



## THE ROAD TO ROME AND BEYOND: KEY MOMENTS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT A TIMELINE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

In July 1998 – at a United Nations conference in Rome, Italy – governments overwhelmingly approved a statute to establish a permanent and independent International Criminal Court (“ICC” or “Court”). Four years later, during a UN treaty event on April 11, 2002, the Rome Statute of the ICC received the 60th ratification required to trigger its entry into force. On July 1, 2002, the ICC began its jurisdiction over genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

The “road to Rome” was a long and often contentious one. While efforts to create a global criminal court can be traced back to the early 19th century, the story began in earnest in 1872 with Gustav Moynier – one of the founders of the International Committee of the Red Cross – who proposed a permanent court in response to the crimes of the Franco-Prussian War. The next serious call for an internationalized system of justice came from the drafters of the 1919 Treaty of Versailles, who envisaged an *ad hoc* international court to try the Kaiser and German war criminals of World War I.

Following World War II, the Allies set up the Nuremberg and Tokyo tribunals to try Axis war criminals. The world, reflecting on the Holocaust, cried “Never again!” The call for an international institution to try individuals responsible for the most heinous crimes resonated throughout the world, and many thought the founding of the United Nations would bring the world closer to a permanent Court. Yet more than 50 years would pass before the world’s leaders would meet to prepare a treaty establishing a permanent International Criminal Court.

Here are highlights from the road to Rome to the current developments at the ICC.

- **October 1946** Soon after the Nuremberg Judgment, an international congress meets in Paris and calls for the adoption of an international criminal code prohibiting crimes against humanity, and for the prompt establishment of an international criminal court.
- **December 9 1948** The United Nations General Assembly (UN GA) adopts the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It calls for criminals to be tried “by such international penal tribunals as may have jurisdiction.” Separately, members ask the International Law Commission (ILC) to study the possibility of establishing an ICC.
- **December 10 1948** The UN GA adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, detailing human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- **1949 – 1954** The ILC drafts statutes for an ICC, but opposition from powerful states on both sides of the Cold War stymies the effort and the UN GA effectively abandons the effort pending agreement on a definition of the crime of aggression and an international code of crimes.
- **1974** The UN GA agrees on a definition of aggression.
- **1989** The end of the Cold War brings a dramatic increase in the number of UN peacekeeping operations in the world, lending an increased viability to the notion of establishing an ICC.

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is a global network of over 2,000 civil society organizations supporting a fair, effective and independent International Criminal Court.

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- **June 1989** Motivated in part by an effort to combat drug trafficking, Trinidad and Tobago resurrects a pre-existing proposal for the establishment of an ICC. The UN GA asks the ILC to prepare a draft statute.
- **1991 - 1992** Wars in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, including clear violations of the Genocide and Geneva Conventions, lead the UN Security Council to establish a temporary ad hoc tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (in 1993) and strengthen discussions for a permanent ICC.
- **1994** The ILC submits a draft statute for an ICC to the UN GA. The war in Rwanda leads the UN Security Council to establish a second ad hoc UN tribunal for Rwanda. The ILC presents a final draft statute on an ICC to the UN GA and recommends that a conference of plenipotentiaries be convened to negotiate a treaty to enact the Statute. The UN GA establishes an ad hoc committee to review the draft statute.
- **1995** The NGO Coalition for the ICC is formed to coordinate the efforts of human rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (Perú), Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme, Human Rights Watch, Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, No Peace Without Justice, Parliamentarians for Global Action, Rights & Democracy, and the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice. Mr. William Pace, Executive Director of the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy, is appointed Convenor. The ad hoc committee holds two 2-week meetings at UN headquarters. In December 1995, the UN GA establishes a three year Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) from March 1996 until April 1998, to finalize a text to be presented at a conference of plenipotentiaries.
- **June 15 - July 17 1998** 160 countries participate in the UN Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the establishment of an International Criminal Court in Rome, Italy.
- **July 17 1998** Member states overwhelmingly vote in favor of the Rome Statute of the ICC, creating the treaty establishing the first permanent international court capable of trying individuals accused of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- **February 2 1999** Senegal becomes the first State Party to ratify the Rome Statute.
- **May 13 1999** The Coalition for the ICC launches a campaign from The Hague calling for the worldwide ratification of the ICC Statute.
- **June 30 2000** The Preparatory Commission adopts draft texts for the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Elements of Crimes, as mandated by the Final Act of the Rome Conference.
- **September 2000** During the Millennium Summit, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan calls on all member states of the United Nations to ratify the Rome Statute as quickly as possible.
- **December 31 2000** Deadline for signature of the Rome Statute. The United States of America joins Iran and Israel as the last states to sign the treaty, bringing the total number of signatures to 139.
- **April 30 2001** Halfway mark toward the 60 ratifications or accessions required to trigger entry into force of the Rome Statute reached when Andorra becomes the 30th state to ratify the Rome Statute.
- **April 11 2002** The 60th ratification necessary to trigger the entry into force of the Rome Statute is deposited during a special ceremony at UN headquarters. Countries to deposit their treaty instruments during this ceremony are: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ireland, Jordan, Mongolia, Niger, Romania and Slovakia.

- **May 6 2002** The US government under the Bush Administration formally announces to the United Nations its intention not to ratify the Rome Statute, and its view that it is no longer bound by the terms of the treaty, implied by its signature under the Clinton Administration in December 2001.
- **July 1 2002** Following the formula set out in the Rome Statute, the treaty enters into force, becoming binding for all countries that have ratified or acceded to the Statute and for which it had entered into force by that date.
- **July 12 2002** On this day, after intense US pressure and threats to shut down the UN peacekeeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1422, granting UN peacekeepers immunity from the jurisdiction of the ICC, retroactively effective as of July 1, 2002 for a renewable one-year period.
- **September 3 – 10 2002** The historic first meeting of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), the body composed of ratifying countries that provides administrative and other support to the Court, is held at UN headquarters in New York. The ASP adopts the five years of work of the Preparatory Commission as well as procedures to facilitate the election of qualified and representative judges to the Court.
- **September 9 2002** The nomination period for the judges and Prosecutor of the Court is officially opened, with a closing date of November 30, 2002.
- **September 16 2002** Samoa becomes the 80th State Party to the Rome Statute.
- **November 30 2002** Deadline for the nomination of candidates for the posts of 18 judges and the Prosecutor to the ICC are reached. Only countries to have deposited their instrument of ratification or accession to the Rome Statute by this date are eligible to nominate an official or vote during the election of judges. Forty-five nominations were received by the established deadline, although two countries withdrew their candidates, leaving 43 candidates at election time. No candidate for Prosecutor was announced.
- **February 3 – 7 2003** The first resumed session of the ASP convenes at UN headquarters in New York to elect the first 18 judges to the Court. The President of the Assembly of States Parties, Jordanian Ambassador Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Husseini, announces that the nomination period for the position of Prosecutor will be re-opened from March 24 – April 4 2003.
- **March 11 2003** The first 18 judges of the ICC are sworn-in during a high-level ceremony in The Hague, the Netherlands.
- **April 21 – 23 2003** The second resumed session of the ASP elects Mr. Luis Moreno Ocampo of Argentina as the first chief Prosecutor of the ICC.
- **May 12 2003** Lithuania becomes the 90th State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC.
- **June 16 2003** Mr. Luis Moreno Ocampo is sworn in as Prosecutor in a ceremony held in The Hague, the Netherlands.
- **July 3 2003** Mr. Bruno Cathala from France is sworn in as Registrar of the Court, after being elected by the Judges to the ICC (in June). This marks the final appointment of the senior officials of the Court.
- **July 16 2003** ICC Prosecutor Moreno Ocampo holds his first press briefing to discuss the nearly 500 communications to have been received by the Court. He names the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo as the most urgent situation that his office will “follow closely.”
- **September 12 2003** The second meeting of the now 92-member ASP at the UN in New York elects a Board of Directors to the Trust Fund for Victims, which mandate includes administer reparations to

victims. The Directors come from each of the five UN regional groups and are: Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan; His Excellency Mr. Oscar Arias Sanchez, former President of Costa Rica and Nobel Peace Laureate; His Excellency Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, former Prime Minister of Poland and former Special Rapporteur on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on the Territory of the former Yugoslavia; Mme. Simone Veil, former Minister of Health of France and former President of the European Parliament; and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa and Nobel Peace Laureate.

- **November 3 2003** Deputy Prosecutor for Investigations, Serge Brammertz of Belgium, is sworn in to office.
- **January 29 2004** The Office of the Prosecutor announces that Uganda, an ICC State Party, has referred the situation in Northern Uganda to the Court. The Prosecutor announces that there is “sufficient basis” to start planning for the launch of a formal investigation.
- **April 19 2004** The Office of the Prosecutor announces that the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), also a State Party to the Rome Statute, has referred the situation of crimes allegedly committed in DRC since entry into force of the Statute. The Prosecutor will now proceed to determine whether there is reasonable basis to initiate an investigation in the coming months.
- **April 22 2004** The Board of Directors convenes at the ICC for the first meeting of the Board of the Trust Fund for Victims. During the meeting, members begin developing criteria that will guide the operations of the Trust Fund for Victims.
- **June 22 2004** Canada triggers entry into force of Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC (APIC). Canada is the 10th state to ratify APIC, thereby meeting the required number for the Agreement to take effect. Court officials will enjoy privileges and immunities similar to those provided to officials of the UN and other international organizations.
- **June 23 2004** The Office of the Prosecutor announces the launch of formal investigations into the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Prosecutor’s Office will now look into allegations of crimes falling within the ICC’s jurisdiction.
- **June 23 2004** After weeks of negotiations and faced with continued opposition, the United States government withdraws its request for renewal of Security Council Resolution 1487 exempting US peacekeepers from the jurisdiction of the ICC. This announcement comes after informal consultations during which it became clear that a last-minute US-proposed compromise text would not get the required support.
- **July 29 2004** The Office of the Prosecutor announces the launch of formal investigations into the situation in Uganda. The Prosecutor’s Office will now look into allegations of crimes falling within the ICC’s jurisdiction.
- **September 6 – 10 2004** The Hague hosts the third Assembly of States Parties which adopts the ICC’s budget for 2005 and elects the Deputy Prosecutor for Prosecutions, Ms. Fatou Bensouda of The Gambia, among other important decisions.
- **January 7 2005** The Prosecutor receives a letter sent on behalf of the government of the Central African Republic, referring the “situation of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court committed anywhere on the territory of the Central African Republic since 1 July 2002.” In response to this letter, the Prosecutor announced that he was carrying out an analysis in order to determine whether to initiate an investigation.

- **March 31 2005** The UN Security Council refers the situation in Darfur, Sudan to the ICC with the adoption of Resolution 1593. Following the referral, the Prosecutor received the document archive of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur.
- **May 12 2005** Dominican Republic becomes the 99th State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC.
- **June 6 2005** The Prosecutor decides to open an investigation into the situation in Darfur, Sudan. After thorough analysis of thousands of documents and interviews with over 50 independent experts, the Prosecutor concludes that the statutory requirements for initiating an investigation were satisfied.
- **June 29 2005** The Prosecutor briefs the UN Security Council for the first time on the progress of his investigation in Darfur, Sudan pursuant to Resolution 1593 which requires biannual briefings to the Council.
- **October 28 2005** Mexico becomes the 100th State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC.
- **November 8 2005** ICC President Philippe Kirsch presents the first-ever ICC report to the UN General Assembly.
- **November 28 - December 3 2005** The Hague hosts the fourth Assembly of State Parties which will resume on January 26 - 27 2006 with the election of six ICC Judges and six members of the Committee on Budget and Finance.
- **December 13 2005** The Prosecutor briefs the Security Council for the second time on the progress of his investigation in Darfur, Sudan.
- **January 11 2006** Serge Brammertz, deputy Prosecutor charges with investigations at the International Criminal Court, becomes Director of the independent UN International Commission of Inquiry in Lebanon (for an initial period of six months).
- **January 26 – 27 2006** The fourth session of the Assembly of States Parties resumes with the election of six judges of the ICC and the six members of the Committee on Budget and Finance (in New York).
- **January 26 2006** Six judges are elected at the fourth session of the ASP. Of these six, five had already served three years as ICC judges with one new appointee elected from Eastern Europe (Professor Ekaterina Trendafilova of Bulgaria).
- **March 11 2006** Election of the Presidency: Judges Philippe Kirsch (Canada) and Akua Kuenyehia (Ghana) were re-elected President and First Vice-President of the Court, respectively. Judge René Blattmann (Bolivia) was elected Second Vice-President.
- **March 17 2006** The ICC issues an arrest warrant for Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, who is accused of war crimes in the Ituri region of DRC. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo is arrested and transferred to The Hague by the Congolese authorities on the same day after Pre-Trial Chamber I unsealed the warrant. This is the Court's first warrant in the DRC situation and its first arrest.
- **March 20 2006** ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I held a Public Hearing during which Thomas Lubanga Dyilo appeared before the Chamber for the first time. Mr. Jean Flamme (Belgium) is designated permanent council for Mr. Lubanga and the date for the confirmation of charges hearing is tentatively scheduled for June 27 2006.
- **April 5 2006** The ICC announces the death of Dr. Medard Rwelamira, Director of the Permanent Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties.
- **April 10 2006** The International Criminal Court and the European Union conclude a cooperation and assistance agreement.

- **April 19 2006** The Regulations for the Registry of the International Criminal Court is published. It was approved on March 6 2006 by the Presidency of the Court, under Rule 14 of the Regulation on Procedures and Evidence.
- **May 9 2006** The President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), Mr. Bruno Stagno Ugarte, becomes Foreign Affairs Minister of Costa Rica. However, he will not take up his duties until the end of his mandate as President of the ASP.
- **May 16 2006** The former President of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Arthur Napoleon Raymond Robinson, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims of the ICC.
- **June 14 2006** The Prosecutor briefs the Security Council for the third time on the progress of his investigation in Darfur, Sudan. In his latest presentation, the Prosecutor reasserted the importance of cooperation from States and organizations to fulfill his mandate.
- **June 16 2006** The UN Security Council adopts a resolution allowing for the legal transfer of former Liberian President Charles Taylor from Sierra Leone to the Netherlands. The Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) requested that Taylor's trial be relocated from Freetown to The Hague where the SCSL will be conducting the trial using ICC courtroom facilities.
- **September 25 - 26 and October 18 2006** The Prosecutor holds a second public hearing in The Hague and New York with States and NGOs.
- **October 9 2006** The President of the ICC delivers his second annual report to the UN GA.
- **November 9 2006** The ICC commences its first-ever confirmation of charges hearing in of the case of *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo*. The hearing lasts until November 28 2006.
- **November 23 – December 1 2006** The fifth session of the ASP takes place in The Hague, opening with a General Debate. The Assembly approves the Court's budget, including the Court's requested resources for outreach, and reelects four members of the Board of Directors for the Trust Fund for Victims.
- **December 10 2006** Judge Maureen Harding Clark (Ireland) resigns from the ICC.
- **December 14 2006** The Prosecutor briefs the Security Council for the fourth time on the progress of his investigation in Darfur, Sudan. The Prosecutor announces that he has nearly completed an investigation and may be prepared to submit evidence to the judges in February 2007.
- **January 25 – February 1 2007** The Assembly of States Parties fifth resumed session takes places at UN headquarters in New York focusing on discussions of the Special Working Group on the Crime of Aggression.
- **January 29 2007** Pre-Trial Chamber I confirms the charges against Mr. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, paving the way for his trial.
- **February 27 2007** The Prosecutor submits an application to Pre-Trial Chamber I requesting that the Chamber issue summonses in respect of Ahmad Muhammad Harun (former Minister of State for the Interior of the Government of Sudan) and Ali Muhammad Ali Abdal-Rahman (militia leader also known as Ali Kushayb) to direct them to appear before the Court for initial proceedings.
- **March 6 2007** The Presidency of the ICC issued a Decision constituting Trial Chamber I. This decision determined that Trial Chamber I is composed of Judge Elizabeth Odio Benito, Judge René Blattmann, and Judge Adrian Fulford and refers the case of *The Prosecutor v Thomas Lubanga Dyilo* to the Chamber.

- **March 14 2007** Judge Karl T. Hudson-Phillips submitted his resignation from the International Criminal Court (ICC) for personal reasons.
- **May 2 2007** The ICC makes public that the judges of Pre-Trial Chamber I issued arrest warrants on 27 April 2007 for Ahmad Muhammad Harun and Ali Muhammad Al Abd-Al-Rahman.
- **May 8 2007** Judge Claude Jorda (France) resigns from the ICC.
- **May 22 2007** The Prosecutor announces the opening of a fourth investigation into grave crimes allegedly committed in the CAR during the peak of violence occurring in 2002 and 2003 with a focus on sexual violence.
- **June 7 2007** The Prosecutor briefs the Security Council for the fifth time on the progress of his investigation on Darfur, Sudan encouraging the arrests of Ahmad Harun and Ali Kushayb. He said that "[t]he Security Council and regional organizations must take the lead in calling on the Sudan as the territorial State to arrest the two individuals and ensure their appearance in Court. And we count on every state to execute an arrest should either of these individuals enter their territory."
- **June 7 2007** President Kirsch and Minister of Foreign Affairs Maxime Verhagen of the Netherlands signed the Headquarters Agreement between the ICC and the Netherlands.
- **June 14 2007** Serge Brammertz, Deputy Prosecutor for Investigations, submitted his resignation.
- **July 1 2007** Fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute.
- **July 17 2007** Japan formally acceded to the Rome Statute, bringing the total States parties to the Court to 105 while governments, NGOs and the civil society celebrate International Justice Day.
- **September 4 2007** A hearing for the preparation of the trial of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo was held at the ICC
- **September 20 2007** During a UN press briefing, the Prosecutor called on world leaders "to understand that if the justice component is ignored, the crimes will continue, and affect the humanitarian and security operations."
- **October 17 2007** Congolese authorities arrested and transferred to the ICC Mr. Germain Katanga, a Congolese national and alleged commander of the Force de Resistance Patriotiques en Ituri [Patriotic Resistance Force in Ituri]. On July 2 2007, Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a sealed warrant of arrest for Mr. Katanga, but it was unsealed on October 18 2007
- **November 1 2007** President Kirsch presented the third ICC Report to the UN GA. In his speech, he noted that the Court required support and cooperation in many areas, in particular the arrest and surrender of suspects and the protection of victims and witnesses.
- **November 30 - December 14 2007** The sixth ASP to the Rome Statute gather in the UN Headquarters in New York
- **November 30 - December 3 2007** Ms. Fumiko Saiga (Japan), Mr. Bruno Cotte (France) and Mr. Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko (Uganda) were elected as judges of the ICC. They are replacing three judges who have resigned prior to the end of their terms.
- **December 5 2007** The Prosecutor briefs the Security Council for the sixth time on the progress of his investigation on Darfur, Sudan. He reported on the Government of Sudan's refusal to cooperate with the Court and announced the opening of two new cases: the first will investigate ongoing attacks against civilians, particularly in camps for the displaced, and the second will focus on recent attacks against humanitarian personnel.

- **January 17 2008** The three new ICC judges elected by the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) at the end of 2007 were sworn in at a ceremony held at the seat of the Court in The Hague. Judge Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko (Uganda), Judge Fumiko Saiga (Japan) and Judge Bruno Cotte (France) each made a public solemn undertaking.
- **February 7 2008** Mr. Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui, a Congolese national and alleged former leader of the National integrationist Front (FNI) and currently a colonel in the National Army of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, was arrested by the Congolese authorities and transferred to the ICC. The sealed arrest warrant was issued on July 6 2007 and unsealed on February 7 2008.
- **February 28 2008** ICC judges elected, by an absolute majority, Ms. Silvana Arbia of Italy as the next Registrar of the ICC for a five-year term in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.
- **March 10 2008** The officials of the ICC Registry met with the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) delegation in The Hague to discuss procedural issues related to the legal representation of those accused before the ICC as well as procedure and time limits for the filing of documentation and materials with the Registry.
- **March 11 2008** The ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I decided to join the cases of *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga* and *The Prosecutor v. Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui*. The hearing on the confirmation of the charges in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui* shall start on 21 May 2008. In joint cases, each suspect shall be accorded the same rights as if such suspect were being tried separately. Both Katanga and Ngudjolo Chui are being prosecuted for their alleged co-responsibility for the crimes allegedly committed during and in the aftermath of the joint attack on the village of Bogoro, Ituri on February 24, 2003.
- **March 14 2008** Madagascar deposited its instrument of ratification of the Rome Statute of the ICC, bringing the total number of states parties to the Court to 106.
- **April 17 2008** Ms. Silvana Arbia (Italy) was sworn-in as the new Registrar of the International Criminal Court at the seat of the Court in The Hague.
- **April 27 2008** The Coalition and the new Justice for Darfur campaign call for greater UN Security Council action on the one-year anniversary of Darfur arrest warrants.
- **April 28 2008** Confirmation of charges hearing in the case against Katanga and Ngudjolo Chui postponed to 27 June 2008.
- **April 29 2008** The ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I unseals arrest warrant against Mr. Bosco Ntaganda, alleged former Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Forces Patriotiques pour la Libération du Congo (FPLC), and alleged current Chief of Staff of the Congrès national pour la défense du peuple (CNDP) armed group, active in North Kivu in the DRC. This is the fourth arrest warrant unsealed within the context of the DRC situation.
- **May 23 2008** European Parliament adopts a strong resolution on ICC Darfur case, calling for the arrest and hand over to the ICC of Ahmad Harun and Ali Kushayb.
- **May 24 2008** Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, alleged President and Commander in Chief of the "Mouvement de Libération du Congo" (MLC) was arrested by the Belgian authorities for crimes allegedly committed in the Central African Republic (CAR). On 23 May 2008, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber III had issued a sealed warrant of arrest for Mr. Bemba Gombo, which was unsealed the following day. The warrant of arrest contains two counts of crimes against humanity: rape and torture, as well as four counts of war crimes: rape; torture; outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment; and pillaging a town or place.



- **June 5 2008** ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo presented his seventh report on Darfur to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). He stressed the non-compliance of the government of Sudan with UN Resolution 1593 one year after the first arrest warrants were issued by the ICC for Ahmed Harun and Ali Kushayb and requested the Council to act in a "decisive" way and issue a statement requesting full cooperation of the Sudanese with the Court. The Prosecutor announced he will present a second Darfur case to ICC judges in July that will focus on the involvement of the state apparatus in the commission of atrocities.
- **June 11 2008** During a public hearing held on 11 June 2008, Trial-Chamber I announced that the trial in the Lubanga case will not start on 23 June 2008, as previously scheduled. A written decision will be handed down by the judges within the next seven days.
- **June 16 2008** The Trial Chamber imposed a stay on the proceedings of the case *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo*. Unless this stay is lifted the trial process in all respects will remain at a halt.
- **June 16 2008** The Security Council adopted a Presidential Statement urging the government of Sudan and other parties to end impunity in Darfur and cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court.
- **July 1 2008** Sixth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute.
- **July 2 2008** The Trial Chamber I ordered the release of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo. Parties have five days to appeal.
- **July 3/4 2008** Jean-Pierre Bemba-Gombo is surrendered and transferred by the Belgian authorities to The Hague and appears for the first time before the Pre Trial Chamber III and the Prosecution.
- **July 14 2008** Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo requested Pre-Trial Chamber I to issue an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir in the Darfur situation in Sudan.
- **July 17 2008** Tenth Anniversary of the Adoption of the Rome Statute.