Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English

No. ICC-02/04-01/05

Date: 2 December 2022

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala, Presiding

Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua

Judge Tomoko Akane

SITUATION IN UGANDA IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. JOSEPH KONY AND VINCENT OTTI

Public

Decision regarding the 'Legal Representatives' Joint Request for an Extension of Time to Respond to the "Prosecution's Request to Hold a Hearing on the Confirmation of Charges against Joseph Kony in his Absence"

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr Karim A. A. Khan Mr Mame Mandiaye Niang **Counsel for the Defence**

Legal Representatives of Victims

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants for Participation/Reparations

The Office of Public Counsel

for Victims

Ms Paolina Massidda

The Office of Public Counsel

for the Defence

States Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Peter Lewis

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Other

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II of the International Criminal Court issues this Decision regarding the 'Legal Representatives' Joint Request for an Extension of Time to Respond to the "Prosecution's Request to Hold a Hearing on the Confirmation of Charges against Joseph Kony in his Absence".

- 1. On 8 July 2005, the Chamber (in a previous composition) issued the 'Warrant of Arrest for Joseph Kony', which was amended on 27 September 2005.
- 2. On 24 November 2022, the Prosecution requested the Chamber to hold a hearing on the confirmation of charges against Joseph Kony in his absence (the 'Prosecution's Request').³
- 3. On 28 November 2022, Counsel of the Office of Public Counsel for Victims (the 'OPCV'), appointed to represent a number of victims in the present case,⁴ jointly requested an extension of time until 20 January 2023 to file a response to the Prosecution's Request (the 'OPCV Request').⁵
- 4. The Chamber observes that this is the first time that the Prosecution requests a confirmation of charges hearing to be held in the absence of the person concerned under article 61(2)(b) of the Rome Statute. In addition, besides requesting an extension of time, the OPCV submits that the Legal Representatives are also available to convey the views and concerns of the victims authorised to participate in the Situation in Uganda, and that the views and concerns of victims participating in the *Ongwen* case should also be presented within a deadline set by the Chamber.
- 5. In these circumstances, the Chamber considers it appropriate to, in due course, issue an order on the conduct of the proceedings related to the Prosecution's Request

¹ ICC-02/04-01/05-2-US-Exp, under seal and *ex parte*, only available to the Prosecution (the warrant was unsealed on 13 October 2005, see <u>Decision on the Prosecutor's Application for Unsealing of the Warrants of Arrest</u>, ICC-02/04-01/05-52, public).

² Warrant of Arrest for Joseph Kony Issued on 8 July 2005 as Amended on 27 September 2005, ICC-02/04-01/05-28-US-Exp, under seal and *ex parte*, only available to the Prosecution (a public redacted version was issued on 13 October 2005, ICC-02/04-01/05-53).

³ Prosecution's Request to Hold a Hearing on the Confirmation of Charges against Joseph Kony in his Absence, ICC-02/04-01/05-446-Conf-Exp, confidential and *ex parte*, only available to the Prosecution (a public redacted version was issued on the same day, ICC-02/04-01/05-446-Red).

⁴ Only the OPCV requires to be notified for the purposes of the present decision as the matter of legal representation and any prerogatives associated therewith will be addressed at a later stage in these proceedings.

⁵ ICC-02/04-01/05-447, public.

so as to determine if any submissions and/or observations require to be sought. Accordingly, it is not necessary to address the OPCV Request at present.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE CHAMBER HEREBY

FINDS that the OPCV Request need not be considered at present and that an order on the conduct of the proceedings related to the Prosecution's Request will be issued in due course.

Done in English. A French translation will follow. The English version remains authoritative.

Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala

Presiding

Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua

Judge Tomoko Akane

Dated this Friday, 2 December 2022

At The Hague, The Netherlands

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