



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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Towards a more effective and efficient International Criminal Court:

How best to expedite the proceedings

The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom announce a side event at the 12th Session of the Assembly of States Parties.

13:00-15:00 on Tuesday 26 November
World Forum Centre, The Hague
Room: Europe 1&2
Lunch will be provided

The first 11 years of existence of the International Criminal Court (ICC) have shown that the effectiveness of proceedings is one of the greatest challenges of the Court. Slow proceedings negatively affect the rights of victims and defendants as well as the credibility and preventive effect of the ICC.

In December 2010, the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) established and tasked the Study Group on Governance (SGG) to “conduct a structured dialogue between States Parties and the Court with a view to strengthening the institutional framework of the Rome Statute system and enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Court while fully preserving its judicial independence”.

To complement the work of the Study Group, several States and Organizations have launched initiatives aiming at identifying concrete and practical ways to improve upon the expeditiousness, effectiveness and quality of criminal proceedings before the ICC, with the overall goal of strengthening this institution.

This event seeks to explore ways in which the judicial proceedings could be made more efficient including through amendments of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (RPE) as well as other means. An important element is how to facilitate discussions between members of the Court, including the judiciary and the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP), academics and practitioners. The emphasis will be on discussion, albeit that there will be short presentations by the panel members at the outset, and an introduction from Vice-President Judge Sanji Monageng.

Introduction: **Sanji Monageng**, Vice President and Judge, ICC

Panel discussion: **Liesbeth Lijnzaad**, Legal Adviser, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will moderate a discussion with:

- **Sanji Monageng**, Vice President and Judge, ICC
- **Fabricio Guariglia**, Prosecutions Coordinator, Office of the Prosecutor, ICC
- **Håkan Friman**, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Justice, Sweden
- **David Donat-Cattin**, Secretary-General Designate, Parliamentarians for Global Action

The discussion will include opportunities for questions and comments from the floor.

Attendance requires registration for the 12th session of the Assembly of States Parties.