Guatemala

General Debate

*Speaker: H.E. Mr. Gabriel Aguilera Peralta, Ambassador to the Netherlands.*

An efficient Court is a legitimate Court. The success of this Court depends on our ability to adequately combine our ideals with the imperatives of political realism in a way that the Court attracts universal adherence, without losing its effectiveness in preventing as well as sanctioning the most serious international crimes.

We need to maintain the momentum for ratification and accession to the Rome Statute and its amendments in order to attain universality. At the same time we need to challenge the mistaken perception that the ICC is a Court for only one region.

Cooperation is a permanent and vital aspect of the work of the Court. The distribution of justice might be uneven sometimes, including unjust, but our answer to this challenge should not be to revert the important accomplishments already made.

Budget: The Court cannot function effectively when lacking resources to do so: we need to find a way to reconcile our expectations of and demands to the Court with the resources we are prepared to contribute. The effectiveness of the Court is not only measured in the number of judgments or investigations, but also in the number of processes that were avoided thanks to the proper functioning of national jurisdictions.

Guatemala is in favor of eliminating the transitional measure, Article 124, from the Rome Statute.