Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

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No.: ICC-01/12-01/18

Date: 26 October 2020

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4 February 2021

TRIAL CHAMBER X

Before: Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua, Presiding

Judge Tomoko Akane Judge Kimberly Prost

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MALI

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR V. AL HASSAN AG ABDOUL AZIZ AG MOHAMED AG MAHMOUD

Public

With confidential Annex A

Public redacted version of "Prosecution application under rule 68(3) to introduce MLI-OTP-P-0595's prior statement and associated material into evidence", 26 October 2020, ICC-01/12-01/18-1131-Conf

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Court to:

Mr Fidel Luvengika Nsita

The Office of the Prosecutor Counsel for the Defence

Ms Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor Ms Melinda Taylor
Mr James Stewart Ms. Kirsty Sutherland

Legal Representatives of the Victims Legal Representatives of the

Mr Seydou Doumbia Applicants

Mr Mayombo Kassongo

Unrepresented Victims Unrepresented Applicants

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims The Office of Public Counsel for the

Defence

States Representatives Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar Counsel Support Section

Mr Peter Lewis

Victims and Witnesses Unit Detention Section

Mr Nigel Verrill

Victims Participation and Reparations Other

Section

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- 1. Pursuant to articles 64(9), 69(2)-(4) of the Statute and rules 63(2) and 68(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules"), the Prosecution requests Trial Chamber X's ("Chamber") authorisation to (i) introduce into evidence Witness P-0595's ("P-0595") prior recorded statement and associated material as specified in sections I and II of Annex A ("Annex") to the present application; and (ii) conduct a streamlined supplementary examination of Witness P-0595 ("Request").
- 2. P-0595 In his prior recorded statement and associated material, P-0595 provides information on the situation in Timbuktu under the control of the armed groups in 2012-2013, the restrictions imposed on the population, the events and circumstances pertaining to the amputation of MAIGA's hand and the key members of the armed groups who were involved in this incident.
- 3. P-0595's evidence is therefore relevant to the charges of torture both as a crime against humanity and war crime (counts 1 and 3), other inhumane acts as a crime against humanity (count 2), cruel treatment as a war crime (count 4), outrages upon personal dignity as a war crime (count 5) passing of sentences as a war crime (count 6) and persecution as a crime against humanity (count 13).
- 4. Should this Request be granted, P-0595 will be asked to attest to the accuracy of his prior recorded statement and associated material at the beginning of his testimony and to confirm his availability and willingness to be examined by the Parties, the Legal Representative of Victims ("LRVs") if applicable, and the Chamber.
- 5. Based on past practices, the Prosecution estimates that it will require in total about one hour for the examination-in-chief of P-0595; namely approximately 30 minutes to cover the formalities associated with the introduction into evidence of the witness's prior recorded testimony and associated exhibits, and an additional 30 minutes to conduct a supplementary examination to elicit further focused *viva voce*

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evidence of certain issues, including the events amputation of MAIGA's hand.

6. Granting the Request would not be prejudicial to the rights of the Accused and would enhance the expeditiousness of the proceedings by keeping the length of Witness P-0595's in-court testimony considerably shorter than the originally projected three hours.

Confidentiality

7. Pursuant to regulation 23bis(1) of the Regulations of the Court, the Prosecution files this submission and its accompanying Annex as confidential because they contain confidential information and refer to filings of the same classification. The Prosecution shall file a public reducted version in due course.

Prosecution's Submissions

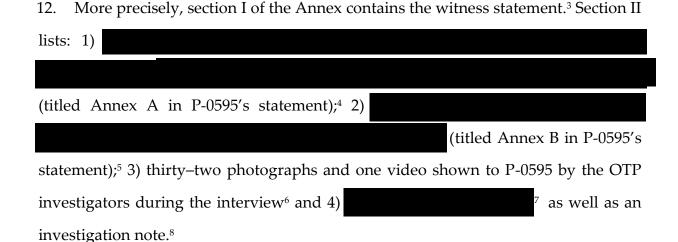
Request for authorisation to introduce P-0595's material into evidence

- 8. Rule 68(3) of the Rules provides that the Chamber may allow the introduction of the previously recorded testimony of a witness present before the Chamber where the individual does not object to the submission, and the Parties and the Chamber have the opportunity to examine the witness.
- 9. The Prosecution identified P-0595 as an appropriate witness for the procedure under rule 68(3) of the Rules.
- 10. P-0595 is listed in the second block of witnesses and his date of testimony is not scheduled for this year. This Request is therefore filed in accordance with the

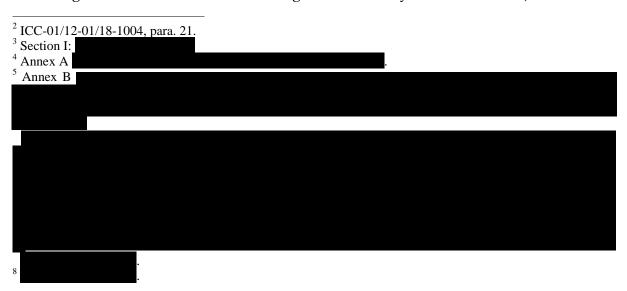
¹ ICC-01/12-01/18-805-Conf-AnxA, p. 3.

Chamber's instruction that rule 68(3) applications relating to any witnesses due to appear beyond the end of this year be filed by 30 November 2020.²

11. Sections I and II of the Annex appended to this application list the materials which the Prosecution seeks to introduce into evidence for P-0595, and section III lists other items necessary for the understanding of P-0595's prior recorded statement, which the Prosecution does not seek to introduce into evidence through this witness.



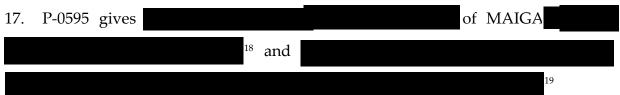
13. The materials listed in section I and II of the Annex relate to the situation in Timbuktu during the events of 2012-2013 including the restrictive rules imposed on the population and the amputation of MAIGA's hand. They are therefore relevant to the charges of torture both as a crime against humanity and war crime (counts 1 and



3), other inhumane acts as a crime against humanity (count 2), cruel treatment as a war crime (count 4), outrages upon personal dignity as a war crime (count 5) passing of sentences as a war crime (count 6) and persecution as a crime against humanity (count 13).

14. The materials in sections I and II are probative and reliable. P-0595 was
interviewed by the OTP investigators
His statement was taken in compliance with the formalities of rule 111 of the
Rules. ⁹ P-0595
P-0595 has direct knowledge of the
events leading to MAIGA's hand amputation
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15.
MAIGA was sentenced to amputation, and his hand was amputated in
implementation of this sentence. ¹²
implementation of this sentence. ¹²
implementation of this sentence. ¹² 16.
implementation of this sentence. ¹²
implementation of this sentence. 12 13 16. 9 Section I: 10 10 11 12 13 13 14 15 16 16 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18
implementation of this sentence. 12 16. 9 Section I: 10 11 12





- 18. During P-0595's interview, the OTP investigators showed P-0595 thirty-two photographs of persons of interest and one video.²⁰
- 19. Whilst P-0595 was able to comment on ten of the photographs shown to him,²¹ the Prosecution requests that all the photographs are introduced into evidence under rule 68(3) of the Rules since all of them constitute an integral part of the statement.²² When shown these photographs, P-0595 identified and named Houka Houka²³ and Sanda OULD BOUAMAMA²⁴

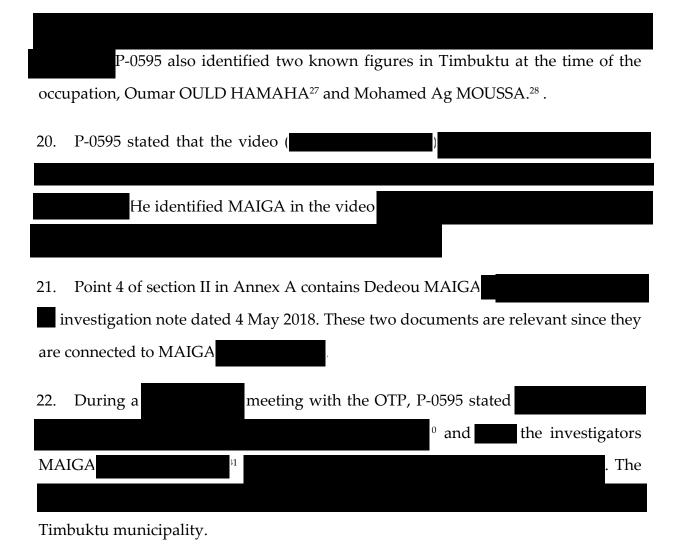
Titled as Annex B in P-0595's statement, see

Point 3 of section II of the Annex to the present application:

See ICC-01/12-01/18-987-Conf, 'Decision on Prosecution's requests to introduce prior recorded testimonies under Rule 68(3) of the Rules', para. 12, 13 and 15.

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- 23. The Prosecution seeks to introduce all of these materials into evidence. They are relevant to the charges as outlined in paragraph 13 *supra*.
- 24. Section III of the Annex contains videos and photographs concerning MAIGA at the site where his hand was amputated and an investigation note concerning information provided by P-0595 to the OTP investigators after the taking of his statement.³² The Prosecution does not seek to



introduce these items into evidence through P-0595 but only lists them as material necessary for the understanding of P-0595's prior recorded statement.

Proposed procedure for the introduction of P-0595's prior statement and associated material

Should this Request be granted, the Prosecution submits that there will be no need to elicit all the information provided by P-0595 in his prior statement as the witness will be asked to confirm its accuracy and to provide corrections or amendments if any.

26. During witness preparation, the Prosecution will ask P-0595, inter alia, to review his statement and associated material, to advise of any corrections or clarifications he wishes to make, and to confirm the accuracy of his prior recorded testimony.³³ In accordance with the Witness Preparation Protocol, this session will be videorecorded and the Prosecution will disclose a log of the session clearly indicating any changes or corrections made by the witness.34

When P-0595 appears in court, the Prosecution will seek to elicit any corrections or clarifications noted by the witness during witness preparation.³⁵ The Prosecution will then ask the witness whether he has any further corrections or clarifications to make to his prior statement or associated material, and to confirm his consent to be questioned by the Parties and the Chamber.

28. After tendering his prior recorded statement and associated materials, with any changes or clarifications noted on the record, the Prosecution will conduct a succinct supplementary examination of P-0595 to elicit further focused viva voce evidence of certain issues, including the events to the amputation of Dedeou MAIGA's hand.

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³³ ICC-01/12-01/18-666-Anx, para.18-19. ³⁴ ICC-01/12-01/18-666-Anx, para.12-15, 31.

³⁵ ICC-01/12-01/18-666-Anx, para. 50.

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29. Finally, P-0595 will be asked to confirm the accuracy of his prior recorded

statement and whether he consents to the submission of the prior statement and

associated material, in accordance with rule 68(3) of the Rules. The Parties, the LRVs

if applicable, and the Chamber will have the opportunity to examine this witness

during the proceedings.

30. As the Defence will have the opportunity to cross-examine the witness, the

admission of P-0595's prior statements and associated material under rule 68(3) of

the Rules will neither be prejudicial to nor inconsistent with the rights of the

Accused.

31. The Prosecution estimates that without recourse to rule 68(3) of the Rules, it

would require approximately three hours for the examination-in-chief of P-0595 in

order to cover all the details provided in his prior statement as well as to elaborate

on the materials associated to his statement. Granting this Request would enhance

the expeditiousness of the proceedings by reducing the length of P-0595's

examination-in-chief by two hours.

Conclusion

32. For the foregoing reasons, the Prosecution requests the Chamber to authorise

the introduction into evidence of Witness P-0595's statement pursuant to rule 68(3)

of the Rules and to authorise the Prosecution to conduct a succinct supplementary

Burnaa.

examination-in-chief of Witness P-0595.

Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor

Dated this 26th day of October 2020

At The Hague, The Netherlands

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