



PGA Regional East African Parliamentary Workshop on the Implementation of The Rome Statute







Main Conference Room, County Hall, Parliament Buildings, National Assembly of Kenya

Nairobi - 23-24 April, 2009

NAIROBI STATEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROME STATUTE

On the occasion of the Regional Parliamentary Workshop on the Implementation of the Rome Statute in East Africa, organised by Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the National Assembly of Kenya, Legislators participating in this event agreed on the following statement:

- 1. We, PGA Members of Parliament from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda recognize the central importance of implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) into the domestic legal orders of our respective countries without undue delay.
- 2. We, therefore, resolve to re-double our efforts to accelerate this process of implementation and to ensure the prompt entry into force of the necessary laws, including an effective legislative framework to allow for full cooperation with the International Criminal Court and the application of the principle of complementarity, which is based on the primary duty of States to undertake national investigations, prosecutions and trials in accordance with international standards and the intervention of the ICC as a Court of last resort.
- 3. We also agree that, following the conclusion of this Workshop, we will continue to collaborate closely with one another, civil society and international human rights organizations in this endeavour, including, but not limited to, the mutual sharing of relevant Bills and Acts.
- 4. We shall also seek to engage with our colleagues in other Parliaments across Africa, including regional and sub-regional parliaments, where they exist, on this same issue with a view to facilitating implementation processes in a similar fashion throughout the continent, as well as to dispel misconceptions and false perceptions on the independent and impartial operation of the ICC.
- 5. We shall engage in constructive dialogue with our respective Governments in connection with upcoming meetings of African States Parties to the Rome Statute within the institutional framework of the African Union in order to re-affirm the political commitment of our peace-loving nations to the Rule of Law and the fight against impunity in international relations, while fully respecting the independence of the ICC as a judicial institution under the Rome Statute.
- 6. We express our heartfelt appreciation to the National Assembly of Kenya and PGA for organizing this Workshop and will strive to stay in contact with PGA on a regular basis to report on initiatives and developments that we are undertaking in this area.

Done in Nairobi, on 24 April, 2009

This Regional Parliamentary Workshop is part of the PGA ICC Campaign, which receives the support of the <u>European Commission</u> and of the Governments of <u>Belgium</u>, <u>The Netherlands</u> and <u>Switzerland</u>

