

Act of 29 March 2004 on cooperation with the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunals

Albert II, King of the Belgians,
To all, present and to come, greetings!
The Chambers have adopted and We sanction the following:

TITLE I PRELIMINARY PROVISION

Article 1

This law governs a matter covered by [article 77 of the Constitution](#).

TITLE II COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 2

For the purposes of Title II of this law, the following terms shall designate:

- "Belgium": the Kingdom of Belgium;
- "the Court": the International Criminal Court and its organs, within the meaning of article 34 of the Statute, that is, the Presidency of the Court, the Appeals Division, the Trial Division, the Pre-Trial Division, the Office of the Prosecutor, and the Registry;
- "the Statute": the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of 17 July 1998;
- "the central authority": the authority competent in respect of the cooperation between Belgium and the International Criminal Court, that is, the Ministry of Justice;
- "the Rules of Procedure and Evidence": the Rules of Procedure and Evidence referred to in article 51 of the Statute;
- "the Prosecutor": the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in the sense of article 42 of the Statute;
- "the Registry": the Registry of the International Criminal Court, within the meaning of article 43 of the Statute.

Article 3

Pursuant to article 86 of the Statute, Belgium shall cooperate fully with the Court in its investigations and prosecutions in respect of crimes within its jurisdiction.

Article 4

Cooperation with the Court shall be governed by the provisions of the Statute, the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, and Title II of this law.

CHAPTER II GENERAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING JUDICIAL COOPERATION BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE COURT

Article 5

The Minister of Justice shall be the central authority competent to receive requests from the Court and to transmit to the Court requests from the Belgian judicial authorities and shall ensure follow-up to them.

Article 6

Requests from the Court shall be addressed to the central authority by any medium capable of delivering a written record. They must be written in one of the official languages of Belgium or, failing this, be accompanied by a certified translation into one of those languages.

Article 7

The Belgian judicial authorities may seek the cooperation of the Court. Requests shall be transmitted via the central authority. The Belgian authorities shall comply with the conditions stipulated by the Court for execution of the request. Any material supporting the request, if not drafted in one of the working languages of the Court in accordance with article 50 of the Statute, must be accompanied by a translation into one of those languages.

CHAPTER III RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COURT AND BELGIUM

Article 8

1. Pursuant to article 14 of the Statute, the Minister of Justice may, upon a decision discussed by the Cabinet, refer to the Court a situation in which one or more crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court appear to have been committed, requesting the Prosecutor to investigate that situation for the purpose of determining whether one or more specific persons should be charged with the commission of such crimes.

In such an instance, Belgium shall specify, insofar as possible, the relevant circumstances and produce such supporting documentation as is available to it.

2. Without prejudice to the application of article 47 of this law, and pursuant to article 14 of the Statute, the Minister of Justice may, following a decision discussed by the Cabinet, acquaint the Court with the facts relative to offences specified in [Book II, Title I bis, of the Criminal Code](#) which have been referred to the judicial authorities.

Once the Prosecutor has given the notification provided for in article 18, paragraph 1 of the Statute in respect to the facts brought to the attention of the Court by the Minister of Justice, the Court of Cassation, on application by the Principal Crown Prosecutor, shall pronounce the deferral of the Belgian court seized of the same facts.

Where the Court, at the request of the Minister of Justice, after the deferral of the Belgian court, states that the Prosecutor has decided not to produce an indictment or that the Court has not confirmed an indictment, or has deemed it does not have jurisdiction or that the case is inadmissible, the Belgian courts shall once again have jurisdiction.

Article 9

Where the jurisdiction of the Court applies in accordance with article 13 of the Statute, the central authority, following consultation of the public prosecutor, may claim the jurisdiction of a Belgian court pursuant to article 18 of the Statute or, if appropriate, challenge the jurisdiction of the Court or the admissibility of the case pursuant to article 19 of the Statute.

Article 10

The central authority may on its own initiative transmit to the Court evidence and information which a Belgian authority has gathered if it may be of interest to the

Court. Where the evidence and information transmitted to the Court by the central authority does not stem from the public prosecutor's office, the central authority shall notify the latter prior to transmission thereof to the Court.

CHAPTER IV ARREST, TRANSFER, TRANSIT AND SURRENDER OF PERSONS TO THE COURT

SECTION I REQUESTS FOR ARREST AND SURRENDER

Article 11

In accordance with article 89 of the Statute, Belgium shall execute requests for arrest and surrender from the Court.

Article 12

If in respect of the same person Belgium receives a request for arrest and surrender from the Court and a request for extradition or surrender from another State, the central authority shall notify the Court and the requesting State and shall apply the provisions of article 90 of the Statute.

Article 13

1. A request for arrest and surrender issued by the Court in respect of a person to be found on Belgian territory shall be made in writing in accordance with article 91, paragraph 1 of the Statute, except in urgent cases as specified by said article.

The request shall be rendered enforceable by the *chambre du conseil* (Court in Chambers) of the place of residence of the person in question or of the place where the person was found.

2. The *chambre du conseil* shall verify that the identity of the person has not been mistaken and that the supporting documentation referred to in article 91 of the Statute has been provided.

3. The public prosecutor, within 24 hours of an order by the *chambre du conseil* refusing to render enforceable the request for arrest and surrender of the Court, may appeal that decision before the indictment chamber. The latter shall rule within eight days of hearing the public prosecutor. Its judgment shall be enforceable.

4. Within 24 hours of taking the person in question into custody, the decision making enforceable the request for arrest and surrender and the official documents annexed thereto shall be served on the person charged. The latter shall have 24 hours as from such service to enter an appeal before the indictment chamber. This appeal shall be lodged by notice to the registry of the criminal court or by notice given by the person charged to the director of the remand prison or his or her representative. The indictment chamber shall hear the public prosecutor, the person charged and the latter's counsel within four days of the lodging of the appeal, and shall rule within eight days. Its judgment shall be enforceable. The person charged shall remain in custody pending the ruling by the indictment chamber.

5. Where the appeal is based on a violation of the principle of *non bis in idem*, the time period within which the indictment chamber must rule shall be suspended as from the time of the appeal until the receipt by the central authority of the response of the Court to the consultations entered into pursuant to article 89, paragraph 2 of the Statute.

SECTION II REQUESTS FOR PROVISIONAL ARREST

Article 14

1. In accordance with article 92 of the Statute, in urgent cases the Court may request, by any medium capable of delivering a written record, the provisional arrest of the person sought. The request shall contain the material referred to in article 92, paragraph 2 of the Statute pending the transmission of the material referred to in article 91 of the Statute.

2. The request for provisional arrest shall be executed on the basis of an arrest warrant issued by the investigating judge of the place where the person in question has his or her residence or was found. The arrest warrant must be served within 24 hours of the person in question being taken into custody. The investigating judge shall verify that the identity of the person has not been mistaken and that the material referred to in article 92, paragraph 2 of the Statute has been provided.

3. The central authority shall be notified of the provisional arrest by the investigating judge referred to in paragraph 2 above. It shall inform the Court immediately and invite it to submit a request for arrest and surrender.

4. The person under provisional arrest shall be brought within five days before the *chambre du conseil* of the place where the person has his or her residence or was found. It shall verify that there was no mistake as to the identity of the person and that the supporting material referred to in article 92, paragraph 2 of the Statute has been provided. After hearing the public prosecutor, the person charged and the latter's counsel, the *chambre du conseil* shall decide within the time period referred to above whether it is warranted to maintain the provisional arrest. In the event of a challenge to the provisional arrest on the basis of a violation of the principle of *non bis in idem*, the time period within which the *chambre du conseil* must rule on this point shall be suspended for the duration of the consultations between the central authority and the Court referred to in article 89, paragraph 2 of the Statute.

5. The public prosecutor and the person charged may lodge an appeal before the indictment chamber within 24 hours of the order of the *chambre du conseil*. The person charged shall remain in custody until the end of that time period. The indictment chamber shall rule within eight days of hearing the public prosecutor, the person charged and the latter's counsel. If the appeal hinges on a challenge for a violation of the principle of *non bis in idem*, the time period within which the indictment chamber must rule on this point shall be suspended for the duration of the consultations between the central authority and the Court referred to in article 89, paragraph 2 of the Statute. The person charged shall remain in custody pending a ruling on the appeal.

Article 15

In accordance with article 92 of the Statute, a person under provisional arrest shall in all cases be released from custody if the central authority has not received the request for arrest and surrender and the supporting documentation specified in article 91 of the Statute within three months of the date of provisional arrest.

SECTION III TRANSFER OF PERSONS ARRESTED

Article 16

1. In accordance with article 59, paragraph 3 of the Statute, the person arrested shall have the right to apply to the indictment chamber for interim release pending surrender, by means of a request for release.
2. In accordance with article 59, paragraph 5 of the Statute, the Pre-Trial Chamber of the Court shall be notified of any request for interim release and shall make recommendations in this respect. The indictment chamber shall give full consideration to such recommendations before rendering its decision. Should the indictment chamber not follow the recommendations of the Court, it shall expressly give the grounds for its decision.
3. The indictment chamber shall rule within eight days of the lodging of the application after hearing the public prosecutor, the person charged and his or her counsel. When ruling, the indictment chamber shall consider, in the light of the gravity of the crimes alleged, whether the urgency and exceptional circumstances warrant interim release. In such a case, it shall stipulate the conditions ensuring that Belgium can fulfil its obligation to deliver the person to the Court. The indictment chamber is not empowered to examine whether the arrest warrant was issued lawfully by the Court.
4. In accordance with article 59, paragraph 6 of the Statute, if the person is granted interim release, the Pre-Trial Chamber of the Court may request the central authority to provide periodic reports of the status of the interim release.

Article 17

A person under provisional arrest may consent to being transferred even if the conditions for his or her transfer have not been fulfilled. Consent must be established by written record in the presence of a member of the public prosecutor's office, following a hearing by the latter to inform the person in question of his or her right to formal surrender proceedings. The person in question may be assisted by counsel at the hearing.

Article 18

1. Where the decision making enforceable the request for arrest and surrender is final, the central authority shall immediately inform the Registrar in order to arrange the transfer.
2. The person shall be transferred to the Court as soon as possible and, in any event, within three months of the date of the transfer decision. The transfer shall take place in compliance with the relevant provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.
3. The person in question shall be transferred to the Court on the date and according to the arrangements agreed between the central authority and the Registrar. Should circumstances render transfer on the agreed date impossible, the central authority and the Registrar shall agree on a new date and on the transfer arrangements.

Article 19

Pursuant to article 101, paragraph 2 of the Statute, the central authority shall grant, at the request of the Court, a waiver to the rule of specialty referred to in article 101, paragraph 1 of the Statute.

SECTION IV TRANSIT

Article 20

At the request of the Court, made pursuant to article 89, paragraph 3(b) of the Statute, the central authority shall authorize the transport through Belgian territory of any person transferred to the Court by another State, except in cases where the transit would impede or delay the surrender.

Should an unscheduled landing occur on Belgian territory, a transit authorization may be required from the Court in accordance with article 89, paragraph 3(e) of the Statute. The person transported shall be detained in custody until the request for transit is received and the transit is effected. However, detention may not be extended beyond 96 hours from the unscheduled landing unless the request is received within that period of time.

CHAPITRE V OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION

SECTION I PRINCIPLES

Article 21

In accordance with article 93 of the Statute, assistance shall be granted to the Court in the cases referred to in article 22 below.

Article 22

Requests for assistance from the Court in relation to an investigation or prosecution must be addressed directly to the central authority.

In accordance with article 93 of the Statute, such requests may include any act that is not prohibited by Belgian law, with a view to facilitating the investigation and prosecution of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court. They concern in particular:

- (1) the identification and whereabouts of persons or the location of items;
- (2) the taking of evidence, including testimony under oath, and the production of evidence, including expert opinions and reports necessary to the Court;
- (3) the questioning of any person being investigated or prosecuted;
- (4) the service of documents, including judicial documents;
- (5) facilitating the voluntary appearance of persons as witnesses or experts before the Court;
- (6) the temporary transfer of persons as provided in article 27 of this law;
- (7) the examination of places or sites, including the exhumation and examination of grave sites;
- (8) the execution of searches and seizures;
- (9) the provision of records and documents, including official records and documents;
- (10) the protection of victims and witnesses and the preservation of evidence;
- (11) the identification, tracing and freezing or seizure of proceeds, property and assets and instrumentalities of crimes for the purpose of eventual forfeiture, without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties.

SECTION II FORM AND CONTENTS OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Article 23

In accordance with article 96, paragraph 2 of the Statute, the request shall contain or be supported by the following:

- (1) a concise statement of the purpose of the request and the assistance sought, including the legal basis and the grounds for the request;
- (2) as much detailed information as possible about the location or identification of any person or place that must be found or identified in order for the assistance sought to be provided;
- (3) a concise statement of the essential facts underlying the request;
- (4) the reasons for and details of any procedure or requirement to be followed;
- (5) such information as may be required under Belgian law in order to execute the request;
- (6) any other information relevant in order for the assistance sought to be provided.

Requests from the Court and the responses from Belgium shall be in one of the official languages of Belgium and in their original form.

SECTION III EXECUTION OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Article 24

The central authority shall review whether the request contains or is supported by the material referred to in article 96, paragraph 2 of the Statute and issue a preliminary decision not subject to appeal. If it deems the request to be in compliance with article 96, paragraph 2 of the Statute, it shall transmit the request to the competent judicial authority. If a request fails to meet the conditions provided in Section II of Chapter V of Title II of this law, the central authority may require it to be corrected or supplemented, without prejudice to any protective measures which might legally be taken in the interim.

Article 25

In accordance with article 99 of the Statute, Belgium shall execute requests for assistance according to the relevant procedure under its law and, unless prohibited by such law, in the manner specified in the request.

When requested to do so, the central authority shall authorize persons it shall designate to be present at and assist in the execution process.

SECTION IV RULES SPECIFIC TO CERTAIN REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Article 26

Searches and seizures requested by the Court shall be executed in accordance with Belgian law, with no need for the request to be rendered enforceable. Before the transmission of documents to the Court, the *chambre du conseil* of the court of first instance of the place where the documents were filed shall rule, within five days of any application filed with it, on any claims by third parties who are owners or assert rights over the material. Its ruling shall be final and not subject to appeal by third parties.

Article 27

In accordance with article 93, paragraph 7 of the Statute, any person in custody in Belgium may at the request of the Court be transferred temporarily for purposes of identification or for obtaining testimony or other assistance.

The person may be transferred if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (1) the person freely gives his or her informed consent to the transfer; and
- (2) the central authority agrees to the transfer to the Court, subject to such conditions as may be agreed between them.

The temporary transfer of persons in custody shall be arranged by the central authority in conjunction with the Registrar and the authorities of the host State of the Court.

The time applying to detention on remand shall be suspended for the duration of the absence of the person in question from the territory.

Article 28

Where the Court has granted the status of protected witness to a person and asks Belgium to implement protective measures on his or her behalf, the central authority, after consulting the chairperson of the witness protection committee established under [article 103 of the Code of Criminal Procedure](#), shall decide which of the measures referred to in [article 104 of said Code](#) the person should benefit from. Independently of any measures granted to the protected witness, where it deems it necessary, the central authority may also grant to persons close to the protected witness the protective measures referred to in article 104. They shall be implemented in the same way as those granted to a threatened witness or a family member thereof, as referred to in [article 102 of said Code](#).

Where the Court terminates the status of protected witness in respect of a person referred to in the preceding paragraph, the central authority shall determine whether the measures implemented on his or her behalf or on that of others should be maintained.

SECTION V POSTPONEMENT OF EXECUTION AND DENIAL OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN CERTAIN SPECIFIC CASES

Article 29

If the immediate execution of a request for assistance would interfere with an ongoing investigation or prosecution of a case different from that to which the request relates, the central authority may, having obtained the prior opinion of the judicial authorities, postpone the execution of the request for a period of time agreed upon with the Court, in accordance with article 94 of the Statute.

Article 30

In accordance with article 95 of the Statute, where the Court is considering an admissibility challenge pursuant to article 18 or 19 of the Statute, the central authority may postpone the execution of a request in relation to cooperation and judicial assistance pending a determination by the Court, unless the Court has specifically ordered that the Prosecutor may pursue the collection of evidence pursuant to article 18 or 19 of the Statute.

Article 31

In accordance with article 93, paragraph 4 of the Statute, if the central authority has serious grounds for considering that the execution of a request for assistance may prejudice national security, it shall inform the Court immediately. The central authority may decide to suspend any act required to execute a request pending a determination by the competent national authority, in accordance with the law in respect of a request to provide or disclose evidence relating to national security. As soon as the central authority decides to suspend the execution of a request for assistance, it shall enter into consultations with the Court, pursuant to article 72, paragraph 5 of the Statute, in order to consider all reasonable steps to resolve the matter by cooperative means. In accordance with article 72, paragraph 6 of the Statute, once all possible reasonable steps have been taken to resolve the matter through cooperative means, the central authority shall notify the Court of the fact that the request cannot be executed without prejudicing Belgian national security interests.

SECTION VI EXECUTION OF ACTS UNDER ARTICLE 99, PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE STATUTE BY THE PROSECUTOR ON BELGIAN TERRITORY

Article 32

Where the Prosecutor wishes to execute acts on Belgian territory as provided in article 99, paragraph 4 of the Statute, the Minister of Justice shall be consulted in accordance with said article. The Minister of Justice, having obtained the prior opinion of the judicial authorities, may refuse that the Prosecutor execute the investigative acts in question on Belgian territory if such acts could be executed, within the same timeframe and according to the procedure provided in this chapter, in response to a request for assistance.

CHAPTER VI ENFORCEMENT OF SENTENCES PRONOUNCED BY THE COURT

Article 33

In the event of a request from the Court, Belgium may enforce a final and enforceable sentence of imprisonment by the Court, provided it has agreed to appear on the list of States Parties accepting sentenced persons.

Article 34

1. Where the central authority approves the request by the Court to enforce a sentence of imprisonment, it shall so notify the Court and provide it with all relevant information concerning such enforcement of sentence.

2. In accordance with article 103, paragraph 2(a) of the Statute, the central authority shall also, if relevant, notify the Court of any circumstances which could materially affect the terms or extent of the imprisonment. The Court shall be given at least 45 days' notice of any such known or foreseeable circumstances. In accordance with article 103, paragraph 2(b) of the Statute, where the Court cannot agree to the said change in circumstances, it shall notify the central authority thereof and designate another State to enforce the sentence.

Article 35

1. In accordance with article 105 of the Statute, the sentence of imprisonment pronounced by the Court is enforceable in Belgium once the request is accepted by the central authority. The sentence delivered by the Court may in no case be modified. The Court alone shall have the right to decide on an application for appeal and revision.
2. Within 24 hours of his or her arrival at the prison assigned, the person transferred shall appear before the Crown Prosecutor (*procureur du Roi*) at the court of first instance of the place of custody, who shall question him or her as to his or her personal particulars, produce a written record, and having regard to the original or to an execution copy of the judgment of the Court, shall order the immediate incarceration of the sentenced person.
3. In accordance with article 106, paragraph 1 of the Statute, the enforcement of a sentence of imprisonment shall be subject to the supervision of the Court. The conditions of imprisonment shall be governed by Belgian legislation.
4. Procedures for conditional release shall be governed by article 110 of the Statute.
5. In accordance with article 104, paragraph 2 of the Statute, a sentenced person may at any time apply to the Court to be transferred from Belgium.

Article 36

Within the limits set by article 108 of the Statute, Belgium may, in applying its legislation, extradite or otherwise surrender a sentenced person who has served his or her sentence to the State which has requested his or her extradition or surrender, or to the International Tribunal which has sought the surrender of the person for purposes of trial or enforcement of a sentence.

Article 37

Should a convicted person enter an appeal against an acquittal or conviction or against sentence in accordance with article 81 of the Statute, an application for revision of a conviction or sentence in accordance with article 84 of the Statute or an application for a reduction of sentence in accordance with article 110 of the Statute, the request may be transmitted via the central authority which shall communicate it promptly to the Court together with all relevant documents.

Article 38

In accordance with article 106, paragraph 3 of the Statute, communications between the Court and a sentenced person shall be unimpeded and confidential.

Article 39

Should a convicted person escape from custody, the central authority may, after consultation with the Court, request the person's surrender from the State in which the person is located pursuant to existing bilateral or multilateral arrangements, or may request that the Court seek the person's surrender, in accordance with Part 9 of the Statute.

Article 40

Belgium shall give effect to fines or forfeitures ordered by the Court under Part 7 of the Statute, without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties. When a request for the enforcement of a forfeiture judgement is addressed to Belgium by the Court,

the criminal court of the place where the property subject to forfeiture is located shall render the decision enforceable, after hearing the public prosecutor and the convicted person or the latter's counsel. In accordance with article 109, paragraph 2 of the Statute, if it is impossible to give effect to a forfeiture order, equivalent forfeiture measures as specified in [article 43bis, paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code](#) may be ordered by the criminal court of the place where the property subject to forfeiture is located, without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties. Property or the proceeds of the sale of real property or, where appropriate, the sale of other property obtained from the enforcement of a judgement of the Court shall be transferred to the Court via the central authority.

CHAPTER VII OFFENCES AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE BY THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Article 41

Whosoever commits an offence against the administration of justice by the International Criminal Court by committing one or more of the acts referred to in article 70, paragraphs 1(a) to (f) of the Statute shall be liable to punishment by a sentence of imprisonment of six months to five years and to a fine of 50 to 100,000 euros, or to one of these penalties only.

CHAPTER VIII PROCEDURE FOR PRESENTATION OF A CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Article 42

1. A vacancy for the post of Judge at the International Criminal Court shall be published in the *Moniteur belge* (official gazette) when the Cabinet, on a proposal of the Minister of Justice, decides to put forward a candidate for such an election. The announcement published in the *Moniteur belge* shall set out the qualifications of candidates on the basis of article 36 of the Statute and indicate the deadline for applications to reach the Minister of Justice.

2. When the deadline comes to pass, the Minister of Justice (*Conseil supérieur de la Justice*) shall ask the joint nominations and appointments board of the Higher Justice Council to draw up two lists of candidates, one ranking the applicants having the qualifications specified in article 36, paragraph 3(b)(i) of the Statute, the other ranking applicants having the qualifications specified in article 36, paragraph 3(b)(ii) of the Statute. These two lists shall be established after the candidates have been heard by the joint nominations and appointments board. The latter shall transmit the lists within 60 clear days as from the date of the transmission of the applicant files by the Minister of Justice. However, only one of these lists shall be drawn up if the vacant post(s) relate to only one of the categories referred to in article 36, paragraph 3(b) of the Statute.

3. At the end of the 60-day period referred to in paragraph 2 above, the King shall have 60 clear days to choose, by a decree discussed by the Cabinet, the candidate who will be put forward by Belgium for the vacant seat. His choice must be the person ranked first on the list, in the case of a single list, and one of the two persons ranked first on either list where two lists have been established pursuant to paragraph 2 above.

4. The King may, by decree discussed by the Cabinet, oppose the choice of the board with a reasoned refusal. The board shall have 15 clear days to submit one or two lists of candidates anew, in accordance with paragraph 2 above. At the end of that time period, the King shall have 30 clear days either to choose, by a decree discussed by the Cabinet, the candidate who will be presented by Belgium for the vacant seat according to the same procedure as referred in paragraph 3 above, or to decide, by a decree discussed by the Cabinet, having recourse to a reasoned refusal, not to put forward any of the candidates proposed, and thereby to close the procedure.

TITLE III COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

[...]

TITLE IV PROVISIONS REGARDING REPEAL AND TRANSITION

Article 56

1. The Act of 22 March 1996 on the recognition of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda and cooperation with these tribunals shall be repealed as of the date of entry into force of this law.
2. Article 28 of the Act of 5 August 2003 on serious violations of international humanitarian law shall be repealed as of the date of entry into force of this law.

Article 57

Acts of cooperation within the framework of the Act of 22 March 1996 on the recognition of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda and cooperation with these tribunals which are in the course of execution as at the date of entry into force of this law shall continue to be executed within the purview of this law.

TITLE V ENTRY INTO FORCE

Article 58

This law shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Moniteur belge* (official gazette).

We promulgate this law and order that it be stamped with the seal of State and be published in the *Moniteur belge*.

Albert

By the King

Ms L. Onkelinx
The Minister of Justice

Stamp of the seal of state
Ms L. Onkelinx
The Minister of Justice

Belgium Cooperation Act, 2004

Notes

(1) Session 2003-2004

House of Representatives

Documents:

Doc. 51 0564:

001: Bill of law.

002 and 003: Amendments.

004: Report.

005: Text as adopted in committee.

006: Text as adopted in plenary session and transmitted to the Senate.

Full record - 22 January 2004.

Senate

Documents:

3-478:

No. 1: Bill as transmitted by the House of Representatives.

No. 2: Amendments.

No. 3: Report.

No. 4: Text as amended in committee.

No. 5: Text as amended by the Senate and returned to the House.

Parliamentary Proceedings - 19 February 2004.

House of Representatives

Documents:

Doc. 510564:

007: Bill as amended by the Senate.

008: Text as adopted in plenary session and Submitted for Royal Assent.