

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/12-01/15

Date: 6 May 2016

TRIAL CHAMBER VIII

Before: Judge Raul C. Pangalangan, Single Judge

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MALI

IN THE CASE OF *THE PROSECUTOR v. AHMAD AL FAQI AL MAHDI*

Public

Order Scheduling First Status Conference

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

Counsel for the Defence

Mohamed Aouini

Jean-Louis Gilissen

Legal Representatives of Victims

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

Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Others

Judge Raul C. Pangalangan, acting as Single Judge on behalf of Trial Chamber VIII ('Single Judge' and 'Chamber', respectively) of the International Criminal Court issues the following 'Order Scheduling First Status Conference', in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi*, having regard to Article 64(2) and (3) of the Rome Statute (the 'Statute'), Rule 132(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (the 'Rules') and Regulation 54 of the Regulations of the Court.

1. In order to set the date of the trial, the Single Judge convenes a status conference for 24 May 2016.
2. In order to facilitate the preparation of this status conference, the Single Judge seeks submissions from the parties on certain potential agenda items. These agenda items are set in light of information that Mr Al Mahdi intends to make an admission of guilt in this case.¹ The Single Judge expects the parties to seek agreement on these points and file a joint submission if at all possible.
3. Submissions are sought on the following:
 - a) Commencement date of the trial. In this respect, the Single Judge informs the participants that the Chamber is provisionally inclined to commence this trial in mid-June.²
 - b) Whether the parties wish to make any oral submissions at the commencement of trial and, if so, the estimated length of these statements.
 - c) Whether the judgment and sentence can be pronounced simultaneously if the Chamber elects to proceed under Article 65(2) of the Statute. Related to this

¹ Press Statement of the Office of the Prosecutor, 24 March 2016, *available at* https://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/icc/press%20and%20media/press%20releases/Pages/160324-otp-stat-al-Mahdi.aspx.

² See Article 64(8)(a) of the Statute ('At the commencement of the trial, the Trial Chamber shall have read to the accused the charges previously confirmed by the Pre-Trial Chamber. [...] It shall afford him or her the opportunity to make an admission of guilt in accordance with article 65 or to plead not guilty').

point, the parties must indicate whether they currently intend to present any witnesses or evidence specifically in regard to sentencing.³

d) Any other matters.

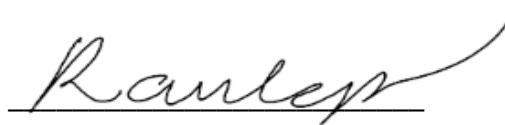
4. The Single Judge emphasises that these submissions are without prejudice to the Chamber's future determination on any admission of guilt in this case.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE SINGLE JUDGE HEREBY

CONVENES a status conference on 24 May 2016; and

ORDERS the parties to provide submissions in accordance with paragraphs 2-3 above by 16:00 on Thursday, 19 May 2016.

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



Judge Raul C. Pangalangan, Single Judge

Dated 6 May 2016

At The Hague, The Netherlands

³ In this regard, it is noted that Article 65 proceedings are explicitly removed from the ambit of Article 76(2) of the Statute, which governs sentencing hearings ('Except where article 65 applies [...]').