



General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 August 2024

Original: English

Seventy-ninth session

Item 74 of the provisional agenda*

Report of the International Criminal Court

Report of the International Criminal Court

Note by the Secretary-General

The annual report of the International Criminal Court on its activities for 2023/24 is submitted herewith to the General Assembly in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court and paragraph 31 of General Assembly resolution [78/6](#).

* [A/79/150](#).



Report of the International Criminal Court on its activities in 2023/24

Summary

During the reporting period, the International Criminal Court made significant contributions to the global fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole. Drawing on new tools and approaches, the Court is addressing the unprecedented demand for its work in the form of investigations, pretrial proceedings, trials and appeals, as well as reparation programmes for victims, carrying out extensive activities in highly challenging operational environments and fragile security situations in ongoing conflict zones.

Among the notable developments during the reporting period, Trial Chamber X convicted Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud of crimes against humanity and of war crimes committed between 2 April 2012 and 29 January 2013 in Timbuktu, northern Mali. Sentencing proceedings are under way, and the verdict is subject to appeal. Reparation proceedings are soon to commence. Three other trials continued in the courtrooms: the trial of Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman with regard to the situation in Darfur and the trial of Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssonna and the trial of Mahamat Said Abdel Kani with regard to the situation in the Central African Republic.

With regard to the situation in Uganda, Trial Chamber IX issued a reparations order in the case of Dominic Ongwen, who previously had been found guilty for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in northern Uganda between 2002 and 2005. The Chamber set Mr. Ongwen's financial liability to €52,429,000, the highest amount of reparations to victims ordered in any case before the Court thus far. Mr. Ongwen has appealed the reparations order. The Registry will now proceed with identifying the victim population that is potentially eligible for reparations.

The Court reached a historic milestone as the Trust Fund for Victims finalized the implementation of reparations in the Katanga case with a closing ceremony held in Bunia, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Trust Fund is also implementing other reparation orders and other programmes to benefit victims through the provision of medical treatment, psychological rehabilitation, socioeconomic support, education and peacebuilding activities, directly benefiting around 24,000 individuals in 2023.

With regard to the situation in Ukraine, four new arrest warrants were issued against the following individuals: Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu, Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation; Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and First Deputy Minister of Defence; Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Lieutenant General in the Russian Armed Forces and Commander of long-range aviation of the Aerospace Force; and Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, admiral in the Russian Navy and Commander of the Black Sea fleet (functions held at the time of the alleged conduct).

With regard to the situation in Mali, the arrest warrant issued in 2017 for Iyad Ag Ghaly, alleged leader of Ansar Eddine, was unsealed.

With regard to the situation in Uganda and the situation in Kenya, the Office of the Prosecutor announced the conclusion of the investigation phase. During the reporting period, the Office of the Prosecutor also continued its work with respect to the other situations that fall within its mandate. Pressure on its investigative function has greatly increased in the light of the significant range of allegations of crimes under the Rome Statute stemming from ongoing active conflicts, including in relation to the

situations in Darfur, the State of Palestine and Ukraine. To address increased requirements for its investigative activities, the Office is drawing on a new evidence-processing system that was finalized during the reporting period; an increase in field presence, including through an increase in staffing in Ukraine and the establishment of an office in Caracas; and a revitalization of its policy framework, as reflected in the adoption, in December 2023, of new policies on children and on gender-based crimes.

The contents of the present report do not reflect confidential activity before the Court's pretrial chambers, which has increased in terms of both workload and output.

On 11 March 2024, six new judges of the Court commenced their nine-year terms, and Tomoko Akane was elected President of the Court for the period 2024–2027.

Security issues continued to gain prominence among the priorities of senior leadership of the Court owing to, *inter alia*, a serious cyberattack against the Court during the reporting period and other threats and attacks to which the Court and its officials have been subjected on account of their efforts to carry out their mandate, including arrest warrants issued by the Russian Federation against several judges and the Prosecutor.

The Court is grateful for the highly valuable cooperation that it continued to receive from the United Nations on a wide range of issues, notably including operational assistance in the field on a cost-reimbursable basis. The cooperation, assistance and support of States remained essential to the Court's operations.

Court-issued public arrest warrants are outstanding against 20 individuals:

- (a) Democratic Republic of the Congo: Sylvestre Mudacumura, since 2012;^a
- (b) Uganda: Joseph Kony, since 2005;
- (c) Central African Republic: Mahamat Nouradine Adam, since 2019;
- (d) Darfur: Ahmad Harun, since 2007; Omar Al-Bashir, since 2009 and 2010; Abdel Raheem Muhammad Hussein, since 2012; and Abdallah Banda, since 2014;
- (e) Kenya: Walter Barasa, since 2013; and Philip Kipkoech Bett, since 2015;
- (f) Libya: Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi, since 2011;
- (g) Mali: Iyad Ag Ghaly, since 2017;
- (h) Georgia: Mikhail Mayramovich Mindzaev, Gamlet Guchmazov and David Georgiyevich Sanakoev, since 2022;
- (i) Ukraine: Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and Maria Alekseyevna Lvova-Belova, since 2023; and Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu and Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, since 2024.^b

The Court calls upon States Parties and others to provide the necessary cooperation and assistance for their arrest and surrender to the Court.

^a Efforts are being undertaken to verify the reported death of Sylvestre Mudacumura (in 2019).

^b While the warrants are secret, the Chamber has authorized the Registry to make public their existence, the names of the suspects and the legal qualification of the alleged crimes, considering that public awareness of the warrants may contribute to the prevention of the further commission of crimes pursuant to article 58, paragraph 1 (b) (iii) of the Rome Statute.

Introduction

1. The present report, which covers the period from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024, is submitted in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court (see [A/58/874](#) and [A/58/874/Add.1](#)).¹

I. Update on judicial and prosecutorial activities

A. Situations and cases

2. During the reporting period, the Chambers issued 532 written decisions, in addition to oral and email decisions. Some 158 hearings were held.

3. A combined total of over 16,000 victims participated in cases before the Court. During the reporting period, the Court received more than 4,500 new victim application forms, as well as a total of 164 representation forms from victims and victim groups with regard to the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The Registry also received and processed follow-up information for approximately 650 existing applications.

4. As of July 2024, the Court had determined that approximately 5,500 victims were eligible for reparations in the *Katanga*, *Lubanga* and *Al Mahdi* cases, of which close to 75 per cent of beneficiaries had received reparations or were enrolled in reparation programmes. In relation to the *Ntaganda* and *Ongwen* cases, the Registry is in the process of identifying approximately 10,000 and 50,000 individuals, respectively, for enrolment in reparation programmes.

5. The above-mentioned statistics do not reflect confidential proceedings before pretrial chambers.

1. Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

(a) *Judicial proceedings and reparations*

The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo

6. The Trust Fund for Victims continued to implement the symbolic collective reparations and collective service-based reparations ordered by Trial Chamber II. In total, 2,471 former child soldiers have been deemed eligible for a reparations award; 1,324 beneficiaries have completed or are currently benefiting from service-based reparations in the form of medical treatment, psychological rehabilitation and socioeconomic support. As part of the symbolic reparations award, the Trust Fund has continued construction of four community centres.

The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga

7. At the request of the victims, a ceremony was held on 24 April 2024 in Bunia, Ituri Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, to mark the completion of the implementation of reparations in the Katanga case. The reparations, which had been ordered by Trial Chamber II on 24 March 2017, benefited individuals who lost family members, suffered physical and psychological harm and lost their homes, property and livestock as a result of the attack of 24 February 2003 on the village of Bogoro, Ituri Province, for which Mr. Katanga had been found guilty, as an accessory, of one

¹ More information on the Court's activities can be found on its website, www.icc-cpi.int.

count of a crime against humanity (murder) and four counts of war crimes (murder, attacking a civilian population, destruction of property and pillaging).

The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda

8. Trial Chamber II remained seized of the implementation of the reparations order issued on 8 March 2021 by Trial Chamber VI and the addendum issued by Trial Chamber II on 14 July 2023, which included the estimation of the approximate number of direct and indirect victims of crimes against child soldiers (3,000), the estimation of the approximate number of direct and indirect victims of the attacks (7,500) and an assessment of Mr. Ntaganda's liability for reparations (\$31,300,000).

9. Mr. Ntaganda and the legal representatives of the victims of the attack filed an appeal against the addendum. On 5 February 2024, the Appeals Chamber rejected the requests for suspensive effect of the appeal. The appeal is pending.

10. On 27 February 2024, Trial Chamber II approved the updated draft implementation plan for reparations of the Trust Fund for Victims and endorsed the beneficiary eligibility determinations. The Registry is conducting victim identification and eligibility screening for reparations in various locations.

11. Between 2022 and 2024, the Trust Fund for Victims provided initial reparations to 123 priority victims in urgent need.

(b) *Investigations*

12. The Office of the Prosecutor continues to deepen its engagement with the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other stakeholders, including through multiple field deployments. Those efforts have included a significant focus on encouraging national proceedings to address serious crimes, in line with the memorandum of understanding signed on 1 June 2023. Following a workshop held in Kinshasa in November 2023 and a follow-up mission undertaken by experts from the Office's forensic team in February 2024 to identify challenges and capacity-building needs, the Office has continued its evaluation of the handling of priority cases by national judicial authorities.

(c) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

13. In 2008, the Trust Fund for Victims launched a programme for the benefit of victims in respect of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Over 2,000 affected individuals directly benefited from rehabilitation services in 2023.

14. To support domestic efforts for the benefit of victims, in May 2024, the Trust Fund, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, co-facilitated a workshop for the benefit of the national fund for reparations for victims of conflict-related sexual violence and victims of crimes against the peace and security of humanity, with a view to sharing experiences, challenges and lessons learned in the design and implementation of reparation programmes.

2. Situation in Uganda

(a) *Judicial proceedings and reparations*

The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen

15. Following the conviction of Mr. Ongwen on 4 February 2021, which was confirmed on appeal, on 28 February 2024 Trial Chamber IX issued a reparations order, setting his financial liability to €52,429,000. The liability considered the estimated 49,772 victims affected by the 61 crimes for which Mr. Ongwen was

sentenced to 25 years in prison, including sexual and gender-based crimes, crimes committed against children and crimes creating transgenerational harm. The financial liability includes an award for collective community-based reparations, consisting of collective rehabilitation programmes, as well as symbolic and satisfaction measures, including a symbolic award of €750 for all eligible victims. In December 2023, Mr. Ongwen was transferred to Norway to serve his sentence.

16. Mr. Ongwen has appealed the reparations order. On 16 May 2024, the Appeals Chamber rejected Mr. Ongwen's request for suspensive effect of the appeal.

17. Between May and July 2024, the Trust Fund for Victims conducted consultations with 2,715 potential beneficiaries of reparations in five locations in northern Uganda relevant to the crimes for which Mr. Ongwen was convicted. The consultations will inform the draft implementation plan for reparations. The Trust Fund also announced its first urgent funding appeal of €5 million in June 2024 to start a reparations programme in this case. In addition, the Registry has been establishing a framework for victim identification and eligibility screening for reparations in various locations across the country.

The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony and Vincent Otti

18. On 17 November 2023, Pre-Trial Chamber II terminated the proceedings against Vincent Otti, finding that, based on the information provided by the Prosecution, the only reasonable conclusion was that Mr. Otti is deceased. As a consequence, only the arrest warrant for Joseph Kony remained outstanding with respect to the situation.

19. On 23 November 2023, following the Prosecution's request to hold a hearing on the confirmation of charges against Mr. Kony in his absence, Pre-Trial Chamber II found that Mr. Kony qualified as a person who "cannot be found" within the meaning of article 61, paragraph 2 (b) of the Rome Statute, that all reasonable steps to secure his appearance had been taken and that there would be cause to hold a confirmation hearing against him in his absence. The Chamber instructed the Registry to submit a plan indicating the outreach activities and notification efforts it would pursue to inform Mr. Kony of the charges.

20. On 4 March 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber II found that all reasonable steps to inform Mr. Kony of the charges had been taken and decided that the hearing on the confirmation of charges against Mr. Kony, to be held in his absence should he not appear, would commence on 15 October 2024. On 24 June 2024, Peter Haynes was appointed as counsel for Mr. Kony. The Registry is reaching out to victims for their potential participation in these proceedings.

(b) *Investigations*

21. On 1 December 2023, the Prosecutor announced the conclusion of the investigation phase in the situation in Uganda. Accordingly, absent a significant change in circumstances and without prejudice to the work required to support the ongoing judicial process, the Office will not pursue new lines of inquiry and will focus on ensuring the successful prosecution of Joseph Kony, the alleged leader of the Lord's Resistance Army. The Office will continue to devote concerted efforts, in collaboration with the Registry and relevant partners, to secure his arrest. The Office will work with the Ugandan authorities and civil society to ensure that information and evidence are shared under the framework of the Office's *Policy on Complementarity and Cooperation*.

(c) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

22. In 2008, the Trust Fund for Victims launched a programme for the benefit of victims in respect of the situation in Uganda. Over 6,500 affected individuals directly benefited from rehabilitation services in 2023.

3. Situation in the Central African Republic I and situation in the Central African Republic II(a) *Judicial proceedings**The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona*

23. The Prosecution concluded its presentation of evidence on 11 September 2023, at which time the Chamber had heard the testimony of 75 witnesses called by the Prosecution. In addition, the Chamber received more than 10,000 items of evidence from the Prosecution. Following the Prosecution, the legal representatives of the victims presented their evidence by calling three witnesses, and the testimony of one Chamber witness was heard. On 28 November 2023, the Defence for Mr. Yekatom made its opening statements and subsequently called 18 witnesses. In addition to live testimony, the Chamber received the written testimony of over 50 witnesses from the Prosecution and the Defence. The Chamber granted participatory status to 299 victims, bringing the total number to 1,965. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collect victims' information.

24. On 20 May 2024, the Appeals Chamber confirmed two decisions of Trial Chamber V, in which the Prosecution's requests to introduce prior recorded testimony were granted.

The Prosecutor v. Mahamat Said Abdel Kani

25. The trial resumed following the adjournment of the proceedings in February 2023 on account of Mr. Said's medical condition. On 15 December 2023, Trial Chamber VI found Mr. Said fit to stand trial. The Chamber continues to monitor his condition and his physical ability to participate in a regular sitting schedule. The Chamber has heard 44 witnesses called by the Prosecution.

26. To date, the Chamber has granted participatory status to 31 victims. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collect victims' information.

The Prosecutor v. Maxime Jeoffroy Eli Mokom Gawaka

27. From 22 to 24 August 2023, the Chamber held a hearing on the confirmation of charges. On 16 October 2023, the Prosecution notified the Chamber of the withdrawal of all charges against Mr. Mokom. On 17 October 2023, the Chamber terminated the proceedings against him and ordered his immediate release. The Chamber ordered the Registry to ensure that Mr. Mokom's rights as a free person are not restricted, while requesting him to abide by certain practical arrangements.

28. On 18 January 2024, the Chamber rejected the extradition request from the Central African Republic. Noting that no other State was willing to accept Mr. Mokom, the Chamber decided that its residual jurisdiction regarding Mr. Mokom would conclude on 8 February 2024 if no such State was identified by that date; in that event, he would fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the host State.

29. On 23 April 2024, Mr. Mokom filed a request pursuant to article 85 of the Rome Statute, seeking compensation for the harm and damage allegedly caused to him as a result of the proceedings against him. A special chamber composed of three judges has been constituted to hear the claim.

(b) *Investigations*

30. Investigative activities continued in relation to all pending cases before the Court, including the arrest warrant against Mahamat Nouradine Adam. The Office of the Prosecutor has deepened its cooperation with the authorities of the Central African Republic, including through a visit by the Deputy Prosecutor, Mame Mandiaye Niang, in November 2023, during which he signed memorandums of understanding with the Government of the Central African Republic and the Special Criminal Court, as a reflection of a joint commitment to strengthen collaboration to effectively address international crimes committed in the country.

31. The Office continued its tracking efforts with good cooperation from various stakeholders.

(c) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

32. Since 2020, the Trust Fund for Victims has been implementing a programme for the benefit of victims in the Central African Republic. Over 15,000 affected individuals, including nearly 8,000 victims of sexual and gender-based crimes, have directly benefited from rehabilitation services since the start of the programme.

4. Situation in Darfur

(a) *Judicial proceedings*

The Prosecutor v. Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman (“Ali Kushayb”)

33. The trial of Mr. Abd-Al-Rahman continued in 2023 with the presentation of views and concerns by the victims and the presentation of evidence by the Defence. The presentation of evidence by the victims concluded in October 2023, and the Defence started the presentation of its evidence immediately thereafter. The Chamber has heard 17 witnesses called by the Defence. The Chamber granted participatory status to an additional 731 victims, bringing the total number to 1,331. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collect victims’ information.

(b) *Investigations*

34. The Office of the Prosecutor continued to advance investigations with cooperation from different States and increased cooperation from Sudanese authorities. In September 2023, the Prosecutor met with First Lieutenant General Abdel-Fattah Al-Burhan Abdelrahman Al-Burhan on the sidelines of the General Assembly and underlined the obligations of the Sudan pursuant to Security Council resolution [1593 \(2005\)](#) with respect to cooperating with the Court and ensuring justice for the people of the Sudan. Following that meeting, a new focal point for cooperation was appointed by the Government of the Sudan, which has assisted in improving cooperation.

35. On 29 January 2024, during his visit to Chad, the Prosecutor briefed the Security Council on the situation in Darfur. The Office is accelerating its operations, with multiple field missions and advanced exploitation of online open sources, and harnessing its partnerships with civil society actors, victims’ groups, national authorities and international and regional organizations.

36. In relation to the ongoing violence in Darfur, the Office is prioritizing investigations of crimes affecting children and gender-based crimes. The Office has conducted several outreach missions to refugee camps in the east of Chad. The Office continues to engage constructively with various national authorities that are developing relevant investigations.

5. Situation in Kenya

(a) Investigations

37. On 27 November 2023, the Deputy Prosecutor, Nazhat Shameem Khan, announced the conclusion of the investigation phase with respect to the situation in Kenya, after considering the specific facts and circumstances.

38. The Office will not pursue additional cases into the alleged criminal responsibility of other persons but maintains its capacity to act on information relating to retaliation against witnesses.

(b) Programme for the benefit of victims

39. In April 2023, the Trust Fund for Victims launched a two-year programme for the benefit of victims of sexual and gender-based violence in respect of the situation in Kenya. Over 190 affected individuals directly benefited from rehabilitation services in 2023.

6. Situation in Libya

Investigations

40. On 9 November 2023 and 14 May 2024, pursuant to Security Council resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#), the Prosecutor briefed the Council on the situation in Libya and outlined a road map aimed at completing the investigation phase by the end of 2025, subject to operational conditions.

41. The Prosecutor further updated the Security Council on the implementation of the strategic plan adopted in respect of this situation in 2022, which involved multiple investigative operations, enhanced cooperation with national authorities from Libya and other States and continued outreach with survivors and civil society. The Office succeeded in significantly advancing investigations, including through interviewing many witnesses, and collected substantial evidence, including from open sources, documents, forensics and satellite imagery.

42. The Office made particular progress with respect to crimes committed over the period 2014–2020, and related investigations are advancing successfully towards completion. The investigations related to detention facilities and crimes against migrants have also been advanced significantly. The implementation of new technologies and the new “OTPLink” portal to receive submissions from the public have been instrumental to this progress.

43. The Prosecutor’s vision of having the Office operate as a cooperation hub has been implemented in this situation with positive results. The Office continued to work closely with the joint team that is investigating crimes against migrants on the central Mediterranean route. Through this cooperation, significant contributions have been made to investigations and prosecutions related to trafficking in persons in Italy and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

44. In April 2024, the Deputy Prosecutor, Nazhat Shameem Khan, conducted a productive mission to Tripoli, setting the course for enhanced cooperation with the Attorney General and other national actors, including civil society.

7. Situation in Côte d’Ivoire

(a) Investigations

45. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its efforts to secure cooperation from national authorities, international organizations, civil society organizations and other

relevant stakeholders to assist in accelerating the ongoing investigations into crimes allegedly committed between December 2010 and June 2011 in the context of post-electoral violence. The Office has been conducting regular investigative missions and is seeking to move its activities towards the next phase of the proceedings.

(b) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

46. Since 2022, the Trust Fund for Victims has been implementing a programme for the benefit of victims in respect of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire. Over 160 affected individuals, related to 13 identified incidents, directly benefited from rehabilitation services in 2023. Furthermore, the Trust Fund collaborated with artists to realize memorials in accordance with the wishes of affected communities comprising over 131,000 victims. The first stone was laid for a memorial near Abidjan in the presence of senior Government officials; five other memorials have been built and will be inaugurated in the upcoming reporting period.

8. Situation in Mali

(a) *Judicial proceedings and reparations*

The Prosecutor v. Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi

47. The Trust Fund for Victims continued to implement the reparations ordered by Trial Chamber VIII on 17 August 2017 for the community of Timbuktu. Implementation of the symbolic reparations award was completed in March 2021 with ceremonies in Bamako and Timbuktu. In June 2024, the Trust Fund completed the delivery of individual awards in the form of financial compensation to 1,685 eligible victims of the attacks against religious and historic buildings in June and July 2012. The Trust Fund continues to implement the collective awards, which include the restoration of protected buildings of cultural value; memorialization measures to address the moral damage caused to the Timbuktu community; and the establishment of an economic resilience facility to address the indirect economic damage caused to the community.

The Prosecutor v. Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud

48. On 26 June 2024, Trial Chamber X, by majority, convicted Mr. Al Hassan of the crimes against humanity of torture, persecution and other inhumane acts and of the war crimes of torture, outrage upon personal dignity, mutilation, cruel treatment and the passing of sentences without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all judicial guarantees which are generally recognized as indispensable. These crimes were committed between 2 April 2012 and 29 January 2013 in Timbuktu, northern Mali, in the context of control by Ansar Eddine and Al-Qaida in Islamic Maghreb over the region.

49. The Chamber found that certain crimes of sexual violence had been committed in Timbuktu during the relevant period, but that Mr. Al Hassan was not guilty of the war crimes of rape and sexual slavery or of the crimes against humanity of rape, sexual slavery and other inhumane acts in the form of forced marriage. He was also found not guilty of the war crime of attacking protected objects.

50. Proceedings on sentencing are under way, and the conviction is subject to appeal. The Registry has relaunched consultations with victim communities and is collecting mapping information for the impending reparation proceedings.

The Prosecutor v. Iyad Ag Ghaly

51. On 21 June 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a public redacted version of the warrant of arrest against Iyad Ag Ghaly, initially issued on 18 July 2017, for war

crimes and crimes against humanity allegedly committed in northern Mali between January 2012 and January 2013.

(b) *Investigations*

52. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its activities and monitored developments and reports of atrocity crimes on the ground. The Office has also explored additional options to reinforce the impact of its activities, including by developing synergies with the Malian national justice system and other partners under the framework of complementarity.

(c) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

53. Since 2022, the Trust Fund for Victims has implemented a programme that is aimed at providing support to victims of incidents under the jurisdiction of the Court in the areas of Mopti and Gao, complementing the reparation programme implemented for victims in Timbuktu.

9. Situation in Georgia

(a) *Investigations*

54. The Office of the Prosecutor continued to monitor the situation as part of its tracking activities. Following the conclusion of the investigation phase on 16 December 2022, the Office has focused its efforts on ensuring trial readiness in relation to the existing warrants of arrest. The Office has also undertaken preservation activities under article 56 of the Rome Statute.

(b) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

55. In 2023, the Trust Fund for Victims launched a programme for the benefit of victims in respect of the situation in Georgia; over 530 affected individuals directly benefited from rehabilitation services during the first year.

10. Situation in Burundi

Investigations

56. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its investigation, conducting missions to a number of countries, despite a lack of cooperation from the Government of Burundi. The Office received cooperation from States, United Nations entities and civil society organizations and has been progressively advancing its investigative work.

11. Situation in Afghanistan

Investigations

57. The Office of the Prosecutor conducted major investigative activities, including extensive engagement with witnesses and the collection of documentary evidence, public statements and decrees by leaders, and large volumes of open source material. Reports of systematic discrimination and persecution are one of the Office's investigative priorities. Investigations are advancing progressively, thanks to cooperation from civil society organizations, survivors, national authorities and international organizations. The Office has integrated gender experts into the investigation team, along with country experts, with a view to ensuring that the gender dimension of the alleged crimes is addressed. The progress made should establish a foundation for applications for warrants of arrest.

12. Situation in Bangladesh/Myanmar

Investigations

58. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its investigation with missions, the collection and analysis of evidence, interviews with witnesses in Bangladesh, facilitated by the rotational presence of investigators in the country, and initiatives aimed at strengthening engagement and cooperation with partners in the region. Given the severe trauma among victims caused both by the violent attacks in their homeland and by subsequent protracted displacement and harsh conditions of life, the Office has taken special care to adopt trauma-informed strategies, including careful contact and screening of potential witnesses and specialized support from psychosocial experts.

59. The Office has engaged with Government ministries in Bangladesh, diplomats, international organizations and non-governmental organizations regarding requests for assistance and to inform them of developments. The significant progress made with the investigations should establish the foundation for applications for warrants of arrest.

13. Situation in the State of Palestine

(a) *Judicial proceedings*

60. Pre-Trial Chamber I has granted leave for several *amici curiae* to file written observations pursuant to rule 103 of the Court's Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The Registry continues to receive victim applications for participation in potential future criminal proceedings and reparations.

(b) *Investigations*

61. Following dedicated investigative efforts, including for events since 7 October 2023, the Prosecutor announced in May 2024 that he had filed applications for arrest warrants in relation to five individuals.

62. The Office continues its investigation into the situation, covering multiple lines of inquiry pertaining to alleged crimes committed in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since 13 June 2014. With a view to further strengthening action, the Office continues to engage with all relevant parties and stakeholders, including civil society, States and international and regional organizations. As in all situations, complementarity remains an important consideration in the Office's overall approach.

14. Situation in the Philippines

Investigations

63. The Office of the Prosecutor has continued its planning and investigative activities and engagement with key stakeholders, including civil society organizations, with a view to advancing its investigation.

15. Situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela I

(a) *Judicial proceedings*

64. On 7 and 8 November 2023, the Appeals Chamber held a hearing on the appeal of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela against the Pre-Trial Chamber I decision of 27 June 2023 authorizing the resumption of the Prosecution's investigation, pursuant to article 18, paragraph 2 of the Rome Statute. On 1 March 2024, the Appeals Chamber delivered a judgment confirming the decision. The Registry facilitated victims' participation in these proceedings through a standardized victim consultation system.

(b) *Investigations*

65. After the 27 June 2023 ruling by Pre-Trial Chamber I, the Office of the Prosecutor resumed its independent investigation while engaging in litigation before the Appeals Chamber following the appeal lodged by the authorities of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In this context, the Office benefited from cooperation with various national and international stakeholders.

66. The Office also continued to engage with the Venezuelan authorities within the framework of the two memorandums of understanding signed with the Government in 2021 and 2023 to promote cooperation and complementarity. The Prosecutor conducted a fourth official visit to the country in June 2024, during which he inaugurated the in-country office for his Office and placed focus on the implementation of the joint workplan signed with the Government in December 2023.

16. Situation in Ukraine

(a) *Judicial proceedings*

67. On 5 March 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber II issued warrants of arrest against Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Lieutenant General in the Russian Armed Forces and Commander of long-range aviation of the Aerospace Force at the relevant time, and Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, admiral in the Russian Navy and Commander of the Black Sea fleet at the relevant time. On 24 June 2024, it issued warrants of arrest against Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu, Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation at the relevant time, and Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and First Deputy Minister of Defence at the relevant time. All four individuals are allegedly responsible for the war crime of directing attacks at civilian objects, the war crime of causing excessive incidental harm to civilians or damage to civilian objects and the crime against humanity of inhumane acts, allegedly committed from at least 10 October 2022 until at least 9 March 2023. The Registry continues to receive victim applications.

(b) *Investigations*

68. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its investigation across multiple interconnected lines, engaging actively on the ground in Ukraine and the region. The Office has benefited from effective cooperation with Ukraine and engaged in cooperation and coordination efforts with a variety of domestic and international stakeholders, including in the context of the joint investigation team established under the auspices of the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation. The Office also continued to benefit from the deployment of teams of experts by States parties under the Office's innovative forensic rotation model.

69. The Court officially opened its country office in Ukraine in September 2023 in the presence of the Prosecutor, thereby deepening the Office's investigative activities in the country and its engagement with the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, local civil society organizations and other partners.

(c) *Programme for the benefit of victims*

70. The Trust Fund for Victims has engaged with Ukrainian authorities and with the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine to consider potential collaboration, the exchanging of experiences and potential synergies in efforts to seek redress for victims of crimes under the jurisdiction of the Court in respect of the situation in Ukraine.

B. Preliminary examinations

71. The Office of the Prosecutor has been seized of preliminary examinations in three situations: Nigeria, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela II and Democratic Republic of the Congo II.

72. The preliminary examination in relation to the situation in Nigeria has been completed, and the Office engaged in next steps, including a visit by the Deputy Prosecutor, Mame Mandiaye Niang, to Nigeria in March 2024, where he held constructive meetings with relevant national authorities and institutions, the diplomatic community and civil society organizations. The Office noted the country's determination to close the impunity gap but remains committed to moving forward with investigations in the absence of genuine efforts by the Nigerian authorities.

73. In relation to the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela II, the Office worked towards finalizing its assessment of the preliminary examination and engaged with the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and civil society to that end.

74. In relation to the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo II, the Office conducted an assessment of jurisdiction and admissibility, including in the context of a technical-level mission to the country, as well as an assessment of the potential linkage of the situation with the existing situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo I.

75. The Office also considered large volumes of submissions received under article 15 of the Rome Statute and worked towards the finalization of its assessment on a number of situations at the initial filtering stage.

C. Other activities

76. The Prosecutor visited Colombia in April 2024 in order to launch the Office's *Policy on Cooperation and Complementarity*, with the participation of officials from the Government of Colombia, senior national experts and civil society representatives.

77. In March 2024, the Deputy Prosecutor, Mame Mandiaye Niang, visited Guinea in the context of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed on 28 September 2022 in Conakry. He met with senior Government officials and expressed satisfaction with the ongoing trial and with the country's commitment to bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice. During these exchanges, Guinean authorities identified areas in which support was needed. The Deputy Prosecutor committed to engaging with key actors and partners, such as the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, relevant sections of the Court and the Trust Fund for Victims, with a view to proposing an action plan aimed at facilitating the exchange of expertise and knowledge transfer for the benefit of national judicial personnel.

II. International cooperation

A. Cooperation with the United Nations

78. The Court continued to receive crucial cooperation and support from the United Nations and its senior leadership, in line with the 2004 Relationship Agreement. The Court principals valued the constructive bilateral meetings held throughout the reporting period with senior United Nations officials.

79. The Court recognizes the critical role of the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the United Nations Legal Counsel, as the interface between the Court and the United Nations, in particular for the transmission and coordination of judicial cooperation requests. The Court continued to reimburse staffing costs for two posts in the Office of Legal Affairs, at the P-3 and P-2 levels, to handle the significant amount of requests from the Court for assistance and cooperation. The Court's liaison office to the United Nations continued to facilitate cooperation between the two organizations, represent the Court in various meetings, apprise the Court of relevant developments at the United Nations and facilitate and support meetings between officials of the two organizations. The liaison office also acts as a key contact point between the Court and permanent missions to the United Nations.

80. In May 2024, the liaison office, together with the Office of Legal Affairs, coordinated the convening of a virtual round table meeting as a forum for International Criminal Court focal points across the United Nations system and their counterparts from various organs of the Court and its Trust Fund for Victims. The topics discussed included cooperation with the United Nations, including United Nations entities with a humanitarian mandate, and modalities for the provision of logistical support by United Nations field operations.

81. The Court highly appreciates the continued cooperation from various United Nations entities, departments, offices and special advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General, including those present in the field, which is essential for its operations. The Court's offices in the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Uganda and Ukraine played an important role by liaising with United Nations entities in this respect. Support from United Nations entities will also be invaluable as the Court is currently undertaking to open offices in a number of additional countries.

82. The Registry of the Court continued to receive, with appreciation, support from the United Nations for the deployment of Court personnel throughout the many countries in which it operates, and there were continued requests for operational support for several actors and participants in the proceedings (defence teams, Office of the Prosecutor, legal representatives of victims and staff of the Trust Fund for Victims). A total of 103 missions received support from the United Nations.

83. The Office of the Prosecutor continued to expand engagement with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including through thematic exchanges and cooperation in relation to ongoing activities.

84. The Court continued to cooperate with United Nations common system organizations by participating in inter-agency meetings on facilities management, travel and security. The country offices and the Court's liaison office at United Nations Headquarters have also benefited from coordination in administrative and management areas across the United Nations system. The Court continued to participate in the United Nations security management system and relied on the United Nations for services such as transportation, radio and video communication, medical assistance, security briefings and security training on a reimbursable basis. The Court also continued engaging with the High-level Committee on Management.

85. During the reporting period, eight of the Court's staff members were on loan, one was on secondment to other international organizations and one was transferred to other organizations under the Inter-Organization Agreement concerning Transfer, Secondment or Loan of Staff among the Organizations Applying the United Nations Common System of Salaries and Allowances. One United Nations staff member is currently on secondment to the Court, and the Court received one staff member on transfer from other international organizations.

86. The Senior Legal Adviser of the Registry and the Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties attended the 2024 meeting of the informal network of the Legal Advisers of the Specialized Agencies and the Related and Other Organizations of the United Nations System in Montreal from 27 to 30 May 2024.

87. The United Nations supported, on a reimbursable basis, the hosting of the twenty-second session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute at United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 14 December 2023, as well as the hosting of the event organized by the Assembly to commemorate the World Day for International Justice, held at United Nations Headquarters on 17 July 2024. The exhibition entitled “Common bonds”, which was produced by the Court in collaboration with the Trust Fund for Victims and which includes photographs contributed by multiple United Nations entities, has been on display at United Nations Headquarters since 16 July 2024, where it will remain until 23 August 2024. Social media content produced by the Court, including content related to Sustainable Development Goal 16, was amplified on United Nations social media platforms, reaching millions of people. The Court is grateful to the United Nations for its valuable communications support.

88. The Prosecutor’s biannual briefings to the Security Council on the situations in Darfur and Libya provided opportunities to inform the Council and United Nations membership of progress and challenges related to his Office’s investigations and of the importance of cooperation, including with regard to outstanding arrest warrants. The Court is grateful for the Council’s support, which the States parties to the Rome Statute serving on the Council play a key role in securing, under the coordination of the Co-Chairs of the Court’s Security Council caucus, Japan and Switzerland.

B. Cooperation with and assistance from States, other international organizations and civil society

89. States continued to provide highly valuable assistance in relation to the Court’s investigations and prosecutions, including with respect to the identification and recovery of assets, the provision of documents and the facilitation of missions of the Court on their territory.

90. During the reporting period, the Registry transmitted 416 primary requests for cooperation to States parties, other States and international and regional organizations, which are essential to ensure the advancement of judicial proceedings. In addition, the Registry transmitted 734 requests for visas to States, and country offices transmitted numerous requests for cooperation to support the operations of Court personnel in situation countries.

91. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its efforts to enhance cooperation with partners, including by increasingly incorporating the use of technology and intelligence-led actions. The Office transmitted 519 requests for assistance (including 175 notifications for missions), to States parties, States not parties, international and regional organizations and other public or private entities, and followed up on the execution of pending requests. The Office also received 36 incoming requests for cooperation under article 93, paragraph 10 of the Rome Statute.

92. The Registry requested the assistance of States to support the investigative activities of defence teams, including requests to be given access to documents and to organize meetings with relevant authorities and with potential witnesses. States were also requested to provide assistance for reparations proceedings, including by identifying the whereabouts of victims and by supporting the activities of the Trust Fund for Victims.

93. As demonstrated by the list of outstanding arrest warrants in the summary of the present report, the arrest and surrender of individuals subject to the Court's warrants remains a critical challenge, one that requires an intensified engagement by States. The Registry and the Office of the Prosecutor continued to work closely together on tracking activities and within the inter-organ working group on arrest strategies. The Court reiterates the importance it attaches to the Secretary-General's guidance on contacts with persons who are the subject of arrest warrants or summonses issued by the Court ([A/67/828-S/2013/210](#)).

94. The Court continued to encourage States to conclude cooperation agreements regarding the relocation of witnesses under threat, the enforcement of sentences and the interim and final release of suspects or accused. The lack of long-term solutions to address these gaps has a critical impact on the Court's ability to function properly.

95. The Court continued its efforts to further enhance cooperation with national, regional and international judicial and law enforcement networks in support of its needs and to assist national proceedings, where appropriate, in accordance with the principle of complementarity.

96. The Court also continued to develop its interaction with regional intergovernmental organizations, including through participation by the Deputy Prosecutor, Mame Mandiaye Niang, in the thirty-seventh African Union Summit in February 2024.

97. The Registry continued its efforts to obtain sufficient funds for the trust fund used for family visits for indigent detainees and for securing relevant visas. The Court organized three family visits, in which six persons participated in total, four adults and two children.

98. With the financial support of the European Commission and other donors, the Court organized over 15 seminars and events in support of efforts to strengthen cooperation, complementarity and universality, including a high-level regional seminar in Seoul.

99. The Court greatly values the activities that civil society partners undertake to raise awareness of the Court and promote the universal ratification and full implementation of the Rome Statute, and it continued to participate in those activities. From 24 to 28 June 2024, the Court held, in hybrid format, an annual round table with non-governmental organizations.

100. The Office of the Prosecutor further intensified its engagement with civil society organizations from situation countries, including by appointing a civil society organization focal point and engaging in regular consultations on thematic priorities. The Office held its most recent thematic round table event for civil society organizations on the trauma-informed approach to investigations and prosecutions, and it also held a dedicated session with civil society organization partners on the development of a new structured dialogue with civil society in line with its new *Policy on Complementarity and Cooperation*.

III. Institutional developments

A. Treaty matters

101. Armenia ratified the Rome Statute on 14 November 2023, becoming the 124th State party.

102. Four States accepted or ratified the amendment to article 124 of the Rome Statute, bringing the total number of States Parties having accepted or ratified this amendment to 23. Six States accepted or ratified the amendment to article 8 regarding

the use of weapons that use biological agents or toxins, bringing the total number of States parties having accepted or ratified the amendment to 21. Six States accepted or ratified the amendment to article 8 regarding the use of weapons designed to injure by fragments undetectable by X-rays, bringing the total number of States parties having accepted or ratified the amendment to 19. Six States accepted or ratified the amendment to article 8 regarding the use of blinding laser weapons, bringing the total number of States parties having accepted or ratified the amendment to 19. Five States accepted or ratified the amendment to article 8 on intentionally using the starvation of civilians, bringing the total number of States parties having accepted or ratified the amendment to 17.

103. The Court continued efforts to attract all States not among the 124 parties to the Rome Statute to join the treaty as soon as possible.

B. Elections

104. At its twenty-second session, the Assembly of States Parties elected Keebong Paek, Erdenebalsuren Damdin, Iulia Motoc, Haykel Ben Mahfoudh, Nicolas Guillou and Beti Hohler as judges of the Court, each for a nine-year term beginning on 11 March 2024. The Assembly also elected, by acclamation, Päivi Kaukoranta as its President for its twenty-third to twenty-fifth sessions.

105. On 11 March 2024, the Court's judges elected Tomoko Akane as President of the Court for a three-year term, with immediate effect. Rosario Aitala and Reine Alapini-Gansou were elected First Vice-President and Second Vice-President, respectively.

C. Trust Fund for Victims

106. As of July 2024, the Trust Fund for Victims had received voluntary contributions from 52 States Members of the United Nations. In 2023, it received over €5.3 million from 28 Member States, which represents an increase of 40 per cent of the income received from voluntary contributions each year.

107. As detailed in section II above, the Trust Fund continued to implement Court-ordered reparations and other programmes for the benefit of victims. Around 24,000 individuals directly benefited from these programmes in 2023, an increase of around 53 per cent compared with 2022. In all, 69 per cent of the beneficiaries were women.

108. The Board of Directors of the Trust Fund calls upon States, individuals and entities to make voluntary contributions for the benefit of victims and their families.

D. Policy initiatives

109. In December 2023, the Office of the Prosecutor issued its *Policy on Children* and its *Policy on Gender-based Crimes*. Work is ongoing in relation to the promulgation of policies on crimes of slavery and on environmental crimes.

110. On 25 April 2024, the Office of the Prosecutor launched its *Policy on Complementarity and Cooperation* through field-based events led by the Prosecutor and the Deputy Prosecutors. The policy contains a fundamentally renewed approach to the principles at the heart of the Rome Statute, bringing the Office's work closer to affected communities and deepening its partnerships with States, civil society and regional and international organizations. The Office's commitment to bringing justice services closer to the affected communities is underlined, with a simultaneous focus

on delivering on the core investigative mandate of the Office and on increasing its ability to support the efforts of other criminal jurisdictions and accountability actors.

E. Security of the Court

111. The Court's security posture has undergone a transformative shift because of its recent work in various situations, including most prominently those of Ukraine and the State of Palestine.

112. Security of the Court and its officials was one of the highest priorities of the Court's leadership during the reporting period in the light of the increasing external threats against the institution, in addition to pre-existing attacks, such as the arrest warrants issued by the Russian Federation against several judges and the Prosecutor of the Court on account of their performance of their independent mandates as elected officials of a multilateral judicial institution.

113. On 15 September 2023, the Court detected a cybersecurity incident potentially affecting its systems and data, which was soon confirmed to be a serious and unprecedented cyberattack exhibiting high levels of sophistication, focus, resources and persistence. As a response, the Court commissioned the services of a reputable commercial vendor to develop a blueprint for its future information technology architecture. Implementation of the blueprint is under way, with a series of projects to be carried out in the next two years aimed at better protecting the Court's information, personnel and operations in response to a heightened threat environment. The Registrar also established a special fund for security to provide urgent additional resources for the implementation of high-level priorities set out in the blueprint.

IV. Conclusion

114. The Court continued to have an extremely high workload in relation to pretrial, trial and appeal proceedings, reparations for victims and the preliminary examinations and investigations conducted by the Office of the Prosecutor on four continents, with a combined total of over 16,000 victims participating in judicial proceedings.

115. Notable developments during the reporting period included the following: one accused person was convicted, and three other trials continued in the courtrooms; a judicially ordered reparations programme was completed for the first time; the Court issued its largest ever reparation order for the benefit of victims; four new arrest warrants were issued, and one was unsealed; the Prosecutor announced that he had applied for a number of other arrest warrants; and the investigation phase was concluded in respect of two situations. In addition to the developments described in the present report, an increasing amount of confidential activity took place before the Court's pretrial chambers.

116. The Court recognizes with gratitude the many forms of invaluable assistance provided by the United Nations system during the reporting period and is equally appreciative of the cooperation of States with its ongoing investigative, prosecutorial and judicial activities.

117. While making unprecedented progress in enforcing international law and advancing the global fight against impunity, the Court and its officials are being increasingly subjected to attacks and threats from external actors. The Court's leadership is gravely concerned about this worrisome trend and calls upon States and the international community at large to redouble their commitment to the Court and its independence so as to enable it to carry out its mandate of justice effectively.