

Statement of Lawyers for Justice in Libya

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, dear colleagues,

It is an honor to stand before you today on behalf of Lawyers for Justice in Libya and partner organisations in Libya.

This ASP takes place at a pivotal moment for the ICC's investigation into Libya. Last month, the Prosecutor announced to the Security Council, that his Office aims to complete all investigative activities in relation to Libya by the end of 2025.

The Prosecutor failed to provide reasons to believe that his Office would be able to complete the investigations within this timeframe.

The insufficient cooperation of the Libyan authorities, with the ICC continues to hinder the progress of the investigations. As reported in the Prosecutor's briefing, the metrics, set by his Office to measure successful cooperation with Libyan authorities have not been met. This manifests in a number of areas, including :

- the lack of efforts to facilitate the Court's access to Libya,
- to provide all requested documents relevant to the investigations
- and the enforcement of arrest warrants and transfer of suspects.

Moreover, the Libyan judiciary is unable and unwilling to genuinely investigate and prosecute perpetrators of serious international crimes.

The Libyan authorities continue to impose a crackdown on civil society. Those who interact with the ICC are exposed to serious risks of reprisals from the militias affiliated to the Libyan authorities.

In light of these elements, and in the context of meager meaningful results achieved by the ICC to date,

- we call on the Prosecutor to reexamine his plans to conclude the investigations by 2025 and to consult with relevant stakeholders, including civil society in developing such plans, as outlined in his roadmap presented to the Security Council in 2022.
- We urge States Parties to provide the Court with adequate resources, including budget increases, to enable the Court to successfully accomplish its mission.
- The Court, as well as State Parties, should demand genuine cooperation by Libyan authorities, which should go beyond welcoming official visits, and include
 - o efforts to secure the arrest and transfer of wanted suspects to the Court,

- enabling the Court's safe and unselective access to all victims and affected communities,
- and protecting and promoting civil society actors working towards accountability,

Thank you.