Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: **English**No.: ICC-01/04-01/07
Date: 19 April 2024

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera, Single Judge

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

THE PROSECUTOR v. GERMAIN KATANGA

Public

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

Source: Trust Fund for Victims

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

The Office of the Prosecutor Counsel for the Defence

Legal Representatives of Victims

Trust Fund for Victims

Ms Deborah Ruiz Verduzco

States Representatives

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Osvaldo Zavala Giler

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Mr Philipp Ambach

19 April 2024

I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Trust Fund for Victims ("TFV") hereby submits its Sixteenth 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 Fifteenth quarterly update report on the implementation of collective reparation awards² was filed on 19 January 2024.

II. REGULATION 58 UPDATE REPORT

- 3. The Trust Fund for Victims hereby submits its Sixteenth 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.
- 4. The reporting period for the purposes of the present update report covers the period from 20 January 2024 to 19 April 2024.
- 5. As noted by the Trial Chamber in its Decision on the Fourteenth quarterly update report and on the *Rapport du Représentant légal consécutif à sa dernière mission et sur diverses questions relatives à l'exécution et à la clôture des réparations*, the implementation of the different modalities of reparations in the present case has concluded in the penultimate reporting period.³

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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, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3855</u>.

² Fifteenth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 January 2024, ICC-01/04-01/07-3919 ("Fifteenth quarterly update report, 19 January 2024").

³ Decision on the Fourteenth quarterly update report and on the *Rapport du Représentant légal consécutif à sa dernière mission et sur diverses questions relatives à l'exécution et à la clôture des réparations*, 1 December 2024, para. 11; *see also* Fourteenth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 October 2023, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3916</u>, para. 6 ("Fourteenth quarterly update report, 19 October 2023).

A. External Challenges

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

B. Income-Generating Activities

- 7. As reported in the Fourteenth quarterly update report, with the delivery of the last items to the victims in the case on 6 October 2023, the Trust Fund for Victims fully completed the implementation of the modality pertaining to income-generating activities as part of the present reparations, and thereby also completed the delivery of reparations in the present case.⁴
- 8. As a result, as part of the implementation of income-generating activities, the Trust Fund for Victims provided a total of 253 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

- 9. The delivery of housing assistance concluded in the penultimate reporting period.
- 10. In its Thirteenth quarterly update report, the TFV had initially reported that 56 beneficiaries had been provided with housing support as part of the programme. The TFV hereby reports that an additional individual is to be considered as a beneficiary of the housing modality insofar as they have been provided on 8 July 2021 with a payment exceptionally approved by the Trial Chamber as a lump sum in accordance with the Trial Chamber's decision of 5 May 2021.
- 11. As a result, a total of 57 beneficiaries were provided with housing support.

D. Psychological Support

12. As recalled in the Fifteenth quarterly update report, all eligible victims in this case who were present in Ituri (initially 266) who were able to be reached by the TFV psychologist team and

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⁴ Fourteenth quarterly update report, 19 October 2023, para. 8.

⁵ 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"), para. 10.

⁶ Decision on requests related to the implementation of collective reparations, 05 May 2021, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3881</u>.

who reiterated, upon being contacted, their interest in this modality, 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.⁷

- 13. As previously reported, whilst victim counselling has concluded as part of the formal programme of reparation, several beneficiaries have continued benefitting from counselling sessions that are provided by locally-based psychological support counsellors who had been trained as part of the programme. The counselling sessions are now being given by them on a *pro bono* basis.
- 14. In line with the direction of the Trial Chamber in this respect,⁸ the Trust Fund for Victims and the TFV's expert psychiatrist are in the process of finalising the final report on the implementation of this modality, which will be completed before the formal conclusion of the programme and the symbolic ceremony marking the completion of the implementation of reparations in the present case, and which will be subsequently submitted to the Trial Chamber.

E. Evaluation

15. As reported in the Eighth, Ninth, Ninth, Thirteenth, Tourteenth and Fifteenth Update Reports, 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 will be presented to the Trial Chamber after its finalisation, expected later this year.

F. End of Programme and Closing Ceremony

16. Further to the request received from the victims of the case, the finalisation of the implementation of reparations in the present case will be marked by a symbolic ceremony presently being organised by the Court and the Trust Fund for Victims, and which will be held subject to satisfactory security assessments.

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⁷ Fifteenth quarterly update report, 19 January 2024, para. 12.

⁸ Decision on the Fourteenth quarterly update report and on the *Rapport du Représentant légal consécutif à sa dernière mission et sur diverses questions relatives à l'exécution et à la clôture des réparations*, 1 December 2024, para. 12.

⁹ Eighth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 April 2022, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3902-Conf</u>, para. 27.

¹⁰ Ninth quarterly update report pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, 19 July 2022, <u>ICC-01/04-01/07-3905-Conf</u>, para. 32.

¹¹ Thirteenth quarterly update report, 19 July 2023, para. 13.

¹² Fourteenth quarterly update report, 19 October 2023, para. 13.

¹³ Fifteenth quarterly update report, 19 January 2024, para. 15.

- 17. The date of the ceremony, previously planned for February 2024, had to be postponed due to security reasons following a joint decision of the ICC Registrar and of the TFV Executive Director, and is now rescheduled to take place in April 2024.
- 18. In line with the direction of the Trial Chamber in this respect,¹⁴ the symbolic ceremony is developed in close consultation with the victims entitled to reparations in the present case, and led by them, through their Legal Representatives. The TFV and the Legal Representatives make all efforts possible to ensure that all victims are heard and that their views and concerns are implemented in the organisation of the ceremony to the greatest extent possible, including by organising collective meetings with victims represented by the Legal Representative.
- 19. Further information on the ceremony and the events surrounding it will be subsequently submitted to the Trial Chamber.

III. 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 April 2024

The Hague, The Netherlands

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¹⁴ Decision on the Fourteenth quarterly update report and on the *Rapport du Représentant légal consécutif à sa dernière* mission et sur diverses questions relatives à l'exécution et à la clôture des réparations, 1 December 2024, para. 12.