

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-02/11-01/15

Date: 15 July 2015

TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Geoffrey Henderson, Single Judge

**SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE
IN THE CASE OF
*THE PROSECUTOR v. LAURENT GBAGBO and CHARLES BLÉ GOUDÉ***

Public

**Decision on urgent Prosecution request for an extension of the word count limit
for the Pre-Trial Brief**

Decision to be notified, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the *Regulations of the Court*, to:

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda
Mr James Stewart
Mr Eric MacDonald

Counsel for Mr Laurent Gbagbo

Mr Emmanuel Altit
Ms Agathe Bahi Baroan

Counsel for Mr Charles Blé Goudé

Mr Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops
Mr Claver N'dry

Legal Representatives of Victims

Ms Paolina Massidda

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

**Unrepresented Applicants for
Participation/Reparation**

**The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

**The Office of Public Counsel for the
Defence**

States' Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Others

Judge Geoffrey Henderson, acting as Single Judge on behalf of Trial Chamber I ('Single Judge' and 'Chamber', respectively) of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé*, having regard to Regulation 36(3) of the Regulations of the Court, issues the following 'Decision on urgent Prosecution request for an extension of the word count limit for the Pre Trial Brief'.

1. On 10 July 2015, the Single Judge granted the request for an extension of the page limit up to 300 pages for the Pre-Trial Brief¹ ordered by the Chamber.²
2. On 14 July 2015, the Office of the Prosecutor ('Prosecution') urgently requested permission to file a Pre-Trial Brief that exceeds the word limit by approximately 15,000 to 20,000 words, but will be less than the 300-page limit ('Request').³ It submits that the word count extension is necessary due to the manner in which the footnotes are constructed and the amount of evidence referenced.⁴
3. On 15 July 2015,⁵ the defence for Mr Gbagbo,⁶ defence for Mr Blé Goudé⁷ and Legal Representative of Victims⁸ informed the Chamber that they did not intend to respond to the Request.
4. The Single Judge recalls that it was in the interest of defence preparations and fair and expeditious proceedings that the Chamber ordered the filing of a Pre-Trial Brief to summarise the evidence the Prosecution intends to rely upon and explain how it relates to the charges.⁹ In light of this requirement, its purpose, the volume of evidence and the scope of the charges,¹⁰ the Single Judge is satisfied that an

¹ Decision on the Prosecution request for an extension of page limit for the Pre-Trial Brief, ICC-02/11-01/15-131.

² Order setting the commencement date of trial, 7 May 2015, ICC-02/11-01/15-58, paras 19 and 26.

³ Email communication from Prosecution to Trial Chamber on 14 July 2015 at 17:04.

⁴ Request, para. 3.

⁵ The Chamber shortened the deadline for any response to 15 July 2015 at 13:00. Email communication from Trial Chamber Legal Officer to Parties and Participants on 14 July 2015 at 18:09.

⁶ Email communication from defence for Mr Gbagbo to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 11:00.

⁷ Email communication from defence for Mr Blé Goudé to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 10:27.

⁸ Email communication from Legal Representative of Victims to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 9:19.

⁹ ICC-02/11-01/15-58, paras 19 and 26.

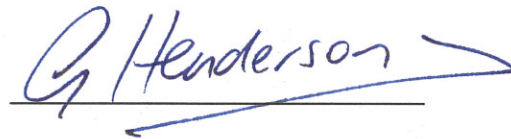
¹⁰ ICC-02/11-01/15-131, para. 6.

extension of 20,000 words is warranted to facilitate references to evidence in the footnotes.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE SINGLE JUDGE HEREBY

GRANTS the Request.

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



Judge Geoffrey Henderson, Single Judge

Dated 15 July 2015

At The Hague, The Netherlands