

The organizations below, gathered in Guatemala City in the context of the CICC's Regional Strategy Meeting for Latin America

RECOGNIZE

That the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court is a treaty which creates an independent and impartial international tribunal with the ability to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes;

That the International Criminal Court has complementary jurisdiction with national courts and only acts when States are unable or unwilling to administer justice themselves;

That the International Criminal Court does not have retroactive jurisdiction and can only try crimes that have occurred since the Rome Statute's entry into force on July 1, 2002;

That 108 States Parties currently belong to the International Criminal Court and that in the Latin American region, only El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Chile have yet to ratify the Statute;

That the 5th round of the Association Agreement negotiations between the European Union and Central American countries will take place on October 6 and will include as part of its political component the call for ratification of the Rome Statute by all Central American countries;

That the fight against impunity is a commitment of the entire international community, framed within an agenda for the promotion and protection of human rights.

REQUEST

The governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Chile ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

Latin American countries to ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court;

Governments participating in the 5th round of negotiations between the European Union and Central American countries to approve the political components related to the International Criminal Court in the Association Agreement;

Latin American congresses to approve legislative reforms, including the tipification of international crimes, and the establishment of judicial cooperation mechanisms with the ICC and judicial mechanisms relating to victim participation and gender;

The International Criminal Court to conduct outreach activities in Latin America with the objective of disseminating its mandate and strengthening its work in the region;

The Organization of American States (OAS) to continue to support the work and promote public awareness of the International Criminal Court;

Civil society, universities, and judicial capacity building entities to organize training programs and workshops on human rights and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Guatemala City
October 3, 2008

Guatemalan Coalition for the ICC
Salvadorian Coalition for the ICC
Mexican Coalition for the ICC
Centro Nicaragüense de Derechos Humanos (CENIDH)
Corporación Humanas Ecuador
Corporación Humanas Chile
Andean Commission of Jurists (CAJ)
Comisión Colombiana de Juristas (CCJ)
Colectivo de Abogados José Alvear Restrepo
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
Instituto de Estudios Legales y Sociales del Uruguay (IELSUR)

