

[UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION]

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE
PARTICIPANTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE OF THE
IBEROAMERICAN AND LUSOPHONE STATES
ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
25 March 2004

I congratulate the participants of this important event that gathers parliamentarians, government officials, academics, organizations and entities of the highest quality, as well as officials of the International Criminal Court.

The themes addressed at the event are fundamental for the defense of democracy and justice throughout the world. The responsibility and the commitment of the Iberoamerican community should be reaffirmed through decisions and proposals that emerge from this Conference. In this respect, I wish to convey to all those present the Brazilian government's commitment to ensure the complementarity of the Brazilian legislation to the rules of the Rome Statute and to bolster the International Criminal Court.

I am grateful for the invitation, which due to previous engagements I was obliged to decline. I salute all the organizers and participants who – as Brazil – seek the path of peace and justice to resolve conflicts.

LUIZ INÁCIO LULA DA SILVA
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil