

## Background information on the process of accession by Malaysia to the Rome Statute of the ICC

- November 2004: Hon. Kula Segaran, MP, joined PGA in the margins of the 3rd <u>Consultative Assembly on the Rule of Law and the International Criminal Court (CAP-ICC)</u> organised in <u>Wellington</u>, New Zealand, in 2004. Other MPs joined PGA and committed to the advancement of the Rome Statute in the region
- December 2006: Hon. Kula Segaran attended and addressed the 4th CAP-ICC organised in Tokyo in 2006, which facilitated the unanimous vote by the Diet of Japan in Feb. and April 2007 in support of the ratification of the Rome Statute, coordinated by PGA Members.
- April 2010: Hon. Kula Segaran tabled parliamentary questions on the up-coming first review Conference of the Rome Statute, to be held in Kampala in May-June 2010. Minister of Law Hon. Mohamed Nazri, MP, replied with great interest to the issue in question and decided to participate in the opening of the Kampala Review Conference and PGA's 6th CAP ICC.
- May 2010: In the closing speech of the 6th CAP-ICC in Kampala, Uganda, Minister of Law, Hon. Mohamed Nazri, MP, announced that the accession process would have soon started in Malaysia. Hon. Nazri joined PGA and was subsequently elected Chair of the PGA National Group.
- March 2011: PGA held the II Asia-Pacific Consultations on ICC Ratification and Implementation in the Parliament of Malaysia with the participation of the President of the ICC, Judge Song. These consultations also supported the subsequent ratification processes in the Philippines, the Maldives and Vanuatu, and advanced the process in a number of Pacific Islands. Minister Nazri, Hon Kula Segaran and many Lawmakers from majority and opposition united their voice in support of Malaysia's accession to the Rome Statute, seconded by the Speaker of Parliament (see "Nazri, Kula collaborate on International Criminal Court")
- April 2011: Due to the endeavours by a bipartisan group of PGA Members, the Cabinet of Malaysia undertook the unanimous decision to accede to the Rome Statute. However, this decision was not implemented at the UN General Assembly treaty session of September 2011.
- December 2011: Hon. Kula Segaran, then deputy-leader of opposition, continued with his advocacy to advance the accession of the country to the Rome Statute and delivered a powerful statement on behalf of PGA at the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC in New York.
- 17 July 2014<sup>1</sup>: Hon. Kula Segaran <u>stated openly</u> that had Malaysia joined the Rome Statute, the investigations into the shooting down of the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 would have been significantly enhanced through the cooperation with the ICC, presenting victims with greater opportunities and prospects have access to justice. A few days after the tragedy, thanks to the initiative of the PGA Malaysia National Group led by Hon. Nazri and Hon. Kula Segaran, Parliament adopted the first bipartisan resolution of the Legislature on the topic of justice for the victims of MH 17.
- November 2016: Hon. Thomas Su, MP (Malaysia), *PGA member*, and Hon. Kula Segaran questioned the Government's progress of the accession and non-compliance with the 2011 Cabinet decision.
- 2017-18: The PGA secretariat continued to support the PGA Malaysia National Group's actions by preparing legal and strategic memoranda that were disseminated among members of the Malaysian Cabinet, through which PGA rebutted the challenges articulated by the Malaysian Government on to the issue of inviolability/immunity of the King(s) of Malaysia while outlining the importance of the accession to the Statute for the country's national interest.
- 8 June 2018: Following the elections held in May 2018, Hon. Kula Segaran was had been just nominated the Minister for Human Resources in the new Malaysian Cabinet delivered a video-speech from Kuala Lumpur at a seminar of the PGA Board hosted by the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the UN announcing that the new Government position will be that "there is no obstacle in Malaysia to accession to the Rome Statute". Since then, the accession process had marked a rapid progress through his intensified engagement.
- 16 November 2018: Hon. Kula Segaran firmly <u>reiterated this position</u> at the <u>10th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the ICC & the Rule of Law (CAP-ICC)</u> in Kyiv, at the Rada of Ukraine, re-emphasizing the potential significant benefits of the country's membership in the Rome Statute system for the accelerated investigation of the shooting down of the Malaysia Airlines flight MH17.
- 4 March 2019: Following the formalization of the Cabinet decision to accede to the Rome Statute, undertaken in December 2018, and the notification to the new Monarch who sworn in on 31 January 2019, the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the UN deposited the instrument of accession at the UN in New York.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On International Justice Day, 17 July 2014, Malaysian Airlines flight MH 17 was knocked down while it was flying over the skies of Ukraine on the route Amsterdam-Kuala Lumpur. Cf. <a href="https://foreignpolicy.com/2014/07/25/justice-for-mh17/">https://foreignpolicy.com/2014/07/25/justice-for-mh17/</a>.