



## PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Mexico Becomes 100<sup>th</sup> Country Party to the ICC Citizens for Global Solutions Calls on Bush Administration to endorse the International Criminal Court

**Washington DC** – Citizens for Global Solutions, a leading advocacy organization for a strong and effective International Criminal Court (ICC), applauds the Mexican government's decision to become the 100<sup>th</sup> country party to the ICC. As the ICC grows in legitimacy and numbers, Citizens for Global Solutions calls on the Bush Administration to reclaim America's historic role as a leader of international law and justice and endorse the International Criminal Court.

Raj Purohit, Senior Fellow for International Law and Justice at Citizens for Global Solutions, said:

*"Mexico's ratification highlights once more that the ICC's member states include America's closest allies. Mexico is an important U.S. ally and trading partner and its ratification is another positive benchmark for the Court. Rather than threaten the withholding of economic aid, the Bush Administration should acknowledge the significance of the 100th ratification and seek to establish a pragmatic relationship with the Court and its member states."*

With its ratification of the ICC Rome Statute, Mexico has subjected itself to possible exemption of U.S. Economic Support Funds. Under U.S. law, which prohibits certain aid to countries party to the ICC, Mexico could be cut off of \$11.5 million in economic and military assistance.

Mexico joins Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela as Western Hemispheric countries party to the International Criminal Court.

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**Notes to Editors:**

Citizens for Global Solutions is a non-partisan membership organization that envisions a future in which nations work together to abolish war, protect our rights and freedoms, and solve the problems facing humanity that no one nation can solve alone.

**Building Peace, Justice and Freedom in a Democratically Governed World**

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