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FRAMEWORK FOR OAS ACTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
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June 2, 2000

*Delegation of Canada
Délégation du Canada*

Framework for OAS Action on the International Criminal Court

On July 17, 1998, the International Criminal Court (ICC) Statute was adopted by the Diplomatic Conference in Rome, Italy. This represented a milestone for international justice, and a significant step toward eliminating impunity. Ratification of the ICC Statute provides a strong public affirmation of a government's abhorrence of the most serious violations known to humankind, and a confirmation of its commitment to the rule of law in all circumstances. Implementation provides clear evidence of this commitment.

96 states have signed and 10 states have ratified the ICC Statute. The deadline for signing the Statute is December 30, 2000. 60 ratifications are needed for the Statute to enter into force.

Many OAS member states are working toward early ratification of the Statute. By working together, OAS states can overcome difficulties in the ratification and implementation process.

Signature

- *OAS states that have not yet signed the ICC Statute should do so by December 31.*

Ratification

- *OAS member states that have not yet ratified the ICC Statute should commit to early ratification.*
- *OAS Legal Advisers, in their participation at the annual meeting of Legal Advisers at the United Nations General Assembly, should work together to promote as early as possible entry into force of the ICC Statute.*

Implementation

- *OAS states should share expertise on implementing the ICC Statute, including through organizing an OAS seminar on implementation. Canada is prepared to assist financially in the organization of such a seminar.*