

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: **English**

No.: **ICC-02/04-01/15**

Date: **23 October 2019**

TRIAL CHAMBER IX

Before: Judge Bertram Schmitt, Presiding Judge

SITUATION IN UGANDA

IN THE CASE OF *THE PROSECUTOR v. DOMINIC ONGWEN*

Public

Modification of Deadline Regarding Closing Briefs and Setting of Dates for Closing Statements

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Fatou Bensouda
James Stewart
Benjamin Gumpert

Counsel for the Defence

Krispus Ayena Odongo

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Joseph Akwenyu Manoba
Francisco Cox
Paolina Massidda

Legal Representatives of the 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

Peter Lewis

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Other

Judge Bertram Schmitt, acting as Presiding Judge on behalf of Trial Chamber IX (the ‘Presiding Judge’ and ‘Chamber’, respectively) of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen*, having regard to Articles 64(2) and (8)(b) of the Rome Statute (the ‘Statute’), Rules 140 and 141 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (the ‘Rules’) and Regulation 38(1)(c) of the Regulations of the Court (the ‘Regulations’), issues the following ‘Modification of Deadline Regarding Closing Briefs and Setting of Dates for Closing Statements’.

1. On 13 July 2016, the Presiding Judge issued the Initial Directions on the Conduct of the Proceedings.¹ Therein, he, *inter alia*, provided directions with regard to the opening statements and stated that any issue ‘unaddressed in the present decision and which require intervention from the Chamber will be dealt with in the course of the trial’.²
2. On 13 April 2018, the Presiding Judge issued directions regarding the closing briefs and the closing statements.³ Therein, he ordered that the parties and participants should file their closing briefs six weeks after the declaration that the submission of evidence is closed.⁴ He further announced that the closing statements would be held two weeks after the filing of the closing briefs, with further details to be provided.⁵
3. Considering the current state of the proceedings, the Presiding Judge deems it probable that the closure of the submission of evidence will be declared in December 2019. Taking this expected date into account, and the fact that the Court’s end of the year recess commences on 14 December 2019, the Presiding Judge finds it appropriate to modify the deadline for the filing of the Closing Briefs. The amendment is announced this early in order to provide the parties and participants with the maximum amount of time to plan and organise their workload.
4. The Presiding Judge decides that any closing briefs have to be filed by 26 February 2020. Accordingly, the closing statements will commence on 10 March 2020. Further details regarding the closing statements will be provided in due course.

¹ Initial Directions on the Conduct of the Proceedings, ICC-02/04-01/15-497.

² Initial Directions on the Conduct of the Proceedings, ICC-02/04-01/15-497, paras 4 and 7.

³ Directions on Closing Briefs and Closing Statements, ICC-02/04-01/15-1226.

⁴ Directions on Closing Briefs and Closing Statements, ICC-02/04-01/15-1226, para. 3.

⁵ Directions on Closing Briefs and Closing Statements, ICC-02/04-01/15-1226, para. 9.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE PRESIDING JUDGE HEREBY

DECIDES that the closing briefs, if any, have to be filed by 26 February 2020; and

ORDERS that the closing statements will commence on 10 March 2020.

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



Judge Bertram Schmitt, Presiding Judge

Dated 23 October 2019

At The Hague, The Netherlands