Slovenia

General Debate

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Darja Bavdaž Kuret, Minister for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Universality: It is worrying that many victims of dreadful crimes remain out of the Court's reach (Syria, Iraq). Promoting universality should remain one of our key priorities. Slovenia's determination to promote ratification of the Rome Statute and the Kampala Amendments is reflected in its new Foreign Policy Strategy adopted this year.

Efficiency and effectiveness of Court proceedings, high quality justice delivered in a timely and cost effective manner contribute importantly to the positive perception and legitimacy of the Court.

Cooperation: it is imperative that States Parties comply with the Rome Statute obligations, including on full and prompt cooperation with the Court. With 12 arrest warrants outstanding, we are pleased to note that a dialogue on voluntary agreements with the ICC will be held at this session.

Complementarity: It is essential to focus on improving national legislation, capacity building and inter-State cooperation in order to enhance domestic prosecution of atrocity crimes. Slovenia is actively engaged in these efforts, in particular through the initiative to adopt a new international instrument on mutual legal assistance and extradition between States for international crimes, that is the MLA initiative.

SGBV: Slovenia commends the focus of this year’s complementarity discussions on sexual and gender-based crimes, as well as the OTP’s Policy Paper.

Special Session on Complementarity

SGBV: Victims of SGBV are stigmatized. There is also an important need to deal with the root causes of this kind of violence.

Special Session on Cooperation

There is a lack of understanding and explanation with regard to cooperation agreements. Therefore the Court should conduct outreach activities in the future, not only approaching foreign ministries but also justice ministries. Slovenia is committed to soon join the other States that have already signed these agreements.

Supplementary Items Debate (Proposals South Africa). Statement on behalf of the EU:

States have the opportunity to submit formal proposals and the EU is ready to engage with any State Party in constructive discussions on the role of the Court. However, with regard to the comments made by South Africa regarding article 98 and 27, any discussion in the ASP must be held with respect for the competence of the Court to interpret the legal framework of the Rome Statute.