



NCICC NIGERIAN COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT

PRESS RELEASE

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Kudos for Africa – ICC ELECTS FIRST FEMALE AFRICAN CHIEF PROSECTOR

A landmark achievement for women in Africa!

On 12 December 2012 Fatou Bensouda was elected as Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court at the tenth session of the Assembly of States Parties in New York to commence her term in June 2012. Bensouda has been Deputy Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court since 2004. She previously served as Gambia's Solicitor-General, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, and was a Legal Adviser and trial attorney at the international tribunal prosecuting key figures from the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

The Assembly also elected Ambassador Tiina Intelman (from Estonia) as the new President of the Assembly. She succeeds Ambassador Wenaweser and has been appointed for a three year term. Mr. Markus Börlin, Swiss Ambassador to the Netherlands and Mr. Ken Kanda, Ghanaian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) were elected as Vice-Presidents of the ASP.

Nigeria joined 17 other countries on the ASP executive committee who were elected during the morning session. The 18 countries were elected as the new members of the Bureau for three-year terms. The new members come from the following states: Canada, Belgium, Finland, Portugal, Samoa, Republic of Korea, Japan, Argentina, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile, Brazil, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Gabon, Republic of South Africa, Uganda, **and Nigeria.**

The Nigerian Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC) would like to congratulate the new Prosecutor of the ICC and the new President of the ASP on their election. We wish them a successful tenure!

NCICC considers the new appointments as important milestones in the fight against impunity in Africa. Nigeria's membership of the executive committee of the ASP is pivotal to this fight especially considering the fact that more than half a million people have been killed since 2001 that Nigeria ratified the Rome Statute in circumstances that could constitute international crimes.

Nigerian Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC) is a coalition of civil society organizations, human rights defenders and activists in the country who are committed to promoting good governance and fighting impunity in all forms. NCICC is a member of Coalition for International Criminal Court (CICC).

Chino E Obiagwu, Chairman of NCICC

Jibo Ibrahim, Co - Convenor

Oby Nwankwo, Council member, Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC)