

## Seventh meeting of the Preparatory Committee

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At the seventh meeting (held in Brussels on 4 November 2014) the Member States reported on the national ratification processes. It does indeed look promising since many member states reported that they hope to be able to ratify in the course of 2015. Oral updates were conducted on the different work streams. A specific point to note is the first tranche of training for candidate judges that will commence early in 2015 (this training will focus on those that applied for legally qualified judicial appointments). Those involved will be contacted separately.

Much progress has been made in the IT working group and it is anticipated that a tender will be published before the end of the this year. The chair of the legal framework group informed the Committee about the plans for the upcoming hearing on the Rules of Procedure taking place in Trier on 26 November. The Committee also had a first discussion on the draft rules for mediation and arbitration and were near conclusion on the draft rules for legal aid.