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## Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English No.: ICC-01/05-01/08

Date: 09 January 2014

## TRIAL CHAMBER III

**Before:** 

Judge Sylvia Steiner, Presiding Judge

Judge Joyce Aluoch Judge Kuniko Ozaki

## SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO

## **Public**

Decision on "Prosecution's Application for Extension of Time Limit to Submit Proper Redactions of Admitted Evidence"

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda

Mr Jean-Jacques Badibanga

Counsel for the Defence

Mr Peter Haynes

Ms Kate Gibson

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Ms Marie Edith Douzima-Lawson

Mr Assingambi Zarambaud

Legal Representatives of the

**Applicants** 

**Unrepresented Victims** 

Unrepresented **Applicants** 

for

Participation/Reparation

The Office of Public Counsel for

**Victims** 

Ms Paolina Massidda

The Office of Public Counsel for the

Defence

Mr Xavier-Jean Keïta

**Amicus Curiae States Representatives** 

Registrar

Mr Herman von Hebel

**Counsel Support Section** 

Victims and Witnesses Unit

**Detention Section** 

Other

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Trial Chamber III ("Chamber") of the International Criminal Court in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo* issues the following Decision on "Prosecution's Application for Extension of Time Limit to Submit Proper Redactions of Admitted Evidence".

- 1. On 11 December 2013, the Chamber issued its "Order on the classification of items admitted into evidence", in which it, *inter alia*, ordered the parties and participants "to request that the Chamber reclassify as public, with or without redactions, items in relation to which the reasons for maintaining their confidentiality no longer exist, by 10 January 2014 at the latest".<sup>2</sup>
- 2. On 6 January 2014, the Office of the Prosecutor ("prosecution") filed its "Prosecution's Application for Extension of Time Limit to Submit Proper Redactions of Admitted Evidence" <sup>3</sup> ("Prosecution Application"). The prosecution submits that during the review of the classification level of admitted documents, it identified 40 admitted documents totalling over 800 pages of material that are currently classified as confidential, the majority of which could be reclassified as public as long as proper redactions are in place to ensure the protection of witnesses and other individuals who did not testify but whose identities are not known to the public.<sup>4</sup> The prosecution further avers that "the redaction process is a time consuming process" to be conducted by "persons with detailed knowledge of the case",<sup>5</sup> and that it will not be able to complete its review by the deadline imposed by the Chamber. Consequently, the prosecution requests an extension of time until 24 January 2014 in order to provide the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Order on the classification of items admitted into evidence, 11 December 2013, ICC-01/05-01/08-2921 and confidential Annex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ICC-01/05-01/08-2921, paragraph 4(d).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Prosecution's Application for Extension of Time Limit to Submit Proper Redactions of Admitted Evidence, 6 January 2014, ICC-01/05-01/08-2926.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> ICC-01/05-01/08-2926, paragraph 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> ICC-01/05-01/08-2926, paragraph 4.

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proposed redactions and the requests for reclassification of the 40 admitted documents.6

- 3. In deciding on the Prosecution Application and in accordance with Article 21(1) of the Rome Statute, the Chamber has considered Regulation 35(2) of the Regulations of the Court ("Regulations"), which provides that "[t]he Chamber may extend or reduce a time limit if good cause is shown and, where appropriate, after having given the participants an opportunity to be heard."
- 4. In the present circumstances, considering the explanations provided by the prosecution, the Chamber is satisfied that the prosecution has demonstrated good cause for an extension of the time limit in accordance with Regulation 35(2) of the Regulations.
- 5. For these reasons, the Chamber hereby GRANTS the prosecution's application for an extension of time limit until 24 January 2014 in order to provide the proposed redactions and the requests for reclassification of the 40 admitted documents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> ICC-01/05-01/08-2926, paragraph 4.

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

Jan Spel

Judge Sylvia Steiner

Judge Joyce Aluoch

Judge Kuniko Ozaki

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Dated this 09 January 2014

At The Hague, The Netherlands