

BULLETIN

of the
Coalition for the International Criminal Court



IN FOCUS: CICC Welcomes Seychelles and Saint Lucia In Joining the ICC

On 10 and 18 August 2010 respectively, the Republic of *Seychelles* and *Saint Lucia* ratified the Rome Statute, bringing the total number of ICC States Parties to 113. These *ratifications* are another step in the march towards ending impunity for the gravest crimes and the establishment of a universal court with global support. The CICC acknowledges the input of all stakeholders involved in this process, including civil society, government, parliament and the media and will continue its *worldwide ratification campaign*. The Coalition is also looking forward to the new states parties fulfilling their obligations under the Rome Statute, including fully implementing the Statute in national law, cooperating with and providing political support to the Court, and acceding to the *Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC)*.

CASES AND SITUATIONS

DRC

ICC Stays Proceedings and Orders Release of Lubanga; Implementation of the Release Order Outstanding Pending Appeals Chamber's Decision

On 8 July 2010, ICC Trial Chamber I ordered a *stay in the proceedings* in the case against Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, considering that a fair trial of the accused was no longer ensured due to the non-implementation of the Chamber's orders by the Prosecution. The Chamber had ordered the OTP to disclose the identity of one of its intermediaries which the OTP refused to do for security reasons. On 15 July 2010, the Chamber ordered the *release* of Thomas Lubanga, arguing that an accused cannot be held in preventative custody on a speculative basis. However, the Prosecution appealed the Chamber's oral decision to release Thomas Lubanga and the appeal was *given suspensive effect*, meaning that the accused will *remain in custody* until the Appeals Chamber makes a final decision.

Victims Request ICC to Look Into Bemba's Alleged Crimes In Ituri

On 16 August 2010, Pre-Trial Chamber I *ordered* the Prosecution to submit its observa-

tions on a request from two DRC victims asking the Chamber to review the Prosecution's decision not to prosecute Bemba for *crimes allegedly committed in Ituri (DRC)*. So far, Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo is accused of crimes allegedly committed in the *Central African Republic*.

DARFUR

ICC Issues Second Arrest Warrant for Genocide against Sudanese President Al-Bashir

On 12 July 2010, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a *second arrest warrant* for Sudanese President Omar Hassan Ahmad Al-Bashir for three counts of genocide committed against the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa ethnic groups. This second arrest warrant is added to the previous one issued in March 2009 against Al-Bashir for crimes against humanity and war crimes.

CICC Calls on Chad and Kenya to Arrest and Surrender Al-Bashir to the ICC

Sudanese President and ICC suspect Omar Hassan Ahmad Al-Bashir traveled to Chad mid-July 2010 to attend a summit of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States. On 27 August 2010, President Al-Bashir attended the signing of *Kenya's* new constitution. This was

the first time Bashir traveled to two of the 113 ICC states parties since the issuance of two ICC arrest warrants against him. As a result, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I *formally informed* the United Nations Security Council and the Assembly of States Parties of these visits "in order for them to take any measure they may deem appropriate." CICC members called on the Government of *Chad* and *Kenya* to arrest and surrender Al-Bashir to the ICC.

AU/ICC

AU Heads of States Adopt Anti-ICC Provisions

On 27 July 2010, Heads of State at the African Union Summit approved a much debated decision that once again condemns ICC's arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir and criticizes the UN Security Council for not suspending the warrant. The decision also calls on AU members not to arrest and surrender Al-Bashir and rejects ICC's request to open a Liaison Office to the AU. CICC members worldwide have *condemned* this decision and *called* on African states parties to the ICC to make clear their continued obligations to the Court, including the obligation to arrest ICC fugitive Omar Al-Bashir.

REGIONAL UPDATES

International Justice Day: CICC Celebrates International Justice Day Worldwide

On 17 July the world celebrates *International Justice Day*, in honor of the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute, the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court (ICC). International Justice Day is a reminder of the urgency for all States committed to justice to ensure continued support for the Rome Statute's international justice system.

CICC members celebrated this day in solidarity with victims of crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes through a number of worldwide events.

AFRICA

The *Central African Republic* National Coalition for the ICC (CCCPI) organized a discussion with civil society organizations and various stakeholders, including representatives of the ICC field office and the High Commission-

er for Human Rights. The topics related to the Coalition's activities since 2004 and the case of *The Prosecutor v. Jean Pierre Bemba*. *Pax Christi* organized a visit to prisons in Goma, DRC with the objective of making participants aware of the internal judicial processes in DRC and of better understanding the concept of jurisdiction and the benefits of complementarity in international justice. NECPA and NUTJWG of *Uganda* held a meeting with stakeholders that addressed the Rome Statute

and victims' rights under the treaty. A football tournament for peace which attracted over 3000 people was held following the meeting. The [Cote d'Ivoire National Coalition for the ICC \(CI-CPI\)](#) organized discussions centered on peace and justice in Cote d'Ivoire and on Cote d'Ivoire's position vis-à-vis the ICC.

AMERICAS

The [American Coalition for the ICC \(AMICC\)](#) organized a rally for justice and peace at Union Square in New York where Darfur refugees and other speakers spoke in support of international criminal justice. AMICC also encouraged its members as well as US nationals to request President Obama to further clarify and define US policy toward the ICC. [WFM Canada](#) issued a [press release](#) in support of the ICC, reflecting on the adoption of the crime of aggression at the Review Conference. The [Peruvian Grupo de Iniciativa por la CPI](#) issued a press release calling on the Peruvian government and other entities to expedite efforts to effectively implement Rome Statute crimes and principles in the domestic criminal code, especially vis-à-vis the Peruvian governments' pledges and commitments expressed at the Review Conference. CICC Convenor William R. Pace held a [live blogging session](#) on the eve of International Justice Day, answering attendees' questions on the Rome Statute system and key outcomes of the ICC Review Conference. In Mexico, the [Comision de Derechos Humanos del Distrito Federal \(CDHDF\)](#) and the [Mexican Coalition for the ICC](#) organized a forum on "Mexico and International Justice," where panelists addressed the outcomes of the Review Conference, the state of implementing legislation in Mexico, and the role of civil society in the evolution of the Rome Statute system.

ASIA

IJD activities in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines and Indonesia highlighted discussions and developments from the first Review Conference (RC) of the Rome Statute (RS). In Bangladesh, [Odhikar](#) organized discus-

sions at its office where human rights defenders and members of the national coalition gathered to reflect on the outcome of the RC and on the urgency of state cooperation with and support to the Court. The [Indonesian Coalition for the ICC](#) held a roundtable discussion on its participation at the RC. Representatives from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Parliament, as well as members of the academia, exchanged opinions on the ICC, shared progress on their work, and strategized on advocacy efforts geared toward concretizing ratification. A book bringing together the experiences of the Indonesian civil society's ICC campaign was also launched in July. In the Philippines, Ambassador Generoso Calonge and Severo Caturo of the official Philippine delegation to Kampala attended a roundtable discussion on the RC and crime of aggression organized by the [Philippine Coalition on the ICC](#). [Malaysia](#) civil society and the National Coalition for the ICC in [Nepal](#) issued [press releases](#) urging their respective governments to ratify the RS.

EUROPE

Ana Natsvlishvili from the [Georgian Human Rights Centre \(HRIDC\)](#) and the [Georgian Coalition](#) was invited to participate in a number of radio programs to discuss IJD, the ICC and the Tagliavini Report. On 23 July, HRIDC and the [Institute for War and Peace Reporting \(IWPR\)](#) organized a training session for journalists on how to cover issues related to the ICC as well as a roundtable titled "Justice in my eyes" in Karaleti, Georgia, an IDP settlement. [Amnesty International-Luxembourg](#) organised an information stand in Luxembourg's Place Piquet to raise awareness on the importance of international justice and the fight against impunity, with a focus on the Balkans. The [Turkish Coalition for the ICC](#) organised a meeting on victims' rights and RS ratification campaigns in Turkey and issued a related [press release](#). [Amnesty International Moldova](#) and the [Moldovan Coalition for the ICC](#) held a number of IJD events in Comrat, Balti and

Rome Statute

Signatures: 139 Ratifications: 113
Most Recent: [Saint Lucia](#) (18 August 2010)
[Republic of Seychelles](#) (10 August 2010)

APIC

Signatures: 63 Ratifications: 62
Most Recent: [Georgia](#) (10 March 2010)

Universal Ratification Campaign (URC) 2010 Targets

July: [Malaysia](#) August: [Philippines](#)
October: [Turkey](#)

Chisinau, including public demonstrations and collection of signatures for a petition calling on Moldovan authorities to ratify the Rome Statute; presentations on the ICC campaign in Comrat and Balti; and a screening of the movie "Hotel Rwanda," followed by a discussion on the ICC and Moldova.

MENA

The [Jordanian Coalition for the ICC](#) invited lawyers, judges, NGOs, and its members to celebrate IJD and to honor a number of activists in the field of justice working to protect and promote human rights. In Egypt, the [Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and Legal Profession \(ACIJLP\)](#) issued a [press release](#) calling on Arab governments to take effective action to join the ICC. [OMDH](#) organized a training session on the ICC in coordination with the [International Center for Transitional Justice \(ICTJ\)](#) and the [Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation](#) and held a screening of the movie "The Reckoning." The Moroccan Center for Human Rights sent a letter to the Prime Minister calling for Morocco to ratify the RS. The [Iranian Islamic Human Rights Commission](#) issued a [statement](#) recalling the necessity of the Rome Statute system as well as the governments' commitments in ensuring justice for victims.

GLOBAL PARTNERS

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