Portugal

General Debate

*Speaker: Ms. Rita Faden, Director, Legal Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Portugal hopes that the Court’s endeavor to improve its efficiency and effectiveness will lead to the strengthening of the Court’s procedures and to a swift delivery of justice, as well as to the enhancement of the Court’s capacity to manage its resources. The Court must be given the necessary resources to continue carrying out its purpose but the Court must also take into account the current economic situation of many of its State Parties.

To consolidate the Court’s fundamental role in fighting impunity we must reinforce the cooperation between the Court and the States Parties but also the cooperation between the Court and non-State-parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations.

It is our duty as State Parties to safeguard this independency as well as the autonomy of the Court. Portugal remains attentive to the concerns that are raised by some States regarding the ICC and its proceedings and looks forward to constructive discussions.

Portugal is taking the necessary steps to hopefully ratify the Kampala amendments by the end of the current year.