

## Statement of qualifications

*Statement submitted in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4 (a), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and paragraph 6 of resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6 on the procedure for the nomination and election of judges of the International Criminal Court*

(a) Professor Kuniko Ozaki, the Japanese candidate for judge of the International Criminal Court, is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity, who possesses the qualifications required in Japan for appointment to the highest judicial offices.

Professor Ozaki is one of Japan's prominent diplomats, with significant expertise in international law and international criminal law. Joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in 1979, Professor Ozaki has held various important positions involving legal work throughout her diplomatic career. She was engaged in and contributed to the negotiations, ratification processes and implementation phases of various treaties and conventions in the fields of international crimes, human rights, terrorism, environment and non-proliferation, amongst others. At the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, she was mainly in charge of the issues discussed in the Sixth Committee (legal affairs) of the General Assembly, and was intensively engaged in the process of international rule-making.

Apart from her diplomatic career, in the Ministry of Justice, Professor Ozaki was heavily involved in the drafting and application of domestic law on drug crimes, organized crime, money laundering, terrorism and illegal immigration, as a specialist attached to the Criminal Affairs Bureau. She also participated actively in crime-related treaty negotiations as a member of the Japanese delegation. The wide recognition of her experience and knowledge in the field of international criminal law was demonstrated by her appointment in 2006 as Director, Division for Treaty Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in which capacity she served until 2009. Her responsibilities in that position included assisting States in the ratification and implementation of the relevant international treaties, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption; development of domestic legislation on drugs, crime and terrorism; technical assistance including education and training of judges and prosecutors in developing countries; and establishing rule of law and national criminal justice systems in post-conflict regions.

Professor Ozaki's exceptional competence and ability in legal affairs, as well as her high moral character, have been well confirmed by the professional manner in which she discharged these duties. Taking into account these achievements of Professor Ozaki, her nomination as the Japanese candidate for judge of the International Criminal Court was proposed at a cabinet meeting, and authorized after careful consideration following the procedure stipulated in article 36, paragraph 4 (a) (i), of the Rome Statute.

(b) Professor Ozaki is nominated as the Japanese candidate for judge of the Court for inclusion in list B for the purposes of article 36, paragraph 5, of the Rome Statute.

Professor Ozaki has been intensively involved in the relevant areas of international law, such as international humanitarian law and law of human rights, and developed superior expertise and competence in these fields. As Director of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, she was in charge of preparing for the ratification and implementation of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols, amongst others, and led the Japanese delegation in human rights-related meetings at the United Nations. As Director of the Refugee Division at the Ministry of Justice, she was also responsible for addressing the issue of human trafficking and issues related to refugees. Most importantly, she took active part in and

contributed significantly to the process of preparing and negotiating the establishment of a statute for the International Criminal Court, both in New York and in Tokyo.

In addition to her work for the Government of Japan, Professor Ozaki has rich experience as an academic lawyer, having undertaken research and teaching in the fields of international humanitarian law and law of human rights, including matters related to the International Criminal Court, as Professor of International Law at various universities and institutions. She has written extensively in the relevant fields and has numerous publications.

(c) Professor Ozaki has an excellent knowledge of and is fluent in English. She also has a good knowledge of French.

(d) The information relating to article 36, paragraph 8 (a), of the Rome Statute is as follows: Given that there remains only one judge (male, list A) from Asia amongst the incumbent judges following the passing of Judge Fumiko Saiga, the election of Professor Ozaki as a new judge of the Court will significantly contribute to improving regional and other balances in the composition of judges of the Court.

- (i) Professor Ozaki is qualified for appointment to the highest judicial offices in Japan.
- (ii) Professor Ozaki is a national of Japan, a member of the Asian region.
- (iii) Professor Ozaki is female.

(e) Professor Ozaki has legal expertise on specific issues including, but not limited to, violence against women and children. As Director of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, she was involved in gender-related issues, and led the Japanese delegation at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly on “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”, which took place in New York in June 2000. She addressed the issue of human trafficking in various positions held throughout her career. She also contributed to the making of the “Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice” as a member of the Japanese delegation to the Crime Commission in 1997, and became responsible for its implementation as the Director for Treaty Affairs of UNODC from 2006. At UNODC, she dealt extensively with the issue of transnational organized crime. Her contributions to the activities of UNODC are well recognized by the international community.

(f) Professor Ozaki is a national of Japan and does not possess the nationality of any other State.