

Statement by Brazil in the plenary debate on cooperation

Effective cooperation and accountability for Rome Statute crimes: the contribution of national, regional and intergovernmental initiatives

The Hague, 18 November 2016

I thank the facilitator for having convened this plenary discussion and the panellists for their contributions.

Providing cooperation to the Court's activities is a collective responsibility of all States Parties, essential for the ICC to fulfil its mandate. Several initiatives at the global, regional and national level may assist in supporting the activities of the Court. We should focus our efforts in addressing challenges to the implementation of the Court's legal mandate, rather than emphasizing initiatives devoted primarily to crimes and obligations not foreseen in the Rome Statute.

We welcome a dialogue to increase awareness of various initiatives taking place, as it helps us to have a better understanding of possible overlaps and duplications of efforts. Brazil also recognizes the paramount importance of initiatives that contribute to the development of national capacities of States Parties to fulfil their cooperation obligations. International, regional and intergovernmental initiatives can be helpful in this regard.

Finally, Brazil understands that UN peacekeeping missions may have a role to play in supporting ICC activities. Such a support, nevertheless, has to be assessed on a case-to-case basis. This is important to avoid a distraction of UN peace missions from their primary purposes and the creation of further obstacles for the UN to perform its crucial role of mediation and good offices.