Cour Pénale Internationale



## International Criminal Court

Original: English No.: ICC-01/05-01/13

Date: 08/04/2014

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Cuno Tarfusser, Single Judge

## SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO, AIMÉ KILOLO MUSAMBA, JEAN-JACQUES MANGENDA KABONGO, FIDÈLE BABALA WANDU and NARCISSE ARIDO

## **Public Redacted Document**

Defence response to Prosecution filing: ICC-01/05-01/13-310-Red

Source: Defence for Mr. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Fatou Bensouda **James Stewart** 

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Gôran Kimo Sluiter

Legal Representatives of

**Victims** 

the Legal Representatives of the

**Applicants** 

**Unrepresented Victims** Unrepresented **Applicants** 

(Participation/Reparation)

Victims

The Office of Public Counsel for The Office of Public Counsel for

the Defence

Xavier-Jean Keïta

States' Representatives

**Amicus Curiae** 

**REGISTRY** 

Registrar

**Defence Support Section** 

Herman von Hebel

**Victims and Witnesses Unit** 

**Detention Section** 

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The Defence for Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo ("the Suspect") hereby responds to the *Prosecution's Request to Refer Potentially Privileged Materials to Independent Counsel.*<sup>1</sup> The materials in question are two DVDs comprising, inter alia, the contents of the email accounts of the co-Suspects Aimé Kilolo and Jean-Jacques Mangenda.

1. The Suspect can only repeat his strenuous objection to the continuing role of the Independent Counsel [REDACTED]. His identity remains a secret and no ruling has been delivered on a whether he has enjoyed a previous working relationship or friendship with a member of the Office of the Prosecutor (and thus subject to the real or perceived risk of bias).<sup>2</sup>

2. The role of the Independent Counsel was originally devised by judicial decision in the "situation" and, as a consequence, the Suspect was denied the basic right to challenge its legality by way of appellate review. The Single Judge subsequently appointed the Independent Counsel to review potentially privileged materials "in the case", yet did so without hearing any defence submissions on the matter. [REDACTED].

3. The Defence once again re-iterates that past practice of the International Criminal Court in the *Mbarushimana* case has provided an alternative and far less prejudicial way of dealing with the Prosecutor's request; namely, by permitting Counsel for the Defence, in the first instance, to filter out potentially privileged materials and, thereafter, to submit the resulting work product for the approval of the Pre-Trial Chamber.

4. The Defence suggests that where the materials in question are undeniably and unquestionably privileged - as in the present case - the case for submitting them for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICC-01/05-01/13-310-Red.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ICC-01/05-01/13-209

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ICC-01/05-52-Red2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> ICC-01/05-01/13-41-Red.

prior Defence review – including review by the Defence team in case ICC-01/05-01/08 - is even stronger.

## Relief Sought

5. In the circumstances, the Single Judge is respectfully requested to permit Counsel for the Defence in the present case and Counsel for the Suspect in case ICC-01/05-01/08 to review the two DVDs received from [REDACTED] and to filter out any potentially privileged materials.

Nicholas Kaufman

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Tuesday, April 08, 2014