



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Twenty-first ICC-ASP Bureau Meeting

5 December 2012

Agenda and Decisions

The President of the Assembly, Ambassador Tiina Intelmann (Estonia), chaired the meeting.

1. Bureau Working Groups: appointment of facilitators

On the basis of recommendations of the Working Groups, the Bureau appointed the following facilitators:

The Hague Working Group

- 1) Cooperation- Ambassador Anniken Krutnes (Norway)
- 2) Independent Oversight Mechanism- Ambassador Jorge Urbina Ortega (Costa Rica)
- 3) Strategic planning process of the International Criminal Court- Ambassador Ruthie Rono (Kenya)
- 4) Victims and affected communities and Trust Fund for Victims, including reparations- Ambassador Eduardo Pizarro Leongómez (Colombia) and Ambassador Mohammed Karim Ben Becher (Tunisia).

New York Working Group

- 1) Arrears- Mr. Rikiya Takahashi (Japan)
- 2) Geographical representation and gender balance in the recruitment of staff of the Court- Ms. Gina Guillén-Grillo (Costa Rica)
- 3) Evaluation of the process for the election of the Prosecutor – Mr. Duncan Laki (Uganda)
- 4) Review of the procedure for the nomination and election of judges – Mr. Stefan Barriga (Liechtenstein).

As regards the issue “Plan of action for achieving universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute”, the Bureau took note of on-going consultations regarding the conduct of this facilitation by an *ad country* focal point. The Bureau will revert to this topic at a future meeting.

Furthermore, in accordance with previous practice, the Bureau assigned the mandate for the topic “Peace and justice” to the New York Working Group and will appoint the co-facilitators at a future meeting.

2. Working Group on Amendments

The Bureau continued its discussion regarding the most appropriate location for the Working Group on Amendments. The view was expressed that, although the Working Group's efforts have focused on amendments to Rules of Procedure and Evidence during the past two sessions of the Assembly, the proposals to amend the Rome Statute were still on the table and deserved continued consideration. Indeed, they constituted the chief reason for the establishment of the Working Group. The opinion was expressed that the Working Group should continue to be located in New York. Nevertheless, its modalities of work could be further explored.

The Bureau will appoint the facilitator at its next meeting.

3. Evaluation of the working methods of the Bureau Working Groups and Study Group on Governance

The Bureau considered the implementation of the mandate to review the working methods of the Bureau, its Working Groups, and the Study Group on Governance, contained in paragraphs 44 and 45 of resolution ICC-ASP/11/Res.8.

The facilitator for the omnibus resolution during the eleventh session, Ms. Ana Cristina Rodríguez (Guatemala), updated the Bureau on the negotiations leading to the adoption of this mandate. She indicated that the Assembly's intention in these paragraphs was to have a more comprehensive approach to the working methods of the Bureau's subsidiary bodies, including by considering the periodicity of issues in the Working Groups, with a view to avoiding an overabundance of reports at the end of the year.

There had also been discussions about improving the omnibus resolution itself, e.g. regarding the relationship with the stand-alone resolutions, as well as determining which paragraphs referring to events such as the Review Conference were still relevant.

The Bureau expressed its appreciation to Ms. Rodríguez for her able facilitation of the omnibus resolution at the past session, as well as to Mr. Zénon Mukongo Ngay (Democratic Republic of the Congo), who had facilitated the resolution for the two previous sessions.

The Bureau appointed Ms. Ana Cristina Rodríguez (Guatemala) as facilitator for the omnibus resolution for the twelfth session, on the understanding that she would also hold consultations on the issue of the scope of the omnibus resolution during 2013.

Regarding the broader issue of a review of the working methods, the Bureau decided to hold an informal brainstorming session in early 2013.

4. Rationalization of the term of the Bureau

The Bureau focal point on the issue of the rationalization of the term of office of the Bureau, Mr. João Miguel Madureira (Portugal), informed the Bureau that, since the informal meeting of the Bureau on this matter, the proponents of the three proposals had met informally and there had been convergence around the proposal submitted by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. The proponents were preparing a draft decision as well as a draft amendment to the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties, which would be submitted to the Bureau for discussion. Once there was agreement within the

Bureau, it would be important to reach out to the regional groups, with the aim of adoption of the draft decision and amendment at the twelfth session of the Assembly.

5. Other matters

a) Advisory Committee on Nominations

The President recalled that nine members of the Advisory Committee on Nominations had been appointed by the Assembly at its eleventh session. At the 22 November 2012 Bureau meeting, she had sought the Bureau's advice on the modalities for convening the initial meeting of the Advisory Committee, given that its work should not generate additional and unnecessary cost and administrative burden.

The view was expressed that the establishment of the Committee's working methods was ultimately a matter for its members, and it was suggested that the President raise the possibility of an initial meeting with them. After an initial meeting, technological means of communication might replace face-to-face meetings. Regarding the funding of members' travel, the suggestion was made that a trust fund might be established or that the President might wish to contact the members' respective State of nationality.

The Bureau decided to revert to this topic at a future meeting.

b) Coordinator for the Friends of the ICC

In view of the impending departure of the current Coordinator from New York at the end of December 2012, the President encouraged States Parties to consider taking up this function. Interested representatives should so inform the outgoing Coordinator.

c) Next Bureau meeting

The next Bureau meeting would be held at the beginning of February or earlier, if necessary.
