

S.9 International Criminal Court

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America,

Recalling the establishment of the International Criminal Court by the adoption of its Statute at the United Nations Rome Diplomatic Conference in July 1998;

Recognizing the central role of the International Criminal Court in an emerging system of international criminal justice;

Recalling the resolution adopted by the 1999 National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America in support of the International Criminal Court;

Praising the association's critical role in the creation and support of its program, the American Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for the International Criminal Court (AMICC);

Noting the entry into force of the *Rome Statute* of the International Criminal Court on July 1, 2002;

Further noting the Court's mandate to act only where national courts are unwilling or unable to prosecute the most serious crimes of concern to the international community;

Observing the contribution of truth and reconciliation processes to communities affected by the atrocities the Court was established to address;

Recognizing the Court's contribution to ending impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, including investigations of situations referred by states parties and the UN Security Council, subsequent arrest warrants and expected trials;

Noting with appreciation that the United States abstained rather than voted against UN Security Council Resolution 1593 (2005) which referred the situation in Darfur, Sudan to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, and its expressed willingness to cooperate with the Court on this matter;

Noting a new era of positive international and domestic developments for the Court, including executive and legislative actions in the US which have recognized the counterproductive effects of Congressionally-mandated cutoffs of military and economic assistance designed to punish nations for refusing to enter into US-negotiated agreements to shield US citizens from the jurisdiction of the Court;

Applauding recent hearings in the US Senate on matters related to the work of the Court; and

Noting with appreciation the historic contributions of the US to the *Rome Statute*, human rights and the rule of law;

Therefore,

Encourages expanded interaction between the US government and the Court, and US cooperation with the Court's investigations and proceedings;

Encourages further public hearings in Congress on matters related to the Court, including the conduct of US foreign policy generally and the situations in countries that are the subject of the Court's investigations and prosecutions;

Encourages constructive US participation as an observer at future sessions of the Assembly of States Parties;

Calls for the removal of all executive and legislative obstacles to US cooperation and participation in the Court;

Calls on the US to inform the Secretary-General of its intent to reinstate its signature of the *Rome Statute*;

Calls for earliest possible US ratification of the *Rome Statute*, thereby joining the International Criminal Court;

Reaffirms and encourages the association's support of AMICC's work as one of its programs;

Recommends that the association's chapters support the Court and collaborate with AMICC in its nationwide program of education and advocacy through national and local initiatives; and

Calls upon the association to communicate this resolution to the President, the Secretary of State and other relevant officials in the Executive Branch, select members of the US Congress and the UN Secretary-General and other relevant UN officials.

Unanimously adopted March 4, 2007