

F.3230/45/AS 637

## NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of Greece presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court and with reference to its Note ICC – ASP/6/S/20 of 25 July 2007 has the honour to include herewith the reply of Greece, to the information requested of paragraph 6, sub – paragraph h) of the Plan of Action for achieving universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute (referred to in Assembly Resolution ICC – ASP/5/RES.3 of 1 December 2006):

"(i) information on obstacles to ratification or full implementation facing States;

Greece ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) on May 2002. No problems were recorded during the ratification process. It also ratified the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC on July 2007.

(ii) national or regional strategies or plans of action to promote ratification and/or full implementation;

As a Member-State of the European Union Greece, together with its partners, is committed to promote the universality, integrity and full implementation of the Rome Statute in accordance with the EU Common Position on the ICC adopted on June 2003 and the Action Plan to follow- up the Common Position which was finalized on February 2004.

Greece actively participates in the work of the Assembly of States Parties. Between 2002 and 2006, apart from its assessed contributions, Greece contributed the total sum of 55.000 Euros for the organization of the first session of the Assembly of States Parties and the participation of least developed countries in the Assembly.

(iii) technical and other assistance needs and delivery programmes;

See above under (ii).

(iv) planned events and activities;

-On September 2000, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with the Greek Ministry of National Defense and the Institute of International Relations organized in Santorini a Colloquium on the International Criminal Court entitled: "International Criminal Court. A new dimension in international justice. Questions and prospects for a new humanitarian order". Officials of international criminal tribunals, high-level officers of international organizations, members of the academia, legal advisors of foreign ministries and diplomats participated in the Colloquium, the proceedings of which were published in 2002.

-On September 2006, Greece hosted in Athens the Fourth Consultation on the Implications for Council of Europe Member States of the Ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court which was organized by the Council of Europe.

(v) examples of implementing legislation for the Rome Statute;

A draft law on the implementation of the Rome Statute, dealing with both substantial (penalization of crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the ICC) and procedural issues (cooperation with the Court) has been elaborated by the Ministry of Justice and is expected to be submitted to Parliament soon.

(vi) bilateral cooperation agreements between the Court and States Parties;

No agreement as yet.

(vii) solutions to constitutional issues arising from ratification;

See above under (i)

(viii) national contact points for matters related to promotion of ratification and full implementation;

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The Embassy of Greece avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, 27 September 2007

Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties Of the International Criminal Court The Hague