



Coalition for the International Criminal Court
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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**MEDIA BRIEFING: Celebrating Ten Years of the Rome Statute of the
International Criminal Court**

Permanent Court Well Poised to End Impunity for Grave Crimes

WHAT: The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) will host a media briefing in Johannesburg, South Africa to call on the government to support and cooperate with the ICC. The briefing will follow a high-level meeting of South African officials, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute, the founding treaty of the ICC.

WHEN: Thursday, 17 July 2008 at 15:30.

WHERE: South African Human Rights Commission
29 Princess of Wales Terrace
Parktown
Johannesburg, South Africa

WHO: Panel participants will include:

- >> **Oby Nwankwo**, is the founder and executive director of the Nigeria-based women's rights and legal advocacy organization, CIRDDOC.
- >> **Nicole Fritz**, executive director of the Southern Africa Litigation Centre.
- >> **Professor Max du Plessis**, associate law professor, University of KwaZulu-Natal

WHY: Thursday, 17 July 2008, marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute, the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court. The Coalition for the ICC (CICC) will mark the day with high-level discussions by prominent South Africans. The anniversary celebration comes at a pivotal time for the Court as the Prosecutor announced this week the first request for an arrest warrant for a sitting head of state, Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir who is accused of committing ten counts of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity in Darfur, Sudan. The Court is currently investigating four situations in northern Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic and Darfur, Sudan.

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