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MEDIA ADVISORY – 10 September 2004

Costa Rican Ambassador Elected as Next President of the International Criminal Court Assembly of States Parties

Ambassador Bruno Stagno Ugarte to take on key ICC role in 2005

WHAT: The Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) yesterday elected His Excellency Ambassador Bruno Stagno Ugarte of Costa Rica as the next Assembly President. Ambassador Stagno, who will take over from the current ASP President H.R.H Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein of Jordan, will begin his three-year term at the next Assembly in November 2005. The Assembly is composed of the 94 countries which have ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute as well as non-States Parties who have signed the ICC Treaty and participate as observers.

WHO: Ambassador Stango has served as Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations since 2002. Previously, Ambassador Stagno served in a number of key governmental positions in Costa Rica including Chief Adviser of the ranking majority representative in the Legislative Assembly of the Costa Rican Congress, Chef de Cabinet at the Costa Rican Ministry of External Relations and Worship, and Consul General and Minster Counselor of the Costa Rican Embassy in Paris. Mr. Stagno, who graduated from Georgetown University in Washington DC, holds advanced degrees from University of Paris-Sorbonne and Princeton University.

WHERE: The Assembly of States Parties has been meeting this week for the first time in The Hague, now home to the ICC and the Permanent Secretariat of the Assembly. In its previous sessions, the ASP convened at the United Nations in New York. In addition to over 100 States Parties and observer States, more 250 non-governmental organizations representatives from around the world have also been participating in the ASP as observers.

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For more information about the Assembly of States Parties, please visit:

- The website of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court at: http://www.iccnow.org/documents/asp/papersonaspissues.html
- The website of the ICC at: http://www.icc-cpi.int/third session.html

About the Coalition for the International Criminal Court

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is a network of over 2,000 civil society organizations working to promote a fair, effective and independent International Criminal Court. For more information, visit: www.iccnow.org