Canada

General Debate

*Speaker: Mr. William R. Crosbie, Assistant Deputy Minister, Consular, Security, Legal Adviser*

Cooperation: Canada calls for States Parties to cooperate despite the challenges that the Court faces, notably concerning the protection of witnesses, the enforcement of sentences and the execution of arrest warrants.

Complementarity: Canada is encouraged by the efforts of the Court to make the fight against sexual and gender-based violence a priority, and reiterates that the work of the Court is complementary to national efforts of States. Canada also spoke about the importance of African states to the Court, as the African group is the largest regional group.

Budget: While aware of the increasing workload, Canada is concerned about the substantial budget increase requested for 2016. Canada believes that States Parties have a role in this as the number of facilitations the ASP has required the Court to attend is too high and the Court should spend resources focusing on its mandate.

Canada notes that the Court’s jurisdiction over the crime of aggression does not apply to States Parties that have not ratified the amendment.

Canada does not recognize the State of Palestine and does not consider it to be a State Party.

**Supplementary Items Debate (Proposals South Africa)**

Canada supports the statement made by Australia on these matters. Canada believes constructive discussion would be a useful step but it would be inappropriate to discuss the relation between article 98 and article 27 in the Assembly.

**Supplementary Items Debate (Proposals Kenya)**

Canada aligns itself with the statement made by the Czech Republic. The integrity and independence of the judicial process must be respected.