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## Guinea

14.10.2009

## ICC Prosecutor confirms situation in Guinea under examination

ICC-OTP-20091014-PR464

In the wake of recent events in Guinea and in light of information related to the alleged commission of crimes under ICC jurisdiction, ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo today confirmed that the situation in Guinea is under preliminary examination by his Office.

Guinea has been a State Party to the Rome Statute since 14 July 2003. As such the ICC has jurisdiction over war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide possibly committed in the territory of Guinea or by nationals of Guinea, including killings of civilians and sexual violence. The Office of the Prosecutor has taken due note of serious allegations surrounding the events of 28 September 2009 in Conakry and has received information relating to these events in accordance with article 15 of the Rome Statute. A preliminary examination of the situation has been immediately initiated in order to determine whether crimes falling under the Court's jurisdiction have been perpetrated.

"From the information we have received, from the pictures I have seen, women were abused or otherwise brutalized on the pitch of Conraky's stadium, apparently by men in uniform" said Deputy Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda. "This is appalling, unacceptable. It must never happen again. Those responsible must be held accountable".

Other situations under preliminary examination by the Office include Afghanistan, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Georgia, Kenya, and Palestine.

The Office of the Prosecutor is currently investigating in four situations: The Democratic Republic of Congo, Northern Uganda, the Darfur region of Sudan, and the Central African Republic, all still engulfed in various degrees of conflict with victims in urgent need of protection.

*The International Criminal Court is an independent, permanent court that investigates and prosecutes persons accused of the most serious crimes of international concern, namely genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes if national authorities with jurisdiction are unwilling or unable to do so genuinely.*

