

# ICC UPDATE

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As of March 30, the Rome Statute of the ICC has:

**92 ratifications &  
139 signatures**

The Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court has:

**6 ratifications &  
47 signatories**

### Call for Deputy Prosecutor

The Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC issued a call for applications for the position of Deputy Prosecutor. The person will be responsible for the management, supervision and direction of the Prosecution Division. The Prosecutor hopes to receive applications from a broad selection of highly qualified candidates who have extensive experience in the prosecution or trial of criminal cases, to allow him to make an informed decision in pursuit of equitable geographic representation and fair representation of women and men. The deadline for applications is 30 April 2004, and applications should be sent to the ICC. More information about the position and its requirements is available on the ICC website ([http://www.icc-cpi.int/php/jobs/vacature\\_details.php?id=235](http://www.icc-cpi.int/php/jobs/vacature_details.php?id=235)) and the CICC website ([www.iccnw.org](http://www.iccnw.org)).

## SUPPORT FOR ICC REAFFIRMED IN IBEROAMERICAN AND LUSOPHONE STATES

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva reaffirmed his country's commitment to the International Criminal Court during the recent Iberoamerican-Lusophone Parliamentary Conference on the ICC, which took place in Brasilia on March 25 and 26.

The conference convened some 150 parliamentarians from Brazil, Latin America and Portuguese-speaking countries to discuss political support for the world's first permanent court capable of trying individuals accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes when individual nation states are unable or unwilling to do so. The success of the conference demonstrated the strong support for the International Criminal Court throughout Iberoamerica despite the US' opposition campaign. The two-day meeting generated ideas and action toward universal sup-



(l-r) ICC Judge Sylvia Steiner; Dep. Orlando Fantazzini (PGA member); Dep. Inocência Oliveira (Vice President of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies); Dep. Maria José Maninba (President of the Confederation of Parliaments of the Americas-COPA); and Minister Nilmario Miranda (Brazilian Human Rights Minister).

port for the ICC, including the adoption of national implementing legislation and the responsibility of parliamentarians to uphold the integrity of the ICC treaty. These ideas are reflected in the declaration adopted at the conclusion of the event.

In his message to participants, President Lula da Silva pledged Brazil's commitment to completing the necessary legislation to allow national courts to prosecute crimes

under the ICC's jurisdiction: "I wish to convey to all those present the Brazilian government's commitment to ensure the complementarity of the Brazilian legislation to the rules of the Rome Statute and to bolster the International Criminal Court."

In addition to the scores of parliamentarians, three regional parliamentary organizations sent large delegations: the Parlamento Andino, the Parlamento Latinoamericano

*Continued page 2*

## JAMAICA: GOVERNMENT URGED TO RATIFY



As one component of its Universal Ratification Campaign, the Coalition and its members are focusing efforts on Jamaica for the month of March.

Jamaica has long expressed an interest in joining the ICC,

but before it can join the 92-member ICC Assembly of States Parties, the Cabinet must request authorization from both houses of Parliament to adopt implementing law in order to complete the ratification process. By im-

plementing the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute into national law, Jamaican national courts will be empowered to investigate and try those individuals accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

*Continued on page 4*

## GENOCIDE VICTIMS REMEMBERED



Credit: UN

As the world commemorates the Rwandan genocide on its 10th Anniversary (7 April 2004), we must remember the countless victims of this atrocity as well as other genocides that have taken place over the last centuries. The establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC) represents a landmark institution in the advancement of human rights, as it is empowered to bring an end to the culture of impunity that has characterized the worst crimes in human history.

The International Criminal Court will hold at its premises a commemorative event in memory of the victims. The ceremony will take place on 7 April at 9:30 AM. A statement will be delivered by the President Philippe Kirsch. To close the ceremony, President Kirsch will light a candle and a moment of silence will be held. On April 22, during a public meeting of the Board of Directors of the Victims Trust Fund, tribute will be paid to the victims of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, with the hope that the ICC will answer the call: "Never Again."

Described by many as the most important development in efforts to eradicate genocide since the adoption of the Genocide Convention, the permanent standing of the ICC sends a powerful message of deterrence from the international community, and will ensure justice to the victims of grave crimes. For more information on the ICC and the crime of genocide, visit: [www.iccnw.org](http://www.iccnw.org)

*"I sincerely hope that the ICC will be able to deter potential perpetrators of genocide and other large-scale abuses in the future."*

- UN Secretary General Kofi Annan at the recent Stockholm International Forum on 26 January 2004

## PARLIAMENTARIANS MEET IN BRAZIL

(continued from page 1)

(also known as "Parlatino") and the Confederation of Parliaments of the Americas (COPA), which co-organized the event with Parliamentarians for Global Action, the National Congress of Brazil and the Brazilian Ministry for Human Rights. The conference received the support of the European Commission (EU) and the Ford Foundation, as well as of the Superior Tribunal de Justicia de Brazil, Associacao Paulista dos Magistrados and Banco do Brasil.

The participation of Brazilian civil society in the conference was also significant. Lawyers, judges, academics, students, legal advisors of governmental and parliamentary bodies – including the Committee on Ethics of the Brazilian Lower House – journalists, human rights activists and other interested citizens attended the two-day event at Parliament. Many others followed the live-TV broadcast of the entire Conference on the national channel of the Chamber of Deputies, while others had the chance to view the opening session broadcast by the national "TV Justicia".

The Court was represented by the participation of Judge Sylvia Helena de Figueiredo Steiner, and Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi of the Office of the Prosecutor. The conference closed with an statement by Helio Bicudo, formerly the President of the Inter-American Human Rights Court. Numerous experts from governments and civil society also participated.

Fourteen of twenty-one Iberoamerican countries have ratified or acceded to the ICC treaty. Of the Lusophone world, however, only Brazil, East Timor and Portugal are ICC States Parties. None of the five Lusophone countries in Africa (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome e Principe) has yet joined the Court. "Brazil is committed to encouraging the remaining Lusophone countries to ratify and implement the Rome Statute, and to protect the ICC from any initiatives that attempt to undermine its pursuit of international justice," said Brazilian Congressman Orlando Fantazzini. The United States of America has been pressing governments worldwide to grant exemption for U.S. citizens from the Court. Many states in the Portuguese and Spanish-speaking world have so far refused to grant these exemptions.

Seven Iberoamerican countries have begun the process of adopting implementing legislation, and ten have signed the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC: a treaty that protects the transfer of information, witnesses and ICC personnel between the Court and affected territories. The deadline for the signatures of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities is June 30, 2004.

## PROMOTING 100+ RATIFICATIONS OF THE ROME STATUTE



### JAMAICA: GOVERNMENT URGED TO RATIFY

(continued from page 1)

At a workshop in Kingston in February that analyzed the compatibility of the Rome Statute with the Jamaican constitution, Minister of Justice and Attorney General A. J. Nicholson reaffirmed Jamaica's commitment to ratifying the Rome Statute. His statement followed a July 2003 declaration by the Heads of State of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to see the expeditious ratification of the Rome Statute by those members not yet party to the treaty. Jamaica signed the Rome Statute in September 2000.

CARICOM, spearheaded by Trinidad and Tobago, played a leading role in the establishment of the ICC by calling on the United Nations General Assembly to take steps towards establishing an international criminal court in 1989. Currently five members of CARICOM— Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago – are counted among the ICC's 92 States Parties.

Members and friends of the CICC can participate in this campaign focused on JAMAICA in the following ways:

1. Visit the Universal Ratification page of Amnesty International, where you can send letters to officials in Jamaica, urging them to ratify the Rome Statute.

English: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-010304-action-eng>

French: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-010304-action-fra>

Spanish: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-010304-action-esl>

2. Modify a copy of the letter available above, and send it to the Jamaican Embassy in your country. You can translate it into your own language but preferably send it in English.

3. You can also visit our country section on Jamaica, by visiting: <http://www.iccnw.org/countryinfo/theamericas/jamaica.html>

4. Contact Ms. Adele Waugaman ([waugaman@iccnw.org](mailto:waugaman@iccnw.org)) at the CICC for a model press release to raise awareness about the Universal Ratification campaign in your country.

5. Contact Dr. Jose Guevara, CICC Latin American and Caribbean Coordinator ([guevara@iccnw.org](mailto:guevara@iccnw.org)) Joanna Carr from Amnesty International ([jcarr@amnesty.org](mailto:jcarr@amnesty.org)) or Monica Guzman ([guzman@iccnw.org](mailto:guzman@iccnw.org)) to inform us of any actions you take or to discuss initiatives.

You can also raise awareness of this campaign by sending this email to other organizations in your country. For more information on the campaign, visit:

[http://web.amnesty.org/pages/icc-take\\_action-eng](http://web.amnesty.org/pages/icc-take_action-eng) or contact the Coalition for the ICC.

#### About the Universal Ratification Campaign

While members continue to promote regional ratification campaign strategies, the Universal Ratification Campaign is a worldwide complementary effort devoted to the redoubling of efforts to promote universal acceptance of the ICC. Local actions are needed to promote awareness of the ICC; increase media coverage; urge governments to ratify the Rome Statute; adopt effective implementing legislation; and ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities. The Universal Ratification campaign includes a focus on one country each month.

*"To stand up and say we defend the Rome Statute in its purest form, or to say, there are certain realities that we face as a small developing country, 170 miles from the United States—these are the choices which face the government of Jamaica."*

- Dr. Stephan Vasciannie, Senior Consultant, International Relations in the Attorney General's Office of Jamaica (18 February 2004)



## Universal Ratification Campaign

[read more](#)

April  
**Bahrain**

*"We want a country where there is no discrimination or sectarianism, where debate and love between all sects and faiths is seen. ...We are looking for fair elections in Arab countries and a change in rules which violate international standards and which we hope Bahrain will be a part of. ... I urge the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain to join the International Criminal Court, which would help ensure that criminals were punished wherever they were."*

- Dr. Sabika Al Najar, President, Bahrain Society for Human Rights ( February 2004)

## KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN: OPENNESS TOWARDS THE ICC

Members of the Coalition for the ICC are invited to join in the campaign for ICC ratification in The Kingdom of Bahrain, which will be our focus in April 2004, as part of the ongoing Universal Ratification Campaign. Since 1999, Bahrain has witnessed remarkable legal reform, increased political freedoms, and an openness towards adhering to international human rights standards. Ratification of the Rome Statute would further consolidate Bahrain's commitment to playing a leading role in strengthening human rights, and promoting justice and accountability in the region.

To learn about recent ICC related developments in Bahrain, visit:

<http://www.iccnw.org/countryinfo/northafricamiddleeast/bahrain.html>

Today, the ICC is receiving more attention than ever in the Middle East, which remains one of the least represented regions among the States Parties of the Court. Leaders from around the region have raised the importance of international law and the ICC in recent months, especially at the Sana'a Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Democracy, Human Rights and the Role of the ICC. There has also been steady interest among NGOs in Arab and Muslim countries, urging for wider ratification of the Rome Statute.

Actions are needed to promote awareness of the International Criminal Court in Bahrain; increase media coverage; urge governments to ratify the Rome Statute; adopt effective implementing legislation and ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities. The Bahrain Society for Human Rights (BHRS) has raised the ICC at a March 2004 conference co-sponsored by the Ministry of Social Affairs. BHRS is collaborating with other Coalition members worldwide in raising the importance of the ICC in Bahrain, which will include events in the coming months involving civil society, government officials from the Kingdom of Bahrain and possibly neighboring countries. The Coalition for the ICC Secretariat and member organizations have written to selected Bahraini government officials urging for ratification, and we will continue outreach efforts to the government in partnership with civil society.

You can participate in this campaign in the following ways:

1. As of April 1, visit the Universal Ratification page of Amnesty International, where you can find out how to send letters to important government officials, urging them to accede to the Statute.

English: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-150304-action-eng>

Arabic: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/icc-150304-action-ara>

French: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-150304-action-fra>

Spanish: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/385-150304-action-esl>

2. Modify a copy of the letter available above, and send it to the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in your country or region. You can translate it into your own language. (Arabic, English, French and Spanish versions are available on the Amnesty International websites above).

3. Contact Mr. Joydeep Sengupta ([sengupta@iccnw.org](mailto:sengupta@iccnw.org)) at the CICC if you would like to volunteer with media outreach efforts in the Gulf Region, especially in Bahrain, UAE or Saudi Arabia. You can also contact Ms. Adele Waugaman, Media Liaison at the CICC ([waugaman@iccnw.org](mailto:waugaman@iccnw.org)), for a press release on Bahrain.

4. Contact Mr. Joydeep Sengupta ([sengupta@iccnw.org](mailto:sengupta@iccnw.org)) at the CICC or Joanna Carr ([jcarr@amnesty.org](mailto:jcarr@amnesty.org)) at Amnesty International to inform us of any actions you take, or to discuss initiatives. You can also raise awareness of this campaign by sending this email to other organizations in your country.

5. Check out the Arabic Language resources on the International Criminal Court at: <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/icc-index-ara> to help raise awareness about the ICC in the Middle East. For NGO contacts in particular countries in the region working on the ICC, email Joydeep Sengupta at [sengupta@iccnw.org](mailto:sengupta@iccnw.org)

## STATES PARTIES TO THE ROME STATUTE OF THE ICC

*(92 ratifications and accessions (a) as of 30 March 2004, in chronological order)*

Senegal	2 February 1999	Croatia	21 May 2001	Mongolia	11 April 2002
Trinidad & Tobago	6 April 1999	Costa Rica	7 June 2001	Niger	11 April 2002
San Marino	13 May 1999	Antigua & Barbuda	18 June 2001	Romania	11 April 2002
Italy	26 July 1999	Denmark	21 June 2001	Slovakia	11 April 2002
Fiji	29 November 1999	Sweden	28 June 2001	Greece	15 May 2002
Ghana	20 December 1999	Netherlands	17 July 2001	Uganda	14 June 2002
Norway	16 February 2000	Serbia & Montenegro	6 September 2001	Brazil	20 June 2002
Belize	5 April 2000	Nigeria	27 September 2001	Namibia	25 June 2002
Tajikistan	5 May 2000	Liechtenstein	2 October 2001	Bolivia	27 June 2002
Iceland	25 May 2000	Central African Rep.	3 October 2001	Uruguay	28 June 2002
Venezuela	7 June 2000	United Kingdom	4 October 2001	Gambia	28 June 2002
France	9 June 2000	Switzerland	12 October 2001	Latvia	28 June 2002
Belgium	28 June 2000	Peru	10 November 2001	Australia	1 July 2002
Canada	7 July 2000	Nauru	12 November 2001	Honduras	1 July 2002
Mali	16 August 2000	Poland	12 November 2001	Colombia	5 August 2002
Lesotho	6 September 2000	Hungary	30 November 2001	Tanzania	20 August 2002
New Zealand	7 September 2000	Slovenia	31 December 2001	East Timor	6 September 2002(a)
Botswana	8 September 2000	Benin	22 January 2002	Samoa	16 September 2002
Luxembourg	8 September 2000	Estonia	30 January 2002	Malawi	19 September 2002
Sierra Leone	15 September 2000	Portugal	5 February 2002	Djibouti	5 November 2002
Gabon	20 September 2000	Ecuador	5 February 2002	Republic of Korea	13 November 2002
Spain	24 October 2000	Mauritius	5 March 2002	Zambia	13 November 2002
South Africa	27 November 2000	Macedonia, FYR	6 March 2002	Malta	29 November 2002
Marshall Islands	7 December 2000	Cyprus	7 March 2002	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	
Germany	11 December 2000	Panama	21 March 2002		3 December 2002 (a)
Austria	28 December 2000	Bosnia & Herzegovina	11 April 2002	Barbados	10 December 2002
Finland	29 December 2000	Bulgaria	11 April 2002	Albania	31 January 2003
Argentina	8 February 2001	Cambodia	11 April 2002	Afghanistan	10 February 2003 (a)
Dominica	12 February 2001(a)	Dem. Rep. of Congo	11 April 2002	Lithuania	12 May 2003
Andorra	30 April 2001	Ireland	11 April 2002	Guinea	14 July 2003
Paraguay	14 May 2001	Jordan	11 April 2002	Georgia	5 September 2003

## UPDATE ON THE AGREEMENT ON PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

With only 3 months remaining to sign the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), the Coalition continues to urge States to make it a priority to sign and ratify this Agreement as a matter of priority. The Agreement remains open for signatures until 30 June 2004 and enters into force after the 10th ratification. Six countries have ratified the APIC to date: **Austria, France, Iceland, Namibia, Norway, and Trinidad and Tobago.**

The Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court was adopted by the Assembly on 9 September 2002 and provides the judges, officials and staff with privileges, immunities and facilities to ensure the effectiveness and independence of their work. The agreement also provides a necessary set of privileges and immunities for victims, witnesses, counsel, experts and other persons involved in the Court. Although an interim headquarters agreement currently provides for privileges and immunities on the territory of the Netherlands, these will not protect the Court, involved persons, documents and communication outside of the Netherlands. *For more information on efforts to promote signature and ratification of this agreement, contact Cecilia Nilsson at: [nilsson@iccnw.org](mailto:nilsson@iccnw.org)*

## UPCOMING ICC EVENTS

### March 2004

- 25-27 March **"From Peace to Justice"**, a conference organized by the Hague academic institutions (Institute for Social Studies - ISS; the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies - Leiden University, The Hague Campus; the T.M.C. Asser Institute; the Clingendael Institute; and the Carnegie Foundation).  
*The Hague, The Netherlands*  
For more information, visit: <http://www.asser.nl/general/indxcom.htm#25-27>
- 30 March **The International Criminal Court and the National Legal Systems – Challenges and Prospects for Cooperation**, a roundtable organized by Transparency International-Bulgaria, with support of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court.  
*Sofia, Bulgaria*  
For more information, contact Diana Kovatcheva, Executive Director of Transparency International-Bulgaria, via e-mail: [mbox@transparency-bg.org](mailto:mbox@transparency-bg.org)
- 29-31 March **Meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance of the Assembly of States Parties**  
*The Hague, The Netherlands*  
For more information, email [cicc@iccnw.org](mailto:cicc@iccnw.org) or visit <http://icc-cpi.int>

### April 2004

- 2 April **"From Nuremberg to Rome"**, a panel featuring former Nuremberg Prosecutors and the leading experts on the International Criminal Court, co-sponsored by the Independent Student Coalition for the International Criminal Court, the International Law Students Association (ILSA) and the International Human Rights Law Institute.  
*Washington, DC*  
For more information, contact ILSA at +1 312 362 5025 or email: [ILSA@ILSA.ORG](mailto:ILSA@ILSA.ORG)
- 3 April **International Governance and the International Criminal Court**, a panel during the conference "Toward Securing the Global Village!", organized by New York University Alumni Association.  
*New York, New York*  
For more information, visit: [www.scps.nyu.edu/dialogue](http://www.scps.nyu.edu/dialogue)
- 7 April **The Case of International Criminal Justice: Courts, Tribunals, and the Role of Non-State Actors**, a panel discussion organized by New York University's Center on International Cooperation, hosted by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations.  
*New York, New York*  
For more information and to reserve a seat, phone: +1 212 998 3680, email: [cic.info@nyu.edu](mailto:cic.info@nyu.edu), or fax: +1 212 995 4706
- 18-23 April **110th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union**  
*Mexico City, Mexico*  
For more information, visit: <http://www.ipu.org/Conf-e/110agnd.htm>
- 28-30 April **"Justice and Memory: Paths and possibilities in the region"**, a seminar organized by Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales – CELS (Centre for Social and Legal Studies) and Memoria Abierta (Open Memory) from Argentina, with the support of CICC.  
*Buenos Aires, Argentina*  
For more information, contact: [memoria@cels.org.ar](mailto:memoria@cels.org.ar) or [memoriaabierta@memoriaabierta.org.ar](mailto:memoriaabierta@memoriaabierta.org.ar)

## May 2004

- 7-8 May **Third Transatlantic Conference “International Criminal Justice: A Transatlantic Dialogue,”** co-sponsored by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Faculty of Law and Northwestern University School of Law.  
*Brussels, Belgium*  
For more information, email: [hilde.vanlindt@law.kuleuven.ac.be](mailto:hilde.vanlindt@law.kuleuven.ac.be)

## June 2004

- 1-18 June 2004 **Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**, an intensive three-week program of courses on a range of topics (taught in English and Spanish), hosted by the American University Washington College of Law.  
*Washington, DC, United States*  
For more information, telephone +1-202-274-4070  
email: [hrcademy@wcl.american.edu](mailto:hrcademy@wcl.american.edu) or  
visit: <http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/hrcademy/>
- 16 June 2004 **"Prevention of Atrocity Crimes: Are the International Criminal Courts and Tribunals Doing the Right Thing?"**, a panel discussion as part of a two-week program on Global Issues Facing the United Nations organized by UNITAR and Columbia Law School. To include Professor David Scheffer (formerly, US Ambassador on War Crimes Issues), Professor Jose Alvarez (Columbia Law School), Dr. Payam Akhavan (Yale Law School, formerly a ICTY prosecutor), Mr. Larry Johnson (Chief of the cabinet, ICTY) Dr. Roy S. Lee formerly, Executive Secretary, 1998 Rome Conference) and NGO representatives.  
*New York, United States*  
For more information, visit:  
[http://www.law.columbia.edu/center\\_program/cle/Summer\\_Institut](http://www.law.columbia.edu/center_program/cle/Summer_Institut)
- 28 June - 2 July 2004 **Seminar on International Courts and Tribunals for Practitioners from South-East Asia and the South Pacific Regions**, jointly organized by the Project on International Courts and Tribunals (PICI), the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).  
*Wellington, New Zealand*  
For more information, visit: [www.unitar.org/diplomacy/nz.htm](http://www.unitar.org/diplomacy/nz.htm) or contact Martin Bohnstedt at: [martin.bohnstedt@unitar.org](mailto:martin.bohnstedt@unitar.org)
- 28 June - 2 July 2004 **Third Edition of International Moot Court Competition “Victor Carlos García Moreno, Procedure before the International Criminal Court,”** organized by the Consejo Latinoamericano de Estudiosos del Derecho Internacional y Comparado - COLADIC.  
*Mexico City, Mexico*  
For more information, contact Patricia Sánchez Réyes at: [patricia@coladicmx.org](mailto:patricia@coladicmx.org)

## August 2004

- 2-6 August 2004 **Meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance of the Assembly of States Parties**  
*The Hague, The Netherlands*  
For more information, email [cicc@iccnw.org](mailto:cicc@iccnw.org) or visit <http://icc-cpi.int>

## September 2004

- 6-10 September 2004 **Third Session of the Assembly of States Parties**  
*The Hague, The Netherlands*  
For more information, email [cicc@iccnw.org](mailto:cicc@iccnw.org) or visit <http://icc-cpi.int>



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*For a fair, effective and  
independent International  
Criminal Court*

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participating NGOs*

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) is a network of over two thousand civil society organizations in over 150 countries, supported through regional coordinators and liaisons based all over the world. The role of the NGO Coalition is to represent, facilitate and coordinate the work of its worldwide membership, while serving as the primary information resource on the ICC and a liaison between governments, International Criminal Court officials, international organizations, academics and civil society members.

**The latest edition of the ICC Monitor is now available at: [www.iccnnow.org](http://www.iccnnow.org).  
To request Monitors in English, French or Spanish, please contact the  
Coalition Secretariat.**

**Visit the FRENCH and SPANISH versions of the CICC website:  
[www.iccnnow.org/francais](http://www.iccnnow.org/francais) or [www.iccnnow.org/espanol](http://www.iccnnow.org/espanol)  
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## ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

On July 1, 2002, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) entered into force, triggering the jurisdiction of the first permanent international court capable of investigating and bringing to justice individuals who commit the most serious violations of international law, namely genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Unlike the International Court of Justice, whose jurisdiction is restricted to States, the ICC has the capacity to indict individuals.

The Rome Statute was adopted and opened for signature and ratification at the Rome Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on 17 July 1998 (by a vote of 120 to 7, with 21 abstentions). During a historic ceremony on 11 April 2002, 10



**The seat of the ICC in The Hague**  
*Credit: Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

states simultaneously deposited their instruments of ratification, crossing the threshold of the 60 ratifications necessary for entry into force of the Rome Statute.

The 18 Judges of the ICC were elected in February 2003, and the Court was formally inaugurated on 11 March 2003 in a solemn ceremony held in The Hague, The Netherlands. In April

2003, the Assembly of States Parties unanimously elected the Chief Prosecutor of the ICC, Mr. Luis Moreno Ocampo, who was sworn into office on 16 June 2003. With the election of Mr. Bruno Cathala as Registrar of the Court, and the swearing in of the Deputy Prosecutor Mr. Serge Brammertz, all senior officials of the ICC are in place.

The ICC will be complementary to national jurisdictions, and will act only when national systems are unable or unwilling to genuinely carry out investigations or prosecutions of such crimes. The jurisdiction of the Court is not retroactive; it will only apply to those crimes that are committed after entry into force of the Statute. To date, 92 countries have ratified the Rome Statute.