

17 April 2018

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SECRETARIAT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES

Ceremony for the Solemn Undertaking of the Registrar

Statement by Mr. O-Gon Kwon, President of the Assembly of States Parties

Mr. President, Vice-Presidents,

Your Honors,

Mr. Deputy Prosecutor

Mr. Registrar-elect

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to participate in this solemn undertaking as a witness in the capacity of the President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute.

As you know, the Rome Statute has entrusted the Judges of the ICC with the crucial role of electing the Registrar. However, the Assembly also plays a role in the process. The ICC Presidency submitted to the ASP the shortlist of candidates for Registrar, which the ASP adopted by consensus along with the relevant recommendation on 14 December 2017. Subsequently, on 28 March 2018, Mr Peter Lewis

was elected as the fourth ICC Registrar for a period of five years. In this regard, I would like to thank the Judges for the expeditious and efficient manner in which they fulfilled their task.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The day-to-day management of the Court in an effective and transparent manner requires specific experience, competence, and understanding. The Registrar and the Registry as a whole need to be able to provide the required services to the different organs of the ICC, and to liaise effectively and regularly with the ASP and its subsidiary bodies in order to ensure efficiency in the conduct of their shared work. This is an arduous and demanding undertaking that requires a capable, qualified mind, able to handle complexity with objectivity and sensitivity.

Mr. Peter Lewis has a proven track record of fulfilling the main responsibilities and requirements expected of the principal administrative officer of the Registry - the largest organ of this Court, with over 600 staff members. As Chief Executive of the Crown Prosecution Service in England and Wales for almost a decade, Mr. Lewis brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in delivering efficient criminal justice services with particular attention to victims and witnesses of crimes.

During his career Mr. Lewis has worked in a number of capacities including as Director of Business Development at the Crown

Prosecution Service, Chief Crown Prosecutor, Crown Prosecutor, and as a Prosecuting Solicitor. Additionally, Mr. Lewis served for five years as Chairperson of the Criminal Justice Efficiency Board which oversaw a reform programme designed to improve the efficiency of the criminal justice system through a major digital transformation. He has led initiatives to improve international judicial cooperation on asset recovery, a matter which, as you all know, is of current vital importance to the ICC.

On behalf of the ASP, I would like to express my wholehearted congratulations on your election to the position of Registrar of our Court, and to welcome you, Mr. Peter Lewis, to this international family that is fully committed to the fight against impunity.

I am confident that your experience and abilities will enable you to help us consolidate the ICC's key role in the world. To this end, I would like to assure you of the full support of the ASP as you assume your new duties as Registrar of the ICC.

I thank you for your attention.

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