Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/13 Date: 25 March 2015

## PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

**Before:** 

Judge Joyce Aluoch Judge Cuno Tarfusser Judge Péter Kovács

## SITUATION ON REGISTERED VESSELS OF THE UNION OF THE COMOROS, THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC OF GREECE AND THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Public

Prosecution's Response to Application for Leave to Reply Submitted on Behalf of KC Law (also known as Stoke and White LLP) and IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation (ICC-01/13-11)

Source: Office of the Prosecutor

## Document to be notified in accordance with regulation 31 of the *Regulations of the*

*Court* to:

<b>The Office of the Prosecutor</b> Ms Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor Mr James Stewart	Counsel for the Defence
Legal Representatives of Victims	Legal Representatives of Applicants
Unrepresented Victims	Unrepresented Applicants for Participation/Reparation
The Office of Public Counsel for Victims	The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence
<b>States Representatives</b> Mr Geoffrey Nice Mr Rodney Dixon	Amicus Curiae
REGISTRY	
<b>Registrar</b> Mr Herman von Hebel	Defence Support Section
Victims and Witnesses Unit	Detention Section
Victime Derticipation and Deparations	Other

Victims Participation and Reparations Other Section

1. On 24 March 2015, KC Law (also known as Stoke and White LLP) and the IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, acting on behalf of persons seeking to participate in these proceedings as victims, requested leave to reply<sup>1</sup> in support of their application.<sup>2</sup> They propose two issues to be addressed.

- The first issue concerns the basis on which 55 persons may be considered as "victims", if they have not been directly or indirectly harmed by the crimes for which the Prosecution found a reasonable basis in its report under article 53(1) of the Statute ("First Issue").<sup>3</sup>
- The second issue concerns the desirability of the same counsel representing • both the victims who are authorised to participate in these proceedings and the State Party to the Rome Statute who initiated these proceedings ("Second Issue").4

2. With respect to the First Issue, bearing in mind the unique characteristics of this situation, the Prosecution will not object to the Pre-Trial Chamber, exceptionally, granting leave to reply.5 However, the Prosecution stresses its view that the relevance of the First Issue was wholly foreseeable, and should have been addressed in the Application. In general, a reply should not be a procedural vehicle to address oversights in the original motion, but only issues arising from a response to that motion which could not reasonably have been anticipated.

3. In its Response, the Prosecution did not "invite" a reply regarding 8 of the 55 relevant persons, but merely indicated its view that the Pre-Trial Chamber should make their participation as victims conditional upon confirmation that they were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See ICC-01/13-11-Anx1 ("Application for Leave to Reply") (annexed to ICC-01/13-11), para.15. <sup>2</sup> See ICC-01/13-7-Anx1 ("Application") (annexed to ICC-01/13-7). See also ICC-01/13-8 ("Response"). <sup>3</sup> Application for Leave to Reply, paras.3, 7-11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Application for Leave to Reply, paras.3, 12-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See also Application for Leave to Reply, para.10.

indeed passengers aboard the *Mavi Marmara*.<sup>6</sup> By contrast, the First Issue plainly contemplates submissions extending beyond this factual confirmation.

4. The Prosecution does not oppose the Pre-Trial Chamber granting leave to reply on the Second Issue.

Bernada

Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor

Dated this 25th day of March 2015

At The Hague, The Netherlands

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Contra Application for Leave to Reply, paras.8, 11. See Response, para.12 (fourth bullet point).