



Coalition for the International Criminal Court
www.iccnnow.org

MEDIA ADVISORY
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CICC PRESS BRIEFING AT EIGHTH ANNUAL ASP MEETING
*NGOs to Present Key Issues at Stake; Assembly Will Have Significant Impact on
ICC Operations and 2010 Review Conference*

WHAT: The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) — a global network of civil society organizations in 150 countries advocating for a fair, effective and independent ICC — will brief members of the media on pressing issues to be debated at the upcoming session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), and in particular on preparations for the 2010 Review Conference.

WHEN: **Thursday, 19 November 2009 at 11 a.m.**

WHERE: **Antarctica Room, World Forum Center, Churchillplein 10, The Hague, The Netherlands.**

WHO: Panel participants will include:

- **William Pace**, Convenor of the Coalition for the ICC, who will present the views of the Coalition on some of the central issues to be discussed at the eighth ASP;
- **Mohammed Ndifuna**, Executive Director of Human Rights Network –Uganda, who will discuss prospects for the first Review Conference of the Rome Statute to be held in Kampala, Uganda from 31 May and 11 June 2010;
- **Ms. Elizabeth M. Evenson**, Counsel for the International Justice Program at Human Rights Watch, who will address the issue of increasing support for the ICC and strengthening international justice.

WHY: Next week, representatives from each of the now 110 ICC member states will gather in The Hague from 18 to 26 November 2009 for the eighth annual Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC. The eighth session will be one of its most important as many of the issues before the governing body of the ICC will have considerable impact on the functioning of the Court and the future of the Rome Statute system. At the meeting, member states will adopt the Court's 2010 budget and discuss a number of issues central to its functioning, including cooperation with the ICC, legal aid to victims and suspects, funding of family visits to indigent

detainees, ICC communications and field operations. The session will also serve as the preparatory meeting for next year's Review Conference of the Rome Statute. Finally, States will elect two new ICC judges and five directors of the board of the Trust Fund for Victims.

Each year, the ASP is a pivotal event for the more than 200 NGOs attending as observers. Through advocacy meetings, thematic hearings, regional lunches, position papers and a media briefing, the CICC and its 12 issue-based teams will seek to influence governments and Court officials on a wide range of issues to ensure that the Court functions in a fair, effective and independent manner.

Note to journalists: Journalists wishing to cover the ASP and attend the press briefing must submit an official letter of assignment and a [completed accreditation form](#) to the ASP Secretariat by email at: fatma.waheb@icc-cpi.int or by Fax to: +31 (0)70 381 54 76. Journalists already accredited with the ICC do not need to submit the accreditation form nor the letter, but are kindly requested to confirm their participation to the ASP via e-mail to: fatma.waheb@icc-cpi.int.

NGO experts on international justice: CICC NGO Experts attending the eighth session are listed below for further comment and background. Please do not hesitate to contact Oriane Maillet at: (+31) 646 2006 70 should you want to arrange individual interviews with a particular NGO member of the Coalition on a specific issue or should you not be able to contact one of the experts listed below. Also please do not hesitate to visit the Coalition's ASP webpage at: <http://www.iccnw.org/?mod=asp8> and blog at: <http://www.iccnw.org/blog/>

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***Important notice:** The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), an independent NGO movement, is dedicated to the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, does not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual CICC members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.*

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