



Assembly of States Parties



The Assembly of States Parties is the Court's management oversight and legislative body and is composed of representatives of the States which have ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute.

As of 1 July 2012, 121 countries are States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

In accordance with article 112 of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties meets at the seat of the Court in The Hague or at United Nations Headquarters in New York once a year and, when circumstances so require, may hold special sessions.

Each State Party has one representative in the Assembly who may be accompanied by alternates and advisers. The Rome Statute further provides that each State Party has one vote, although every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. States that are not party to the Rome Statute may take part in the work of the Assembly as observers, without the right to vote. The President of the Court, the Prosecutor and the Registrar or their representatives may also participate, as appropriate, in the meetings of the Assembly.

In accordance with article 112 of the Rome Statute, the Assembly is tasked with providing management oversight to the Presidency, the Prosecutor and the Registrar regarding the administration of the Court. In addition, the Assembly adopts the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Elements of crimes.

At its annual sessions, the Assembly considers a number of issues, including the budget of the Court, the status of contributions and the audit reports, as well as a number of current issues, such as the permanent premises of the Court. In addition, the Assembly considers the reports on the activities of the Bureau, the Court and the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims.

The Assembly is further tasked with the election of, inter alia, the judges, the Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutors. Before taking up their respective duties, the elected officials make a solemn undertaking, administered by the President or Vice-President of the Assembly, to exercise their respective functions impartially and conscientiously. The Assembly may also decide, by secret ballot, on the removal from office of a judge, the Prosecutor or Deputy Prosecutors.



Bureau of the Assembly

The Assembly of States Parties has a Bureau, consisting of a President, two Vice-Presidents and 18 members elected by the Assembly for a three-year term.

The Bureau has a representative character, taking into account, in particular, equitable geographical distribution and the adequate representation of the principal legal systems of the world. The Bureau meets as often as necessary, with its regular meeting taking place the first Tuesday of each month, usually at United Nations Headquarters. The Bureau assists the Assembly in the discharge of its responsibilities. Additional information on the Bureau can be found in article 112 of the Rome Statute and rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties. The Bureau decisions may be found at the Court's website.

<http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ASP/Bureau/>

Members of the Bureau (2011-2013)

President:

Ms. Tiina Intelmann (Estonia)

Vice-President:

Mr. Ken Kanda (Ghana)

Vice-President:

Mr. Markus Börlin (Switzerland)

Rapporteur:

Ms. Alejandra Quezada (Chile)

Other members of the Bureau:

Argentina	Belgium	Brazil
Canada	Czech Republic	Gabon
Finland	Hungary	Japan
Nigeria	Portugal	Republic of Korea
Samoa	Slovakia	South Africa
Trinidad and Tobago	Uganda	

Working Groups of the Bureau

In December 2004, the Bureau established two Working Groups of equal standing, one based in The Hague and the other in New York. The two Vice-Presidents of the Assembly serve as Coordinators. All States may participate in the Bureau's Working Groups.

Committee on Budget and Finance

The Committee on Budget and Finance, composed of 12 members elected by the Assembly, is responsible for the technical examination of any document submitted to the Assembly that contains financial or budgetary implications or any other matter of a financial, budgetary or administrative nature, as may be entrusted to it by the Assembly of States Parties. The members of the Committee are experts of recognized standing and experience in financial matters at the international level from States Parties.

Oversight Committee for the permanent premises

The Oversight Committee for the permanent premises consists of ten States Parties and is a subsidiary body of the Assembly. The Committee monitors and provides strategic oversight for the premises project in order to ensure that the project objectives are achieved within budget and time and that the risks are identified and managed. The Oversight Committee also prepares information and recommendations for decision by the Assembly and, within the authority delegated by the Assembly, makes key strategic decisions.

Independent oversight mechanism

In 2009, the Assembly established, in accordance with article 112, paragraph 4, of the Rome Statute, an independent oversight mechanism with the initial mandate to provide an investigative capacity for the Court to address the alleged misconduct of staff and elected officials. The independent oversight mechanism would submit annual reports of its activities to the Assembly, to which it is accountable.



Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims

In 2002, the Assembly established the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims. The five members of the Board are elected by the Assembly for a term of three years. The Board of Directors establishes and directs the activities and projects of the Trust Fund and the allocation of the property and money made available. The Board reports annually to the Assembly on the activities and projects of the Trust Fund.

Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties

The Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties, located in The Hague, operates under the full authority of the Assembly and reports directly to the Assembly on matters concerning its activities. The functions of the Secretariat are to provide the Assembly and its Bureau, as well as any subsidiary body established by the Assembly, with independent substantive servicing as well as administrative and technical assistance in the discharge of their responsibilities under the Rome Statute. As such, the Secretariat provides conference servicing and carries out legal, financial and administrative functions for the Assembly, the Bureau, The Hague Working Group and the New York Working Group, the Committee on Budget and Finance and the Oversight Committee for the permanent premises. Documentation of the Assembly is prepared in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Profiles

Ambassador Tiina Intelmann (Estonia) President of the Assembly of States Parties



Ambassador Intelmann has a broad professional experience in international matters and relations and has previously served as the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations as well as to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. She previously served as Undersecretary for Political Affairs and Relations with the press in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia. Ambassador Intelmann has been working on issues related to the United Nations for over ten years, most recently successfully co-facilitating the negotiations on the system-wide coherence reform establishing UN Women. She has previously also led negotiations on humanitarian affairs at the UN. Ambassador Intelmann has a Master of Arts in Italian language and literature from Leningrad State University in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation.

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Ambassador Ken Kanda (Ghana) Vice-President of the Assembly of States Parties



Prior to being the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN, Ambassador Kanda had been Director of State Protocol. He has held various positions as a member of the Ghana Foreign Service, including Director of the Economic, Trade and Investment Bureau of the Foreign Ministry, Chief of Protocol, Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister and has also served in various capacities in the Policy Planning and Research Division, Africa Division, Multilateral and Economic Relations Division, International Organizations and Conferences Division and Protocol Division. His tours of duty have taken him to Berlin, Harare, Copenhagen and Bonn.

Ambassador Markus Börlin (Switzerland) Vice-President of the Assembly of States Parties



Prior to his posting in 2011 to the Netherlands, Ambassador Börlin was Head of the Political Division of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs dealing with consular protection and crisis management. He also worked in Bern as Head of the Special Crisis Unit of the Ministry, desk officer for Latin America and member of the Section for International Cultural and UNESCO Affairs. He served abroad in Stockholm, Nairobi and Ottawa. Before joining the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Börlin was Assistant Professor for penal law at the University of Basel as well as registrar at administrative and district courts.

Mr. Renán Villacís Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties



Mr. Renán Villacís studied law at the University of Cuenca, Ecuador, and international relations at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C. Prior to joining the Secretariat of the Assembly, he had worked as a member of the Foreign Service of Ecuador and then as a legal officer in the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

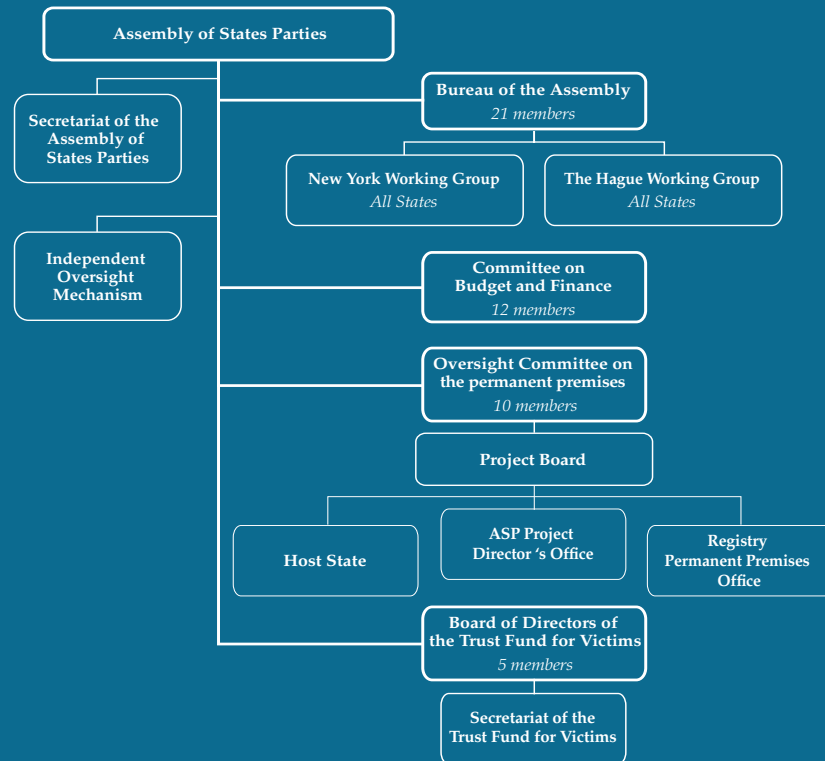
Basic facts

The International Criminal Court

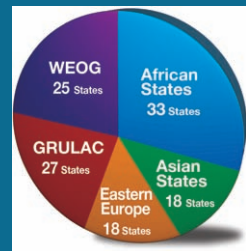
- Is a permanent international criminal court established in 1998 after years of negotiations in which all States participated
- Is governed by the treaty known as the Rome Statute which entered into force on 1 July 2002
- Has jurisdiction over four crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression
- Has jurisdiction over an individual who commits a crime or gives an order to execute a crime (individual criminal responsibility)
- Intends to prosecute only the most responsible individuals
- Does not prosecute States or legal entities
- Only has jurisdiction over an individual crimes committed after 1 July 2002
- Investigates and prosecutes crimes committed:
 - ◊ On the territory of a State Party or
 - ◊ By a national of a State Party
- Can also investigate and prosecute:
 - ◊ When a State which is not a party accepts the ICC jurisdiction or
 - ◊ When the United Nations Security Council refers a situation to the ICC
- Only investigates and prosecutes when a State does not investigate or prosecute or is unwilling or unable to do so genuinely

- The cornerstone of the Rome Statute system is the principle of complementarity, whereby the obligation to investigate and prosecute crimes is the responsibility of the respective State
- At the Review Conference of the Rome Statute in June 2010, two amendments were adopted on article 8 and on the crime of aggression, which have yet to enter into force

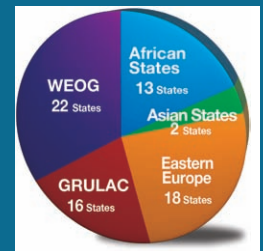
The structure of the Assembly of States Parties



The 121 States that have ratified the Rome Statute



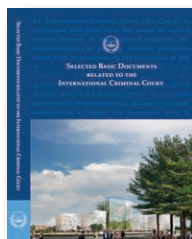
The 71 States that have ratified the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities



ASP Publications (available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish) :



Official Records of the Assembly of States Parties (Volumes I and II) and of the Review Conference



Selected Basic Documents related to the International Criminal Court



Commonwealth Meeting on the International Criminal Court



Seminar on the ICC Review Conference: Key Challenges for International Criminal Justice



Newsletter - ASP Special Edition
2009 - No.1, 2
2010 - No.3, 4, 5
2011 - No.6, 7

also available online

Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties
International Criminal Court

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P.O. Box 19519, 2500 CM, The Hague, The Netherlands
ASP Website : <http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ASP>
Email : asp@icc-cpi.int

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