

Mensa-Bonsu, Henrietta (Ghana)

[Original: English]

Statement of qualifications

Ghana has had a mutually beneficial and long standing relationship with the International Criminal Court. It is also noteworthy to point out that Ghana has been a bona fide member of the Assembly of State Parties when the country ratified the Rome Statute nearly two decades ago.

Our longstanding relationship with the Court is symbolised by the sterling career of the Ghanaian female judge, Professor Akua Kueyenhia, in the service of the Court and humanity.

Guided by this and with this confidence, the Government of Ghana has decided to nominate Professor Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, a Ghanaian national as its candidate for the List A category of judges for election to the Court.

Professor Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, who is fluent in English, is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity. She is qualified to practice law in Ghana, and to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of Ghana.

Indeed Professor Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu has had a long illustrious, distinguished and meritorious public service as an academic in Ghana's premiere public university, as a lecturer in many law disciplines but particularly criminal law and practice, she has an established competence in the relevant areas of the Court and from a common law jurisdiction, she is well placed to perform excellently in her duties as judge of the Court.

In the course of Professor Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu's career, she has had the opportunity to have to apply Public International Law as a United Nations diplomat in the Republic of Liberia, shortly after the civil war and in the process of peace-building and the reconstruction of the institutions and infrastructure of the war-torn country.

Currently she serves as the first female Director of the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy, of the University of Ghana, a position she has occupied for about a decade. Prof. Mensa-Bonsu will be available to serve on the Court as soon as she is elected and will place her professional capabilities at the full benefit of the Court.

It is for these reasons and her impeccable academic qualifications and her devotion to the public good of Ghana through tertiary legal education that Ghana offers her for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court.

In conclusion, Ghana wishes to reiterate that Professor Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu is committed to provide full-time service when the workload of the Court so requires.
