

Special Declaration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)

Tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), taking into consideration that the Treaty creating UNASUR –signed in Brasilia on 23 May 2008- enshrines the principle of unrestricted respect for universal, indivisible and interdependent human rights as one of the essential conditions for building a common future of peace, economic and social prosperity and development of the peoples:

- 1. Reiterate their belief that impunity for the authors of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole is a factor that endangers the stability of the international order, and reiterate their firm commitment to put an end to such impunity.
- 2. Recall that all UNASUR Member States are Parties to the Rome Statute, and highlight their active participation at the Kampala Review Conference, in accordance with the commitment declared at the Special Meeting of Heads of State and Government of UNASUR (Buenos Aires, 4 May 2010) of supporting the completion of the international criminal justice system based in the International Criminal Court.
- 3. Underscore the sucess of the first Review Conference of the Rome Statute, which took place in Kampala, Uganda, in 2010, which adopted the amendments related to the crime of aggression (Art. 8 bis, 15 bis and 15 ter) and to the inclusion of the use of certain means as war crimes (amendment to Art. 8), which contributed to completing the international criminal justice system adopted in Rome in 1998, as well as other resolutions. In this regard, call upon States Parties to the Rome Statute to ratify the amendments adopted in Kampala.
- 4. Highlight that 1 July of 2012 will mark the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and underline the contribution of the International Criminal Court to the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern to the international community as a whole.
- 5. Recognize the work of the organs of the Court during these first ten years, in which the Court undoubedly became the international criminal justice tribunal of the international community, and reiterates their firm commitment to actively work for further streightening the Court.
- 6. Call upon the States Parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt domestic legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute. We also call upon them, in view of the principle of complementarity and their primary responsibility in accordance with the Rome Statute of exercising jurisdiction, to include



the crimes of the Rome Statute as punishable crimes under their domestic laws, to establish jurisdiction for these crimes, and to ensure effective enforcement of those laws.

- 7. Welcome the agreements for cooperation with the Court, including on the execution of sentences, that some Members of Unasur have concluded with the Court.
- 8. Affirm the importance that all States cooperate with the International Criminal Court, in particular that States Parties comply with their obligations under the Rome Statute, and call upon all States to continue and strenghten efforts to ensure full and effective cooperation with the International Criminal Court.
- 9. Invite States that are not yet Parties to the Rome Statute to ratify or accede to it as soon as possible so as to reaffirm the universality of the Rome Statute.
- 10. Reiterate on this occasion their strong support to the International Criminal Court.

Bogotá D.C., 11 June 2012

Por la República Argentina

Por la República Federativa del Brasil

Por la República del Ecuador

Pol la República de

Por el Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia



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Por la República del Perú

Por la República de Surinam

Porta República Oriental del Uruguay

Por a República Bolivariana de Venezuela