



Parliamentarians for Global Action

Parliamentary Campaign for the Universality and Effectiveness of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (PGA ICC Campaign 2008-2009)

PGA is a network of 1300 members from 125 Parliaments around the globe who, in their individual capacity and using their prerogatives as law-makers, undertake initiatives to support the ICC and the rule of law. As of *January 2009*, the different initiatives and activities of these MPs have contributed directly to 63 of the 108 ratifications/accessions to the Rome Statute of the ICC to date, including the most recent ones of Suriname and the Cook Islands.

The trans-regional and national mobilization of parliamentarians, supported by the PGA Secretariat, ensures accurate analyses on the different issues stalling the ICC process in different countries and the multi-partisan involvement of stakeholders to overcome these obstacles and challenges. The tailored initiatives and activities of the Campaign are structured in such a way so as to ensure 'cross-fertilization' between international and country-specific activities.

PGA also participates actively in the ongoing international campaign to increase support for the Court, in particular in enforcing outstanding ICC arrest warrants, and ensuring that the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the ICC, slated to take place in 2010, will be a genuine success in reinforcing the important role of the ICC within the international peace and security system.

For 2008-09, PGA members have identified the following target countries in which legislators can contribute in a concrete way to ensuring the goals of universality and effectiveness of the Court:

A. PRIORITY TARGETS

1. Targets for ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute (26)

Africa: Cape Verde, Cameroon, Mozambique and the Seychelles

The Americas: Chile, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, St. Lucia [and certain other States from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Central America]

Asia & the Pacific: Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines and Pacific Islands States such as Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Niue [state in free association with New Zealand].

Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS): the Czech Republic and Moldova¹, Turkey, Ukraine [and other Council of Europe and/or CIS Member States]

Middle East and the Mediterranean: Bahrain, Lebanon, Morocco

2. Targets on Implementation of the Rome Statute (21)

Africa: Chad, Comoros, DRC, Ghana, Kenya², Liberia, Madagascar³, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda [and other ECOWAS Member States]

The Americas: Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Suriname⁴ and other States

Asia & the Pacific: The Cook Islands⁵ and other States

¹ Moldova may conclude its ratification process in 2008, as the ICC Ratification Bill is currently under consideration before Parliament. In the Czech Republic, the Upper House approved the Bill in July 2008 and the Lower House did so in September 2008 (Committee) and with a final plenary vote, on October 29, 2008, of 140 in favour and only 6 against.

² The Kenyan ICC Bill, sponsored and supported by the multi-party PGA Group, has been adopted by Parliament in December 2008.

³ Madagascar joined the Rome Statute on March 14, 2008, after that it had amended its Constitution to finalise the ratification process, regarding which Parliament had approved the ICC Ratification Bill at the end of 2006.

⁴ Suriname joined the ICC system on July 15, 2008, as a result of the mobilisation of a multi-party group of MPs led by PGA Board Member Dr. Ruth Wijdenbosch MP.

⁵ In The Cook Islands, Cabinet approved the ICC accession bill on 25 June 2008 and it became a State Party on 18 July 2008. The ICC process was led by Mr. Wilkie Rasmussen, MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-Chair of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, who joined PGA after the ICC debate initiated by PGA members at the ACP-EU JAP Session in Ljubljana in March 2008.

Europe: Albania, Italy, Russian Federation [and certain other Council of Europe Member States]

Middle East and the Mediterranean: Jordan

3. ACP & EU partner countries targeted as part of cross-regional activities of PGA (33 States not yet Parties to the Rome Statute) [*in italics States that are also specific targets*]

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| 1. Angola | 12. Grenada | 23. Seychelles |
| 2. Bahamas | 13. Guinea-Bissau | 24. Solomon Islands |
| 3. Cameroon | 14. Haiti | 25. Somalia |
| 4. Cape Verde | 15. Jamaica | 26. St. Lucia |
| 5. Cote d'Ivoire ⁶ | 16. Kiribati | 27. Sudan |
| 6. Cuba | 17. Mauritania | 28. Swaziland |
| 7. <u>Czech Republic</u> | 18. Niue [not UN Member] | 29. Togo |
| 8. Equatorial Guinea | 19. Palau | 30. Tonga |
| 9. Eritrea | 20. Papua New Guinea | 31. Tuvalu |
| 10. Ethiopia | 21. Rwanda | 32. Vanuatu |
| 11. Federated States of Micronesia | 22. Sao Tome et Principe | 33. Zimbabwe |

B. CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009*

Jan. 19-23, 2009: Participation in the ICC Assembly of States Parties (*first resumption VII session*), UN, New York

Jan. 26-29, 2009: Consultations at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Ratification and Implementation of Rome Statute – Debate on the Motion for a Resolution: “*Cooperation with the ICC & its universality*” (*Rapporteur:* Dr. Herta Daubler-Gmelin, MP, Germany, PGA member), Strasbourg, France

Feb. 3, 2009: Intervention of PGA in the Hearing on “Justice for Darfur”, Permanent Committee on Human Rights, Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Italy, Rome

Feb. 10-11 or 16-17, 2009 [*to be confirmed*]: Mission of Parliamentarians from ICC States Parties to Indonesia and Working Meeting in the Justice and Human Rights Committee (Commission III), Parliament of Indonesia, Jakarta

Feb. 9-13, 2009: Participation in the ICC Assembly of States Parties, *Working Group on the Crime of Aggression*, UN, New York

March 2-5, 2009: (i) Informal consultations, (ii) Seminar for stakeholders and (iii) Meeting of the Middle-East & Mediterranean Working Group on the Universality of the ICC, Parliament of Bahrain, Manama

March 2009: Parliamentary Seminar on the Implementation of the Rome Statute and its impact on reforming justice, fighting impunity and promoting post-conflict reconciliation in the DR Congo, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

April 2009: PGA Mission to Central America on Ratification & Implementation of the Rome Statute of the ICC, Parliament of Nicaragua, Managua, and/or other Parliament(s) of Central American country(ies)

April 23-24, 2009: Workshop on Reforming Legislation on the basis of the Rome Statute of the ICC in East Africa, Parliament of Kenya, Nairobi

May or Sept. 2009: Roundtable Discussion/Workshop on ICC Implementing Legislation in African Indian Ocean countries, Parliament of the Comoros, Moroni [*to be confirmed*]

June 2009: Strategy Meeting on the politics of international justice: impact and effectiveness of the ICC – Towards the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, European Parliament and Senate of Belgium, Brussels, or Dutch Parliament (Tweede Kamer), The Hague

Nov. 2009: Meetings on ICC accession, implementation and connected law and policy reforms in Nepal, Constituent Assembly (Parliament) of Nepal, Kathmandu

⁶ Cote d'Ivoire has accepted the ICC jurisdiction only for crimes committed in the recent conflict.

* Additional activities include interventions by PGA at the Council of the EU-COJUR, Public International Law, ICC sub-area (with the CICC, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch et al.), Brussels/The Hague [NGOs *coordinated by the CICC-Brussels*], Biannual Strategy Meetings and other consultations with ICC organs at the Court's premises, and other meetings and briefings.

November 18-26, 2009: Participation of PGA delegation to the ICC Assembly of States Parties - VIII session, ICC Assembly of States Parties, The Hague, The Netherlands

Nov.-Dec. 2009: International Parliamentary Seminar on Justice and Peace - The Role of Justice in Post-Conflict Recovery, Parliament of the DR Congo, Kinshasa

C. CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

January 10-11, 2008: Roundtable Discussion on ICC Implementing Legislation with Parliamentarians of Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria & Sierra Leone, Parliament & Presidency of Sierra Leone, Freetown

Jan. 30-31, 2008: PGA participation in the Seminar on the ICC co-organized by German Embassy and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Secretariat of the League of Arab States, Cairo, Egypt

February 14, 2008: Consultations on ICC Implementing Legislation, Senate of Mexico, Mexico City

February 28, 2008: Seminar on the African region of the Great Lakes and the DR Congo (co-organized by the PGA Italy National Group), Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Italy, Rome

March 17-18, 2008: Consultations on ICC Implementing Legislation and Panel Discussion in the framework of the Pacific Islands Parliamentary Meeting on Good Governance and the Rule of Law, Parliament of Samoa, Apia

March 17-20, 2008: Participation of PGA Delegation to 15th Africa-Caribbean-Pacific – European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly (ACP-EU JAP), Ljubljana, Slovenia [*the ICC was included in the JAP agenda by PGA Members*]

April 2, 2008: PGA Lecture entitled “*Strategies, Limits and Opportunities of the International Criminal Court Communication Activities*” at the Supranational Criminal Law Lecture Series, (organised by the T.M.C. Asser Institute, CICC and Leiden University), Asser Institute, The Hague

May 8, 2008: Briefing on the ICC for Congressional staff members of the Foreign Relations Committee – US House of Representatives, Washington DC, United States Congress

May 14, 2008: PGA Japan Strategy Meeting on the ICC and the responsibility to protect the civilian population from crimes against humanity in Darfur, National Diet of Japan, Tokyo

June 2-5, 2008: Participation of PGA delegation to the ICC Assembly of States Parties – resumed VI session, UN Headquarters, New York

June 6-7, 2008: Regional Parliamentary Meeting on Ratification and Implementation of the Rome Statute, National Assembly of Suriname, Paramaribo

July 17, 2008: Intervention of PGA Board Member Dr. Ruth Wijdenbosch MP (Suriname) in the *10th Anniversary Celebrations of the Adoption of the Rome Statute of the ICC*, ICC Assembly of States Parties, United Nations, New York

August 5-10 2008: Informal meetings and consultations on the ICC dossier with Malaysian Legislators and other stakeholders at the 54th Commonwealth Parliamentary Assembly (CPA) Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

September 4-6, 2008: Meetings and consultations with Ugandan MPs, and PGA intervention at the *Symposium on the Rome Statute Implementation in Africa*, organised by the Ugandan Coalition for the ICC and the Committee on Legal Affairs-Parliament of Uganda, Entebbe, Uganda

Oct. 8-9, 2008: PGA intervention on peace and justice at the conference on “*Principles of International Criminal Law and the ICC*” co-organised by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Arab League Secretariat (with the support of Germany), Cairo, Egypt

Oct. 30-31, 2008: V Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC and the Rule of Law
Part of the 30th Annual Forum on “*Strengthening Democratic Institutions, Accountability and the Rule of Law*”, National Congress of Dominican Republic, Santo Domingo
<http://www.pga-xxxforum-icc.com.do/>

Nov. 14-22, 2008: Participation of PGA delegation in the ICC Assembly of States Parties –VII session, ICC Assembly of States Parties – Panel Discussion on the Role of Legislators in the ICC process, The Hague

Nov. 14, 2008: Participation of PGA delegation in ICC conference hosted by University of Ankara and informal consultations with Turkish MPs, Ankara, Turkey

Dec. 8, 2008: Presentation of PGA at the Organisation of American States (OAS) session on the cooperation agreement between the ICC and the OAS, OAS Headquarters, Washington D.C., USA

Dec. 10, 2008: Intervention of PGA in the first hearing on “Justice for Darfur”, Permanent Committee on Human Rights, Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Italy, Rome

[Updated on January 21, 2008]

THE PGA ICC CAMPAIGN (2008-09) RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF BELGIUM, THE NETHERLANDS AND SWITZERLAND,
AS WELL AS THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PGA RECEIVES CORE SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF SWEDEN AND DENMARK

THE PGA FOUNDATION RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM THE CITY OF THE HAGUE

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