

ANNEX 25
Public Redacted
Version

From: Trial Chamber V Communications
Sent: 08 September 2023 14:23
To: OTP CAR IIB; D29 Yekatom Defence Team; D30 Ngaissona Defence Team; 'V44 LRV Team'; V44 LRV Team OPCV; V45 LRV Team
Cc: Associate Legal Officer-Court Officer; Chamber Decisions Communication; Trial Chamber V Communications
Subject: Decision on Yekatom Defence Request for Remote Attendance

[ICC] RESTRICTED

Dear Counsel,

The Single Judge takes note of the request below.

Recalling that authorisation for remote attendance is granted only on an exceptional basis (see email from the Chamber, 14 April 2022 at 10:14), the Single Judge notes the explanations provided and the absence of objections by the rest of participants. He therefore grants the request.

The Registry is further instructed to ensure that the Defence counsel be seated in a separate room than the witnesses and that there be no contact between them.

Kind regards,

TC V

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 September 2023 16:41
To: Trial Chamber V Communications [REDACTED]
Cc: D29 Yekatom Defence Team [REDACTED] D30 Ngaissona Defence Team [REDACTED]; V44 LRV Team [REDACTED]; V45 LRV Team [REDACTED]; OTP CAR IIB [REDACTED] Associate Legal Officer-Court Officer [REDACTED]
Subject: Request for permission for Ms [REDACTED] to attend hearings from Bangui field office

Dear Trial Chamber V,

The Defence for Mr Yekatom respectfully requests that Defence team member [REDACTED] be permitted to attend the upcoming testimonies of CLR1 witnesses CAR-V45-P-0001 (a/20722/21) and CAR-V45-P-0002 (a/65991/19) from the Court's Bangui field office.

[REDACTED], who has led the Defence's investigative preparations for the testimonies of the CLR1 witnesses, will be on mission in Bangui during the latter's appearances before the Chamber, currently scheduled for 22-28 September. Given her familiarity with their anticipated evidence and allegations, and her central role in relevant Defence investigations, it is critical that she be able to follow the examination and cross-examination(s) of the CLR1 witnesses live, so as to be in a position to effectively assist Defence team members and instruct examining Counsel during their testimonies. In the same vein, the Defence anticipates that investigative leads will arise during its examination of the CLR1 Witnesses, which will necessarily require prompt and urgent action (with due regard for any

protective measures and confidentiality) on the part of Defence team members in the field, starting with [REDACTED]

The sought permission will thus assist to ensure that Mr Yekatom's right to sufficient time and resources for the preparation of his defence remains duly respected. More broadly, it would also promote expeditiousness and judicial economy, as it will facilitate the Defence's ability to take prompt investigative action and thus reduce the risk of delays arising as a result of Defence investigative requirements.

Lastly, the Defence has consulted *inter partes* with CLR1 Counsel, who has indicated that he would not oppose this request.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]
Legal Assistant, Yekatom Defence

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