



Coalition for the International Criminal Court

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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CAIRO MEETING OF ARAB CIVIL SOCIETY TO ADVANCE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE STRATEGIES IN REGION

Meetings with key Egyptian and Arab League government officials to encourage more states to join International Criminal Court

Cairo, Egypt. The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) will hold its second Regional Strategic Meeting for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) from 29-31st March 2008 at the Flamenco Hotel in Cairo, Egypt. Participants will include civil society members and national coalition leaders from eleven Arab countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

A press conference with CICC and Egyptian ICC campaigners will be held on Monday, 31st March at 1:00 p.m. in the Picasso room at the Flamenco Hotel in Zamalek, Cairo.

Expected key outcomes of the meetings with Arab civil society and government officials are as follows:

- ▶ A statement by Arab civil society in support of increased regional ratification of the Rome Statute, and a call for greater Arab cooperation with the Court.
- ▶ An appeal to the Arab League to adopt a common position in support of the ICC given the new Arab Charter for Human Rights, which was announced by the League of Arab States on Saturday, 15th March 2008.
- ▶ Two-year action plans for civil society that includes pro-ICC outreach strategies for national and regional media, jurists, NGOs, academia and government officials.

Specific to Egypt's position on the ICC, the Coalition will hold a closed NGO roundtable on March 30th that will focus on the campaign for Egyptian ratification of the Rome Statute.