

Madam President and Mister Vice-President of the Assembly of States Parties,  
Mister President of the International Criminal Court,  
Your Honors,  
Madam Registrar,  
Mister Deputy Registrar,  
Prosecutor Moreno-Ocampo,  
Your Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to first thank the Swiss embassy and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court for organizing this reception following my swearing-in as the new Prosecutor of the ICC.

It is befitting that the two main pillars of support of this Court – States Parties and civil society – have come together once more to demonstrate their continuing commitment to the work of the Court.

As I mentioned earlier, I see the privilege and responsibility bestowed on me as a vote of confidence by the Assembly of States Parties, and the wider international community, and I am grateful for the honour to continue to serve international justice.

I am humbled and honoured by the words of support and encouragement I have been hearing from colleagues, friends and Court partners since my election last December. I am thankful to my family and friends, and to my husband Philipp.

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I would also like to express my gratitude to my Government, which stood strongly behind my candidature. I rejoice in your presence here today.

Some of you have travelled from near and far to be here today, and I am deeply appreciative and touched by your presence.

I encourage you all, once the speeches are over, to look around you and talk to your neighbours. We are standing in a room which embodies the global coalition that has created and given life to the vision of an international justice system that would provide accountability and protection for victims of massive crimes.

This room is filled with nationals of more than 100 States; Court officials and staff, States representatives, officials of the other international courts and tribunals, of international and regional organizations, city representatives, members of civil society...

Also with us, always, are the victims for whom we fight and will continue to fight. They are our *raison d'être*, and their protection is our constant motivation.

Your presence here today demonstrates our joint and strong commitment towards international justice and the fight against impunity.

I wish to call on you all to continue to join efforts in order to ensure the success and full implementation of the Rome Statute system.

As Prosecutor of the Court, I will do my part, in all independence and impartiality. But collaborative efforts will be the key to our success. I hope to count on you all for that.

Thank you.