Cour Pénale Internationale



# International Criminal Court

Original: English No.: ICC-01/04-01/10

Date: 16 August 2011

### PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Sanji Mmasenono Monageng, Presiding Judge

Judge Sylvia Steiner Judge Cuno Tarfusser

### SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

IN THE CASE OF
THE PROSECUTOR V. CALLIXTE MBARUSHIMANA

## **Public Document**

Decision requesting observations on the "Defence Challenge to the Jurisdiction of the Court"

1/5

for

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr Luis Moreno Ocampo, Prosecutor Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor

Mr Anton Steynberg, Senior Trial Lawyer

Counsel for the Defence

Mr Nicholas Kaufman

Ms Yael Vias-Gvirsman

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Mr Hervé Diakiese

Mr Mayombo Kassongo

**Unrepresented Victims** 

Mr Ghislain Mabanga

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented **Applicants** 

Participation/Reparation

The Office of Public Counsel for The Office of Public Counsel for the

**Victims** 

Paolina Massidda

**Defence** 

**States Representatives** 

The Government of the Democratic

Republic of the Congo

**Amicus Curiae** 

REGISTRY

Registrar

**Deputy Registrar** 

Ms Silvana Arbia

Mr Didier Preira

**Victims and Witnesses Unit** 

**Detention Section** 

Victims Participation and Reparations Other

Section

**Pre-Trial Chamber I** of the International Criminal Court ("Chamber" and "Court" respectively) hereby renders the following decision:

**NOTING** the "Defence Challenge to the Jurisdiction of the Court" ("Jurisdiction Challenge"), submitted on 19 July 2011;

**NOTING** the "Decision on the 'Defence Request for Reclassification' dated 14 July 2011 and on the request for reclassification of the 'Defence Challenge to the Jurisdiction of the Court'"<sup>2</sup> dated 20 July 2011;

**NOTING** the "Decision on the 138 applications for victims' participation in the proceedings" issued by the Chamber on 11 August 2011;

**NOTING** articles 19(2), 19(3) of the Rome Statute ("Statute"), rules 58 and 59 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules");

CONSIDERING that in the context of the proceedings arising from a challenge to the jurisdiction of the Court ("article 19 proceedings"), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the victims who have communicated with the Court in relation to the case against Callixte Mbarushimana ("Mr Mbarushimana") are entitled, pursuant to rule 59(1) of the Rules, to be informed of the challenge by the Registrar and to make written observations or representations to the Chamber in accordance with article 19(3) of the Statute and rule 59(3) of the Rules, within a time limit set by the Chamber;

CONSIDERING that, consistent with the jurisprudence of the Court, <sup>4</sup> victims "that have communicated with the Court" for the purposes of the current proceedings are those (i) who have been recognised as victims for the purpose of participation in the pre-trial proceedings in the case against Mr Mbarushimana;<sup>5</sup> (ii) in relation to whom

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICC-01/04-01/10-290.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ICC-01/04-01/10-293.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ICC-01/04-01/10-351.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony et al., ICC-02/04-01/05-320, page 7; The Prosecutor v. William Samoei Ruto et al., ICC-01/09-01/11-31, para. 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Applicants a/2000/11, a/2006/11, a/2007/11, a/2008/11, a/2022/11, a/2023/11, a/2024/11, a/2025/11, a/2027/11, a/2028/11, a/2029/11, a/2030/11, a/2031/11, a/2065/11, a/2067/11, a/2095/11, a/2099/11, a/2104/11, a/2149/11, a/2151/11, a/2152/11, a/2155/11, a/2157/11, a/2158/11, a/2159/11, a/2163/11, a/2166/11, a/2167/11, a/2168/11, a/2169/11, a/2170/11, a/2171/11, a/2172/11, a/2173/11, a/2175/11, a/2175/11, a/2177/11, a/2178/11, a/2179/11, a/2180/11, a/2181/11, a/2182/11, a/2183/11, a/2184/11, a/2185/11, a/2186/11, a/2187/11, a/2188/11,

a decision on their applications for participation has been deferred until further information in support thereof is provided to the Chamber;<sup>6</sup> (iii) who have submitted to the Registry applications for participation in the case against Mr Mbarushimana, which are yet to be transmitted to the Chamber;

CONSIDERING that while the victims already authorised to participate in the pretrial proceedings of the present case have been assigned legal representatives, some of the applicants whose applications have been deferred until further information is provided to the Chamber and all those whose applications are yet to be transmitted to the Chamber remain unrepresented;

**CONSIDERING** that unrepresented applicants shall be assisted by the Office of the Public Counsel for Victims ("OPCV") for the purpose of their participation in the article 19 proceedings;

#### FOR THESE REASONS

**ORDERS** the Registrar to inform the DRC and the victims that have communicated with the Court with respect to the case against Mr Mbarushimana of the Defence's Jurisdiction Challenge;

**DECIDES** that only for the purposes of their participation in the current article 19 proceedings, the OPCV shall represent unrepresented applicants;

**INSTRUCTS** the Victims Participation and Reparations Section to provide the OPCV with all the applications of unrepresented applicants and to provide it with any necessary assistance to contact applicants expeditiously; and

<sup>6</sup> Applicants a/2153/11, a/2176/11, a/2195/11 and a/2218/11, See Ibid., page 21.

 $a/2189/11,\ a/2190/11,\ a/2191/11,\ a/2192/11,\ a/2193/11,\ a/2194/11,\ a/2196/11,\ a/2197/11,\ a/2198/11,\ a/2203/11,\ a/2205/11,\ a/2206/11,\ a/2206/11,\ a/2207/11,\ a/2208/11,\ a/2212/11,\ a/2219/11,\ a/2220/11,\ a/2221/11,\ a/2223/11,\ a/2223/11,\ a/2234/11,\ a/2226/11,\ a/22572/11,\ a/22573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2573/11,\ a/2575/11,\ a/2576/11,\ a/2578/11,\ a/2578/11,\ a/2578/11,\ a/2589/11,\ a/2589/11,\ a/2589/11,\ a/2589/11,\ a/2599/11,\ a/2599/11,\ a/2599/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2600/11,\ a/2611/11,\ a/2612/11,\ a/2612/11,\ a/2612/11,\ a/2612/11,\ a/2623/11,\ a/2623/11,\ a/2623/11,\ a/2635/11,\ a/2635/11,\ a/2635/11,\ a/2633/11,\ a/2633/11,\ a/2635/11,\ See\ ICC-01/04-01/10-351,\ pp.\ 18-21.$ 

**INVITES** the DRC and the representatives of the victims who have already communicated with the Court with respect to the present case—as defined in the present Decision—to submit their observations on the Defence's Jurisdiction Challenge, by 12 September 2011.

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



Judge Sanji Mmasenono Monageng

**Presiding Judge** 

Judge Sylvia Steiner

Judge Cuno Tarfusser

Dated this Tuesday, 16 August 2011

At The Hague, The Netherlands