

**BRIEF INTERVENTION BY H.E. MR. AMRAIYA NAIDU,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FIJI TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
AT THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) PREPCOM,
3 JULY 2002, UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

Mr. Chairman,

Fiji endorses the remarks just made by Australia on behalf of the Like Minded Group. In congratulating you on your leadership of this and of the previous PrepComs for the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Fiji regrets that this occasion of an urgent plenary imposes upon the UN membership a grave challenge to the establishment of this historic court.

The Security Council must remain steadfast in its goal of maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council must, therefore, refrain from taking an *ultra vires* decision which will result from the adoption of the anti-ICC resolution currently before it. The resolution will effectively kill the Court before it is born.

Mr. Chairman,

We acknowledge the principled stand so far taken by the Security Council members against overtures to oppose the set-up of the Court. It is requested that the views of the wider UN membership can best be heard in an open debate to the Security Council on this resolution before adoption.

Fiji humbly requests States Parties who are members of the Security Council to oppose the draft resolution and, therefore, maintain the integrity of both the Rome Statute and the Security Council.

Thank you.