Parliamentary Regional Seminar:
International Justice & Security: the Role of the International Criminal Court (ICC)

Ballroom of Hotel Torarica, Paramaribo, Suriname
6 & 7 June 2008

AGENDA

Friday, June 6 2008

Morning Arrival of Participants

16.00-18.00 Opening Session in the presence of His Excellency, drs. Runaldo Ronald Venetiaan, President of the Republic of Suriname

16.00 Hon. Mr. S. Paul Somohardjo, MP, Speaker of The National Assembly of The republic of Suriname

Amb. Albert R. Ramdin, Assistant Secretary-General of the Organization of American States

H.E. Ms. M.W.J.A. Tanya van Gool, Ambassador of the Kingdom of The Netherlands to Suriname

Mr. Anthony La Ronde, Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Acting Director, Legislative Draft Directorate

Ms. Ruth J. Wijdenbosch, LLM MP (Suriname), Member of the PGA Executive Committee; Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament of Suriname

Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria), President of Parliamentarians for Global Action

Sen. María Cristina Perceval (Argentina), Convenor of the PGA International Law & Human Rights Programme; Chair, Defence Committee, Senate of Argentina

17.30 The Establishment of a Permanent International Criminal Court: Scope and Role of the ICC

Keynote Speech, H.E. Judge René Blattmann, Vice-President of the International Criminal Court

Questions of the Public to Judge Blattmann

With the support of the European Commission
and the Governments of Belgium, The Netherlands, Suriname and Switzerland
19.00-21.00  Welcome Reception offered by The National Assembly of Suriname

Saturday June 7 2008

9.00-11.00  Panel I: Universality and Effectiveness of the ICC: The Role of Parliamentarians

   Chair: Hon. Ross Robertson, MP (New Zealand), Chair of PGA International Council, Labour Party, Assistant Speaker of the Parliament of New Zealand

   The Impact of the ICC in on the Rule of Law: The Justice and Human Rights Perspective
   Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Minister of Justice & Police of Suriname

   Challenges to the Ratification of the Rome Statute in Caribbean Countries
   Sen. Saboto Caesar (St. Vincent & Grenadines), Parliamentary Secretary/Attorney at Law

   Challenges to the Ratification of the Rome Statute in Central America
   Dip. Alba Palacios (Nicaragua) Secretary of the Board of the National Assembly, Foreign Affairs Committee

   The System of the Rome Statute: Suriname’s potential contribution as State Party
   Ms. Ruth Wijdenbosch LLM, MP (Suriname), President of the Foreign Affairs and the Defense Committees, The National Assembly of the Republic Suriname

   Open Debate with interventions of Parliamentarians and Participants

11.00-11.15  Coffee Break

11.15-13.00  Panel II: The Principle of Complementarity and its contributions to the national order

   Chair: Sen. Wade Mark (Trinidad and Tobago)

   Common Values, Multiple Legal Traditions and the Effectiveness of International and Regional Jurisdictions
   Hon. Justice Duke Pollard, Judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice

   The Principle of Complementarity of the Rome Statute: The Surinamese Perspective
   Mrs. Margo Waterval, LLM, Anton de Kom University of Suriname

   Dip. José Ricardo Taveras (Dominican Republic) Special Bi-Cameral Committee for the New Penal Code

   Dip. José Bernard Pallais Arana (Nicaragua), Chair, Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee

   Open Debate with interventions of Parliamentarians and Participants

13:00  Lunch with Mr. Ivan Fernald, Minister of Foreign Affairs a.i.
Panel III: Challenges to cooperation with the ICC and the future of international criminal justice

Chair: Dip. Antonio Carlos Pannunzio (Brazil), Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, Rapporteur of Brazil’s ICC Ratification Act 2001

Legal basis for cooperation with the International Criminal Court: The Experience of The Netherlands

Mr. Thomas Henquet, Legal Counsel, International Law, Legal Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

Argentina’s Cooperation with the ICC: Priorities on International and National Security

Sen. María Cristina Perceval (Argentina), Convenor of the PGA International Law & Human Rights Programme; Chair, Defence Committee, Senate of Argentina

The Role of Latin American and Caribbean States in Securing Cooperation for the ICC

Dip. Francisco Molina Gamboa (Costa Rica), Standing Committee of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Cooperation Regime of the ICC and current challenges faced by the Court and the International Community

Dr. David Donat Cattin, Director, International Law & Human Rights Programme, Parliamentarians for Global Action

Open Debate with interventions of Parliamentarians and Participants

Coffee Break

Discussion, consideration and - as appropriate - adoption of the Paramaribo Plan of Action for International Justice, Security and Human Rights

Chair: Ms. Ruth J. Wijdenbosch, LLM MP (Suriname), Member of the PGA Executive Committee; Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament of Suriname

Rapporteur: Ms. Deborah Ruiz-Verduzco, Programme Officer for International Law and Human Rights, PGA

Informal Dinner for participating parliamentarians and speakers offered by PGA

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