



Parliamentarians for Global Action

PARAMARIBO PLAN OF PARLIAMENTARY ACTION FOR THE UNIVERSALITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE ROME STATUTE AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

7 June 2008

(Final Version of 11 July 2008 after comments and approval by the Members of Parliaments attending the Regional Parliamentary Seminar on the ICC held in Paramaribo, Suriname, on 6-7 June 2008)

PREAMBLE

Noting the adoption on 17 July 1998 – ten years ago – of the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC), which is an effective international mechanism aimed at preventing the most serious crimes, promoting the Rule of Law over the rule of violence, as the first treaty that incorporated gender-based crimes against humanity and war crimes and the definition of “gender”;

Convinced that joining the Rome Statute is a sovereign act aimed at protecting individuals and the civilian population from the most serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and that the principle of complementarity reinforces the prerogatives of each State to prevent and repress acts that shock the conscience of human-kind,

Recalling the Strategic Plan of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) that recognizes the ICC and the fight against impunity as essential tools to realize the UN Millennium Development Goals;

Recognizing the role that Members of Parliament have played in the fight against impunity, starting with the proposal made by former President and Primer Minister of Trinidad and Tobago H.E. A.N. R. Robinson (a PGA member) to establish an ICC at the UN General Assembly of 1989, as well as the contribution of PGA Members to 61 out of the current 106 ratifications of the Rome Statute in the framework of the Campaign of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) for the universality and effectiveness of the Rome Statute, started in September 1998,

Welcoming the fact that 23 States Parties to the Rome Statute are from the American Hemisphere;

Celebrating the approval by the Council of Ministers of Suriname of the ICC Accession Bill, which will be sent to Parliament promptly allowing the Parliament to consider it and approve it in due time for Suriname to deposit the instrument of Accession at the United Nations on the 10th anniversary of the Rome Statute as State Party number 107;

Congratulating the PGA multi-party Working Group in the National Assembly of Suriname for their tirelessly efforts for this purpose;

Concerned that the effectiveness of the ICC and the principle of equality of all before law may be compromised until forty-one States that are signatories to the Rome Statute – including The Bahamas, Chile, Haiti, Jamaica St. Lucia and the USA in the Americas – would ratify it, and until an equal number of UN Member States– including Cuba, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Suriname in the Americas¹ accede to it;

¹ As of 18 June 2008, 12 States in the American Hemisphere are not yet Parties to the Rome Statute.

Welcoming the action of Members of Parliament, especially from Latin America and the Caribbean, who in the past five years have adopted a principled position to protect the integrity of the letter and spirit of Rome Statute and, therefore, have expressed concerns and rejected the conclusion of Bilateral Non Surrender Agreements designed to limit the effectiveness of the jurisdiction of the ICC;

Welcoming the Statement of Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community adopted in June 2003, *reaffirming* the commitment of the Countries of the CARICOM to the principles and objectives of the Rome Statute, as well as the Common Position of the MERCOSUR adopted on 20 June 2005 agreeing not to enter into agreements with third states that could undermine the reach of the jurisdiction of the ICC;

Welcoming recent developments in the Congress of the United States of America that led to the elimination from US legislation of certain sanctions to States Parties of the Rome Statute that decided not to enter into a Bilateral Non Surrender Agreement;

Noting the inclusion of article 11, paragraph 7, in the revised Cotonou Agreement between the European Union and the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, which strongly encourages all ACP and EU Member States to join the new system of international criminal justice created by the Rome Statute, and *welcoming* the determined interventions made by PGA members and other Parliamentarians during the debate on the ICC at the latest session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Ljubljana, Slovenia in March 2008;

Commending the work of the Organization of American States (OAS) in support of the ICC and the fight against impunity, especially through the General Assembly in adopting Resolution AG/RES. 2364 of 3 June 2008, in holding an annual Working Session on the ICC since 2005, and through the Inter-American Judicial Committee that has prepared a questionnaire on cooperation with the ICC and is working on a “model” legislation of the OAS to implement the Rome Statute into National Laws;

Welcoming the Statement of Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community adopted in June 2003, *reaffirming* the commitment of the Countries of the CARICOM to the principles and objectives of the Rome Statute, as well as the Common Position of the MERCOSUR adopted on 20 June 2005 agreeing not to undertake agreements with third states that could undermine the reach of the jurisdiction of the ICC;

Congratulating Argentina, Uruguay and Trinidad and Tobago for the comprehensive implementing legislation on the ICC adopted by their Parliaments in 2006 and 2007, as well as the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua for the forthcoming adoption of the revised Penal Codes, which include new sections on the Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law;

Noting with concern that the non-enforcement of 8 arrest warrants issued by the ICC is currently impeding holding fair trials against the persons accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes and – above all – is depriving numerous victims of their right to access to justice;

Welcoming (a) the adoption of the Resolution on “Justice for Darfur” by the PGA Japan National Group in the National Diet, Tokyo, on 14 March 2008, (b) the adoption of a resolution by the European Parliament on 22 March 2008 to uphold the obligations of States Parties to ensure respect for the obligation to cooperate with the ICC under the Rome Statute and UN Security Council Resolution 1593 (2005) referring the Darfur situation to the ICC under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, and (c) the initiative taken by Costa Rica within the Security Council on behalf of the international community to promote compliance with Resolution 1593;

Noting that the commitment to the International Criminal Court is strictly related to the pursuit of international peace and security based on the firm rejection of the illegal use of violence to exercise power, political oppression and discrimination, as well as of any crime committed against undefended populations, such as enslavement and the slave trade, genocide and apartheid committed in the past centuries especially

in Africa, the Americas and Asia, and the atrocities committed during the XX century during armed conflicts, totalitarian regimes and/or dictatorships throughout the world;

Expressing sincere appreciation to the National Assembly and the Government of the Republic of Suriname for co-organizing and hosting the Paramaribo Regional Parliamentary Seminar on the ICC;

Welcoming the invitation by the Organizing Committee within the National Congress of the Dominican Republic of PGA's 30th Annual Forum and V Session of the Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC and the Rule of Law, which will take place in Santo Domingo on 30 and 31 October 2008;

We, Parliamentarians from democratically elected Parliaments gathered in Paramaribo, Suriname, on 6-7 June 2008, commit ourselves to make use of the legislative prerogatives of Parliamentarians as well as of our political prerogatives to give concrete effect to this Plan of Action, at all times respecting the principle of independence of the ICC, applying multi-party and inclusive approaches to the ICC Dossier, and avoiding to politicize or misrepresent the scope and powers of the ICC:

ARGENTINA

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute, as well as the ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), we shall:

1. Use our best efforts to promote the adoption of a parliamentary resolution on "Justice for Darfur" that will allow action by our Government at the UN and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
2. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
3. Continue to review the current implementing legislation with the view of improving it in areas such as the rights of victims and human rights education,
4. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
5. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
6. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
7. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008,
8. Continue to maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Argentina

BRAZIL

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute, we shall:

1. Taking into account that a draft comprehensive legislation has been prepared by a Committee of experts and has been sent to the Government for approval almost four years ago, promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as ensuring the rights of victims and promotion of human rights education in the Brazilian legal order,

2. Promote the ratification by Brazil of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the ratification bill to parliament and ensuring prompt approval by Congress,
3. Use our best efforts to promote the adoption of a parliamentary resolution on “Justice for Darfur” that will allow action by our Government at the UN and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
4. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
5. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas and all regions of the world – including the African Lusophone countries – in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
6. Contribute to the making of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in States Parties working together to include the definition of the crime of aggression in the Statute,
7. Request, and monitor, our government’s active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008, will take place in El Salvador,
9. Continue to maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Brazil, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

COLOMBIA

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute we shall:

1. Taking into account Draft Bill No. 040 under study in Congress since 2006, promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the revision of the Penal Code to ensure that all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as ensuring the rights of victims and promotion of human rights education are included in the Colombian legal order, as well as of full cooperation with the ICC.
2. Call on the government to promptly deposit at the United Nations, for its entry into force, the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), ratified by Congress in December 2007,
3. Use our best efforts to promote the adoption of a parliamentary resolution on “Justice for Darfur” that will allow action by our Government at the UN and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
4. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
5. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
6. Contribute to the making of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in States Parties working together to include the definition of the crime of aggression in the Statute,
7. Request, and monitor, our government’s active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008, will take place in El Salvador,

9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Colombia, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

COSTA RICA

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute we shall:

1. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the completion of the incorporation of all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law (i.e. legislation on war crimes), as well as the rights of victims and human rights education in the Costa Rican legal order,
2. Promote the ratification by Costa Rica of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the ratification bill to parliament and ensuring prompt approval by Congress,
3. Support the efforts of Costa Rica to promote the adoption of effective measures on “Justice for Darfur” within the UN Security Council and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
4. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
5. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
6. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
7. Request, and monitor, our government’s active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008, will take place in El Salvador,
9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Costa Rica, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

DOMINICA

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute we shall:

1. Taking into account that a draft comprehensive legislation has been prepared by the Office of the Attorney General in 2005, as well as article 11.7 of the Revised Cotonou Agreement, promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as ensuring the rights of victims and promotion of human rights education in Dominica’s legal order,
2. Promote the accession by Dominica of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the bill to parliament and ensuring its prompt approval,
3. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
4. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the

- discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
5. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
 6. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Caribbean and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
 7. Contribute to the making of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in States Parties working together to include the definition of the crime of aggression in the Statute,
 8. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
 9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Dominica, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute, we shall:

1. Noting the text of the revised Criminal Code soon to be adopted, promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the completion of the incorporation of general principles of international criminal law in the new Penal Code and in the Dominican Republic legal order,
2. Promote the accession by the Dominican Republic to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the bill to Congress and ensuring its prompt approval,
3. Continue to review the current implementing legislation with the view of improving it in areas such as the rights of victims and human rights education,
4. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
5. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
6. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
7. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008,
9. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
10. Continue to use our best efforts to organize the 30th Annual Forum of PGA, which will include the V session of the Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC & the Rule of Law, to be held in the National Congress of the Dominican Republic in Santo Domingo on 30-31 October and to which all Parliaments of the world have been invited to participate,
11. Continue to maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in the Dominican Republic, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

ECUADOR

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification of the Rome Statute and the APIC, we shall:

1. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as rights of victims and human rights education in the national legal order,
2. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
3. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
4. Contribute to the making of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in States Parties working together to include the definition of the crime of aggression in the Statute,
5. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
6. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008, Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Ecuador, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

JAMAICA

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the signature of the Rome Statute on 8 September 2000, we shall:

1. Promote the ratification by Jamaica of the Rome Statute of the ICC through the required national law-making procedure, thus allowing our country to become a member of the new system of international criminal justice before 2010, when the Review Conference of the Statute will be held,
2. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as rights of victims and human rights education in the national legal order, as appropriate,
3. Promote the ratification by Jamaica of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), signed on 30 June 2004, by calling on the government to transmit the ratification bill to parliament and ensuring its prompt approval,
4. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
5. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
6. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
7. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Pending full participation of our country in the ICC system, urge our government to participate as observers at the forthcoming session of the Assembly of States Parties to the

Rome Statute to be held in The Hague in November 2008, where PGA will also hold a parallel session involving members of Parliament,

9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Jamaica, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

MEXICO

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute and of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), we shall:

1. Taking into account the draft bill for a Normative law of Article 21 of the Constitution sent by the Government on 24 November 2006 to the Senate, and currently under discussion at the Committee of Justice and the draft bill to modify Article 21 of the Constitution sent to the Committees of Constitution and Legislative Studies of the Senate on 28 February 2008, promote inter-party dialogue to find the best solution to guarantee the prompt and comprehensive adoption of the required legislation to ensure the full cooperation of Mexico with the ICC,
2. Taking into account the draft bill currently under discussion within the Human Rights Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, as well as other projects currently under study within the Chamber, undertake inter-party dialogue and support the adoption of national legislation that fully incorporates Rome Statute crimes, general principles of international criminal law, as well as ensuring the rights of victims and promotion of human rights education in the Mexican legal order,
3. Use our best efforts to promote the adoption of a parliamentary resolution on “Justice for Darfur” that will allow action by our Government at the UN and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
4. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
5. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from North America, Central, and South America, and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
6. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
7. Request, and monitor, our government’s active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Request our government to incorporate pro-ICC language in relation to its contribution to youth and development in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit that will take place in El Salvador on 29-31 October 2008,
9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Mexico, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

NICARAGUA

In order to complete the work initiated with the vote in favour of the Rome Statute and the signature of the Final Act at the Rome Conference on 17 July 1998, we shall:

1. Promote the accession of Nicaragua to the Rome Statute of the ICC through the required national law-making procedure, thus promoting our country to become a member of the new system of international criminal justice before 2010, when the Review Conference of the Statute will be held,
2. Continue to review the current implementing legislation with the view of improving it in areas such as the rights of victims and human rights education,

3. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from Central America and all regions of the world to continue discussing the merits of joining the ICC system for the prevalence of peace and prevention of conflict,
4. Promote with the support of PGA secretariat, actions towards working on legislation on cooperation with the ICC, as well as the holding of a special session and Consultations on the ICC at the National Assembly of Nicaragua, and with other entities of the government during the first half of 2009,
5. Pending full participation of our country in the ICC system, urge the Assembly of States Parties of the ICC to maintain the invitation to Nicaragua, through its Embassy in The Hague, to participate as observers in the sessions it holds,
6. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
7. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Nicaragua, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

SAINT LUCIA

In order to complete the work initiated with the signature of the Rome Statute of the ICC on 27 August 1999, and the consistent policies aimed at protecting the integrity of the Statute, we shall:

1. Promote the ratification by St. Lucia of the Rome Statute of the ICC through the required national law-making procedure, thus allowing our country to become a member of the new system of international criminal justice before 2010, when the Review Conference of the Statute will be held,
2. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as rights of victims and human rights education in the national legal order, as appropriate,
3. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
4. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
5. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
6. Request our government to participate actively in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
7. Pending full participation of our country in the ICC system, urge our government to participate as observers at the forthcoming session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute to be held in The Hague in November 2008, where PGA will also hold a parallel session involving members of Parliament,
8. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Saint Lucia, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification and the consistent policies aimed at protecting the integrity of the Statute, we shall:

1. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of all Rome Statute

- crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as rights of victims and human rights education in the national legal order,
2. Promote the accession by St. Vincent and Grenadines to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the bill to Congress and ensuring its prompt approval,
 3. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
 4. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
 5. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
 6. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from the Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
 7. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
 8. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
 9. Maintain the PGA Secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

SURINAME

In order to complete the work initiated in holding of the Regional Parliamentary Seminar on the ICC and all the past efforts of the PGA multi-party working group on the ICC in the National Assembly of Suriname, we shall:

1. Promote the completion of the process of accession by Suriname to the Rome Statute of the ICC on 17 July 2008 through the required parliamentary approval of the ICC Accession Bill, which the Executive has adopted in May 2008, thus allowing our country to become the 107 Member of the new system of international criminal justice,
2. Promote the adoption of the national legislation implementing the obligations of the Rome Statute, namely, the cooperation with the Court and the incorporation of all Rome Statute crimes and general principles of international criminal law, as well as rights to victims and human rights education in the national legal order, as appropriate,
3. Promote the accession by Suriname to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), by calling on the government to transmit the bill to Parliament and ensuring its prompt approval,
4. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
5. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
6. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,

7. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians the Americas, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, Asia, within the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
9. Once Suriname becomes a State Party, promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
10. Continue to keep the PGA secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments in Suriname, and seek for the cooperation and technical assistance of PGA, if deemed useful.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

In order to complete the work in favour of the ICC initiated with the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute, as well as the ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC), we shall:

1. Use our best efforts to promote the adoption of a parliamentary resolution on "Justice for Darfur" that will allow action by our Government at the UN and in all multilateral and bilateral relations to contribute to the cooperation of Sudan and other States with the ICC,
2. Continue to review the current implementing legislation with the view of improving it in areas such as the rights of victims and human rights education,
3. Promote the work of our government in contributing to the success of the Review Conference of the Rome Statute especially in agreeing on a definition of the crime of aggression and its inclusion in the Statute,
4. Request our government to promote within the CARICOM a declaration incorporating pro-ICC language to call on new ratifications of the Rome Statute and the effective cooperation of all States with the Court in the forthcoming meeting of Heads of Government of the CARICOM that will take place in Antigua and Barbuda 2-4 July 2008,
5. In cooperation with other members of PGA, propose and support the adoption of a resolution in support of a universal Rome Statute and an effective International Criminal Court within the discussions of the forthcoming sessions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Papua New Guinea in November 2008, and in Prague, the Czech Republic in March 2009,
6. Encourage the participation of our Government in the OAS special sessions on the ICC, and seek for the inclusion of a parliamentary component to these OAS proceedings, as appropriate,
7. Request, and monitor, our government's active participation in the UN General Assembly and Security Council discussions on the Rule of Law, international justice and the ICC, including through the framework provided by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC),
8. Continue providing support and engaging in dialogue with other fellow Parliamentarians from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), the Americas and all regions of the world in support of their processes towards ratification and implementation,
9. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the ICC on 17 July 2008 on the occasion of the recognition by the ICC Assembly of States Parties and the UN in New York of the leading role played by the former President and Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, H.E. A.N. R. Robinson, who was the Member of Parliamentarians for Global Action initiating the PGA ICC Campaign in 1989,
10. Continue to maintain the PGA secretariat as well as fellow Members of PGA informed of developments and actions in Trinidad and Tobago.

Adopted in Paramaribo on June 7, 2008 in the framework of the Paramaribo Parliamentary Seminar on International Justice and Security and the International Criminal Court organised by Parliamentarians for Global Action and the National Assembly of Suriname.

Acknowledgement

The *Paramaribo Regional Parliamentary Seminar of the International Criminal Court* coordinated under the International Law and Human Rights Programme of PGA has been made possible by the work of the members of PGA Working Group on the ICC in Suriname led by Ms. Ruth Wijdenbosch, MP, and integrated by Mr. Leendert Abauna, MP, Mrs. Soecilia Anjoelal, MP, Mr. Henk Deel, MP, Mrs. C. Ferreira, MP, Mr. S. Jairam, MP, Mrs. Kai Lin Sandra Lee, MP, Mrs. Harriet Ramdien, MP, Mr. Jules A. Wijdenbosch, MP, Mrs. Orpheu Marengo, MP, Mr. Mahinderpersad Rathipal, MP, Mrs. Sharmila Mangal-Mansaram, MP, Ms. Yvonne R.A. Raveles-Resida, MP, Mr. Ortwin Cairo, MP, Mr. Kaulessar Matai, MP, Mr. Mahinderkoemar Jogi, MP, Mr. Ricardo Panka, MP, Mr. Rabindre Parmessar, MP, Mr. Hendrik Sakimin, MP and Mr. Jules A. Wijdenbosch, MP as well as by the invaluable cooperation of the National Assembly of Suriname.

PGA acknowledges the indispensable support of the European Commission (EU), and the Governments of Belgium, the Netherlands, Suriname and Switzerland.