

Kwon, O-Gon (Republic of Korea)

[Original: English]

Statement of qualifications

Statement submitted in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4(c) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and resolution ICC-ASP/10/Res5, adopted by the Assembly of States Parties, relating to the procedure for the election of the members of the Advisory Committee on Nominations of judges of the International Criminal Court (ACN)

Judge O-Gon Kwon, former President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) of the International Criminal Court (ICC), and former Judge and Vice-President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), meets the requirements set out in the terms of reference of the ACN. He is a person of high legal expertise, impartiality, and integrity.

Judge Kwon has established competence and experience in criminal and international law as specified in his Curriculum Vitae. He has extensive practical and academic experience in the areas of criminal procedure, the law of evidence, court management, and international law.

Judge Kwon was admitted to the Korean Bar in 1979, started his legal career as a Judge of Seoul Civil District Court and later worked as the Assistant Legal Advisor to the President of the Republic of Korea (1981-1984) and Presiding Judge of numerous courts, including Changwon District Court, Suwon District Court, Seoul District Court, and Taegu High Court (1993-2001). Judge Kwon also served as the Planning Director of the Ministry of Court Administration (1990-1992) and Research Judge (1992-1993) of the Supreme Court of Korea and Director of Research of the Constitutional Court of Korea (1997-1999). As such, he took important part in the national litigation system, criminal justice system, and court management.

Following his domestic career, Judge Kwon has well-established expertise also in the international court system and practice including the ICC. He was elected as the President of the ASP of the ICC, and served in that post for about three years (2017-2021). During his mandate as the ASP President, Judge Kwon successfully launched the Review process, which is still on-going. Prior to this career, he served as one of the Permanent Judges of the ICTY for 15 years (2001-2016), and assumed the position of the Vice-President of the ICTY (2008-2011). During his mandate at the ICTY, he sat on the trial of Slobodan Milošević, former President of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and presided over the trial of a former Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadžić.

He also served as a member of the Independent Panel for the ICC Election, which was set up by the Coalition for the ICC (2010-2013). The Independent Panel performed the similar functions to the ACN, triggering the establishment of the ACN by the ASP of the ICC.

For all the above reasons, the Republic of Korea is highly confident that Judge Kwon qualifies to become a member of the Advisory Committee on Nomination of judges of the ICC, and will extensively contribute to the work of the Committee with expertise and in a collegial manner.
