

ICC UPDATE

The Rome Statute of the ICC has:

94 ratifications

The Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court has: **11 ratifications & 62 signatories**

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“As you know, for the past two years, I have spoken quite strongly against the exemption, and I think it would be unfortunate for one to press for such an exemption, given the prisoner abuse in Iraq. I think in this circumstance it would be unwise to press for an exemption, and it would be even more unwise on the part of the Security Council to grant it. It would discredit the Council and the United Nations that stands for rule of law and the primacy of rule of law...What I am saying is that blanket exemption is wrong. It is of dubious judicial value, and I don't think it should be encouraged by the Council.”

- UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, 17 June 2004

GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT REAFFIRMED

After weeks of negotiations and faced with continued opposition, the US government withdrew its request for renewal of the UN Security Council resolution exempting its peacekeepers from the jurisdiction of the



As in 2003, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan cautioned the Security Council against renewing the resolution exempting peacekeepers from the ICC's jurisdiction.

International Criminal Court. This was announced after informal consultations on 23 June during which it became clear that a last-minute US-proposed compromise text would not get the required support.

Adopted as Resolution 1422 in July 2002, and renewed as Resolution 1487 in June 2003, the Resolution requested that the ICC not proceed with investigations or prosecutions of officials participating in UN peacekeeping or authorized mis-

sions who are from countries that have not yet ratified the Rome Statute of the ICC. While the resolution was adopted unanimously in 2002, three countries (France, Germany and Syria) abstained from the vote in June 2003, signaling that the resolution would not be routinely renewed each year. Faced with mounting opposition to the renewal of the same text as Resolution 1487, the United States proposed a compromise text to amend the Security Council resolution, reportedly

acknowledging that this would be the final renewal of the resolution.

Many governments were reportedly influenced by the UN Secretary-General's strong appeal that “extending the exemption once more would

contradict the efforts of the United Nations – including the Council itself – to promote the rule of law in international affairs.” Informal consultations revealed that the compromise text would not garner the nine votes necessary for its adoption. The United States subsequently announced it would not pursue any further action on the resolution, and Resolution 1487 expired on 30 June 2004.

More information on the is available at: www.iccnw.org

CAPE VERDE: PROMOTING RATIFICATION IN LUSOPHONE COUNTRIES



The target country for the CICC Universal Ratification campaign in July 2004 was Cape Verde. According to government officials at a recent conference in Cape Verde, the government is due to start the process of revising its constitution this year.

Government sources indicate that there is an intention to include the necessary alterations during the constitutional revision, in order to proceed with ratification of the Rome Statute in the near future. In his opening speech, National Assembly

President Aristides Lima pointed out, among other issues, that the international community is moving toward 100 ratifications of the Rome Statute while the majority of Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) countries have not yet ratified the treaty. *(continued on page 7)*

ICC LAUNCHES INVESTIGATIONS IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND UGANDA

The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) recently announced the launch of formal investigations into the situations in Democratic



Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda. The Prosecutor's Office will now look into allegations of

crimes falling within the ICC's jurisdiction (namely genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes), committed in the territory of these two States Parties since 1 July 2002 (the date of entry into force of the Rome Statute of the ICC).

The opening of these investigations follows referrals from both the DRC and Ugandan governments, submitted to the Office of Prosecutor earlier this year. Since then, the ICC Prosecutor, Luis Moreno Ocampo, has determined that there is a reasonable basis to open

investigations in both situations.

In submitting the referrals, both governments signal that they are committed to cooperating with the Office of the Prosecutor in its investigations. A referral by an ICC State Party is one of three ways that a case can be brought to the ICC, in addition to a referral by the UN Security Council under its Chapter VII authority, or the *proprio motu* initiation of an investigation by the Prosecutor on the basis of information on crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court.

"The opening of the first investigation of the ICC is a major step forward for international justice, against impunity and for the protection of victims."

Luis Moreno-Ocampo,
ICC Chief Prosecutor

CICC STATEMENT ON SITUATIONS BEFORE THE ICC

With the OTP's announcement of the launch of investigations in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda, the ICC is entering into a new phase of its work. As such, the Coalition for the ICC needs to respond to these new developments and define its relationship with the Court, particularly in regards to the Coalition's communications and public information services.

In this new phase, the CICC will maintain its policy of not taking a position on potential or pending situations before the Court (similar to the CICC policy on the election of Court officials). More specifically, the CICC will not endorse any specific investigations or prosecutions before the Court. As the Coalition now comprises over 2,000 NGOs

from all regions of the world, it is impossible for the CICC secretariat to represent every perspective and position of its diverse membership with particular regard to situations before the Court.

Individual members of the Coalition, however, may be involved in the development of communications sent to the Office of the Prosecutor, and the CICC will endeavor to refer any specific inquiries or media requests to such members, when appropriate.

In order to communicate this policy clearly and effectively, all messages or documents containing information on situations will include the following clarification of the CICC's policy (in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese):

The Coalition, an independent NGO movement, is dedicated to

the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization. The Coalition will continue to provide the most up-to-date information about the ICC and to help coordinate global action to effectively implement the Rome Statute of the ICC. The Coalition will also endeavor to respond to basic queries and to raise awareness about the ICC's trigger mechanisms and procedures, as they develop. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, does not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual CICC members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.

Communications on situations can be sent to the Court at: ICC, P.O. Box 19519, 2500 CM The Hague, The Netherlands

UNITED STATES CONTINUES ATTACK AGAINST ICC SUPPORTERS

On 15 July 2004, the House of Representatives, one chamber of the US Congress, approved an anti-ICC amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, with a vote of 241-166. This legislation, offered by Representative George Nethercutt (a Republican from Washington State), is yet another tactic of the US government to coerce countries, particularly ICC States Parties, to sign a bilateral immunity agreement (BIA) granting non-surrender of US personnel and citizens to the ICC. Failure to sign such agreements would result in the loss of vital US aid under the Economic Support Fund, aid given to increase cooperation in international security and terrorism, as well as promote economic and democratic development, strengthen human rights, and further peace processes. It is important to note that the provision will only become law if it is in the final version of the bill, which will not be discussed before the US Senate re-opens its session in September 2004.

As we understand from experts in Washington, DC, it is highly unlikely that possible US sanctions – as proposed in the Nethercutt Amendment – will be seriously considered in the US Senate, and thus they are unlikely to take effect. Furthermore, when the US Senate re-opens its session on 7 September, they will be under extreme pressure to adopt many bills before the close of the budget year on 30 September. As their final appropriations bills will need

to be completed very quickly to meet this deadline, there will be no or very few amendments allowed. In addition, the Bush administration has said that it does not support the Nethercutt Amendment. These factors together indicate that this amendment is unlikely to be included in the final version of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, and should reassure governments to continue to resist signing an illegal bilateral non-surrender agreement under this empty threat.

During the debate before its adoption, the Republican chair of the subcommittee that had approved the original bill (Representative Jim Kolbe from Arizona) spoke out strongly against this amendment:

“At a time when we are fighting the war on terrorism, reducing this tool of diplomatic influence is not a good idea...If we accept [this amendment], the US will be hamstringing itself, placing a straitjacket on its diplomatic tools, when we have a lot of US national security objectives that must carry the same or equal weight as securing [BIAs].”

While the US economic and political pressure to force the signature and ratification of these bilateral immunity agreements has been unrelenting, at least 45 governments have publicly refused to sign these non-surrender agreements and continue to hold their principled positions. Overall more than two-thirds of the 94 States Parties to the ICC

have not signed a BIA. Of the reported 80 agreements that have been signed, most have been signed with small, economically-vulnerable countries. Experts report that less than 15 percent of these agreements have been ratified by parliaments and are in effect. According to government and NGO legal experts, signing a US-proposed bilateral immunity agreement would be a violation of States Parties' obligations under the Rome Statute as well as international law. The decision of so many Governments to uphold the integrity of the Rome Statute and international law, despite US threats to withdraw economic assistance, exemplifies a rare victory of high-minded principle over brute power.

The Coalition strongly encourages governments to continue discussing the subject of these bilateral immunity agreements with other ICC States Parties. In particular, the CICC draws attention to the recent statement issued by the EU Troika on this subject following its demarche in Washington. The EU makes very clear that it cannot support bilateral non-surrender agreements that do not conform with the Rome Statute in the way indicated by the Guiding Principles of 2002 and urges States Parties to the International Criminal Court negotiating bilateral non-surrender agreements to act in accordance with these principles. A compilation of documents (including the EU principles, legal analysis and strategies for negotiations) is available at: <http://www.iccnw.org>

The text of the Nethercutt Amendment, which has yet to be adopted in the US Senate, reads:

“None of the funds made available in this Act in title II under the heading “ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND” may be used to provide assistance to the government of a country that is a party to the International Criminal Court and has not entered into an agreement with the United States pursuant to Article 98 of the Rome Statute preventing the International Criminal Court from proceeding against United States personnel present in such country.”



REGIONAL UPDATES ON RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROME STATUTE AND THE AGREEMENT ON PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE COURT

AFRICA

Burkina Faso

On 7 May 2004, Burkina Faso signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC (APIC).

Democratic Republic of Congo

Officials in the Ministry of Justice have stated that the implementation bill can be considered by the parliament by October 2004.

Mali

On 8 July 2004, Mali ratified the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC, becoming the 11th State Party to the Agreement.

Nigeria

On 1 June 2004, the House of Representatives (lower arm) of the National Assembly passed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Ratification and Jurisdiction) Bill 2003. The bill was re-submitted by the executive arm of government last year.

The Bill is expected to be passed by the Senate (upper arm) and signed by the President in order to become a law in Nigeria.

Uganda

A bill to incorporate ICC crimes into domestic laws was presented to Parliament on 25 June. The Ugandan government has agreed to consider civil society comments on the bill; civil society organizations will present a memorandum to the relevant parliamentary committee.

AMERICAS

Argentina

In June 2004, the Senate Constitutional Affairs Commission approved the ICC implementing legislation submitted by the Inter-Ministerial Commission in 2001. The bill will now be forwarded to the Chamber of Deputies for approval.

Bahamas

On 30 June 2004, the last day the document was open for signature, Bahamas signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Brazil

On 17 May 2004, Brazil signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

AMERICAS

Canada

On 22 June 2004, Canada became the 10th State to ratify the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC, triggering the Agreement's entry into force.

Honduras

The Commission that reviews the amendments to the Penal Code has not made any proposal on the incorporation of international crimes into national legislation.

Jamaica

On 30 June 2004, Jamaica signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Panama

It is expected that the draft implementation bill be reviewed by the Ministry of Government when the new administration soon takes office.

Paraguay

According to information from media sources in Paraguay in July 2004, el Instituto de Estudios Comparados de Ciencias Sociales del Paraguay, with support from the government of Canada, will start working on implementation of the Rome Statute in Paraguay.

Uruguay

On 30 June 2004, Uruguay signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

ASIA

Philippines

In March 2003, the Philippine Coalition for the ICC filed a mandamus petition to the Supreme Court to compel the Executive Branch to transmit the ratification instrument to the Senate for concurrence, as provided for in the Philippine Constitution. The Supreme Court has since received memoranda from both sides and is due to make its decision on the case.

Republic of Korea

The draft implementing legislation has been completed and is due for approval by the National Assembly in its session in November 2004. Public hearings are being held to gather feedback from other government agencies and civil society groups.

On 28 June 2004, the Republic of Korea signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

EUROPE

Andorra

On 21 June 2004, Andorra signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

EUROPE

Bulgaria

In April 2004, Transparency International-Bulgaria prepared an analysis of the status of implementing legislation and presented several conclusions, which can be found on our website:

www.iccnw.org/countryinfo/europecis/bulgaria.html

Latvia

On 29 June 2004, Latvia signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Lithuania

On 25 May 2004, Lithuania signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Liechtenstein

Government officials in Liechtenstein have indicated that Liechtenstein is expected to accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court in August 2004.

Poland

On 30 June 2004, Poland signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Portugal

A law proposed to implement the Rome Statute into Portuguese legislation was approved by the Parliament on the 27 May 2004. It includes criminal laws on violations of international humanitarian law. The law is available at: http://www3.parlamento.pt/PLC/Iniciativa.aspx?ID_Ini=19716 Following signature by the President, the implementing legislation (Law n. 31/2004) was published in the *Official Journal (Diário da República- I Série – A, No 171-22 July 2004)* on 22 July 2004.

Romania

On 30 June 2004, Romania signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

Serbia and Montenegro

On 7 May 2004, Serbia and Montenegro ratified the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC, becoming the 8th State Party to the Agreement.

Slovakia

On 26 May 2004, Slovakia ratified the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC, becoming the 9th State Party to the Agreement.

NEW RESOURCE ON IMPLEMENTATION

The International Human Rights Law Institute at DePaul University School of Law, Chicago, under the direction of Professor Cherif Bassiouni, has a forthcoming publication examining ICC implementing legislation in various countries, to provide a model for implementation throughout the Arab world. For further information, you may contact Mr. Mohammed Ibrahim at: mibrahim@depaul.edu

NORTH AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST

Kingdom of Bahrain

High level officials at the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Shura Council and Members of Parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain participated in a two-day workshop on the International Criminal Court organized by FIDH, CICC and the Bahrain Society for Human Rights between 2-4 June 2004 in Manama. Officials in the Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs expressed Bahrain's continued strong support for the ICC treaty, and commitment to ratification in the near future. Officials commented on the progress of a team of experts examining Bahraini national laws and their compatibility with the Rome Statute. For further information, contact Mr. Joydeep Sengupta at the CICC: sengupta@iccnw.org

Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

On 28 June 2004, Jordan signed the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Officials in the Ministry of Justice in the United Arab Emirates attended the Inter-sessional Meeting on the Crime of Aggression, held at Princeton University in June 2004, and expressed continued support for the ICC. A team at the Ministry of Justice is continuing to examine compatibility issues with the ICC.

CAPE VERDE: PROMOTING LUSOPHONE RATIFICATION (CONTINUED)

He also mentioned the importance of the participation of civil society in the establishment of the ICC. With regard to Cape Verde's new penal code, which entered into force on 1 July 2004, the code includes a new chapter on crimes against the international community, which reportedly include the following crimes: genocide and incitement to commit genocide; slavery; crimes against protected people in armed conflict; prohibited means of combat; reprisals or threat of violence to the civilian population and destruction of civilian targets.

The CICC is urging Cape Verde to take the lead among African Lusophone countries by ratifying the Rome Statute as soon as possible, thereby promoting the new system of international justice in the region.

Lebanon is the target country for the month of August, and the CICC, Amnesty International and local NGOs have been active in raising awareness about the Court through the media. Events in Lebanon are being planned by CICC members in the coming months. For more details, contact Joydeep Sengupta at: sengupta@iccnw.org

For more information on the CICC Universal Ratification campaign, visit:

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 urging members to redouble their 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 seeks to focus efforts on one country, rotating to a different region each month.



STATES PARTIES TO THE ROME STATUTE OF THE ICC

(94 ratifications and accessions (a) as of 1 August 2004, in chronological order)

Senegal	2 February 1999	Croatia	21 May 2001	Niger	11 April 2002
Trinidad & Tobago	6 April 1999	Costa Rica	7 June 2001	Romania	11 April 2002
San Marino	13 May 1999	Antigua & Barbuda	18 June 2001	Slovakia	11 April 2002
Italy	26 July 1999	Denmark	21 June 2001	Greece	15 May 2002
Fiji	29 November 1999	Sweden	28 June 2001	Uganda	14 June 2002
Ghana	20 December 1999	Netherlands	17 July 2001	Brazil	20 June 2002
Norway	16 February 2000	Serbia & Montenegro	6 September 2001	Namibia	25 June 2002
Belize	5 April 2000	Nigeria	27 September 2001	Bolivia	27 June 2002
Tajikistan	5 May 2000	Liechtenstein	2 October 2001	Uruguay	28 June 2002
Iceland	25 May 2000	Central African Rep.	3 October 2001	Gambia	28 June 2002
Venezuela	7 June 2000	United Kingdom	4 October 2001	Latvia	28 June 2002
France	9 June 2000	Switzerland	12 October 2001	Australia	1 July 2002
Belgium	28 June 2000	Peru	10 November 2001	Honduras	1 July 2002
Canada	7 July 2000	Nauru	12 November 2001	Colombia	5 August 2002
Mali	16 August 2000	Poland	12 November 2001	Tanzania	20 August 2002
Lesotho	6 September 2000	Hungary	30 November 2001	East Timor	6 September 2002(a)
New Zealand	7 September 2000	Slovenia	31 December 2001	Samoa	16 September 2002
Botswana	8 September 2000	Benin	22 January 2002	Malawi	19 September 2002
Luxembourg	8 September 2000	Estonia	30 January 2002	Djibouti	5 November 2002
Sierra Leone	15 September 2000	Portugal	5 February 2002	Republic of Korea	13 November 2002
Gabon	20 September 2000	Ecuador	5 February 2002	Zambia	13 November 2002
Spain	24 October 2000	Mauritius	5 March 2002	Malta	29 November 2002
South Africa	27 November 2000	Macedonia, FYR	6 March 2002	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	
Marshall Islands	7 December 2000	Cyprus	7 March 2002		3 December 2002 (a)
Germany	11 December 2000	Panama	21 March 2002	Barbados	10 December 2002
Austria	28 December 2000	Bosnia & Herzegovina	11 April 2002	Albania	31 January 2003
Finland	29 December 2000	Bulgaria	11 April 2002	Afghanistan	10 February 2003 (a)
Argentina	8 February 2001	Cambodia	11 April 2002	Lithuania	12 May 2003
Dominica	12 February 2001(a)	Dem. Rep. of Congo	11 April 2002	Guinea	14 July 2003
Andorra	30 April 2001	Ireland	11 April 2002	Georgia	5 September 2003
Paraguay	14 May 2001	Jordan	11 April 2002	Burkina Faso	16 April 2004
		Mongolia	11 April 2002	Congo (Brazzaville)	3 May 2004

AGREEMENT ON PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES ENTERS INTO FORCE

STATES URGED TO RATIFY OR ACCEDE

In light of the Court's official launch of investigations, the Coalition continues to urge States to make it a priority to ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC). With the 10th ratification of the Agreement by Canada on 22 June 2004, the Agreement entered into force on 22 July 2004. To date, 11 countries have ratified the APIC, namely: **Austria, Canada, France, Iceland, Mali, Namibia, Norway, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia 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. The Agreement was open for signature from 9 September 2002 until 30 June 2004 and entered into force on 22 July 2004. *For more information on efforts to promote ratification of this agreement, contact Cecilia Nilsson at: nilsson@iccnw.org*

UPCOMING ICC EVENTS

July 2004

- 3 July **Lawyer's Workshop on the International Criminal Court and India**, organized by ICC-India.
Mumbai, India
For more information, email: iccindia@indiainfo.com
- 5-11 July **"First Cases before the International Criminal Court,"** on the occasion of Young Professionals Day, hosted by United Nations Association Business Council for the United Nations System.
United Nations, New York, New York
For further information, please visit: www.bcun.org
- 10 July **"Preventing Genocide: A Shared Responsibility"**, hosted by the Voices for Freedom, including a panel on International Criminal Tribunals and Courts.
Fordham University: New York, New York
For more information, email info@voicesforfreedom.org
- 12-16 July **XV International Course "Los problemas de la Democracia y su impacto en los Derechos Humanos"** ("The Problems of Democracy and its impact in human rights"), jointly organized by the Andean Commission of Jurist (CAJ) and Universidad del Externado.
Bogotá, Colombia
For further information, please visit: www.cajpe.org.pe or contact Mr. Eddie Condor econdor@cajpe.org.pe
- 13 July **XV International Course "Los problemas de la Democracia y su impacto en los Derechos Humanos"** ("Democracy and the impact in human rights"), jointly organized by the Andean Commission of Jurist (CAJ) and Universidad del Externado.
Bogotá, Colombia
For further information, please visit: www.cajpe.org.pe or contact Mr. Eddie Condor econdor@cajpe.org.pe
- 17 July **Celebration: World Day of International Criminal Justice**, hosted by the Arab Centre for Independence of the Judiciary and Legal Profession (ACIJLP) in its capacity as the Coordinator of the Arab Coalition for the ICC, includes panel on the role of the ICC in the current events in the Arab region.
Cairo, Egypt
For more information, please visit www.acijlp.org
- 24 July **"Toward a Safer World: the International Criminal Court"**, hosted by the Boston Social Forum.
Boston, Massachusetts
For more information visit http://www.bostonsocialforum.org/e107_plugins/survey/view.php?1 or email sarah.hambrick@snet.net

25-30 July **Seminar on the International Criminal Court as part of the Americas Social Forum**, organized by CICC.
Quito, Ecuador
For more information, please contact Dr. Jose Guevara at: guevara@iccnow.org

30 July **Global Young Leaders Conference (GYLC): Panel Discussion on the International Criminal Court**, hosted by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC).
Washington, D.C.
For more information, contact Adam Austin at 202-638-0008 ext. 5063.

August 2004

2-6 August **Meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance of the Assembly of States Parties**
The Hague, The Netherlands
For more information, email cicc@iccnow.org or visit icc-cpi.int

6-7 August **"International Criminal Court and Gender Justice: Challenges in the Ratification and Implementation Processes in the Region"**, Organized by Corporacion Domos (Chile), Corporacion La Morada (Chile) and Corporacion Promocion de la Mujer (Ecuador), with the support of the European Union and Oxfam Netherlands, sponsored by Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), Human Rights Watch (HRW) and the Chilean Chamber of Deputies (Camara de Diputados de Chile)
Santiago, Chile
For further informacion, contact Ms. Mónica Maureira at mmaureira@lamorada.cl

8-19 August **Salzburg Law School on International Criminal Law: "Reviewing the First Two Years of the International Criminal Court With Regard to the Future"**
Salzburg, Austria
For more information, visit www.salzburglawschool.com, or email: office@salzburglawschool.com

September 2004

6-10 September **Third Session of the Assembly of States Parties**
The Hague, The Netherlands
For more information, email cicc@iccnow.org or visit icc-cpi.int

11-14 September **NGO Forum on National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI)**, entitled "Building Strategic Partnerships between NGOs and NHRIs : Upholding Human Rights during Conflicts and while Countering Terrorism," hosted by MINBYUN-Lawyers for a Democratic Society, with the support of CONGO.
Seoul, Korea
For more information, contact Ms Giyoun KIM from MINBYUN at: m321@chollian.net or Seonghoon Lee (Anselmo) from CONGO at: leesh@iprolink.ch or visit: <http://www.ngocongo.org/ngomeet/SeoulForumNHRIs04.doc>

- 12-19 September **17th International Congress of Penal Law**, jointly hosted by the International Association of Penal Law (AIDP) and the China Law Society (CLS).
Beijing, China
For more information and on-line registration, visit the China Law Society conference website: <http://www.chinalawsociety.com/>
- 20-21 September **National Conference of Lawyers**, organized by Ordem dos Advogados.
Luanda, Angola
For more information, contact Dr. Tomas da Silva at: tomassilva@netangola.com

October 2004

- 4-5 October **"Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court: Implementation at the National Level in the Republic of Tajikistan"**, a conference organized by the Tajik NGO Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law.
Dushanbe, Tajikistan
For more information, contact Ms. Bunafsha Gulakova at: bgulak@law.columbia.edu
- 11-12 October **"Asia-Europe Dialogue on Human Rights and International Law: The International Criminal Court, a New Era for Justice?"**, a panel as part of the 7th International Human Rights Conference.
Pasig City, Philippines
For more information, email: catibayan@iccnow.org
- 11-15 October **Asian Thematic Training Program on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**, hosted by the Office of Human Rights Studies and Social Development (OHRSD).
Bangkok, Thailand
More information and application form can be found at <http://humanrights-mu.org/thematic.php> (deadline for applications is 20 August)
- 13 October **"European Cooperation against Terrorism"**, hosted by the International Criminal Law Network.
The Hague, The Netherlands
For more information and registration, visit www.icln.net or e-mail Ms. Madelien Bierema at: secretary@icln.net.

November 2004

- 18-20 November **"Promoting Women's Equal Participation in Peace and Security Processes: Operationalizing UN Security Council Resolution 1325"** and **"Toolkit on Women, Peace, and Security,"** hosted by Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice.
San Diego, California
For more information, please visit the IPJ website at <http://peace.sandiego.edu> or contact conference coordinators at 1325conf@sandiego.edu.

December 2004

- 6-7 December **Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Rule of Law, III Session**, hosted by the Parliamentarians for Global Action.
Parliament of New Zealand, Wellington
For more information, please contact donat@pgaction.org



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For a fair, effective and independent International Criminal Court

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and from individual donors and participating NGOs.*

Visit us on the web:
www.iccnw.org

ABOUT THE COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (CICC)

The CICC is a network of over 2,000 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 CICC provides several resources, including:

- **www.iccnw.org** A comprehensive website with documents, country-by-country summaries, fact sheets, legal analyses and more, dealing with the ICC Preparatory Commission, the Assembly of States Parties and the Court's current work.
- The French and Spanish versions of the CICC website at:
www.iccnw.org/francais and www.iccnw.org/espanol
- The ***ICC Monitor***, a quarterly publication, available in English, French and Spanish
- The ***Insight on the ICC***, a quarterly publication focused on developments at the Court and in The Hague, available in English and French.
- **cicc-info@yahoo.com** Our email list providing daily updates on developments at the ICC, plus additional email groups dedicated to specific issues and regions, available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

To be on our mailing list or for more information, contact: cicc@iccnw.org

ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

On 1 July 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.

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



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

of the Rome Statute. To date, 94 countries have ratified the Rome Statute, and comprise the Assembly of States Parties, the ICC's oversight body.

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. With the

election of Mr. Luis Moreno Ocampo as Chief Prosecutor and Mr. Bruno Cathala as Registrar of the Court, all senior officials of the ICC are in place. The Office of the Prosecutor announced the official launch of investigations in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda in June and July 2004, respectively.

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.

For the ICC's official website, visit: www.icc-cpi.int