

21 September 2017 (for immediate release)

**Press release by the Members of the Informal Ministerial Network for
the International Criminal Court**

At the annual meeting of the Informal Ministerial Network for the ICC, the Members reiterated their strong political support for the International Criminal Court in a roundtable discussion with the ICC Prosecutor Ms. Fatou Bensouda.

Members highlighted the importance of the international criminal justice system – with the ICC as its center piece – aimed at ensuring that perpetrators of the worst crimes under international law are held to account. In this regard, they underscored the principle of complementarity and the primary responsibility of States in closing the impunity gap. The Members of the Network recommitted themselves to working towards universality of the Rome Statute and to making use of all appropriate diplomatic channels and occasions to this end – such as the upcoming 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute. They also welcomed the decisions by South Africa and the Gambia to remain States Parties to the Rome Statute. It was noted that, while unjustified criticism of the Court had decreased, more support for the ICC was needed to promote its positive contribution to peace and justice. In addition, Members recalled their support for the Assembly of States Parties' work towards activating the ICC's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression to ensure that perpetrators of the most serious forms of the illegal use of force can be held to account at the international level.

Background: The Informal Ministerial Network for the ICC is comprised of over 30 Ministers from all regions of the world and is coordinated by the Foreign Minister of Liechtenstein.

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Informal Ministerial Network (IMN) for the International Criminal Court
List of participating Ministers as of 31 August 2017

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| President of the Assembly of States Parties | H.E. Mr. Sidiki Kaba, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Senegal |
| Andorra | H.E. Ms. Maria Ubach Font, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Argentina | H.E. Mr. Jorge Faurie, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Australia | H.E. Ms. Julie Bishop, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Austria | H.E. Mr. Sebastian Kurz, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Botswana | H.E. Ms. Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Canada | H.E. Ms. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Chile | H.E. Mr. Hernando Muñoz, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Costa Rica | H.E. Mr. Manuel González Sanz, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Cyprus | H.E. Mr. Ioannis Kasoulides, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Czech Republic | H.E. Mr. Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Denmark | H.E. Mr. Anders Samuelsen, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Gambia | H.E. Mr. Abubacarr Tambadou, Attorney General and Justice Minister |
| Germany* | H.E. Mr. Sigmar Gabriel, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Estonia | H.E. Mr. Sven Mikser, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| European Union | H.E. Ms. Federica Mogherini, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy |
| Finland | H.E. Mr. Timo Soini, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Iceland | H.E. Mr. Godhlaugur Thor Thordarson, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Ireland | H.E. Mr. Simon Coveney, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade |
| Italy | H.E. Mr. Angelino Alfano, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation |
| Lesotho | H.E. Mr. Lesego Makgothi, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Relations |
| Liechtenstein | H.E. Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Luxembourg | H.E. Mr. Jean Asselborn, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | H.E. Mr. Nikola Dimitrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Mexico | H.E. Mr. Luis Videgaray Caso, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Netherlands | H.E. Mr. Albert Koenders, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| New Zealand* | Hon. Mr. Gerry Brownlee, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Norway | H.E. Mr. Børge Brende, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Peru | H.E. Mr. Ricardo Luna Mendoza, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Republic of Korea* | H.E. Ms. Kang Kyung-wha, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Slovakia | H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs |
| Slovenia | H.E. Mr. Karl Erjavec, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Spain | H.E. Mr. Alfonso María Dastis Quecedo, Minister of Foreign Affairs |
| Sweden | H.E. Ms. Margot Wallström, Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| Switzerland | H.E. Mr. Didier Burkhalter, Federal Councillor and Head of the Department of Foreign Affairs |
| Timor-Leste | H.E. Mr. Hernâni Coelho, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation |
| Trinidad and Tobago | H.E. Mr. Dennis Moses, Minister for Foreign Affairs and CARICOM |
| Tunisia | H.E. Mr. Khemaies Jhinaoui, Minister of Foreign Affairs |

Other participant

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| Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) | Mr. William R. Pace |
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* Pending acceptance by Minister