

Henderson, Geoffrey A.

[Original: English]

Note verbale

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and has the honour to advise that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has nominated Justice Geoffrey A. Henderson, Judge of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago to fill the vacancy on the International Criminal Court (ICC) due to the resignation of former Judge Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona, who was elected as President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in March of this year. The elections will take place during the twelfth session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute of the ICC (“the Rome Statute”) to be held in The Hague, Kingdom of the Netherlands, from November 20 to 28, 2013.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago has the further honour to advise that the nomination is submitted in accordance with the provisions of Article 36, paragraph 3(b) of the Rome Statute which provides that every candidate for election to the Court shall:

“have established competence in criminal law and procedure, and the necessary relevant experience whether as judge, prosecutor, advocate or in other similar capacity, in criminal proceedings.”

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago attaches tremendous importance to the candidature of Justice Henderson for election as a Judge of the ICC, in keeping with Trinidad and Tobago’s long standing support for this tribunal which predates the adoption and entry into force of the Rome Statute.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago is of the view that at this critical stage in its development, where additional requests are being made for the Court to exercise its jurisdiction with respect to crimes listed under the Rome Statute, the ICC should be composed of judges who adequately meet all of the criteria laid down in the Rome Statute.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago is therefore strongly convinced that Justice Henderson is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity and possesses the qualifications for appointment to the highest judicial offices in Trinidad and Tobago. It is also satisfied that if elected, Justice Henderson would make an invaluable contribution to the ICC given his tremendous knowledge and wealth of experience in the field of criminal law and procedure obtained both as a prosecutor and as a judge.

The Statement of Qualifications and the Curriculum Vitae of Justice Henderson are attached to this Note Verbale.

In the light of the foregoing, the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago requests the Secretariat of the ASP to bring this matter to the attention of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC.
