

# ZAVALA GILER, Osvaldo (Ecuador)

## Statement of qualifications

### Employment history

#### **Chief of Budget Section** (February 2022 – Present)

International Criminal Court, The Hague, the Netherlands

#### Key responsibilities:

- Manage the annual budget process for the Court through the creation of guidelines and yearly objectives for budget holders, devising policy implications and ways to effectively prioritise budgetary requirements with a view to ensuring business continuity, coordinating and preparing budget submissions in cooperation with budget holders, maintaining financial data and documentation of changes on budget proposals, preparing final documents, including Assembly resolutions, coordinating production of supplementary budget proposal documents and production of Contingency Funds notifications.
- Align the budget process more clearly with strategic planning and risk management.
- Ensure the strategic communication and representation of the Court's budgetary policies, strategies and plans vis-à-vis States Parties and external stakeholders, in particular in the context of the budget cycle with the Assembly of States Parties.
- Provide control to Court resources and related programmes by ensuring sound management practices through policies, procedures, standards, strategies and plans relating to the control of budget implementation and developing refinements to Court-wide Integrated Management information system through a panel of certifying officers. Ability to reprogram the budget to meet changing priorities and developments.
- Review and analyse reports to identify deficiencies or redundancies in the Administration of the Court and encourage remedial action and enhancements to ensure the best economical use of resources.
- Provide budgetary control to all Court resources and related programmes by ensuring adherence to the Financial Regulations and Rules and sound management practices through advice to the Director of Management Services (the Director), other Senior Leadership and Section Chiefs in dealing with major events and activities.
- Provide high level authoritative advice and guidance to senior management with regard to budgetary practices, prioritisation of resources, and represent the Organisation before governing bodies and at external meetings when required by the Director.

#### **Senior Special Assistant to the Registrar** (June 2016 – February 2022)

International Criminal Court, The Hague, the Netherlands

#### Key responsibilities:

- Provided policy, legal and strategic advice to the Registrar on a large spectrum of complex issues pertaining to the Registry's mandate across all three Registry's Divisions, including notably in the areas of budget and administration, court services, field operations, state cooperation and external relations.
- Provided substantive support to the Registrar in his external relations functions and represents the Registrar in various internal Registry or inter-organ working groups; represented the Registrar in contacts with external stakeholders such as Host State authorities, representatives of States, intergovernmental organisations, NGOs, academia and others.
- Ensured the preparation for and implementation of decisions by the Registrar by liaising closely with the offices of the Directors of the three Registry Divisions and/or relevant Section Chiefs, served as a direct and primary operational link between the Registrar and the relevant Division(s)/Section(s), as well as the focal point for special assistance to the Registrar generally.
- Supported the Immediate Office of the Registrar on executive management related matters.
- Supported and advised the Registrar in establishing the Immediate Office's priorities and action plans by identifying the need for and developing new proposals for policies, projects or processes for Registry or Court-wide application.
- Represented the Registry in the context of the work of the Assembly of States Parties, including *vis-à-vis* its authorities, working groups, subsidiary bodies and States representatives.
- Prepared and reviewed a broad range of strategic and policy documents, including budgetary documents, policy documents, legal documents, reports to the Assembly of States Parties, reports to the United Nations General Assembly.

**Head of Office, Liaison Office to the United Nations** (August 2018 – June 2019)

International Criminal Court, New York, United States of America

Key responsibilities:

- The Head of the Liaison Office to the United Nations in New York supports the work of the International Criminal Court through facilitating interaction between the ICC and the United Nations offices, bodies and its agencies, as well as the representatives of ICC States Parties.
- Arranged for the collection, analysis and appropriate distribution of information relating to events and developments at the United Nations of interest to the Court.
- Advised on the United Nations' position concerning the Court in the context of on-going discussions and developments at the United Nations.
- Acted as a channel of communication between the Court, the United Nations Secretariat and the various United Nations programmes, funds, offices and specialized agencies.
- Established formal contacts and informal networks to enable the Court to keep abreast of developments at the United Nations.
- Provided support for visits of Court officials to the United Nations; Manage the New York Liaison Office.
- Coordinated and responded to operational issues and demands, on request from the Court, including issues arising from situation-specific requirements, as well as processing of requests for cooperation and assistance.
- Assisted in servicing and providing technical support to the Assembly of States Parties, including its bureau, subsidiary bodies as well as intersessional meetings.

**Special Assistant to the Registrar** (November 2010 – June 2016)

International Criminal Court, The Hague, the Netherlands

Key responsibilities:

- Provided legal, policy or strategic advice to the Registrar, the principal administrative officer of the Court, on diverse and complex questions in relation to the Registrar's statutory responsibilities, including administration, court services, field operations, states cooperation and external relations. Conducted extensive research and analysis and prepares background information, memoranda, speaking notes, speeches etc. for various internal and external fora.
- Assisted and advises in the daily management of the Registry, e.g. advice on matters that are submitted to the Registrar for decision making, follow-up on projects.
- Coordinated with the different organs and offices attached to the Registry on aspects of mutual interest.
- Reviewed and provided input to Registry-wide and/or court-wide documents, reports and decisions.
- Safeguarded the overall interests of the Registry in various internal working groups.
- Assisted in improving proper communication within the Registry and the other organs.
- Participated in meetings and liaises with representatives of governments, international organizations or non-governmental organizations, including Heads of State, Ministers, Ambassadors and other State representatives; President and Vice Presidents of the Assembly of States Parties, as well as Ambassadors in (co)facilitating or (co)chairing roles on specific issues and delegates to the ASP; members of the Committee on Budget and Finance; representatives of international organisations; representatives of NGOs; representatives of academia.

**Legal Adviser / Liaison Officer to the United Nations** (February 2009 – October 2010)

Coalition for the International Criminal Court, New York, United States of America

Key responsibilities:

- The position was based in the CICC New York Office as part of the Legal Section of the CICC Secretariat and provided general legal and coordination support for CICC programmes through research, analysis and information sharing and facilitation of CICC-wide consultations.
- Coordinated the work of the CICC Teams on matters pertaining to the work of the New York Working Group, the Review Conference, including the Crime of Aggression and the Stocktaking Exercise.
- Advised the Convenor of the CICC on legal and institutional issues relating to the functioning of the ICC.
- Monitored ICC/ASP related activities in New York, particularly at the United Nations, including the work of the UN Security Council, and communicate to CICC staff, members and the public.
- Liaised with ICC, ASP and United Nations officials.
- Supported the campaigns of the CICC through coordination and facilitation of information sharing

- and consultation with members, including organizing CICC meetings.
- Liaised with the diplomatic community in New York on ICC and ASP related issues.

**Legal Officer** (April 2006 – April 2009)

Coalition for the International Criminal Court, The Hague, the Netherlands

Key responsibilities:

- The position was based in the CICC office in The Hague as part of the Legal Section of the CICC Secretariat and provided general legal and coordination support for CICC programmes through research, analysis and information sharing and facilitation of CICC-wide consultations.
- Monitored ICC related activities, including trial monitoring, and activities and discussions in relation to the work of the Assembly of States Parties, and communicated to the public;
- Advised CICC member organizations on legal and institutional issues in relation to the functioning of the ICC;
- Coordinated, in particular, the following thematic issues: Review Conference, policy issues in relation to judicial cooperation and assistance to the Court, ICC budget and finance, and prosecutorial strategy and investigations;
- Liaised with the diplomatic community in The Hague on ICC and ASP related issues;

**Legal Assistant** (July 2000 – April 2003)

Zavala Baquerizo Abogados, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Key responsibilities

- Assisted the work of the law firm on a wide range of legal services and different areas, including criminal law, civil law, national and international corporate law, banking and finance law, intellectual property law, and tax law.
- Provided support to the work of partners and associates in the firm including through the preparation of legal filings, reviewing legal documents and carried out administrative and judicial procedures.

**Languages**

- **Spanish**, Native / Proficient
- **English**, Fluent / Proficient
- **French**, Working knowledge

**Education**

Abogado de los Tribunales y Juzgados de la República (*Law degree*) (February 2004)

Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Licenciado en Ciencias Sociales y Políticas (*Bachelor of Social and Political Science*) (November 2000)

Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Bachiller en Ciencias Filosóficas y Sociales (January 1997)

Unidad Educativa Javier, S.I., Guayaquil Ecuador

**Professional Associations**

Foro de Abogados del Ecuador, Professional Lawyer License No. 09-2004-336

**Academic publications**

Zavala, Osvaldo, 2018, The Budgetary Efficiency of the International Criminal Court, International Criminal Law Review, volume 18, number 3, pages 461 – 488. BRILL.

Gasparian, B., Pereira de Sousa, A. & Zavala, O. (2022, in print), "Las solicitudes de cooperación: órganos de los tribunales encargados de transmitir y recibir comunicaciones relativas a la asistencia judicial, canales nacionales de comunicación e idioma de las solicitudes de cooperación", in: Olasolo, H., Freydel Mesa, F. & Sánchez Sarmiento, A. (eds.) *Las respuestas a la corrupción el Derecho internacional penal*.

**Honours and Awards**

Exemplary Citizen Award (December 2021), Mochica Sumpa- Human Rights, Eco-Environmental and Cultural Corporation, Santa Elena, Ecuador

President of the Law School Student Body Association (2003 – 2004), Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil, Guayaquil, Ecuador

First Place Award (May 2002), International Moot Court Competition “Victor Carlos García Moreno” Procedure before the International Criminal Court , First Edition, México City, México

Finalist and Best Oralist Awards (May 2001), Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition, Sixth Edition, Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C.

Semi-finalist Award (October 2000), Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition “Eduardo Jiménez de Aréchaga”, San José, Costa Rica

### **Other memberships**

ICCQ - The Sexual and Gender Diversity Network at the International Criminal Court, Founding member (2018 – Present).

Staff Union Council of the International Criminal Court, Contributing member (2012 – Present).