Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/14-01/21

Date: 21 July 2022

TRIAL CHAMBER VI

Before: Judge Miatta Maria Samba, Presiding Judge

Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera Judge Sergio Gerardo Ugalde Godínez

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. MAHAMAT SAID ABDEL KANI

Public

Decision on the Defence's Request for Leave to Appeal the 'Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief'

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

The Office of the ProsecutorCounsel for the DefenceMr Karim A. A. KhanMs Jennifer NaouriMr Mame Mandiaye NiangMr Dov Jacobs

Legal Representatives of Victims

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants
for Participation/Reparations

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence

for Victims Ms Sarah Pellet Mr Tars Van Litsenborgh

States Representatives Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar Counsel Support Section
Mr Peter Lewis

Victims and Witnesses Unit Detention Section

Victims Participation and Other Reparations Section

TRIAL CHAMBER VI of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Mahamat Said Abdel Kani*, having regard to Article 82(1)(d) of the Rome Statute (the 'Statute'), and Rule 155 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (the 'Rules') issues this 'Decision on the Defence's Request for Leave to Appeal the 'Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief'.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- 1. On 21 February 2022, the Chamber issued its Decision Setting the Commencement Date of the Trial and Related Deadlines.¹ Therein, the Chamber ordered, *inter alia*, that: (i) motions requiring resolution prior to the commencement of the trial pursuant to rule 134 of the Rules should be filed by 22 July 2022; and (ii) the Defence Trial Brief should be filed by 12 August 2022.²
- 2. On 6 July 2022, the Defence filed a request pursuant to regulation 35 of the Regulations of the Court to extend the time limit for: (i) the filing of motions pursuant to rule 134 of the Rules to 26 August 2022; and (ii) the filing of its Trial Brief to 4 September 2022 (the 'Request for Extension of Time').³
- 3. On 15 July 2022, the Chamber issued its 'Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief', rejecting the Request for Extension of Time (the 'Impugned Decision').⁴
- 4. On 21 July, the Defence filed its 'Demande d'autorisation d'interjeter appel de la « Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant

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¹ <u>Decision Setting the Commencement Date of the Trial and Related Deadlines</u>, 21 February 2022, ICC-01/14-01/21-243 (the' Decision Setting the Commencement Date of the Trial and Related Deadlines').

² Decision Setting the Commencement Date of the Trial and Related Deadlines, p. 13.

³ Requête en vertu de la Norme 35 du Règlement de la Cour visant à obtenir la prorogation des dèlais prévus pour deposer les requêtes portant sur des questions devant être résolues avant le début du procès et pour deposer le mémoire de la Défense, 5 July 2022, ICC-01/14-01/21-390.

⁴ Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief, 15 July 2022, ICC-01/14-01/21-411.

to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief » (ICC-01/14-01/21-411).' (the 'Request').⁵ Therein, the Defence seeks leave to appeal the Impugned Decision.

II. ANALYSIS

- 5. The Chamber observes that the deadline that is the subject of the Request expires tomorrow (22 July 2022). The Chamber finds that it is impossible, and in the current circumstances unnecessary, to receive responses from the Office of the Prosecutor and the Office of Public Counsel for Victims before issuing its decision.
- 6. The Chamber has considered the Request and determines that it must be rejected. The reasons for this decision will be issued in due course.

Judge Miatta Maria Samba

Presiding Judge

Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera

Judge Sergio Gerardo Ugalde Godínez

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

Dated 21 July 2022

At The Hague, The Netherlands

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⁵ Demande d'autorisation d'interjeter appel de la « Decision on the Defence's Request for an Extension of Time to File Motions Pursuant to Rule 134 of the Rules and Submit its Trial Brief » (ICC-01/14-01/21-411), 21 July 2022, ICC-01/14-01/21-419-Conf.