

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/14-01/18

Date: 15 August 2019

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua, Presiding Judge
Judge Tomoko Akane
Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

**IN THE CASE OF
*THE PROSECUTOR v. ALFRED YEKATOM AND PATRICE-ÉDOUARD
NGAISSONA***

Public

**Notification by the Common Legal Representative of the Former Child Soldiers
pursuant to the “Decision on the Legal Representation of Victims” dated
23 May 2019 (ICC-01/14-01/18-205)**

Source: Office of Public Counsel for Victims

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda
Mr James Stewart
Mr Kweku Vanderpuye

Counsel for Mr Alfred Yekatom

Ms Mylène Dimitri
Mr Peter Robinson

**Counsel for Mr Patrice-Édouard
Ngaïssona**

Mr Geert-Jan Alexander Knoop

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Mr Dmytro Suprun
Ms Paolina Massidda
Mr Abdou Dangabo Moussa
Ms Elisabeth Rabesandratana
Mr Yaré Fall
Ms Marie-Edith Douzima-Lawson
Ms Christine Priso Ouamballo

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

**Unrepresented Applicants
(Participation/Reparation)**

**The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

Ms Paolina Massidda
Mr Dmytro Suprun

**The Office of Public Counsel for the
Defence**

States' Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Peter Lewis

Counsel Support Section

Mr Esteban Peralta

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Mr Nigel Verrill

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Mr Philipp Ambach

Other

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. On 17 November 2018, Pre-Trial Chamber II (the “Chamber”) issued the “Public Redacted Version of ‘Warrant of Arrest for Alfred Yekatom’, ICC-01/14-01/18-1-US-Exp, 11 November 2018”.¹ Mr Yekatom was surrendered to the Court by the authorities of the Central African Republic on 17 November 2018.

2. On 13 December 2018, the Chamber issued the “Public Redacted Version of ‘Warrant of Arrest for Patrice-Édouard Ngaïssona’”.² Mr Ngaïssona was surrendered to the Court by the authorities of the French Republic on 23 January 2019.

3. On 20 February 2019, the Chamber issued the “Decision on the joinder of the cases against Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Édouard Ngaïssona and other related matters”, thereby joining the cases against Mr Yekatom and Mr Ngaïssona.³ The Chamber scheduled the confirmation of charges hearing in the present case to commence on 18 June 2019.⁴

4. On 5 March 2019, the Chamber issued the “Decision Establishing the Principles Applicable to Victims’ Applications for Participation”,⁵ thereby, *inter alia*, ordering the Registry to submit a report regarding the organisation of the system of legal representation by 16 April 2019 at the latest.⁶

¹ See the “Public Redacted Version of ‘Warrant of Arrest for Alfred Yekatom’, ICC-01/14-01/18-US-Exp, 11 November 2018” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-1-Red, 17 November 2018.

² See the “Public Redacted Version of ‘Warrant of Arrest for Patrice-Édouard Ngaïssona’” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-89-Red, 13 December 2018.

³ See the “Decision on the joinder of the cases against Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Édouard Ngaïssona and other related matters” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-121, 20 February 2019.

⁴ *Idem*, p. 11.

⁵ See the “Decision Establishing the Principles Applicable to Victims’ Applications for Participation” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-141, 5 March 2019.

⁶ *Idem*, p. 23.

5. On 16 April 2019, the Registry transmitted the “Registry’s Report on Legal Representation of Victims”, which was notified on 17 April 2019.⁷

6. On 15 May 2019, the Chamber issued the “Decision on the ‘Prosecution’s Request to Postpone the Confirmation Hearing and all Related Disclosure Deadlines’”,⁸ thereby postponing the start of the confirmation hearing in the present case to 19 September 2019.⁹

7. On 23 May 2019, the Chamber issued the “Decision on the Legal Representation of Victims”,¹⁰ whereby it, *inter alia*, (i) appointed counsel from the Office of Public Counsel for Victims (the “OPCV”) to act as the common legal representative of the Former Child Soldiers,¹¹ and (ii) ordered the OPCV to include in the team one or more persons based in the CAR who possesses adequate knowledge of the situation in the CAR.¹²

8. On 4 June 2019, the OPCV notified the Chamber that Mr Dmytro Suprun has been designated to act as the Common Legal Representative of the Former Child Soldiers, and that a Central African lawyer will be designated as Field Assistant or Field Counsel, whose name will be notified in due course, to be permanently based in the field and to maintain regular contact with the victims.¹³

⁷ See the “Registry’s Report on Legal Representation of Victims”, No. ICC-01/14-01/18-178, 17 April 2019 (dated 16 April 2019).

⁸ See the “Decision on the ‘Prosecution’s Request to Postpone the Confirmation Hearing and all Related Disclosure Deadlines’” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-199, 15 May 2019.

⁹ *Idem*, p. 17.

¹⁰ See the “Decision on the Legal Representation of Victims” (Pre-Trial Chamber II), No. ICC-01/14-01/18-205, 23 May 2019.

¹¹ *Idem*, p. 9.

¹² *Ibid.*, para. 16.

¹³ See the “Public Redacted Version of the ‘Notification by the Office of Public Counsel for Victims pursuant to the ‘Decision on the Legal Representation of Victims’ dated 23 May 2019 (ICC-01/14-01/18)’”, No. ICC-01/14-01/18-218-Red, 4 June 2019, paras. 9-10.

II. NOTIFICATION

9. Pursuant to the Decision on Legal Representation of Victims, the Common Legal Representative of the Former Child Soldiers herewith notifies the Chamber that Mr Joseph AKEM-MEVOUNGOU, a Central African lawyer with over ten years of relevant professional experience and comprehensive knowledge of the situation in the CAR, has been designated, as of 9 August 2019, as Field Counsel for the Former Child Soldiers in the present case.

10. Mr AKEM-MEVOUNGOU will be permanently based in the CAR in order to maintain regular contact with the victims.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



Dmytro Suprun
Common Legal Representative of the Former Child Soldiers

Dated this 15th day of August 2019

At The Hague, The Netherlands