

New York, 22 April 2010

Your Excellency,

The 2010 Review Conference for the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court is quickly approaching. A central goal of this meeting on 31 May to 10 June in Kampala, Uganda, is to provide the 111 State Parties and other governments with an historic opportunity to reflect upon the progress of the Court and the new system of international justice established by the Rome Statute.

The Coalition congratulates governments at the recent Assembly meetings in supporting the goal of having States make specific pledges or commitments at the Review Conference that will contribute significantly in advancing the Rome Statute and the Court.

Excellency, the Coalition is writing to you to ask you and your government to join in making specific pledges and commitments at the Review Conference.

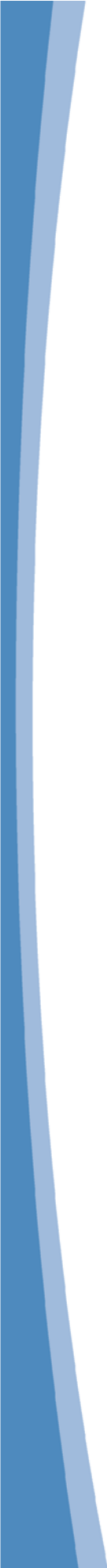
Pledges can pertain to States' contributions to strengthening the system of complementarity, cooperation, or impact on victims and affected communities, as well as other areas of the Rome Statute. Each government is encouraged to evaluate its domestic resources and capabilities for the purpose of deciding where and in what capacity it can make a pledge. For example, a State could reaffirm its intention to adopt national legislation codifying Rome Statute crimes into national law and facilitate cooperation with the Court, promise to ratify or accede to the Rome Statute or the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC, or make a commitment to support the efforts of other States in need of technical capacity to ratify or implement the Rome Statute.

We note that a pledge can be submitted by a State Party, a non-State Party, a regional body of States or an international organization. Attached to this letter is a list of pledges and topics your government may wish to consider.

We strongly encourage your government to contribute a pledge drafted in a way that notes specific, action-oriented and tangible goals. Pledges should preferably include a timeline or benchmarks to measure and ensure progress in their implementation. Doing so provides for firmer commitments and thus a stronger and more successful Rome Statute system.

**THE CICC IS A GLOBAL NETWORK OF OVER 2,500 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING
A FAIR, EFFECTIVE, AND INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT.**

Steering Committee: Amnesty International (AI), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH), Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC-Nigeria), Comisión Andina de Juristas (CAJ), Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH), Human Rights First (HRF), Human Rights Network- Uganda (HUNU), Human Rights Watch (HRW), No Peace Without Justice (NPWJ), Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), The Redress Trust (REDRESS), Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, and World Federalist Movement (WFM).



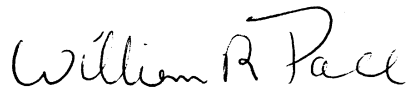
States are encouraged to submit pledges to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties by 14 May 2010 so that they can be compiled in time for presentation in Kampala.

Excellency, it is our sincere hope that *every* State that supports the Rome Statute will join in making one or more pledges. The Coalition stands ready to offer its support and advice to States on the pledging process before, during and even after the Review Conference.

Indeed, the Coalition is also preparing pledges it will make at the Review Conference on behalf of our more than 2500 member organizations in 150 countries.

The Coalition sincerely hopes that you will join other Ministers and States in seizing this opportunity to strengthen international justice and the rule of law, and our shared goal of saving millions of women, children and men from being victims of these horrific crimes.

With deep respect,



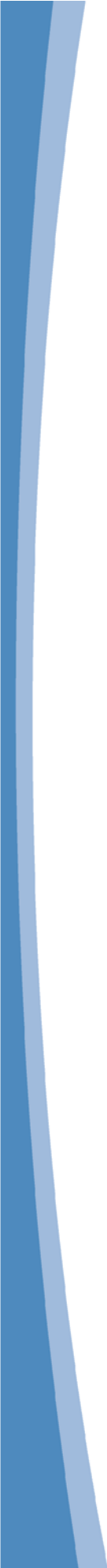
William R. Pace
Convenor

CICC CHECKLIST OF KEY AREAS FOR PLEDGES AT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE

The Coalition has prepared a list of possible areas within which your State may want to pledge. The following list is only illustrative and by no means exhaustive; there may be a number of other useful areas where pledges can be made. We encourage your government to choose an area which would be of a maximum benefit to the interests of international justice. Where possible, pledges should be concrete and identify specific goals and timelines for completion.

- Ratification of or Accession to the Rome Statute*
- Full implementation of the Rome Statute crimes under domestic legislation in a manner consistent with the standards and principles of the Statute;*
- Full implementation of legislation that would facilitate cooperation with the ICC in a manner consistent with the standards and principles of the Statute;*
- Support the efforts of other States in need of technical capacity to ratify or implement the Rome Statute;*
- Ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities;*
- Withdrawal of declarations amounting to prohibited reservations to the Rome Statute (if a State has made such a declaration).*
- Conclusion of framework agreements with the Court on enforcement of sentences, protective measures to witnesses, victims and others put at risk by the work of the ICC[♦], interim release of defendants, and/or relocation of persons following acquittal;*
- Conclusion of a tri-partite agreement with the Court and another state party to facilitate resource sharing in order to enable one of the states parties to conclude framework agreements with the Court on enforcement of sentences and protection of witnesses and victims;*
- Appointment of a national ICC focal point;*
- Appointment of an ICC focal point within relevant embassies having an interface with the ICC, for example, in The Hague, New York, Brussels, or Addis Ababa, and identify this focal point to the ASP facilitator on cooperation;*
- Constitution of an ICC inter-ministerial or -agency task force within national governments to coordinate information about requests for cooperation;*
- Adoption of national policies toward the mainstreaming of ICC support, that is, toward increased understanding and consistent, supportive policy setting on the ICC, within national administrations and/or within regional organizations;*
- Devising ways to make operational at the national level the relevant recommendations on cooperation of the Assembly of States Parties ([ASP/6/Res.2 Annex II](#));*

[♦] Due to the confidential nature of protective measures taken by the ICC, the identity of those States pledging to enter into witness protection and relocation agreements might need to be kept confidential.

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- Adoption of measures ensuring the safety of counsel for the defense and counsel for victims, protecting the independence of counsel and facilitating the work of counsel;*
 - Contributions to arrest operations and the mobilization of diplomatic and political support toward the execution of arrest warrants;*
 - Promotion of Relationship Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding between international and regional organizations and the ICC;*
 - Continued support from States to international justice and the ICC within the different international, regional and sub-regional organizations, including, for example, commitments to work toward the adoption of common policies of support to the ICC within these organizations;*
 - Cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations in their ICC-related initiatives, including the adoption of resolutions supporting the ICC, model implementation legislation, capacity building projects on the ICC, among other;*
 - Annual contributions to the Trust Fund for Victims, to the special fund for relocation of witnesses and victims, and/or to the trust fund for the participation of States' representatives at the sessions of the Assembly of States Parties;*
 - Undertake specific activities to promote increased awareness on the activities of the ICC at the national level and/or fund such activities, including to support efforts by civil society and journalist organizations to raise awareness of national accountability needs;*
 - Commitment to improve legal training and capacity building on the Rome Statute within national judicial and education systems;*
 - Specific partnerships to strengthen national capacity for the credible prosecutions of Rome Statute crimes;*
 - Adoption of a national policy to ensure support to national prosecution of Rome Statute crimes in development or other assistance programs;*
 - Commitment to hold regional and sub-regional conferences to advance cooperation mechanisms for the Rome Statute system.*