Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: French No.: ICC-01/04-01/07

Date: 6 August 2009

TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Bruno Cotte, Presiding Judge

Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra

Judge Hans-Peter Kaul

SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. GERMAIN KATANGA AND MATHIEU NGUDJOLO CHUI

Public Document

Joint Observations of the Legal Representatives of the Victims Represented by Mr Jean MULAMBA, Ms Carine BAPITA and Mr Hervé DIAKESE on the Appeal against the Decision on the Challenge to Admissibility Filed by the Defence for Germain KATANGA

Source: The Legal Representatives of the Victims

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

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Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants (Participation/Reparation)

The Office of Public Counsel for

Victims

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REGISTRY

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Victims and Witnesses Unit Detention Section

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Fiona McKay

I. Procedural History

- 1. On 2 July 2007, the Pre-Trial Chamber issued a warrant for the arrest of Germain Katanga, who had been detained in Kinshasa Central Prison since March 2005. On 18 October, Germain Katanga was transferred to The Hague.
- 2. Counsel for Germain Katanga was appointed on 23 November 2007.
- 3. The confirmation hearing in the case was scheduled for 28 February 2008; but following the joinder of the case with the proceedings against Matthieu Ngundjolo, the hearing was postponed to 27 June 2008.
- 4. On 10 February 2009, the Defence filed a challenge to the admissibility of the case pursuant to article 19(2)(a) of the Statute.
- 5. The Prosecution responded thereto on 19 March 2009 and the Defence filed a reply on 30 March 2009.
- 6. The Legal Representatives of the Victims and the Office of Public Counsel for Victims filed their observations on 16 and 28 April 2009 respectively.
- 7. At a hearing held on 1 June 2009, the Defence, the Prosecution, the Legal Representatives of the Victims, the Office of Public Counsel for Victims and the DRC authorities presented their observations and views on the challenge to admissibility raised by Germain Katanga.
- 8. On 12 June 2009, Trial Chamber II delivered its oral decision dismissing the challenge to admissibility.
- 9. On 16 June 2009, the Defence issued the *Reasons for the Oral Decision on the Motion Challenging the Admissibility of the Case*, against which the Defence has lodged the present appeal.

10. The Legal Representatives of the Victims most respectfully submit the following brief observations:

II. On the appeal concerning the challenge to admissibility

11. The Legal Representatives confirm their observations, as originally submitted to Pre-Trial Chamber II: that the trial begins immediately after the confirmation hearing with the holding of status conferences pursuant to rule 132(1) and rule 133 in its wide sense.

12. At the hearing on 1 June 2009, the DRC confirmed its lack of willingness to be able to investigate the Bogoro charges against Germain Katanga, as these were not part of the offences for which he was being prosecuted at the time.

FOR THESE REASONS,

MAY IT PLEASE TRIAL CHAMBER II

- To take formal note of our position and to dismiss the Defence's appeal.

Dated this 6 August 2009 at Kinshasa, DRC.

Mr Jean Chrysostome MULAMBA, absent at signature

[signed] [signed]

Ms Carine BAPITA Mr Hervé DIAKESE