

ANNEX

Public Redacted

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8 March 2017

International Criminal Court
Trial Chamber VIII
Re: Al Mahdi case, reparations phase

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf on the team of experts appointed in the decision no. ICC-01/12-01/15 of 19 January 2017 for the reparations phase in the Al Mahdi case. Due to some unfortunate circumstances that are delaying our work, we kindly request an extension of the deadline to submit our report(s) to Friday April 28, 2017. The circumstances are:

- 1. All five interviews with six different persons scheduled at UNESCO headquarters between 28 February and 1 March were cancelled last minute.** The evening before I was due to depart for Paris, I received a call from one UNESCO staff member that was meant to be interviewed. After being informed that their names would be visible to the parties to the case, including the defense team, and in view of their frequent missions to Mali, UNESCO's legal adviser recommended this staff member not to agree to the interview. The other staff members cancelled the morning after for the same reason.

These interviews are still crucial to obtain information relevant to the report. Re-scheduling them is going to take some time since two things need to happen, in this order: that the new confidentiality agreement is formalized, and that we find a new appropriate date and time to arrange meetings with the six UNESCO staff members identified, a difficult task per se as most of them are often in missions abroad.

2. The mission to [REDACTED] has been cancelled for security reasons.

The team of experts deployed to [REDACTED] was supposed to travel to [REDACTED] between [REDACTED]. Unfortunately, due to the security situation in the [REDACTED], this cannot take place. We will therefore need time to adjust and find alternative sources of information.

3. [REDACTED] needs to obtain maps and photos of the sites where the destruction occurred, after that, he will need more than a week to assess the damage. The maps and photos, to his knowledge, can be retrieved only [REDACTED] and/or at UNESCO headquarters. At the moment, both venues remain unavailable.

In sum, we lack the means to proceed as initially planned and, for this reason, we respectfully request the Court an extension of the deadline to submit our report(s) to Friday April 28, 2017.

Sincerely,

[SIGNED]

[REDACTED]
on behalf of the team of experts of the
reparations phase in the Al Mahdi case