

*O Ministro dos Negócios Estrangeiros
e das Comunidades Portuguesas*

30 2002
32-19122

Excellency, *Dear Secretary-General,*

Since the beginning of the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Rome Statute, Portugal has been a firm supporter of the creation of the International Criminal Court. Portugal, as a founding member of the International Criminal Court, will maintain its active commitment towards the promotion and strengthening of international criminal justice.

With this in mind and in accordance with Article 36 of the Rome Statute, Portugal thus presents the candidatures of Judge Almiro Rodrigues for election to one of the 18 posts of Judges of the International Criminal Court, to be held in February 2003.

Judge Almiro Rodrigues is being nominated in accordance with Article 36.4 a) (ii) of the ICC Statute.

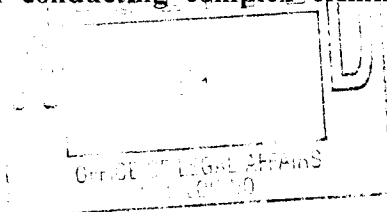
Judge Almiro Rodrigues is presently working as Deputy Attorney-General and Chairman of the Legal Advisory Office of the Ministry of Justice.

From 1997 to 2001, he served as judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), where he was the Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber I (1999-2001), Member of the Committee of Rules of the ICTY (1997-1999), and Chairman of the Working Group on Judicial Practices (1997-1999).

In Portugal, he also served as Prosecutor and Professor of Law at the Legal Studies Centre (where the Portuguese judges are trained), in Lisbon, where he was Co-ordinator for the Department of Legal Psychology.

Judge Almiro Rodrigues has specific legal expertise concerning violence against women or children, as stipulated in Article 36.8 b) of the Rome Statute.

Judge Almiro Rodrigues combines international experience with substantive knowledge of both criminal law and criminal procedure. He as a consistent background of conducting complex criminal trials, both in the ICTY and in Portugal.



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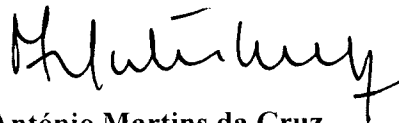
Judge Almiro Rodrigues is also the author of numerous articles and publications regarding justice and international relations.

Judge Almiro Rodrigues is known and highly respected for his high moral character, impartiality and integrity and possesses the qualifications required for appointment to the highest judicial offices in Portugal.

He has clearly established competence in the areas of criminal law and procedure envisaged in Article 36.3 b) (i) of the Rome Statute.

Besides his native Portuguese, Judge Almiro Rodrigues is fluent in English, French, Spanish and Italian.

The curriculum vitae of Judge Almiro Rodrigues is enclosed herewith.



António Martins da Cruz

(Minister for Foreign Affairs)

**H. E. Mr. Kofi Annan
Secretary-General
of the United Nations
New York**