Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

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

Date: 19 October 2023

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Chang-ho Chung, Presiding

Judge Péter Kovács

Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera

SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO IN THE CASE OF

THE PROSECUTOR v. GERMAIN KATANGA

Confidential

Fourteenth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims

Source: Trust Fund for Victims

ICC-01/04-01/07 19 October 2023

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

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Mr David Hooper Ms Caroline Buisman

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Trust Fund for VictimsMs Deborah Ruiz Verduzco

States Representatives

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Osvaldo Zavala Giler

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Mr Philipp Ambach

I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Trust Fund for Victims hereby submits its Fourteenth quarterly update report pursuant to Regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, and in accordance with Trial Chamber II's ("Trial Chamber") order instructing the Trust Fund for Victims to submit reports starting with a first report on 17 July 2020¹ concerning the progress in the implementation of the three remaining collective reparation awards ordered in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga*.
- 2. The Thirteenth quarterly update report on the implementation of collective reparation awards² was filed on 19 July 2023.

II. CLASSIFICATION OF THE PRESENT SUBMISSION

3. Pursuant to Regulation 23 *bis* (1) of the Regulations of the Court, the Trust Fund for Victims has classified the present report as confidential insofar as it contains sensitive information related to the ongoing implementation of reparations. The Trust Fund for Victims will file a public redacted version of the report in due course.

III. REGULATION 58 UPDATE REPORT

- 4. The Trust Fund for Victims hereby submits its Fourteenth quarterly update report on the implementation of the collective reparation awards, with information pertaining to A) external challenges, B) income-generating activities, C) housing assistance, D) psychological support, E) evaluation, and F) the end of the programme and closing ceremony.
- 5. The reporting period for the purposes of the present update report covers the period from 20 July 2023 to 19 October 2023.
- 6. The Trust Fund for Victims informs that the last modality of the implementation of the income-generating activities was finalized in the current reporting period. As a result, the implementation of the reparations ordered by the Court has concluded on 6 October 2023. As requested by the victims, the official closure of the reparations implementation will be marked by

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¹ Ordonnance enjoignant au Fonds au profit des victimes de déposer des rapports trimestriels sur l'exécution des réparations et au représentant légal des victimes de déposer des observations à des fins de clarification de ses écritures des 6 et 13 mars 2020, 3 July 2020, ICC-01/04-01/07-3855.

² Thirteenth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 July 2023, ICC-01/04-01/07-3915-Conf ("Thirteenth quarterly update report, 19 July 2023").

a symbolic ceremony tentatively scheduled for February 2024. Details on this matter are provided in section F below.

A. External Challenges

7. During the reporting period, the continued highly volatile security situation in the areas, in which the Trust Fund for Victims is currently operating has however not posed additional challenges in relation to the programme implementation.

B. Income-Generating Activities

- 8. The Trust Fund for Victims is pleased to report that the last programme beneficiary, who as reported in the previous submission was yet to receive the remainder of their reparations,³ has received these reparations on 6 October 2023. The final reparations comprised the delivery of three motorcycles to the victim for the total amount of USD 2,750. With such activity, the Trust Fund for Victims has thereby fully completed the implementation of the modality pertaining to incomegenerating activities as part of the present reparations. Considering that the other modalities had already been concluded in the last reporting period, the delivery of these items signifies the completion of the entire programme.
- 9. As a result, as part of the implementation of income-generating activities, the Trust Fund for Victims provided a total of 252 beneficiaries with at least one item of their choice to perform various income-generating activities, such as cattle, motorcycles, fuel, general commerce, fish and small income-generating activities. One victim benefitted from income-generating activities jointly with their spouse, as agreed by them.

C. Housing Assistance

10. The delivery of housing assistance concluded in the previous reporting period. A total of 56 beneficiaries were provided with housing support.⁴

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³ See Twelfth quarterly update report, 19 April 2023, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3913-Conf</u> ("Twelfth quarterly update report, 19 April 2023"), para. 7.

⁴ Thirteenth quarterly update report, 19 July 2023, para. 8.

D. Psychological Support

- 11. As provided for by the Trial Chamber and in the Draft Implementation Plan of the Trust Fund for Victims, eligible victims in this case who were present in Ituri (initially 266) were given access to counsellors trained in trauma-based counselling and were offered the possibility of benefitting from counselling sessions as part of the programme.⁵ All steps relevant to the full implementation of the psychological support modality were taken by the end of the penultimate reporting period. Accordingly, this modality has been reported as finalized.⁶
- 12. The provision of counselling sessions by members of the local community trained by the Trust Fund for Victims' expert psychologists consultants has been designed in such a way as to allow for its continuation on a *pro bono* basis for an indefinite period of time after a series of initial counselling sessions, which were implemented under the supervision and monitoring of the Trust Fund for Victims' expert psychologists consultants. As confirmed on the day of the present report, several beneficiaries have continued benefitting from counselling sessions provided by the locally-based psychological support counsellors on a *pro bono* basis during the reporting period. The Trust Fund for Victims is kept informed on a regular basis on the continued provision of psychological support by the counsellors to beneficiaries of the reparations programme.

E. Evaluation

13. As reported in the Eighth,⁷ Ninth⁸ and Thirteenth Update Reports,⁹ the Trust Fund for Victims has commissioned an independent evaluation of the programme led by a team of researchers from the University of Edinburgh. The evaluation report is currently in the process of finalisation, after which it will be presented to the Trial Chamber.

⁵ Draft implementation plan relevant to Trial Chamber II's order for reparations of 24 March 2017 (ICC-01/04-01/07-3728) ("Draft Implementation Plan"), ICC-01/04-01/07-3751, para. 119.

⁶ Twelfth quarterly update report, 19 April 2023, paras 21-36; Thirteenth quarterly update report, 19 July 2023, para. 11.

⁷ Eighth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 April 2022, ICC-01/04-01/07-3902-Conf, para. 27.

⁸ Ninth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 July 2022, ICC-01/04-01/07-3905-Conf, para. 32.

⁹ Thirteenth quarterly update report, 19 July 2023, para. 13.

F. End of Programme and Closing Ceremony

- 14. Further to the request received from the victims of the case, the Trust Fund for Victims is in the process of consultations with the Court and other stakeholders to prepare the organisation of a closing ceremony to mark the end of the implementation of the *Katanga* reparations. The Trust Fund for Victims is also conducting internal and external consultations in this respect and, insofar as the Trust Fund for Victims intends to organise the ceremony in accordance with the interests and preferences expressed by the victims, the outcome of the consultations led by the LRVs with the victims they are representing will inform the setting of the closing ceremony.
- 15. The Trust Fund for Victims is currently planning to organise the symbolic closing ceremony in February 2024, subject to all required preparatory steps, including satisfactory security assessments.
- 16. A proposed programme for the ceremony will be shared with LRVs in due course.

IV. FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS

The Trust Fund for Victims requests the Trial Chamber to take note of the present report.

Deborah Ruiz Verduzco Executive Director of the Trust Fund for Victims

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Dated this 19th of October 2023

The Hague, Netherlands