

POSTAL ADDRESS-ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017  
TELEPHONE NO: (212)-963-1234; FAX NO. (212)-963-3155

8 July 2002

Dear Mr. Pace,

The first Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court will be convened at United Nations Headquarters on 3-10 September 2002. In accordance with operative paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 56/85, "non-governmental organizations invited to the Rome Conference, registered to the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court or having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations whose activities are relevant to the activities of the Court may participate in the work of the Assembly of States Parties in accordance with agreed rules".

Based on the foregoing, I wish to confirm that all non-governmental organizations who participated either in the Rome Conference or any of the ten sessions of the Preparatory Commission held thereafter as well as all non-governmental organizations having ECOSOC general or special consultative or roster status are eligible for accreditation to the Assembly of the States Parties provided that they submit directly, or through the Coalition for an International Criminal Court, a written request with the names of their representatives. The latter requests should be addressed to me or to Ms. Mona Khalil at the latest by Wednesday, 14 August 2002. Given the state of heightened security at the United Nations Headquarters, we are of the view that such a deadline is necessary to ensure that the necessary passes and other logistical and security arrangements will be in place in time for the first Assembly of the States parties. We will place notices to the latter effect on the website and in the journal and would appreciate you assistance in disseminating this information as widely as possible.

I would like to point out that, in accordance with rule 93 of the draft Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties, non-governmental organizations invited to the Assembly of the States Parties may, through their designated representatives (a) attend meetings of the Assembly and meetings of its subsidiary bodies under the conditions laid down in rule 42 of the present Rules of Procedure; (b) receive copies of official documents; (c) upon the invitation of the President and subject to the approval of the Assembly, make oral statements through a limited number of representatives on questions relating to their activities at the opening and closing meetings of the Assembly; and (d) make oral statements through a limited number of representatives on questions relating to their activities at the opening and closing meetings of subsidiary bodies, when the subsidiary body concerned deems it appropriate." Rule 95 further provides that written statements submitted by such designated representatives shall be made available by the Secretariat to representatives of the States Parties and Observer States in the quantities and in the language or languages in which the statements are made available to it, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization is related to the work of the Assembly and is on a subject in which the organization has a special competence. Written statements shall not be made at the expense of the Assembly and shall not be issued as official documents.

I am grateful for your assistance in this regard and look forward to our continued cooperation to uphold the status and rights of the non-governmental organizations in the work of the tenth session of the Preparatory Commission and the Assembly of the States Parties.

Yours sincerely,



Vaclav Mikulka Director  
Codification Division  
Office of Legal Affairs

Mr. William Pace President  
Coalition for the International Criminal Court New York

