

Form 99

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



FOR THE NEXT
SESSION TO BE POSTED #51

RESOLUTION

WORLD DAY FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

WHEREAS, the Rome Treaty of the International Criminal Court was created through an international treaty conference which culminated in a vote on July 17, 1998, agreeing to the text of the treaty and opening it for signature and ratification; and

WHEREAS, the International Criminal Court is a permanent court to try individuals accused of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, currently, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, and is an independent, treaty based organization; and

WHEREAS, the International Criminal Court promotes national prosecutions first, and is a court of last resort, to act only when national judicial systems are either unable or not genuinely willing to act to investigate and prosecute these crimes; and

WHEREAS, instances of crimes against humanity and genocide continue to occur, and the International Criminal Court provides an alternative solution using the rule of law, and cases have already been referred to the International Criminal Court from places where the most serious of violations occur, including the Darfur region of Sudan; the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and the Central African Republic; and

WHEREAS, the cases presented to the International Criminal Court relate to egregious widespread violations of human decency, including the use of rape as an instrument of war, the enslavement of children and use of child soldiers, and the destruction of villages and forced movements of people, all of which shock the conscience of humanity and cry out for solutions;

WHEREAS, there are 104 nations party to the Rome Treaty, and the more nations which are parties to the Rome Treaty, the greater its effectiveness will be, and the date on which the nations of the world agreed to create the International Criminal Court is a date which deserves commemorations, and celebration as a step forward for accountability pursuant to the rule of law for those who are accused of these the most serious of crimes against the international community and against humanity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the Los Angeles City Council along with the Mayor do hereby declare July 17, 2007 AS World Day for International Justice.

July 17, 2007

PRESENTED BY: COUNCILMEMBER ERIC GARCETTI

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SECONDED BY: COUNCILMEMBER BILL ROSENDAHL