Luxembourg (on behalf of the EU)

General Debate

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Carlo Krieger, Ambassador, Director of the Legal Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Supplementary items: The ICC and its prosecutor are independent and impartial judicial institutions with no political goals to pursue. ICC proceedings should be allowed to run their course.

The EU also welcomes the recent accession of the State of Palestine and renews its call to Palestine and Israel to resume negotiations. In addition the EU welcomes the acceptance of ICC jurisdiction by Ukraine. The EU is committed to end the Syrian conflict with an inclusive solution and calls upon the Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the ICC.

Budget: the budget proposal needs to be consistent with the increasing case load of the Court.

The EU supports the full independence of the Court.

Special Session on Complementarity

There is still a gap between international justice and national justice systems with regard to the implementation of the Rome Statute. The EU encourages all States Parties to prepare and adopt effective national legislation to make the principle of complementarity truly operational. National measures also need to be strengthened with regard to the matter of conflict-related sexual and gender based violence.

Special Session on Cooperation

There are concerns about the limited number of bilateral agreements on cooperation with the ICC and the EU undertakes consistent action to encourage all EU states to sign more of those agreements. It is important that countries designate a focal point for cooperation with the Court.