



ICC FINDS THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAD A DUTY TO ARREST THE SUDANESE PRESIDENT

Date Published: 07 JUL 2017

The decision of the International Criminal Court finding that South Africa had a duty to arrest Sudanese president, Omaar al-Bashire, should come as no surprise since it is in line with the decisions made by our own courts.

Unfortunately it will be a mark against South Africa's name and undermine trust in the country.

We cannot choose which international agreements to observe and which to ignore when we are a party to those agreements. If we do that there will be no point in making agreements with South Africa.

South Africa had once been seen as the polecat of the world and the last thing we need is to re-earn that epithet.

Unfortunately, ignoring the commitment and defying our own courts is also in line with recent decisions to avoid prosecuting political and well-placed executives against whom there is growing evidence of corruption.

We are approaching territory where we allow the powers that be to choose which laws and commitments they enforce. That is dangerous, undemocratic territory and we must retreat from it before it is too late.

Janine Myburgh

President of the Cape Chamber

Tags: business, cape chamber, Chamber Says, ICC, international criminal court, Janine Myburgh, Law, Omaar al-Bashire, President, small business, Small Business Development, SME, SMME, Sudanese, undemocratic, where opportunity meets

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