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**International
Criminal
Court**

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TRIAL CHAMBER VIII

Before:

**Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua
Judge Bertram Schmitt
Judge Maria del Socorro Flores Liera**

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MALI

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

Public

With 1 confidential *ex parte*, annex only available to the LRV

Public redacted version of “Twenty-sixth update report on the updated implementation plan”, ICC-01/12-01-15-460-Conf, 25 November 2022

Source:

The Trust Fund for Victims

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

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Victims Participation and Reparations

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I. BACKGROUND

1. On 25 August 2022, the Trust Fund for Victims (“Trust Fund” or “TFV”) filed its twenty-fifth update report on the implementation of reparations in the *Al Mahdi* case (“Twenty-Fifth Update Report”).¹

2. On 27 October 2022, upon a request from the LRV,² Trial Chamber VIII (the “Trial Chamber” or “Chamber”) extended the deadline for the LRV to conclude the consolidation of all applications for individual reparations in his possession to 15 December 2022, and for the Trust Fund to complete the implementation of individual awards to 14 March 2023 (“27 October 2022 Decision”).³

II. CLASSIFICATION OF THE PRESENT SUBMISSION

3. Pursuant to regulation 23 *bis* (1) of the Regulations of the Court, the Trust Fund has classified this report as confidential for the reasons set out in the Trust Fund’s previous update reports.⁴ A public redacted version will be filed as soon as feasible.

III. UPDATE REPORT OF 25 NOVEMBER 2022

4. The present report covers the period from 25 August 2022 to date and is structured as follows: (i) the cover filing sets out relevant developments in relation to the implementation of reparations; and (ii) Annex 1 (confidential *ex parte* only available to the LRV) contains the administrative decisions issued during the reporting period (55 in total, all positive, in four batches notified on 29 August 2022, 16 September 2022, 6 October 2022, and 8 November 2022, respectively).

¹ Twenty-fifth update report on the updated implementation plan, with one confidential annex and 1 public annex, 25 August 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-455-Conf.

² *Requête en extension du délai accordé pour terminer les activités de consolidation de dossiers en cours de réparation individuelle*, 12 October 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-456-Conf. On 17 October 2022, the Trust Fund responded to the request (Trust Fund for Victims’ response to the Legal Representative for Victims’ third request for extension of time, 17 October 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-457-Conf).

³ Third Decision on the LRV’s Request for an extension of the time limit, 27 October 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-459-Conf.

⁴ See First monthly update report on the implementation plan, 15 August 2018, ICC-01/12-01/15-277-Conf, para. 3; Second Monthly update report on the implementation plan, 14 September 2018, ICC-01/12-01/15-283-Conf, para. 8.

A. Individual reparations

1. Administrative decisions

5. During the reporting period, 55 eligibility decisions (all positive) were issued by the Trust Fund and became final.

Thirtieth batch of 29 August 2022 (four positive administrative decisions on the 16th and 22nd transmissions by VPRS)

6. On 10 June 2021, the Trust Fund received from the Victims Participation and Reparation Section (“VPRS”) a total of 160 applications (16th transmission of applications). On 25 June 2021, the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund (the “Board of Directors”) adopted 151 positive administrative eligibility decisions as its 21st batch of decisions, while nine applications were found to be incomplete or requiring clarification and, in accordance with Trial Chamber VIII’s decision of 23 September 2020 (“Decision of 23 September 2020”),⁵ the LRV was requested to submit the missing documents and information.⁶ On 18 July 2022, the LRV provided the necessary document concerning one of the nine applications⁷ and the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund adopted a positive decision thereon as part of its 28th batch of administrative decisions. On 14 and 22 August 2022, the LRV provided the necessary documentation concerning three of the eight remaining applications from the 16th transmission to be consolidated⁸ and the Board of Directors adopted **three positive administrative decisions** thereon as part of the thirtieth batch of decisions.

7. On 22 July 2022, the Trust Fund for Victims received from VPRS 30 applications (22nd transmission of applications). On 4 August 2022, the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund adopted 26 positive eligibility decisions as its 29th batch of administrative decisions, while four applications required additional information or documentation from the LRV before a decision could be taken; in accordance with Decision of 23 September 2020, the

⁵ Decision on the TFV Request for Amendment of the Screening Process, 23 September 2020, ICC-01/12-01/15-374-Conf, para. 4.

⁶ Email from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 23 June 2021, at 15:46.

⁷ Email from the LRV to the Trust Fund on 18 July 2022, at 17:33.

⁸ Emails from the LRV to the Trust Fund on 14 August 2022, at 17:11, 17:14, and 17:17, and on 22 August 2022 at 16:09.

LRV was addressed accordingly.⁹ On 15 August 2022, the LRV provided the necessary document concerning one of the four applications¹⁰ and the Board of Directors adopted a **positive administrative decision** thereon as part of the thirtieth batch of decisions.

8. *Date of collection*: the three applications emanating from the 16th transmission were collected by the Trust Fund and its intermediary in April 2020. The application emanating from the 22nd transmission was collected by the LRV and his intermediary in Niger in May 2022.

9. *Sex and age*: all four decisions relate to adult female applicants.

10. *Type of claim and value of the award*: the four applicants were found eligible for reparations for the moral harm suffered. All of them were found to be direct descendants of one Saint; the amount awarded to each of them is [REDACTED]. The overall amount awarded to the four beneficiaries is [REDACTED] (disbursed in Francs CFA).

11. *Protected Building*: of the four decisions, three relate to the Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit mausoleum, and one relates to the Sheikh Sidi El Mokhtar Ben Sidi Mouhammad Al Kabir Al Kounti mausoleum.

Thirty-first batch of 16 September 2022 (15 positive administrative decisions on the 23rd transmission by VPRS)

12. On 1 September 2022, the Trust Fund received 20 applications from VPRS (23rd transmission of applications). Five applications require additional documentation from the LRV before a decision can be taken; in accordance with the Decision of 23 September 2020, the Trust Fund addressed the LRV accordingly.¹¹ The Board of Directors adopted **15 positive administrative decisions**.

13. *Date of collection*: all applications emanating from VPRS' 23rd transmission were received in July 2022 by an intermediary of the TFV.

14. *Sex and age*: of the 15 decisions, five relate to adult female applicants, while 10 relate to male applicants, two of whom are minors.

⁹ Emails from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 29 July 2022, at 18:35, and on 1 August 2022, at 13:04.

¹⁰ Email from the LRV to the Trust Fund on 15 August 2022, 15:57.

¹¹ Email from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 15 September 2022, at 10:41.

15. *Type of claim and value of the award:* the 15 applicants were found eligible for reparations for the moral harm suffered. 14 of them were found to be direct descendants of one Saint; the amount awarded to each of them is [REDACTED]. One of the 15 applicants was found to be a direct descendant of two Saints; the amount awarded to him is [REDACTED]. The overall amount awarded to the 15 beneficiaries is [REDACTED] (disbursed in Francs CFA).

16. *Protected Building:* of the 15 decisions, 10 relate to the Sheikh Abdoul Kassim Attouaty mausoleum, two relate to the Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit mausoleum, one relates to the Sheikh Sidi El Mokhtar Ben Sidi Mouhammad Al Kabir Al Kounti mausoleum, one relates to the Ahmed Fulane mausoleum, one relates to the Alpha Moya mausoleum, and one relates to the Sidi Yahia mosque. One of them relates to both the Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit and the Alpha Moya mausoleums.

Thirty-second batch of 6 October 2022 (14 positive administrative decisions on the 24th transmission by VPRS)

17. On 20 September 2022, the Trust Fund received 15 applications from VPRS (24th transmission of applications). One application requires additional documentation from the LRV before a decision can be taken; in accordance with the Decision of 23 September 2020, the Trust Fund addressed the LRV accordingly.¹² The Board of Directors adopted **14 positive administrative decisions.**

18. *Date of collection:* nine of the 15 applications emanating from VPRS' 24th transmission were collected in October 2021 by an intermediary of the TFV; six were collected by the LRV in August 2022.

19. *Sex and age:* of the 14 decisions, four relate to adult female applicants, while 10 relate to adult male applicants.

20. *Type of claim and value of the award:* the 14 applicants were found eligible for reparations for the moral harm suffered. All of them were found to be direct descendants of one Saint; the amount awarded to each of them is [REDACTED]. The overall amount awarded to the 14 beneficiaries is [REDACTED] (disbursed in Francs CFA).

¹² Email from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 3 October 2022, at 19:41.

21. *Protected Building*: of the 14 decisions, six relate to the Sheikh Sidi El Mokhtar Ben Sidi Mouhammad Al Kabir Al Kounti Mausoleum, while eight relate to the Sheikh Sidi Ahmed Ben Amar Arragadi Mausoleum.

Thirty-third batch of 8 November 2022 (22 positive administrative decisions on the 14th, 15th and 25th transmissions by VPRS)

22. On 4 March 2021, the Trust Fund received from VPRS 129 applications (14th transmission of applications). On 19 March 2021, the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund adopted 100 positive eligibility decisions as its 16th batch of administrative decisions, while 27 applications were found to need additional information or documentation before a decision could be taken and, in accordance with the Decision of 23 September 2020, the LRV was addressed accordingly.¹³ On 21 and 24 October 2022 the LRV provided additional documentation concerning two of the 27 applications.¹⁴ The Board of Directors adopted **two positive administrative decisions** thereon as part of the thirty-third batch of decisions.

23. On 12 March 2021, the Trust Fund received from VPRS 192 applications (15th transmission of applications). On 29 March 2022, the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund adopted 163 positive eligibility decisions as its 17th batch of decisions, while 27 applications were found to need additional information or documentation before a decision could be taken and, in accordance with the Decision of 23 September 2020, the LRV was addressed accordingly.¹⁵ On 24 October 2022 the LRV provided additional documentation concerning one of the 27 applications.¹⁶ The Board of Directors adopted **a positive administrative decision** thereon as part of the thirty-third batch of decisions.

24. On 25 October 2022, the Trust Fund for Victims received 39 applications from VPRS (25th transmission of applications). Twenty applications required additional documentation from the LRV before a decision can be taken; in accordance with the Decision of 23 September 2020, the Trust Fund addressed the LRV accordingly.¹⁷ The

¹³ Emails from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 18 March 2021, at 9:57, and on 19 March 2021, at 11:12

¹⁴ Emails from the LRV to the Trust Fund on 21 October 2022 at 19:31, and on 24 October 2022, at 10:14.

¹⁵ Emails from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 26 March 2021, at 14:34 and at 20:15, and 29 March 2021, at 11:43.

¹⁶ Email from the LRV to the Trust Fund on 24 October 2022, at 10:30.

¹⁷ Email from the Trust Fund to the LRV on 7 November 2022, at 13:51.

Board of Directors adopted **19 positive administrative decisions** as part of the thirty-third batch of decisions.

25. *Date of collection*: of the 22 complete applications receiving a positive decision, three were collected by the TFV in February 2020, 14 were collected by an intermediary of the LRV in September 2022, while five were received in October 2022 by an intermediary of the TFV.

26. *Sex and age*: of the 22 decisions, 11 relate to adult female applicants, while 11 relate to adult male applicants.

27. *Type of claim and value of the award*: the 22 applicants were found eligible for reparations for the moral harm suffered. 21 of them were found to be direct descendants of one Saint; the amount awarded to each of them is [REDACTED]. One of the 22 was found to be a direct descendant of three Saints; the amount awarded to her is [REDACTED]. The overall amount awarded to the 22 beneficiaries is [REDACTED] (disbursed in Francs CFA).

28. *Protected Building*: of the 22 decisions, nine relate to the Sheikh Sidi El Mokhtar Ben Sidi Mouhammad Al Kabir Al Kounti Mausoleum, five relate to the Sidi Yahia Mosque, six relate to the Bahaber Babadié Mausoleum, one relates to the Sheikh Sidi Ahmed Ben Amar Arragadi Mausoleum, while one relates to the Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit Mausolum, the Alpha Moya Mausoleum and the Sidi Yahia Mosque.

2. Collection of applications

29. As set out in previous reports, since mid-December 2020, the Trust Fund has no longer engaged in *active* collection efforts. The Trust Fund limited itself to address persons on residual lists progressively communicated to the TFV by its contact persons in Timbuktu.

30. During the reporting period, the Trust Fund received 168 applications from individuals who were not able or willing to submit an application previously – 52 of them have been transmitted by the TFV to the LRV between 28 September and 3 October 2022.¹⁸ This relatively large number of requests is due to several factors: (i) engagement with many actors in Timbuktu during the July mission, including through the official

¹⁸ See Trust Fund for Victims' response to the Legal Representative for Victims' third request for extension of time (ICC-01/12-01/15-456-Conf), ICC-01/12-01/15-457-Conf, para. 13.

launch ceremony of the collective reparations;¹⁹ (ii) failure of heads of families to inform large segments of their respective families for fear that the envelope devoted to individual reparations would be insufficient; (iii) change of mind of the heads of Sidi Yahia and Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit families who had previously forbidden their family members to request reparations; (iv) increased confidence in the reparations process following the numerous payments made to eligible beneficiaries; (v) people who came forward after the LRV's missions to Mauritania, Senegal, Niger, and Burkina Faso.

3. Consolidation of applications

31. In the reporting period, the Trust Fund focused its efforts on assisting the LRV to finalise the consolidation of applications pending with him, based on requests for assistance with specific applicants received from the LRV.

32. In accordance with its submission of 17 October 2022,²⁰ the Trust Fund offered its assistance to the LRV in consolidating the remaining outstanding files. During a meeting held on 18 November 2022, the Trust Fund and the LRV agreed that the LRV would share the list of files for which there is a need for consolidation. Thus far, the LRV requested the Trust Fund's support for the consolidation of eight applications; the Trust Fund transmitted the consolidation documents required in relation to five of them.²¹

33. Following the 27 October 2022 Decision, the LRV transmitted to the Trust Fund documents for the consolidation of 18 applications; the Trust Fund is currently assessing them.

34. The Trust Fund proceeded with the consolidation of the remaining 116 of the 168 new applications mentioned in para. 30 above. These 116 consolidated applications were transmitted to the LRV to ensure the respect of the deadline set by the Chamber.

4. Follow up on application process

35. The Trust Fund has been contacted by about 150 victims indicating that they submitted an application but have not yet been notified of an eligibility decision.

¹⁹ See Twenty-fifth update report on the updated implementation plan, with one confidential annex and 1 public annex, 25 August 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-455-Conf, paras 29, 39-42.

²⁰ Trust Fund for Victims' response to the Legal Representative for Victims' third request for extension of time (ICC-01/12-01/15-456-Conf), 17 October 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-457-Conf, para. 23.

²¹ Email from the TFV to the LRV on 24 November 2022 at 13:34.

36. The TFV verifies in its databases if the individuals' names are on the non-reachable list or the consolidation list. If they are not, the Trust Fund informs the LRV accordingly to get an update on the applications. On 3 October 2022, the TFV shared a list of 29 persons with the LRV. On 8 November 2022, the LRV indicated not having the applications of at least 25 of these 29. On 24 November 2022, the TFV shared with the LRV a second list of 78 persons.

5. Notification of positive decisions and payment of the individual reparation awards

37. The Trust Fund continues the notification and payment of individual reparations as described in its previous reports. The system in place is functioning well and provides for timely and efficient disbursement of funds. The Trust Fund took note of the deadline for the completion of all payments set by the Chamber for 14 March 2023.

38. In the reporting period, a total of 86 beneficiaries have received payment of their individual awards, for a total amount of [REDACTED].

39. In order to notify eligible victims and pay them their individual reparation awards, the Trust Fund continues to put special emphasis on tracing beneficiaries who were not reached thus far.

40. The Trust Fund would like to bring to the attention of the Chamber that eligible victims living abroad, especially in Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania, expressed their great appreciation for not having been forgotten.

41. The Trust Fund's thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third batches of administrative decisions on eligibility, as reported under paragraphs 5 to 28 above, have become final. The TFV has already proceeded with the payment of individual awards to most of the beneficiaries of those decisions.

6. Views from non-eligible victims

42. Persons not eligible for individual reparations, such as descendants of the Tamba-Tamba mausoleum, or those who are not descendants but have ancestors buried near one of the buildings covered by the charges, continue to express their frustration at being excluded from individual reparations. Regional authorities have repeatedly expressed to the Trust Fund and its partners their fears that existing social tensions will be exacerbated. The Trust Fund is working to explain the reparations order and implementation plan, and

its rationale through a multiplicity of channels in order to prevent the escalation of tensions and ensure that the communities perceive the individual reparations process as fair and transparent.

B. Collective reparations

43. It is recalled that the collective reparations ordered by the Trial Chamber for the benefit of the community of Timbuktu come in three modalities: (i) collective reparations for the economic harm suffered; (ii) collective reparations for the moral harm suffered; and (iii) collective reparations in the form of a mechanism for the protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings.

1. Collective reparations for moral harm suffered by the Timbuktu community

44. With regard to the **collective reparations for psychological harm**, the Trust Fund recalls that they consist of several measures, the general aim of which is to alleviate the moral suffering endured by the community of Timbuktu as the result of the destruction of the protected buildings.

45. The project is implemented with CFOGRAD, a Timbuktu-based organisation. Activities effectively started in June 2021. Four memorialisation committees were set up in Timbuktu: Sarakeina and Hammabangou (Committee I), Badjindé and Djingareyber (Committee II), Abaradjou and Sankoré (Committee III), and Bellaferandi and Kabara (Committee IV); while one memorialisation committee was set up in Bamako. They aim at providing a space permitting community discussions as to the crime that occurred, its impacts, and whether or not it should be memorialised and, if so, how. Sub-committees have been established to ensure the largest participation of the different groups of the community, including women and children.

46. In respect of the purpose, establishment and work of the five memorialisation committees, the Trust Fund refers to its previous reports, which also describe the working methods followed by the committees.²²

²² Twenty-first update report on the updated implementation plan, 25 August 2021, ICC-01/12-01/15-405-Red, para. 30; Twenty-second update report on the updated implementation plan, 25 November 2021, ICC-01/12-01/15-436-Red, paras 25-32; Twenty-third update report on the updated implementation plan, 25 February 2022, ICC-01/12-01/15-438-Red, paras 34-37.

47. In order to comply with the indication by the Chamber regarding the equal participation of men and women in reparation processes, the Trust Fund has focused on reinforcing the leadership skills of the female members of the memorialisation committees and the young women subcommittees. The gender survey conducted by the Trust Fund between March and June 2022 highlights two important aspects. First, although the memorialisation committees are composed by a majority of female members, male respondents of the survey were more likely to participate in more than three discussions than their female counterparts. This may suggest the existence of a gender gap with regards to long-term participation in the programme, which may ultimately impact the type of collective measures to be implemented. In addition, the respondents of the survey highlighted that not all members from the community benefit from reparation measures in the same way because of the perception that men are listened to first. The Trust Fund has thus identified a need for activities aimed specifically at women with the goal of reducing certain situations of inequality, especially with regard to the creation of spaces and opportunities that enable women to express their thoughts and make their voices heard. A female leadership workshop was conducted to strengthen the active participation of 96 women and young girls in the memorialisation process, by providing them with tools that will allow them to influence decisions and express themselves in public.

48. The dialogue process continued among members of memorialisation committees II and III (Timbuktu) and the one in Bamako to enhance the understanding of the reparations order and implementation plan, and to advance on the consideration of the initial memorialisation proposals. 231 persons participated in these activities, including 145 women and 86 men. The following proposals have been presented by the committees as of the date of submission of this report:²³

a. Committee I: construction of a museum dedicated to the Saints; guided visit(s) to some of the mausoleums and reading of the Quran between the birth and baptism of Maouloud in the form of ziyara; organisation of a conference dedicated to the miracles of the Saints; conduction of a sacrifice ceremony through the preparation of a traditional cream.

²³ These proposals are shared for the information of the Chamber, however, they are provisional and do not represent the final options adopted.

b. Committee II: construction of a multifunctional centre for teaching traditional activities, such as masonry, jewellery and shoemaking; construction of a French-Arabic university; establishment of a day of praying dedicated to the mausoleums.

c. Committee III: rehabilitation and electrification of the cemetery boundary walls, as well as the construction of a protection system; honouring the Saints by dedicating a special day to Quran reading, sacrifice and preaching; establishing a day of healing “for the Saints” in all the cemeteries, including the mausoleums.

d. Committee IV: establishment of a day for Quranic reading and sacrifice; preaching by a religious magistrate and maintenance of the mausoleums; establishment of a special day dedicated to the mausoleums.

e. Committee V: organisation of a large annual event to pay tribute to the suffering endured by the Timbuktu community as a result of the events of the 2012 crisis.

49. In order to ensure that the proposal adopted will be supported by the greatest number possible of Timbuktu residents and that it will be carried out in accordance with local and national regulations, the Trust Fund and CFOGRAD have organised a committee composed of members of the different committees and authorities from the region and community. Discussions regarding the composition and operating rules of said committee, as well as the procedure for selecting the measures to be implemented, are currently ongoing, and specific measures have been taken to ensure that the thoughts and opinions of women are considered and taken into account.

50. Twenty-eight individuals who suffer from psychological conditions arising from the destruction of the protected buildings have received continued support in the form of individual treatment (7 persons) and group therapy (21 persons), according to their specific situation. Psychological support helps reduce feelings of helplessness or guilt, and address insomnia, anxiety and sadness.

2. Collective reparations for economic harm suffered by the Timbuktu community

51. With regard to the **collective reparations for economic harm**, the Trust Fund recalls that they are channelled through the Economic Resilience Facility (“ERF”). Their aim is to address the indirect economic harm caused by the crime to the community of Timbuktu.

52. The project is implemented with the support of CIDEAL. In accordance with the proposal made by the Trust Fund, as approved by the Trial Chamber, a market survey was to be conducted prior to the launching of the ERF. The objective of the market survey was to identify and detail with the Community of Timbuktu the economic measures to be proposed by the ERF. The survey aimed also at gathering comprehensive information critical to the success of the ERF and taking into account the current security, social, economic and political context. The Trust Fund opted for a highly participatory/consultative approach as well as the need to balance the purely economic and restorative aspects of the future facility.

53. From November to December 2022, and in accordance with the two areas of intervention of Economic Resilience Facility (ERF), CIDEAL will be conducting consultative workshops with the community of Timbuktu and the City of Timbuktu to consolidate the findings of the market survey. Following the presentation of the ERF's key implementation points, the stakeholders will formulate recommendations which will be considered in the final version of the market study. This final phase is crucial to engage the Community and legitimise the process. Representatives of the eight neighbourhoods of Timbuktu were invited to a workshop on restitution planned by CIDEAL and conducted between 21 and 24 November 2022. Two neighbourhoods participated in the workshop per day, with an average of 80 participants each day. The groups included approximately the same number of male and female participants from the community leaders. The size of each group enabled fluent discussions and their composition reflected the diversity of the community stakeholders. The final batch of workshops was intended to consult the representatives and officials of the City of Timbuktu on areas of intervention related to the ERF. Women selected to participate in the workshops were briefed on their active participation and capacity to share their opinion in front of men.

54. The Trust Fund proceeded with the no cost extension of the current (first) contractual period with CIDEAL for 6 months (until end March 2023). During the reporting period, the Trust Fund planned with CIDEAL the presentation of the results of the market survey to the Community and discussed on how best ensure its participation. Collaboration was sought with CFOGRAD in order to work through the memorialisation committees. Previous no cost extensions of the first contractual period allowed CIDEAL also to strengthen its presence in Timbuktu with a coordinator and a dedicated team; this led *inter alia* to the organisation of the 21 to 24 November workshop.

3. Protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings

55. With regard to the **repairs for the Protected Buildings**, the Trust Fund recalls that since the signature of the contract with UNESCO on 25 November 2021 and the disbursement of the first instalment at the end of December 2021, UNESCO first focused on the internal arrangements necessary to permit the launching of the project. During the previous reporting period, a project management team was established and activities began.

56. During the reporting period, the activities presented and categorised in the following paragraphs were carried out.

57. Technical feasibility studies for: (i) the planting of trees and hedges around cemeteries containing mausoleums of certain Saints; (ii) the installation of a solar lighting system around the protected buildings in Timbuktu; and (iii) the work on the enclosure walls of two cemeteries housing the mausoleums of two Saints, and the Al Arawani mausoleum - During the reporting period, UNESCO conducted the three technical studies related to each measure, i.e. tree planting, solar lighting, and reconstruction of *Al Arawani* and cemetery walls. The methodology emphasised the participation of communities and stakeholders. The results of the studies and the recommendations arising therefrom were presented in Timbuktu on 14 October 2022 in the presence of national, regional and local actors involved in the rehabilitation and maintenance of the buildings by [REDACTED]. Recommendations were presented concerning the type of solar street lamps to be installed for good light distribution on the ground and on their location, taking into account, for their maintenance, in particular the classification of the buildings and their architecture. Moreover, recommendations were submitted concerning the suitable species of trees to be planted: *Balanites aegyptiaca* (the wild date palm), *Azadirachta indica* (the neem) and the *Prosopis*, their watering needs and the technical monitoring necessary for their survival. The technical specifications and a financial estimate for the rehabilitation of the cemetery boundary walls and the reconstruction of the *Al Arawani* mausoleum were presented as well.

58. Capacity Building for the Masons' Corporation – [REDACTED] organised, together with UNESCO, a capacity building workshop for the masons' corporation on the issues of conservation of built cultural heritage. The workshop, which took place on October 12 and 13, enhanced the professional skills and know-how of the corporation in

the architectural and constructive practices, which allowed the conservation of monumental buildings for centuries. It focused in particular on the transmission of knowledge and technical skills to young masons by master masons, in order to ensure the sustainability of the practice of traditional masonry through generations. The workshop also provided the adequate tools for the sites dedicated to maintenance, in order to develop integrated skills in modern and traditional construction. The workshop conveyed together more than 60 masons, 25 qualified traditional masons, 20 apprentice masons, 20 women masons, the heads of neighbourhoods, representatives of mausoleums, management committees of mosques, the corporation of masons, male and female descendants, civil society and memorialisation committees. The next workshop will be held in December.

59. Logistical support for [REDACTED]- In the reporting period, the logistical support process was launched for the acquisition of equipment necessary to [REDACTED] to carry out its mandate and functions.

60. Establishment of a support mechanism for the maintenance of protected buildings in Timbuktu - A technical feasibility study was launched for the establishment of a maintenance fund for the protected buildings and will be concluded in the next reporting period.

C. Symbolic reparations

61. As previously reported, the symbolic reparations award ceremony took place on 30 March 2021 in Bamako. During the reporting period, on 10 October 2022, the Trust Fund contracted Ciné Droit Libre to conduct the itinerant campaign related to the symbolic euro award ceremony of March 2021. Through this campaign, the Trust Fund intends to: (i) re-broadcast the symbolic euro ceremony with the inhabitants of the cities of Bamako, Timbuktu, Kayes, Kita, Koulikoro, Bougouni, Sikasso, Segou, Koutiala, Mopti, Gao of its beneficiaries; (ii) allow the Malian population to accept and embrace the Court's reparations order in this case by conveying the symbolic and educational significance of the ceremony (it will be a matter of explaining the significance of the symbolic reparations measure) – thus, the campaign will convey the symbolism and historical character of the ceremony to the Malian people; (iii) capture the views of victims on reparations measures – thus, the campaign will collect the impressions, questions, and assessments of the Malian population on this symbolic reparations

measure. The Trust Fund had preparatory meetings with Ciné Droit Libre and is currently finalising the supporting video material. The campaign will start in December 2022.

D. Other matters

62. Support by national and local authorities - During the reporting period, CFOGRAD held a meeting, on 6 September 2022, with the Timbuktu Region Governor to discuss the reparation measure of memorialisation and provide information about the work conducted by the memorialisation committees. UNESCO met local authorities of Timbuktu, including the mayor, to discuss the technical studies and inform them about the workshop organised with the masons. The first session of the Regional Commission for the monitoring of the collective reparations set up by the Governor will be held on 16 December 2022.

63. Visibility - The film *Al Walidji* directed by Kaourou Magassa with the support of the Trust Fund for the symbolic euro ceremony, and which will be used as a video support for the itinerant campaign, was screened at the Timbuktu International Film Festival *Les Ecrans de Timbuktu* (18 – 20 November 2022) in the category of short documentary. The Trust Fund collected numerous images and video clips during the July mission to Timbuktu. Short videos are being edited and will be released soon to communicate about reparations and to increase visibility of the progress in implementation.

64. Gender mainstreaming - The Trust Fund supports its partners in building their skills to ensure that men and women have equal access to the reparations process. During the reporting period, six weekly sessions were organised with the aim of enabling partners to identify the major steps in integrating a gender perspective into reparations and to consider the need to ensure an inclusive dynamic and zero tolerance for gender-based violence in all their activities. This also allowed for acquiring awareness on the positive impact of their work in favour of gender equality.

IV. CONCLUSION

65. The Trust Fund respectfully requests the Trial Chamber to take note of the present report. The Trust Fund stands ready to provide clarification on any information provided in the present submission or on any other issue affecting the implementation phase of reparations in the present case.



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Dated this 4 September 2023

(Date of original: 25 November 2022)

At The Hague, The Netherlands