





The Court's goals of ending impunity and promoting accountability are closely aligned with the work of the United Nations. Both the Court and the United Nations seek to ensure that the rule of law prevails.

While our mandates are independent, we work together towards a common vision. That vision is based on a shared belief that justice is a goal in its own right and essential for international peace, security and protection of human rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The International Criminal Court has received since its very inception the strongest support from the United Nations – a support that the United Nations continues to provide to the Court in its daily activities.

As the Court has steadily increased its workload over the years, so has the cooperation between our institutions. Indeed, as the focal point within the Organization for cooperation

with the Court, I see first-hand the full extent of the support coming from all avenues of the United Nations' system, both at Headquarters and field levels. The extent of the requested cooperation from the Court has expanded, not only in terms of volume, but also in terms of its nature and geographical scope, and it now encompasses all phases of the Court's proceedings.

As you will readily appreciate, our cooperation with the Court usually takes place in a confidential and discreet but efficient manner and mostly outside of the public limelight.

The occasion like today give me a great honour to reaffirm the commitment of the United Nations to cooperate fully with the Court. With our Relationship Agreement as a solid foundation, the International Criminal Court has been able to count on the full and unwavering support of the United Nations until today and will continue to do so in the years to come.





Ladies and Gentlemen,

The adoption of the Rome Statute twenty-five years ago was a promising, historic moment near the end of the last century marked by atrocities and unspeakable inhumanity. It was then and continues to be today a beacon of hope for the international community as serious violations of international law continue, and vast accountability gaps persist.

Over seventy-five years ago, in his opening remarks before the Nuremberg Tribunal, Justice Robert H. Jackson called for “juridical action [to] put the forces of international law, its precepts, its prohibitions and, most of all, its sanctions, on the side of peace”.

In today’s complex and volatile world, the international community turns to the International Criminal Court with the same calling. We have seen all around the world that when atrocities are being committed, victims and civil society place their hopes in the Court as a force for upholding human dignity and ensuring accountability.

If we are to maintain international peace and protect humanity, the most serious crimes of international concern must not go unpunished. For, only when the perpetrators of those crimes are investigated and prosecuted, can there be any hope that future crimes will be prevented, and peace preserved.

I thank all of you here today, officials of the Court and representatives of its Member States, for your invaluable work contributing to this

