



**Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale**

**International  
Criminal  
Court**

ICC-PIDS-CIS-CI-01-008/13\_Eng  
Updated: 13 June 2014

# Case Information Sheet

## Situation in the Côte d'Ivoire

*The Prosecutor*

*v.*

*Laurent Gbagbo*

Case n° ICC-02/11-01/11



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Date of birth	31 May 1945
Place of birth	Mama village of the Ouragahio <i>sous-préfecture</i> , Gagnoa department in Côte d'Ivoire
Nationality	Ivorian
Current situation	Detained at the Detention Centre in The Hague
Warrant of arrest	Issued under seal on 23 November 2011 Unsealed on 30 November 2011
Transfer to The Hague	30 November 2011
Initial appearance hearing	5 December 2011
Confirmation of charges hearing	19 - 28 February 2013
Decision on the confirmation of charges against Laurent Gbagbo	12 June 2014

### Charges

Laurent Gbagbo is accused of having engaged his individual criminal responsibility for four counts of crimes against humanity, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, jointly with members of his inner circle and through members of the pro-Gbagbo forces (article 25(3)(a) of the Rome Statute) or, in the alternative, for ordering soliciting and inducing the commission of these crimes (article 25(3)(b) of the Rome Statute) or, in the alternative, for contributing in any other way to the commission of these crimes (article 25(3)(d) of the Rome Statute):

- murder,
- rape,
- other inhumane acts or – in the alternative – attempted murder,
- and persecution

These crimes were allegedly committed between 16 and 19 December 2010 during and after a pro-Ouattara march on the RTI headquarters, on 3 March 2011 at a women's demonstration in Abobo, on 17 March 2011 by shelling a densely populated area in Abobo, and on or around 12 April 2011 in Yopougon.

## Key judicial developments

### Acceptance of the ICC jurisdiction and opening of investigations

Côte d'Ivoire, which was not party to the Rome Statute at the time, [had accepted the ICC's jurisdiction](#) on 18 April 2003, by a declaration made in accordance with article 12-3 of the Rome Statute; on both 14 December 2010 and 3 May 2011, the Presidency of Côte d'Ivoire [reconfirmed the country's acceptance](#) of this jurisdiction.

Following the declaration of Côte d'Ivoire, the ICC Prosecutor conducted a preliminary examination of the situation. He concluded that the criteria to open an investigation are met and submitted, on 23 June 2011, a request for authorisation to open investigations on his own initiative (called investigation *proprio motu*) into the situation in Côte d'Ivoire.

On 3 October 2011, the Pre-Trial Chamber judges granted the Prosecutor's request [to open an investigation](#) with respect to alleged crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court committed in Côte d'Ivoire since 28 November 2010, as well as with regard to crimes that may be committed in the future in the context of the same situation in this country.



The judges also requested the Prosecutor to revert to the Chamber with any additional information that is available to him on potentially relevant crimes committed between 2002 and 2010. The Prosecutor complied with this request on 3 November 2011. On 22 February 2012, the Pre-Trial Chamber decided to expand its authorisation for the investigation in Côte d'Ivoire to include crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court allegedly committed between 19 September 2002 and 28 November 2010.

On 15 February 2013, Côte d'Ivoire ratified the Rome Statute.

### **Warrant of arrest and surrender to the Court**

On 25 October 2011, the Prosecution submitted to the Pre-Trial Chamber judges an application under article 58 of the Rome Statute for the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of Laurent Gbagbo.

On 23 November 2011, the judges issued a warrant of arrest under seal. The arrest warrant against Mr Gbagbo was unsealed on 30 November 2011, when he was transferred to the ICC detention centre at The Hague, by the Ivorian authorities.

On 5 December 2011, the judges held an initial appearance hearing to verify the identity of the suspect and to ensure that he was clearly informed of the charges brought against him and of his rights under the Rome Statute.

The confirmation of charges hearing in the case took place on 19- 28 February 2013.

On 3 June 2013, Pre-Trial Chamber I adjourned the hearing on the confirmation of charges and requested the Prosecutor to consider providing further evidence or conducting further investigation with respect to the charges presented against Laurent Gbagbo.

### **Confirmation of charges**

The confirmation of charges hearing in the case took place on 19- 28 February 2013.

Following the confirmation of charges hearing, the Chamber decided to adjourn the hearing and requested the Prosecutor to consider providing it with further evidence or conduct additional investigations. In accordance with an established calendar, the Chamber received additional submissions of evidence and observations by the Prosecution, the Defence and the victims' representative.

The Chamber thoroughly examined all the evidence submitted to it by the parties, which included the statements of 108 witnesses, more than 22.000 pages of other documentary evidence, as well as a large amount of audio and video material.

On 12 June 2014, Pre-Trial Chamber I [confirmed](#) by majority four charges of crimes against humanity (murder, rape, other inhumane acts or – in the alternative – attempted murder, and persecution) against Laurent Gbagbo and committed him for trial before a Trial Chamber.

### **Legal assistance**

On 28 December 2011, the Registrar provisionally found Mr Gbagbo indigent pending verification by the Court of the information contained in his application. The cost of his Defence is therefore borne by the Court under the legal assistance scheme.

### **Participation of victims**

Pre-Trial Chamber I granted 199 persons the status of victims authorised to participate in the proceeding.

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### **Composition of Pre-Trial Chamber I**

Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, Presiding Judge  
Judge Hans-Peter Kaul  
Judge Christine Van den Wyngaert

### **Representation of the Office of the Prosecutor**

Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor  
James Stewart, Deputy Prosecutor

### **Defence Counsel for Laurent Gbagbo**

Emmanuel Altit  
Agathe Bahi Baroan  
Natacha Fauveau Ivanovic

### **Legal Representatives of the Victims**

Office of Public Counsel for Victims: Paolina Massidda, Principal Counsel