Cour Pénale Internationale

International Criminal Court No.: ICC-01/04

Date: 21 July 2005

Original: English

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before:

Judge Claude Jorda, Presiding Judge

Judge Akua Kuenyehia

Judge Sylvia Steiner

Registrar:

Mr Bruno Cathala

SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

PUBLIC REDACTED VERSION

DECISION ON PROTECTIVE MEASURES REQUESTED BY APPLICANTS 01/04-1/dp to 01/04-6/dp

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ad Hoc Counsel for Defence

Mr Luis Moreno-Ocampo

Ms Fatou Bensouda

Mr Ekkerhard Withopf

Ms Lyne Decarie

REDACTED

Counsel for Applicants 01/04-1/dp to 01/04-6/dp
REDACTED

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PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I of the International Criminal Court ("the Court");

NOTING REDACTED

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING REDACTED;

NOTING article 57, paragraph 3 (c) and article 68, paragraph 1 of the Rome Statute (" the Statute", rules 5, 6, 86 and 89 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("the Rules") and regulation 76 of the Regulations of the Court ("the Regulations");

CONSIDERING that according to rule 89, paragraph 1 of the Rules, the Prosecutor and the Defence are entitled to reply to any application for participation within the time limits set by the Pre-Trial Chamber; and that in order to place them in a position

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to effectively exercise this right the Registrar shall provide them a copy of any

application for participation;

CONSIDERING that the format in which the copy of any application for

participation is to be transmitted to the Prosecutor and the Defence is "subject to the

provisions of the Statute, in particular to article 68, paragraph 1"; and that article 68,

paragraph 1 of the Statute mandates the Pre-Trial Chamber, as well as the other

organs of the Court, to take appropriate measures to protect the safety, physical and

psychological well-being, dignity and privacy of the victims without prejudicing or

being inconsistent with the rights of the accused and a fair and impartial trial;

CONSIDERING further that, according to article 57, paragraph 3 (c) of the Statute,

one of the functions of the Pre-Trial Chamber is to provide, where necessary, for the

protection and privacy of the victims and witnesses; and that rule 86 of the Rules

establishes as a general principle that the Pre-Trial Chamber in making any direction

or order, as well as the other organs of the Court in performing their functions under

the Statute and the Rules, shall take into account the needs of all victims and

witnesses in accordance with article 68 of the Statute;

CONSIDERING, therefore, that when the security situation of an applicant so

requires, the Pre-Trial Chamber may instruct the Registrar to transmit to the

Prosecutor and the Defence a redacted copy of his or her application for participation

having expunged any information that could lead to his or her identification, such as

the applicant's identity and the place and time in which he or she was allegedly

victimised;

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CONSIDERING however that the scope of the redactions cannot exceed what is

strictly necessary in light of the applicant's security situation and must allow for a

meaningful exercise by the Prosecution and the Defence of their right to reply to the

application for participation;

CONSIDERING that, in relation to the Applications at hand, it is necessary, in order

to represent and protect the interests of the Defence during the application

proceedings provided for in rule 89 of the Rules, to appoint under regulation 76,

paragraph 1 an ad hoc counsel for the Defence;

CONSIDERING that the Pre-Trial Chamber is satisfied that the Applicants are

currently facing serious security risks in the DRC;1

CONSIDERING that the Pre-Trial Chamber is satisfied that the Applicants' current

circumstances require that the ad hoc counsel for the Defence be provided with a

redacted copy of the applications after having expunged any information that could

lead to their identification, including the Applicants' identity and the place and time

in which they have allegedly been victimized;

CONSIDERING that the proceedings concerning the DRC record are still at the

stage of investigation of the situation; REDACTED; and that, therefore, under the

current circumstances the scope of the redactions allows for a meaningful exercise by

the ad hoc counsel for the Defence of his right to reply to the Applications and it is in

no way prejudicial to, or inconsistent with, the rights of the accused and a fair and

impartial trial;

¹ REDACTED

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CONSIDERING that according to rule 5, paragraph 1 (b) and rule 6, paragraphs 1

and 2 of the Rules, the Prosecutor, the Deputy Prosecutors and all staff members of

the Office of the Prosecutor are bound by the principle of confidentiality; that to date

the Pre-Trial Chamber has no indication of any breach of such confidentiality

obligations; and that according to article 68, paragraph 1 of the Statute, the

Prosecutor is also under an obligation to protect the safety, physical and

psychological well-being, dignity and privacy of victims and witnesses;

CONSIDERING further that the Prosecutor is already aware of the situation of

many victims, including in particular that of the Applicants, and that there are no

indications that the transmission of unredacted copies of the Applications to the

Prosecutor will increase the security risks that they currently face;

CONSIDERING REDACTED

FOR THESE REASONS

DECIDES to appoint REDACTED as ad hoc counsel to represent and protect the

interests of the Defence during the application proceedings provided for in rule 89 of

the Rules in relation to the Applications;

ORDERS the Registrar by 29 July 2005 to provide:

(i) The Prosecutor with an unredacted copy of the Applications;

(ii) The ad hoc Counsel for the Defence with a redacted copy of the

Applications after having expunged any information that could reveal

the identification of the Applicants, including the Applicants' identity,

and the places and times of the events referred to in their statements;

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GIVES the Prosecutor and the *ad hoc* Counsel for the Defence until the 15 August 2005 to reply to the Applications;

ORDERS all organs of the Court to abstain from any direct contact with the Applicants, and only to contact them through their legal representative REDACTED if strictly necessary.

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

Judge Claude JordaPresiding Judge

Judge Akua Kuenyehia

Judge Sylvia Steiner

Dated this Thursday, 21 July 2005

At The Hague

The Netherlands

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