



**Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale**

**International  
Criminal  
Court**

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# The Judges of the Court



Inaugural ceremony  
of the Court  
Photo: ICC-CPI/  
Wim van Cappellen

The International Criminal Court is composed of 18 judges, who are elected for terms of office of nine years by the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute, the founding instrument of the Court. They are not eligible for re-election.

The first 18 judges of the Court were elected in February, 2003 and sworn in on 11 March, 2003. To ensure continuity, at the first election, one-third of the judges were selected by lot to serve for three years, one-third for six and one-third for nine. Any judge elected for three years or less was eligible for re-election for a further full period of nine years.

The judges are chosen from among persons of high moral character, impartiality and integrity who possess the qualifications required in their respective States for appointment to the highest judicial offices. They have either established competence in criminal law and procedure, and the necessary relevant experience, whether as a judge, prosecutor, advocate or in other similar capacity, in criminal proceedings; or have established competence in relevant areas of international law such as international humanitarian law and the law of human rights, and extensive experience in a professional legal capacity which is of relevance to the judicial work of the Court. All are fluent in at least one of the working languages of the Court, English and French.

Candidates for election to the Court need to be nationals of States Parties to the Rome Statute. Nominations are made by State Parties. Each State Party may put forward one candidate for any given election but the latter does not necessarily need to be a national of that State Party. No two judges may be nationals of the same State. Judges are elected by secret ballot at a meeting of the Assembly of States Parties convened for that purpose. The persons elected to the Court are the 18 candidates who obtain the highest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting.

The election of the judges takes account of the need to represent the world's principal legal systems, a fair representation of men and women, and equitable geographical distribution. In addition, at least nine judges need to have relevant experience in criminal law and procedure and at least five need to have established competence in relevant areas of international law.

At present, eleven of the judges at the Court are women and seven are men. Six come from the Western European and others Group of States, three from the Latin American and the Caribbean Group of States, two from the Asian Group of States, five from the African Group of States, and two from the Group of Eastern European States.

The judges are independent in the performance of their duties. They may not engage in any other activity which is likely to interfere with their judicial functions or affect confidence in their independence. Before taking up their duties, they all make a solemn undertaking in open court to exercise their functions impartially and conscientiously.

A judge may not participate in a case in which his or her impartiality might reasonably be called into question on any ground.

The judges elect the President and the two Vice-Presidents of the Court from among their ranks. Acting on behalf of the Court, the Presidency can propose that the number of judges be increased if this is considered both necessary and appropriate. In such cases, the Registry circulates the proposal to all States Parties for a final discussion by the Assembly of States Parties.

The Court organises itself into three divisions: Pre-Trial, Trial and Appeals Divisions. The assignment of judges to divisions is based on the nature of the functions to be performed by each division and the qualifications and experience of the judges so that each division contains an

appropriate combination of expertise in criminal law and procedure and in international law.

Although judges are not eligible for re-election, a judge

assigned to a Trial Chamber or the Appeals Chamber may remain in office after the end of his or her term to complete any trial or appeal which has already begun before that Chamber.



**President of the International Criminal Court: Judge Sang-Hyun Song (Republic of Korea)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of three years and re-elected in 2006, for a further term of nine years. President of the Court as of 11 March, 2009 for a term of three years. Assigned to the Appeals Division. Elected from the Asian Group of States, list A.**

Judge Song (1941) has extensive practical and academic experience in the area of court management, criminal procedure, and the law of evidence. For thirty years, he taught as a professor of law at Seoul National University Law School, beginning in 1972. He has also held visiting professorships at a number of law schools, including Harvard, New York University and Melbourne. Judge Song also worked as Judge-Advocate in the Korean Army and as foreign attorney in a New York law firm. He serves as a member of the advisory committee to the Korean Supreme Court and Ministry of Justice. As such, he participated in the reform of the national litigation system, particularly in the reform of its Penal Code, the Code and the Court Rules of Criminal Procedure, and criminal court processes. Judge Song has vast experience in relevant areas of international law, principally in the domains of international humanitarian law and human rights law. He has worked as an attorney and visiting professor in a number of foreign countries, and is the Vice-President of UNICEF/ Korea and co-founder of the Legal Aid Centre for Women, and of the Childhood Leukemia Foundation in Seoul. Judge Song is also the respected author of several publications on relevant legal issues.



**First Vice-President: Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra (Mali)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of nine years. First Vice-President of the Court as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of three years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the African Group of States, list A.**

Judge Diarra (1949) has a *certificat de licence en droit* (LLB) from Dakar University, a *maîtrise en droit privé* (LLM in private law) from the Mali *École Nationale d'Administration* (national college of public administration). She is a graduate of the *École Nationale de la Magistrature* (national college for the judiciary) in Paris and holds a diploma in the Implementation of Regional and International Standards for the Protection of Human Rights. Immediately prior to her election to the ICC, she was serving as an *ad litem* judge at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Before this she had been National Director of the Mali Justice Department, President of the Criminal Chamber of Bamako Appeals Court, President of the Assize Court, as well as an Examining Magistrate and Deputy Public Prosecutor. Judge Diarra's civil society positions have included those of Vice-President of the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers (IFWLC), Vice-President of the African Women Jurists' Federation, President of the *Association des Juristes Maliennes* (the Malian women jurists' association) and President of the *Observatoire des Droits de la Femme et de l'Enfant* (women's and children's rights monitoring body). Judge Diarra has published several articles and carried out several studies including one on three branches of law: family, national and international. Furthermore, she has worked with the ICRC on humanitarian law and with the *Agence de la Francophonie* (agency for the francophone world) within the framework of the Preparatory Committee on the draft Rules of Procedure and Evidence and on the definition of the Elements of Crimes which fall within the jurisdiction of the ICC. She has taken part in many international forums on women's and children's rights. She chaired the Preparatory Committee on the participation of Mali at the Beijing Summit in 1995.



**Second Vice-President: Judge Hans-Peter Kaul (Germany)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of three years and re-elected in 2006, for a further term of nine years. Second Vice-President of the Court as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of three years. Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the Western European and Others Group of States (WEOG), list B.**

Judge Kaul (1943) is qualified for the German Bar. In 2002, he was appointed Ambassador and Commissioner of the Federal Foreign Office for the International Criminal Court. From 1996 to 2003 he participated as head of the German delegation in the discussions and negotiation process of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Furthermore, in his capacity as Head of the Public International Law Division of the Federal Foreign Office (1996 - 2002), he was responsible, *inter alia*, for several cases involving Germany which were before the International Court of Justice. He has written extensively on the International Criminal Court and other fields of public international law.



### **Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Latin American and Caribbean Group of States (GRULAC), list A.**

Judge Odio Benito (1939) has comprehensive practical and academic experience in the field of human rights and international humanitarian law. A Professor Emeritus at the University of Costa Rica, she was awarded the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa by St. Edward's University in 2004. Judge Odio Benito has been a member of the Costa Rican Group to the Permanent Court of Arbitration since 2000. She was Second Vice-President of Costa Rica from 1998 to 2002, and served twice as Minister of Justice of Costa Rica, from 1978 to 1982 and from 1990 to 1993. Judge Odio Benito was a member of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the main subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Rights, from 1980 to 1983. She is the author and co-author of several publications on human rights, international humanitarian law and international criminal law. From 1983 to 1986 she was Special Rapporteur to the United Nations Sub-Commission on Discrimination and Intolerance based on Religion or Creed, and wrote a major report on the elimination of religious discrimination and creed published by the United Nations in 1986. From 1993 to 1995, Judge Odio Benito served as Vice-President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), where she was a judge until 1998. In 2000 she was elected President of the Working Group on the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. In March, 2003 Judge Odio Benito was elected the Second Vice-President of the Court for a term of three years.



### **Judge Akua Kuenyehia (Ghana)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of three years and re-elected in 2006, for a further term of nine years. Assigned to the Appeals Division. Elected from the African Group of States, list B.**

Judge Kuenyehia (1947) was Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Ghana, before her election as a judge. During her time at that university, she taught criminal law, gender and the law, international human rights law and public international law. She was co-ordinator of a research project entitled 'Women and Law in Anglophone West Africa', which covered Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. She has written three books and numerous academic publications on gender and the law, family law and international human rights. Judge Kuenyehia is a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ghana. She has experience as a solicitor, advocate and human rights expert, and in criminal law and procedure. She also has experience as an administrator and has expertise in gender and the law, international human rights issues and was a member of the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Judge Kuenyehia was the First Vice-President of the Court from 11 March, 2003 until 11 March, 2009.



### **Judge Erkki Kourula (Finland)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of three years and re-elected in 2006, for a further term of nine years. Assigned to the Appeals Division. Elected from the Western European and others Group of States (WEOG), list B.**

Judge Kourula (1948) has a PhD in international law from the University of Oxford. He has held various research positions in international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights, and has acted as a professor of international law. His experience includes working as a district judge in Finland dealing with criminal cases. Between 1985 and 2003, he served the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs in various legal capacities, culminating in his appointment as Director General for Legal Affairs; he was also agent for Finland before the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Communities. In 1991 he was appointed Legal Adviser to the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations in New York, serving until 1995. He followed closely the developments leading to the establishment of the ICTY and ICTR and was actively involved in the negotiations of the Rome Statute (1995-1998) as head of the Finnish delegation to the Preparatory Committee and as head of the Finnish delegation to the Rome Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court. From 1998 to 2002, Judge Kourula served in Strasbourg as Permanent Representative of Finland (Ambassador), holding the chair of e.g., the Rapporteur Groups on Human Rights and National Minorities of the Council of Europe (2000-2002). He has participated in many international conferences, contributed to publications and written articles on international law, including victims' issues.



### **Judge Anita Ušacka (Latvia)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of three years and re-elected in 2006, for a further term of nine years. Assigned to the Appeals Division. Elected from the Eastern European Group of States, list B.**

Judge Ušacka (1952) was elected judge of the Latvian Constitutional Court upon its creation in 1996, where she served until 2003, when she joined the ICC. She has been a member of the International Association of Women Judges since 1997. From 1994 to 1996, she was the Executive Director of the Latvian branch of UNICEF. In 2002, Judge Ušacka was appointed full professor at the Department of Constitutional Law of Latvia University, where she has been academically affiliated since 1975. She has directed and contributed to a number of crucial projects integral to the transition to democracy in Central and Eastern Europe. She has written reports and papers promoting the establishment in Latvia of the rule of law, protection of human rights, administrative law reform, constitutional law reform, fair trial guarantees, and judicial training and reform, among others. As a judge and professor she has acquired expertise in international humanitarian and public law, with a particular focus on the rights of women and children. Judge Ušacka obtained her law degree from the Latvia University and completed her PhD at the Faculty of Law, Moscow State University. Since 1990, her foreign training and research experience has included a year at the University of Notre Dame in the United States, studying in Germany on a Max Planck fellowship, and at the Human Rights Institute in Strasbourg.



### **Judge Sir Adrian Fulford (United Kingdom)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Western European and Others Group of States (WEOG), list A.**

Judge Fulford (1953) has been a barrister since 1978, and a Queen's Counsel since 1994. He is a judge of the International Criminal Court and a High Court Judge of England and Wales, on secondment from the High Court Bench. He has established competence in criminal law and procedure and is experienced as both judge and advocate. He has competence in relevant areas of international law, in particular human rights law, and has extensive experience in professional legal ethics. Judge Fulford has legal expertise on a wide range of specific relevant issues, including violence against women and children; serious acts of violence, such as murder and terrorism; and has extensive practical experience of questions relating to evidence in criminal cases and the handling of sensitive information, including the protection of victims and sources. He has edited important legal publications and has been widely published.



### **Judge Sylvia Steiner (Brazil)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the Latin American and Caribbean Group of States (GRULAC), list A.**

Judge Steiner (1953) has comprehensive experience in criminal and international law, in particular the international law of human rights and international humanitarian law. She was a lawyer from 1977 to 1982, and subsequently Federal Public Prosecutor from 1982 to 1995, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In 1995, she was appointed to the Federal Court of Appeal, where she served as a judge until her election to the International Criminal Court in 2003. From 1989 to 1995, she was a member of the Penitentiary Council of São Paulo, where she served as a vice-president for four years. Judge Steiner obtained her law degree at the Law School of São Paulo University. In 1999 she received her specialist degree in criminal law at Brasilia University and in 2000 obtained her master's degree in international law at the Law School of São Paulo University. Judge Steiner has written extensively on human rights, the rights of women and children, criminal law and international criminal law. She is a founding associate member of the Brazilian Institute of Criminal Sciences, and was Deputy Director of the Brazilian Criminal Sciences Journal for four years. She is also a member of the Brazilian Judges for Democracy Association. Judge Steiner has been a member of the Executive Council of the Brazilian Section of the International Jurists Commission. As a lecturing professor, she has addressed classes and given lectures at the most important universities in Brazil and at conferences in Latin America, Europe and Africa. She was a member of the Brazilian delegation to the Preparatory Commission of the International Criminal Court from 1999 to 2002. She was also a member of the Official Working Group on the Implementation of the Rome Statute in 2003, in Brazil.



#### **Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova (Bulgaria)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2006, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the Group of Eastern European States, list A.**

Judge Trendafilova (1953) has extensive experience in criminal law, criminal procedural law and international criminal law. She has been a Professor of Criminal Justice at Sofia University since completing her PhD in 1984 and she also has experience as a human rights expert. She is a member of the Bulgarian Union of lawyers and a member of the Bulgarian Union of Scholars. She was called to the Bar of Bulgaria in 1995. Judge Trendafilova chaired the working group that prepared the reform of the Bulgarian criminal procedure in line with the European and international standards for efficient administration of justice and protection of human rights (1998-1999). She was a deputy district attorney at Sofia District Court (1985-1989) and represented Bulgaria at the UN Commission for Crime and Criminal Justice (1992-1994). She advised the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the establishment of the International Criminal Court and served as an expert to the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court of Cassation and the Parliament of Bulgaria where she chaired the Criminal Division of the Legislative Consultative Council. She has also written over 70 publications in Bulgaria and abroad in the field of human rights law, international criminal procedural law, procedural law and constitutional law.



#### **Judge Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko (Uganda)**

**Judge as of 17 January, 2007, for a term of four years and two months (to fill a judicial vacancy). Assigned to the Appeals Division. Elected from the African Group of States, list A.**

Judge Nsereko (1941) has more than twenty years of comprehensive experience in criminal law and procedure. As an Advocate, he has been representing defendants in criminal and civil cases before Magistrates' Courts, the High Court and the Court of Appeal in Uganda since 1972. He served as a trial observer to Swaziland in 1990 and to Ethiopia in 1996, writing comprehensive confidential reports in the context of international human rights standards. From 1983 to 1984, Judge Nsereko served as expert consultant for the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. He has written extensively on criminal law and procedure, human rights and international humanitarian law. He has been Professor of Law at the University of Botswana since 1996. Judge Nsereko holds the degrees of LL.B from the University of East Africa in Tanzania, M.C.J. from Howard University, and LL.M and J.S.D. from New York University in the United States.



#### **Judge Bruno Cotte (France)**

**Judge as of 17 January, 2007, for a term of four years and two months (to fill a judicial vacancy). Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Western European and Others Group of States (WEOG), list A.**

Judge Cotte (1945) served as a senior judge in France, and from 2000 was the President of the Criminal Chamber of the *Cour de Cassation* (Supreme Court of Appeal) where he dealt with international criminal law cases. From 1984 to 1990, he was Director for Criminal Affairs and Pardons in the Ministry of Justice, dealing with international mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, issues related to the definition of crimes against humanity and associated litigation. Judge Cotte also served as Attorney General of the Versailles Court of Appeal from May to September 1990; Public Prosecutor of the *Tribunal de Grande Instance de Paris* (Paris District Court) from 1990 to 1995; and Counsel for the Prosecution of the *Cour de Cassation* from 1995 to 2000.



#### **Judge Joyce Aluoch (Kenya)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the African Group of States, list A.**

Judge Aluoch (1947) has been a judge of the High Court of Kenya for over 20 years, and was elevated to the Court of Appeal, Kenya in December 2008. She is also an advocate of the High Court of Kenya. As a senior judge and vice-chairperson of the Judicial Curriculum Review Committee she has extensive experience in the training of judges, magistrates and paralegals in the provision of regional and international human rights instruments, a programme she has undertaken in conjunction with the International Association of Women Judges. Judge Aluoch has also contributed to promoting the rights of the child, as chair of the African Union Committee of Experts on the Rights of the Child, preparing the rules of practice and procedure for the committee as well as guidelines for initial reporting to the African Committee by Member States of the African Union. Special missions undertaken by Judge Aluoch include negotiations undertaken on behalf of the African Union with the Government of Sudan to ratify the African charter to secure the rights of children, and a fact finding mission to the war-torn northern Uganda to report on the effects of the war on children. She also served for six years as vice-chair and member of the UN Committee on the Right and Welfare of the Child and was in the process of chairing a task-force for the implementation of the new Sexual Offences Act, 2006 aimed at developing a national policy frame work and a national action plan for handling sexual offences in Kenya.



### **Judge Sanji Mmasenono Monageng (Botswana)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the African Group of States, list B.**

Judge Monageng (1950) served as a High Court judge for the Kingdom of Swaziland, responsible for criminal and civil cases as well as constitutional matters before joining the International Criminal Court. Prior to this, she also served as a judge for the High Court of the Republic of the Gambia. Judge Monageng has wide experience in the promotion and protection of human rights issues, having been a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, appointed by the African Union, between 2003 and 2009, and was appointed as the Commission's chairperson in November 2007. She has also chaired one of the special mechanisms of the Commission, the Follow-up Committee on torture, inhumane, degrading and other treatments. Judge Monageng has given a number of lectures on human rights issues including, "The African human rights system", "Violence in the home", "Rape and sentencing in rape cases" and "Criminal law and procedure - a judge's expectations from investigators and prosecutors".



### **Judge Christine Van den Wyngaert (Belgium)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Western European and Others Group of States, list A.**

Judge Van den Wyngaert (1952) graduated from Brussels University in 1974 and obtained a PhD in International Criminal Law in 1979. She was a professor of law at the University of Antwerp (1985 - 2005) where she taught criminal law, criminal procedure, comparative criminal law and international criminal law. She authored numerous publications in all these fields. She was a visiting fellow at the University of Cambridge (Centre for European Legal Studies (1994 - 1996), Research Centre for International Law (1996 - 1997)) and a visiting professor at the Law Faculty of the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (2001). Her merits as an academic were recognised in the form of a Doctorate Honoris Causa, awarded by the University of Uppsala, Sweden (2001). She was an expert for the two major scientific organisations in her field, the International Law Association and the International Association of Penal Law. She was an observer of the Human Rights League at the trial of Helen Passtoors in Johannesburg in 1986 and made human rights a focal point in her teachings and writings throughout her career. In 2006, she was awarded the *Prize of the Human Rights League*. Judge Van den Wyngaert gained expertise in various governmental organisations. She was a member of the *Criminal Procedure Reform Commission* in Belgium (Commission Franchimont) (1991 - 1998) and served as an expert for the European Union in various criminal law projects. She has extensive international judicial experience. She served in the International Court of Justice as an *ad hoc* judge in the Arrest Warrant Case (2000 - 2002) and was elected as a judge in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia where she served for more than five years (2003 - 2009).



### **Judge Cuno Jakob Tarfusser (Italy)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2009, for a term of nine years. Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the Western European and Others Group of States, list A.**

Judge Tarfusser (1954) has served the Public Prosecution Office of the Bolzano District Court, Italy, as Deputy Public Prosecutor for a period of sixteen years and then as Chief Public Prosecutor for a further eight years. Under his guidance the working practices of the Office were radically restructured, the organisational model of which is now considered as the standard for the entire justice administration system throughout Italy. Furthermore, Judge Tarfusser's involvement as Public Prosecutor includes a number of investigations and trials encompassing crimes against individuals; crimes against the state, including terrorism; crimes against public administration such as extortion and corruption; trafficking; smuggling and European Union fraud; and organised crime such as money laundering. During his career he has lectured at a number of law faculties within Italy and has been appointed to a number of rogatory commissions in Europe, Belarus and the Dominican Republic.



### **Judge Silvia Alejandra Fernández de Gurmendi (Argentina)**

**Judge as of 20 January, 2010, for a term of eight years and two months (to fill a judicial vacancy). Assigned to the Pre-Trial Division. Elected from the Latin American and Caribbean Group of States (GRULAC), list A.**

Judge Fernández de Gurmendi (1954) has over 20 years practice of international and humanitarian law and in human rights. Coming to the Court from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where she was the Director General for Human Rights, Judge Fernández de Gurmendi acted as a representative of Argentina in cases before the Inter American Commission of Human Rights and the Inter American Court of Justice. She also represented Argentina before universal and regional human rights bodies and advised on transitional justice issues related to the prevention of genocide and other international crimes. Judge Fernández de Gurmendi contributed to the creation and set up of the Court. She was also instrumental in the negotiations of the complementary instruments of the Rome Statute as chair of the Working Group on Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Working Group on Aggression. Her academic experience includes professorships of international criminal law at the universities of Buenos Aires and Palermo and as an assistant professor of international law at the University of Buenos Aires. Judge Fernández de Gurmendi has also published a number of national and international publications related to the International Criminal Court including, amongst others, the role of the Prosecutor, criminal procedure, and the definitions of victims.



### **Judge Kuniko Ozaki (Japan)**

**Judge as of 20 January, 2010, for a term of eight years and two months (to fill a judicial vacancy). Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Asian Group of States, list B.**

Judges Kuniko Ozaki (1956) has worked extensively for the Japanese government in a number of positions in Foreign and Justice Ministries, including Special Assistant to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador in charge of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Director for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs and Specialist to the Criminal Affairs Division. As Director for Treaty Affairs for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC) she was responsible for assisting States in the ratification and implementation of relevant international treaties as well as the development of domestic legislation on organised crime, corruption and terrorism; the training of judges and prosecutors in developing countries; and the establishment of the rule of law and national criminal justice systems in post-conflict regions. As Minister of the Permanent Mission of Japan in Vienna, Judge Ozaki covered non-proliferation issues and was in charge of the negotiations to revise the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. Using her vast experience as an academic lawyer, Judge Ozaki has also undertaken research and taught at the Tohoku University Graduate School of Law and at the Kobe University Graduate School specialising in international criminal law, humanitarian law and human rights law, including war crimes, crimes against humanity, terrorism, and organised crime and corruption, amongst others.



### **Judge René Blattmann (Bolivia)**

**Judge as of 11 March, 2003, for a term of six years. Assigned to the Trial Division. Elected from the Latin American and Caribbean Group of States (GRULAC), list B. Judge Blattmann remains in office until the completion of the Lubanga trial.**

Judge Blattmann (1948) has extensive experience in international law, criminal law and human rights. He has been a professor of criminal and international law. As Minister of Justice and Human Rights, he focused his work on the systematisation and modernisation of the judiciary system and on implementing the protection and promotion of human rights and citizen guarantees. He launched the National Rural Mobile Public Defence and created human rights offices in conflict zones, especially in indigenous areas. Judge Blattmann served as Chief of the Human Rights and Justice Area of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala, responsible for the verification of the Global Agreement on Human Rights, established by the Peace Agreements. For his commitment and achievements in human rights and justice reforms, Judge Blattmann has been distinguished with international awards, including the Robert G. Story International Award presented by the South-Western Legal Foundation - Academy of American and International Law (USA), the Monseñor Leonidas Proaño Latin American Prize for Human Rights, the 2001 Carl Bertelsmann Prize of the Bertelsmann Foundation (Germany), and has also been distinguished with the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Basel (Switzerland). Judge Blattmann was elected the Second Vice-President of the Court from 11 March, 2006, for a term of three years.

