.35	4	5.88	44	64.71	68
Total	20		7		8		6		75		116

¹⁵ GRULAC: Latin America and Caribbean Countries; WEOG: Western Europeans and other States.

Annex IV: Gender Balance

(1) Distribution of all professional grades by major programme as at 31 March 2026*

	2016					2026					Difference		Change (%)	
	F	M	Total	F	M	F	M	Total	F	M	F	M	F	M
	No.	No.	No.	%	%	No.	No.	No.	%	%				
Judiciary	16	17	33	48.5	51.5	26	11	37	70.3	29.7	10	-6	62.5	-35.29
Office of the Prosecutor	63	81	144	43.8	56.2	136	117	253	53.8	46.2	73	36	115.9	44.4
Registry	89	89	178	50	50	112	108	220	50.9	49.1	23	19	25.9	21.4
Other programmes	5	7	12	41.7	58.3	17	7	24	70.8	39.2	12	0	240	0
Grand total	173	194	367	47.1	52.9	291	243	534	54.4	45.5	118	49	68,2	25,3

*Including elected officials and language staff.

(2) Distribution by higher grade level as at 31 March 2026*

	2016 ¹⁶					2026					Difference		Change (%)	
	F	M	Total	F	M	F	M	Total	F	M	F	M	F	M
	No.	No.	No.	%	%	No.	No.	No.	%	%				
D-1	1	10	11	9.1	90.9	3	3	6	50.0	50.0	2	-7	200.0	-70.0
P-5	13	20	33	39.4	60.6	19	21	40	47.5	52.5	6	1	46.2	5.0
P-4	24	47	71	33.8	66.2	26	49	75	34.7	65.3	2	2	8.3	4.3
Other grades	135	117	252	53.6	46.4	243	170	41	58.8	41.2	108	53	80.0	45.3
Total	173	194	367	47.1	52.9	291	243	534	54.5	45.5	118	49	68.2	25.3

*Including elected officials and language staff.

¹⁶ Data was as at 31 July 2016.

Annex V: List of documents

Title
Provisional agenda
Report of the Court on the performance of the Court's legal aid system in 2025
Report of the Court on Human Resources management
Proposal of the Court for an amendment to regulation 6.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules
Report of the Court on Key Performance Indicators
Report on activities and programme performance of the International Criminal Court for the year 2025
Report of the Court on the Security Blueprint
Report on budget performance of the International Criminal Court as at 31 March 2026
