



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

July 19, 2007

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome all those attending Amnesty International's Toast to Justice in recognition of International Justice Day. Nine years ago, the global community adopted an historical treaty creating the International Criminal Court (ICC), the world's first permanent international court capable of investigating and prosecuting the individuals responsible for the most serious crimes of international concern—including genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Since its creation, the ICC has facilitated great strides in the advancement of justice, peace and security throughout the world.

New York City, as a great capital of the international community, is honored to join Amnesty International and citizens around the globe to celebrate International Justice Day in commemoration of the creation of the ICC, and to renew our vow to do whatever we can to prevent and ultimately end all abuses of fundamental human rights. Today, we stand with all the victims of genocide and crimes against humanity, believing that it is the common responsibility of all nations to work to gather to ensure that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice. Through the promotion of universal principles of accountability, due process, equality before the law, and the protection of basic human rights, we will ensure that these terrible crimes will not be committed again.

On behalf of the City of New York, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Amnesty International for hosting this event, and for continuing their invaluable advocacy of a world in which every individual can enjoy the basic human rights that are their due. My best wishes for a productive and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor