



## Coalition for the International Criminal Court

[www.iccnw.org](http://www.iccnw.org)

MEDIA ADVISORY  
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### ICC ELECTS SIX JUDGES TO BENCH

*Guyanese, Japanese, Italian, Botswanan, Belgian, Kenyan Candidates to Assume Judicial Posts*

On Monday, 19-20 January 2009 during the first Resumed Session of the Seventh Session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) at UN Headquarters in New York, the ASP elected six new judges to the ICC bench. Each of the elected judges will serve nine-year terms.

Judges were elected by a two-thirds majority of the 108 States Parties present and voting (a minimum of 72 votes was required for election). These judges will be replacing those whose terms expire in March 2009.

Candidates shall have established competence in criminal law and procedure (list A candidates) or in relevant areas of international law (list B candidates). States Parties must also take into account the representation of the principal legal systems of the world, equitable geographical representation, a fair representation of female and male judges, and judges with legal expertise on specific issues including, but not limited to, violence against children or women.

In the first round of balloting, Mohamed Shahabuddeen (Guyana) was elected with 79 votes and Fumaiko Saiga (Japan) was elected with 72 votes. Both candidates were listed as possessing "List B" qualifications.

In the second round of balloting, no candidates were elected because none received the requisite two-thirds majority of votes.

In the third round, Cuno Tarfusser (Italy) was elected with 74 votes, but no other candidates reached or surpassed the two-thirds majority threshold so a fourth round of balloting was required, which resulted in the election of Sanji Monageng (Botswana) with 75 votes.

In a fourth round of balloting, Christine Van Den Wyngaert (Belgium) was elected with 73 votes. After five more rounds of balloting, Joyce Aluoch (Kenya) was elected with 100 votes.

The judges elected will arrive at the Court at a crucial time in history, where Pre-trial chambers are setting important procedural landmarks, trial chambers are dealing with the first trials and appeals are establishing

jurisprudence for the future. Only with a large pool of good candidates to choose from will the states be able to provide the Court with the quality judges it deserves.

More information about the elections at the Seventh Session of the Assembly of States Parties can be found on the CICC website:

<http://www.iccnw.org/?mod=electionjudges2009>

***Important notice:*** *The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), an independent NGO movement, is dedicated to the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, does not take a position on individual candidates. Our goal is to promote the nomination and election of the most highly qualified candidates through a fair and transparent process.*

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