



THE PERMANENT MISSION
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Security Council Debate on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT), 11 June 2024

Malta Statement delivered by Ms Francesca Gatt

Deputy Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

Thank you, President.

I also thank President Gatti Santana and Prosecutor Brammertz for their briefing on the ongoing work of the Residual Mechanism.

We welcome the attention to carrying out future planning activities and to moving forward with the transition. In this regard, the Fifth Review Report and the Framework of Operations to Complete Functions have been essential tools in the review of the mechanism this year.



We note the Chambers' progress in moving to the effective conclusion of its final trial and appeal proceedings in core crimes cases, and the Prosecutor's announcement that all fugitives have been accounted for. We recognise, however, the need for the mechanism to continue its work on the enforcement of sentences, protection of witnesses, and monitoring of cases. These are essential tasks, and provide the communities and victims of atrocity crimes the sustained justice they deserve. We want to assure the President of our full support in the continuation of these important functions.

The Office of the Prosecutor's focus on assisting national jurisdictions prosecuting international crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, as well as building national prosecutorial capacities, is commendable. In doing so, the Office continues to play a critical role in facilitating the rule of law and accountability globally. The Office has built and developed expertise in the prosecution of atrocity crimes which should continue to benefit national courts prosecuting atrocity crimes, even beyond the scope of the mechanism. We support efforts to explore options in this regard.



Malta also looks forward to further study about the administrative and budgetary aspects in relation to the archives of the ICTR, the ICTY, and the Mechanism, in a way that preserves confidentiality, while ensuring their accessibility.

President

We join the mechanism in thanking and commending the enforcement States referred to in the report. We are cognisant of the Mechanisms' continued challenges in the area of enforcement, and call on States who can do so, to take on enforcement responsibilities.

Malta recognises the challenges which the Mechanism faces when it comes to cooperation of Member States, in particular with regard to the Jojic and Radeta case. We call on States to assist the Mechanism, also with regard to the unresolved predicament of the acquitted and released persons who were relocated to Niger.



The Mechanism and its predecessors have made significant steps in establishing the facts and providing the historical record of atrocity crimes committed in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. In this context, we thank the President for advancing, where feasible, the Mechanism's facilitation of the establishment of information centers in line with resolution 1966. Disseminating information is important not only for the legacy of the ad hoc Tribunals and the Mechanism, but also because it serves as a pivotal tool in countering genocide denial and associated divisive phenomena.

I thank you.