

Olarte Bácares, Diana Carolina (Republic of Colombia)

[Original: Spanish]

Note verbale

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and has the honour to transmit, in accordance with the provisions of article 36 of the Rome Statute and resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6 and with reference to the Secretariat's note ICC-ASP/25/SP/01/Corr.2, that the government of the Republic of Colombia has decided to submit the candidacy of jurist Diana Carolina Olarte Bácares for the position of Judge of the International Criminal Court, in the elections to be held during the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly of States Parties, scheduled to take place from 7 to 17 December 2026.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia wishes to draw the attention of the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to the fact that Ms. Diana Carolina Olarte Bácares is a person of high moral standing, widely recognized for her impartiality and integrity, and meets the qualifications required for the appointment to the highest judicial functions in Colombia, in accordance with the provisions of article 36, paragraphs 3(a) and 4(a)(ii) of the Rome Statute.

The candidate has also demonstrated recognized competence in relevant areas of international law closely related to the judicial work of the Court, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law, international criminal law, and transitional justice, as well as extensive academic experience and professional legal practice in functions related to the judicial work of the Court, in accordance with article 36, paragraph 3(b)(ii) of the Statute.

In particular, the Colombian State highlights her performance as co-agent and representative before the International Court of Justice, as an expert before human rights courts, and as a professor and researcher in international law. Currently, the nominee serves as Ambassador of Colombia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Permanent Representative of Colombia to international organizations and tribunals based in The Hague.

Ms. Olarte Bácares's mother tongue is Spanish. She also has an excellent command of spoken and written French and English, the working languages of the Court. In addition, she has an advanced level of Italian.

The Colombian candidate is nominated for inclusion in List B, in accordance with the provision of article 36, paragraph 5, of the Rome Statute. This nomination also contributes to maintaining a balance in the representation of the principal legal systems of the world, as she originates from the civil law system, as well as to equitable geographical representation, as she is a national of a State from the Latin American and Caribbean Group, in accordance with article 36, paragraph 8(a), subparagraphs (i) and (ii), of the Rome Statute. Similarly, the nomination of Dr. Olarte Bácares contributes to a fair representation of female and male judges, in accordance with article 36, paragraph 8(a)(iii), of the Statute.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia wishes to highlight Dr. Olarte Bácares' suitability for election as a Judge of the Court, as she has distinguished herself throughout her professional career for, among other aspects, her work on gender issues and violence against women, which makes her a particularly suitable candidate to complement the specialized composition and judicial work of the International Criminal Court, in accordance with the provision of article 36, paragraph 8(b), of the Statute.

The candidate is a Colombian national by birth and Italian national by adoption. For the present nomination, and in accordance with the provisions of article 36, paragraph 7, of the Statute, the candidacy is submitted in her capacity as a national of the Republic of Colombia.

The nomination of Dr. Olarte Bácares is submitted in accordance with the national procedure established by the Republic of Colombia for the nomination of judges to the International Criminal Court, consisting of an exhaustive selection process carried out by the Colombian National Group before the Permanent Court of Arbitration, in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4(a)(ii), of the Rome Statute.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia is pleased to enclose a detailed statement of the candidate's qualifications and corresponding curriculum vitae, in accordance with the model recommended by the Assembly.

Similarly, it is indicated that the candidate has expressly committed to being available to take up full-time service, should the workload of the Court's so require.
