



Original: English

No. ICC-01/14-01/21

Date: 26 January 2021

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala, Single Judge

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

IN THE CASE OF

THE PROSECUTOR v. MAHAMAT SAID ABDEL KANI

Public

Decision on the convening of a hearing for the initial appearance of Mr Mahamat Said
Abdel Kani

Decision 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

Counsel for the Defence

Legal Representatives of Victims

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

**Unrepresented Applicants for
Participation/Reparations**

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

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

States Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar
Mr Peter Lewis

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Other

JUDGE ROSARIO SALVATORE AITALA, acting as Single Judge on behalf of Pre-Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court (the ‘Chamber’ and the ‘Court’), issues this Decision on the convening of a hearing for the initial appearance of Mr Mahamat Said Abdel Kani.

1. On 30 May 2014, the Government of the Central African Republic (the ‘CAR’) referred the situation in the CAR since 1 August 2012 to the Court.¹
2. On 16 March 2018, the Presidency of the Court assigned the situation in the CAR II to Pre-Trial Chamber II.²
3. On 7 January 2019, the ‘Warrant of arrest for Mahamat Said Abdel Kani’ was issued.³
4. On 24 January 2021, Mr Mahamat Said Abdel Kani arrived in the custody of the Court.
5. On 25 January 2021, Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala was designated by the Chamber as Single Judge responsible for carrying out the functions of the Chamber in the present case until otherwise decided.⁴
6. The Single Judge notes articles 60(1) and 67 of the Statute, rule 121(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (the ‘Rules’) and regulations 20(1) and 21 of the Regulations of the Court (the ‘Regulations’).
7. In particular, according to article 60(1) of the Statute and rule 121(1) of the Rules, a person subject to a warrant of arrest under article 58 of the Statute ‘shall appear before the Pre-Trial Chamber’ and be informed of (i) the crimes he is alleged to have committed; (ii) his rights under the Statute; and (iii) the date for a hearing to confirm or to decline to confirm the charges.
8. The Single Judge considers it appropriate for the initial appearance of Mr Mahamat Said Abdel Kani to take place on Thursday 28 January 2021. The public

¹ The letter is annexed to the decision assigning the situation to the Chamber; *see* Presidency, Decision Assigning the Situation in the Central African Republic II to Pre-Trial Chamber II, 18 June 2014, ICC-01/14-1-Anx1.

² Decision assigning judges to divisions and recomposing Chambers, ICC-01/14-12.

³ ICC-01/14-42-US-Exp.

⁴ Decision on the designation of a Single Judge, ICC-01/14-136.

hearing will be broadcast with a thirty-minute delay in order to protect sensitive information, in accordance with regulation 21(2) of the Regulations.

9. In light of the restrictions for accessing the Court building and the precautionary measures adopted and in place as a consequence of the current COVID-19 pandemic, attendance in the courtroom might be adapted as required and appropriate, including by way of establishing secure video-links.

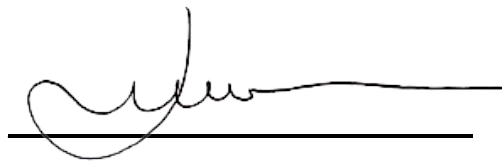
10. The Single Judge further notes that, pursuant to regulation 21(1) of the Regulations, the publicity of hearings may extend beyond the courtroom and, accordingly, authorises video recording and the taking of photographs in the courtroom at the start of the initial appearance hearing for no longer than one minute and a half.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE SINGLE JUDGE HEREBY

DECIDES to convene the hearing for the initial appearance of Mr Mahamat Said Abdel Kani on Thursday 28 January 2021, at 10:00 hours in courtroom I; and

AUTHORISES the Registrar to inform external applicants that, at the start of the initial appearance hearing and after all the parties and representatives of the Registry have taken their seats, video recording and the taking of photographs will be permitted for no longer than one minute and a half.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala
Single Judge

Dated this Tuesday, 26 January 2021

At The Hague, The Netherlands