Liechtenstein

General Debate

*Speaker: H.E. Mr. Stefan Barriga, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations*

Universality: A UNSC referral could serve as a basis for the Court’s jurisdiction in Syria, Iraq and North Korea. However, referrals are not a sustainable substitute for universality, and that is why the Informal Ministerial Network in support of the ICC, led by Liechtenstein’s Foreign Minister Aurelia Frick, recently adopted an Action plan for Universality.

Supplementary items: The role of the ASP is to support the Court by deciding the budget and to oversee the management of the Court’s administration. The ASP also has a legislative role in the amendment process of various legal instruments, but it remains clear that the ASP has no role in the judicial process itself. However, efforts to increase the efficiency of judicial proceedings should be pursued with high priority and the Assembly should support the Court in this matter, in particular by adopting pending draft amendments to the rule of procedure.

Budget: It is very worrisome that during the past year the Prosecutor cited a lack of funds as the main reason for not pursuing certain investigations. We are reaching a point where financial austerity may actually lead to delays in judicial proceedings, and thus a loss of efficiency.

Cooperation: Under article 112 of the Statute, (non-)cooperation is actually an area where the ASP does have a specific task relating to concrete judicial proceedings, that is, to consider the issue of non-cooperation, once the Court has made a concrete finding to that effect and referred the matter to the ASP.

**Special Session on Cooperation**

Liechtenstein wishes to highlight the topic of financial investigation. Financial investigations can help the OTP as an additional and reliable source of evidence and can also lead to the freezing of assets, which eventually can be made available to compensate the victims.

**Supplementary Items Debate (Proposals Kenya)**

Liechtenstein considers the demands made by Kenya a source of serious concern. It is not within the competence of the Assembly to review the manner in which the Court interprets the Statute. It is up to the judges of the Court to decide of the witness testimonies are valid or not, the Assembly should keep to its administrative mandate and be careful not to interfere with the Court’s judicial work.