



**BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES**

**Twentieth meeting**

28 November 2013

Agenda and decisions

**1. Stocktaking of the twelfth session**

*a) Practical aspects of the Assembly*

Bearing in mind that most of the practical challenges posed at the twelfth session had been addressed to the point that the session had ended half a day earlier than foreseen, the Bureau considered the means of improving the conduct of proceedings of the annual sessions such as by avoiding parallel meetings, structuring the general debate more efficiently, advancing even more with the environmentally friendly and cost-reducing paper-light approach vis-à-vis documentation, as well as facilitating that States Parties be accorded priority for the seats available during informal consultations, and considering modifications to proxy voting for judicial elections. In connection with these matters, the Secretariat would be preparing some draft guidelines in the first trimester of 2014.

**2. 2014 mandates for the Bureau working groups and the incoming Bureau**

The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare the tentative allocation of mandates of the twelfth session to the respective Bureau Working Groups in New York and The Hague, which the Bureau would consider under a silence procedure in early December.

The President indicated that, as she would be in The Hague to attend the 12 December 2013 solemn undertaking by Judge Geoffrey A. Henderson, who had been elected at the twelfth session, it might be feasible to hold a Bureau meeting on the same day in order to appoint facilitators of The Hague Working Group, if the Coordinator of the working group indicated that his consultations on the matter had concluded by then.

The President also recalled that along with the identification of a new President of the Assembly for the triennium 2014 to 2016, the status of which the Bureau would discuss in the first two months of 2014, it was also necessary for regional groups to indicate which of their members would be interested to be part of the incoming Bureau for the same period, as the two Vice-Presidents would have to be identified from the incoming Bureau members. In this connection, it was agreed that consultations would be undertaken within the respective regional groups so as to ascertain the States interested in being members of the incoming Bureau.

### **3. Other matters**

*a) Request of the African group for tentative programme budget implications to hold a special session of the Assembly*

The Bureau took note that, on the basis of available information, the programme budget implications for holding a special session in The Hague would be approximately €400,000.

*b) Non-assumption of duties by elected judges*

The Bureau took note of the decision contained in annex II to resolution ICC-ASP/12/Res.8 that a judicial vacancy would be declared in accordance with article 37 of the Rome Statute if an elected judge does not make his or her solemn undertaking in accordance with article 45 of the Rome Statute within six months of being elected. The Bureau further noted that the Assembly's decision did not have retroactive effect. As regards the judge elected at the tenth session who had not yet made the solemn undertaking pursuant to article 45 of the Rome Statute, it was suggested that measures such as administrative or persuasion could be undertaken to resolve the matter.

*c) Recruitment of staff*

As regards the request contained in the omnibus resolution (resolution ICC-ASP/12/Res.8), annex I, paragraph 5, on the regular update by the Secretariat of the composition of its staff, reference was made to the fact that resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.10 applied to the recruitment of all staff of the Court.

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