



THE HAGUE, 27 JUNE 2011

**DECISION BY PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUANCE OF WARRANTS OF ARREST IN THE LIBYA SITUATION
STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN WENAWESER
PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES TO THE ROME STATUTE**

I welcome the decision of Pre-Trial Chamber I of the International Criminal Court to issue warrants of arrest for Muammar Abu Minyar Gaddafi, Saif Al Islam Gaddafi and Abdullah Al-Senussi. The Court has worked quickly and efficiently, rendering this decision less than three and a half months since the situation was referred by the Security Council. I am aware of the efforts exerted by all involved, for which the States Parties and I are most grateful.

I would recall that the Libya situation was referred to the Court by a unanimous decision of the Security Council in resolution 1970 (2011). This was the first ever consensual Security Council referral of a situation to the Court, which reflects an international spirit of consensus on the issue. This consensus has profoundly and positively affected the level of cooperation extended to the Court, and consequently the efficiency with which it was able to carry out its investigations. As the international community continues to ponder its further course of action on Libya it is worth remembering and reaffirming the international consensus that those bearing the highest level of responsibility for the most serious crimes committed in Libya must be brought to justice.

With the issuance of the warrants of arrest, States are once again tasked to extend their full cooperation to the Court to render its decisions effective. It is the unequivocal duty of all States Parties as well as of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to execute these warrants of arrest. In this, as in all situations, the Court cannot complete its mandate without the full support and cooperation from States.

In order for the Court to effectively carry out its work, continued, active support from the Security Council and all its members will be essential and I hope that the Council will effectively follow up on its resolution 1970 (2011).
