

CONCEPT NOTE

The Global Response to Grave International Crim34TT1 0 0 1 8183 559 T

reasons - ongoing conflict, capacity - that is sometimes not possible or not possible at least for a period of time. For that reason, the Rome Statute system always contemplated not only territorial State prosecutions, but rather the use of all forms of jurisdiction recognized at international law. There was an expectation that all States would have the legal capacity to prosecute these crimes with at least some extended jurisdiction, and that they would be prepared to use it. Further, while not expressed, obviously the idea of a regional court dealing with these cases - which means simply States in a region combining their jurisdiction - would be an equally welcome development.

This important aspect of the Rome Statute system - complementarity - continues to fail to garner the attention and focus it merits. The result is that insufficient consideration has been given to the need for capacity building and international support in order to enhance national and regional ability to fulfil this State responsibility.

Meeting Format:

Along with the delivery of opening remarks, a moderator and set of panellists will explore and illustrate recent innovative examples of complementarity at work, helping us assess the progress achieved over the last two decades.

Interpretation:

Simultaneous FR<>EN interpretation will be available.

Moderator and Opening Remarks:

Alan Kessel, Assistant Deputy Minister Legal Affairs and Legal Adviser to Global Affairs Canada

Opening Remarks:

Prof. dr. Rene Lefeber, Legal Adviser for the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and Head of the International Legal Division

Panellists:

Kimberly Prost, International Criminal Court (ICC) Judge on Complementarity as a Corner Stone of the Rome Statute