Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: French No.: ICC-01/04-01/07

Date: 19 May 2009

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Bruno Cotte, Presiding Judge

Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra

Judge Hans-Peter Kaul

SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. GERMAIN KATANGA AND MATHIEU NGUDJOLO CHUI

Public Document

Third Decision Inviting the Parties to Submit their Observations on Applications for Participation (Rule 89(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence)

Decision to be notified in accordance with regulation 31 of the Regulations of the Court to:

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor Mr Éric MacDonald, Senior Trial Lawyer Counsel for the Defence of Germain

Katanga

Mr David Hooper Mr Andreas O'Shea

Counsel for Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui

Mr Jean-Pierre Kilenda Kakengi Basila Mr Jean-Pierre Fofé Djofia Malewa

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Ms Carine Bapita Buyangandu

Mr Joseph Keta

Mr Jean-Louis Gilissen

Mr Hervé Diakiese

Mr Jean Chrysostome Mulamba

Nsokoloni

Mr Fidel Nsita Luvengika

Mr Vincent Lurquin

Ms Flora Ambuyu Andjelani

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

The Office of Public Counsel for

Victims

Ms Paolina Massida

The Office of Public Counsel for the

Defence

States' Representatives Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Ms Silvana Arbia

Defence Support Section

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Ms Fiona McKay

TRIAL CHAMBER II of the International Criminal Court ("the Chamber" and "the Court" respectively), acting pursuant to article 68 of the Rome Statute ("the Statute"), rule 89(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and regulation 86 of the Regulations of the Court, decides as follows:

- 1. On 26 February 2009, the Chamber laid down the procedure to be followed concerning the treatment of applications for participation by the Victims Participation and Reparations Section (VPRS), in particular the modalities of the procedure for redacting applications prior to their disclosure to the parties.¹
- 2. On 20 March 2009, the Registry submitted to the Chamber a report on the establishment of a redaction regime for victims' applications for participation. Annexed to this report, which sets out the criteria used by VPRS for this purpose, is a table indicating the information which, in the latter's view, is liable to be redacted, since it constitutes information identifying applicants.²
- 3. In accordance with the procedure set out in the Decision of 26 February 2009, VPRS transmitted to the Chamber several reports containing its proposed redactions. An initial report was submitted on 3 April 2009.³ It concerned 97 applications for participation, including seven applications filed with Pre-Trial Chamber I on 26 May 2008⁴ and supplemented on 2 June 2008⁵ on which no decision had been made. An additional report concerning one applicant represented by the

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¹ Decision on the treatment of applications for participation, 26 February 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-933-tENG, paras. 46 to 54 ("the Decision of 26 February 2009").

² Registry, "Rapport du Greffe sur la mise en place d'un régime d'expurgation des demandes de participation de victimes, conformément à la décision du 26 février 2009 (ICC-01/04-01/07-933)", 20 March 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-974-Conf-Exp with confidential ex parte annex.

³ Registry, "Filing of proposed redactions on victims' applications in accordance with decision ICC-01/04-01/07-933", 3 April 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1023-Conf-Exp with confidential *ex parte* Annexes 1 to 97.

⁴ Registry, "*Transmission de 97 demandes de participation*", 26 May 2008, ICC-01/04-01/07-510-Conf-Exp-Corr with confidential *ex parte* Annexes l to 97.

⁵ Registry, "Report on Victims' Applications under Regulation 86.5, Regulations of the Court", 2 June 2008, ICC-01/04-01/07-542-Conf-Exp with confidential *ex parte* Annexes 1 to 9.

Office of Public Counsel for Victims was filed on 8 April 2009.⁶ Those 97 applications were disclosed to the parties for their observations.⁷

- 4. On 21 April 2009, a second report was submitted to the Chamber, in which the Registry stated that it had received 70 new applications for participation completed in accordance with the criteria set forth by the Chamber in its Decision of 26 February 2009.⁸ These 70 applications were disclosed to the parties for their observations.⁹
- 5. A third¹⁰ and fourth¹¹ report were submitted to the Chamber on 4 and 8 May 2009. In those reports the Registry informs the Chamber of the receipt of 54 new applications for participation, of which 50 are complete,¹² and of the receipt of 45 new applications for participation, of which 37 are complete.¹³ All 99 applicants are seeking to obtain the status of participant in the proceedings in the present case. The Chamber also notes that these proposals for redactions were made after prior consultation with the Victims and Witnesses Unit, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the Decision of 26 February 2009.
- 6. The Chamber recalls that, under article 68(1) of the Statute, the Court has an obligation to protect, inter alia, the safety and physical and psychological well-being of victims. Hence, the Chamber must take all appropriate measures to protect them,

⁶ Registry, "Rapport supplémentaire du Greffe sur le rapport proposant les expurgations des demandes de participation des victimes conformément à la décision ICC-01/04-01/07-933", 8 April 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1048-Conf-Exp confidential ex parte Annexes l to 97.

⁷ Décision invitant les parties à présenter leurs observations relatives aux demandes de participation (règle 89-1 du Règlement de procédure et de preuve), 4 May 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1094.

⁸ Registry, "Deuxième rapport du Greffe sur des demandes de participation en application de la norme 86-5 du Règlement de la Cour", 21 April 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1066-Conf-Exp.

⁹ Deuxième décision invitant les parties à présenter leurs observations relatives aux demandes de participation (règle 89-1 du Règlement de procédure et de preuve), 12 May 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1129.

¹⁰ Registry, "Troisième rapport du Greffe sur des demandes de participation en application de la norme 86-5 du Règlement de la Cour", 4 May 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1092-Conf-Exp.

¹¹ Registry, "Quatrième rapport du Greffe sur des demandes de participation en application de la norme 86-5 du Règlement de la Cour", 8 May 2009, ICC-01/04-01/07-1121-Conf-Exp.

¹² ICC-01/04-01/07-1092-Conf-Exp, para. 4.

¹³ ICC-01/04-01/07-1121-Conf-Exp, para. 5.

particularly in view of the existence of real security risks on the territory of the

Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7. After a careful assessment of the redacted version of each application for

participation, the Chamber notes that only 87 of them meet the criteria for a

complete application as set out in the Decision of 26 February 2009.14 In the

Chamber's opinion, only these 87 applications may be disclosed to the parties for

their observations.

8. The Chamber considers that all of the redactions now proposed, which it has

reviewed in accordance with its Decision of 26 February 2009, satisfy the principle of

proportionality, since they are necessary and constitute the only possible and

sufficient measure. It considers that, in order to protect applicants effectively at this

stage of the authorisation procedure, it must order that their identities and

identifying information are not to be disclosed until it has ruled on their status as

participants in the proceedings. In the Chamber's view, the proposed redactions fall

within the limits defined in paragraphs 49 and 51 of the Decision of 26 February

2009.

9. Lastly, the Chamber considers that the twelve incomplete applications must

be completed before being sent to the parties for their observations. The Chamber is

of the opinion that the Registry must contact the legal representatives of these twelve

applicants so that they may complete their applications for participation.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

DECIDES that, at this stage of the procedure, redactions of information enabling

applicants to be identified are necessary and constitute the only measures capable of

ensuring respect for their privacy and of guaranteeing their safety and physical well-

being;

¹⁴ ICC-01/04-01/07-933, para. 28.

ORDERS the Registrar to disclose redacted copies of the applications for participation contained in her third report,¹⁵ excluding applications a/0607/08, a/0160/09, a/0161/09 and a/0162/09, to both Defence teams and to the Prosecutor no later than 4 p.m. on 19 May 2009;

ORDERS the Registrar to disclose redacted copies of the applications for participation contained in her fourth report,¹⁶ excluding applications a/0268/08, a/0284/09, a/0285/09, a/0286/09, a/0291/09, a/0297/09, a/0306/09 and a/0315/09, to both Defence teams and to the Prosecutor no later than 4 p.m. on 19 May 2009;

DECIDES that both Defence teams and the Prosecutor have until 4 p.m. on 2 June 2009 to file their observations on whether or not the status of participant in the proceedings should be granted to the 87 applicants;

ORDERS the Registrar to contact the Legal Representatives of Applicants a/0607/08, a/0160/09, a/0161/09, a/0162/09, a/0268/08, a/0284/09, a/0285/09, a/0286/09, a/0291/09, a/0297/09, a/0306/09 and a/0315/09 in order to obtain the necessary additional information to complete their applications for participation and, once they have been completed, to transmit them to the Chamber by 4 p.m. on 29 May 2009;

ORDERS the parties to refer to the applicants by the number assigned to them by the Registry.

¹⁵ ICC-01/04-01/07-1092-Conf-Exp.

¹⁶ ICC-01/04-01/07-1121-Conf-Exp.

Done in both English and French, the French version being authoritative.

[signed]	
Judge Bruno Cotte	
Presiding Judge	

[signed] [signed 19/5/09]

Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra Judge Hans-Peter Kaul

Dated this 19 May 2009 At The Hague, The Netherlands