



Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale

International  
Criminal  
Court

ICC-PIDS-WU-24/10\_Eng

# ICC Weekly Update

## 8 March 2010 #24



### Situation in the Central African Republic

In the only case in this situation, *The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo*, Pre-Trial Chamber II confirmed, on 15 June 2009, two charges of crimes against humanity and three charges of war crimes, and committed the accused to trial before a Trial Chamber.

#### Decisions taken between 1 - 5 March 2010

##### Bemba Case

**Redacted version of "Decision on the 'Observations of the Victims and Witnesses Unit on the re-classification of ICC-01/05-01/08-72-Conf with two confidential Annexes and ICC-01/05-01/08-95-Conf " (ICC-01/05-01/08-676-Conf)**

Issued by Trial Chamber III on 3 March 2010

**Corrigendum to the "Order requesting the parties and participants' observations regarding the review of the detention of Mr Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo pursuant to Rule 118(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence"**

Issued by Trial Chamber III on 3 March 2010

**Order granting the prosecution's application for an extension of time limit pursuant to Regulation 35 of the Regulations of the Court**

Issued by Trial Chamber III on 5 March 2010

### Situation in Darfur, Sudan

In the situation in Darfur, Sudan, three cases are being heard: *The Prosecutor v. Ahmad Muhammad Harun* ("Ahmad Harun") and *Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman* ("Ali Kushayb"); *The Prosecutor v. Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir*; and *The Prosecutor v. Bahar Idriss Abu Garda*. Three warrants of arrest have been issued by Pre-Trial Chamber I for Harun, Kushayb and Al Bashir for crimes against humanity and war crimes. The three suspects remain at large. A summons to appear was issued for Abu Garda who appeared voluntarily before the Chamber on 18 May 2009. Abu Garda is not in the custody of the ICC. After the hearing of confirmation of charges, on 8 February, 2010, Pre-Trial Chamber I declined to confirm the charges.

#### Decisions taken between 1 - 5 March 2010

##### Abu Garda Case

**Decision inviting the Prosecutor to respond to the Defence Application under regulation 35 of the Regulations of the Court**

Issued by Pre-Trial Chamber I on 4 March 2010

#### Relevant Links

**Courtroom proceedings** can be followed on the ICC website: [www.icc-cpi.int](http://www.icc-cpi.int)

You can also consult the **hearings schedule**.

**Video summaries** can be found at our **Youtube channel**.

### Events

#### ICC has signed contract with Danish architect schmidt hammer lassen for the development of permanent premises



The International Criminal Court (ICC) has revealed the design for its permanent premises after signing the contract for the development of the new building with Danish architects schmidt hammer lassen. The new ICC headquarters in The Hague is expected to be completed by 2015.

Last year three winning architects were chosen by an international jury from a total of 171 applications. The design of schmidt hammer lassen met all the ICC criteria, such as design, sustainability, functionality and costs.

According to the jury report, the sculptural composition of square buildings will make a very impressive and interesting architectural gesture and a great contribution to the city with an attractive integration into the landscape. "The selected design shows a safe place that captures the ICC's core values of justice, independence, universality, diversity and transparency. A building incorporating these values and at the same time melting into the natural environment transmits the feeling of harmony and peace." said ICC Registrar, Silvana Arbia during a press conference. The Registrar signed the contract on behalf of the Court. The ICC will continue occupying the interim premises until the new headquarters is finished.

Located close the North Sea, the new Court will be situated between the natural rolling dunes landscape and the edge of The Hague. The main design concept centres on the sculptural arrangement of buildings in the landscape and a landmark that will convey the eminence and authority of the ICC while at the same time relating to human scale. The overall building form can be seen as an undulating composition of volumes on the horizon, reminiscent of the dune landscape.



The new premises consist of a courtroom tower and five office buildings, with a public area on the ground floor with gardens and a mirror pool. The architect has put much effort in the sustainability and urban integration of the new premises. "It was evident that connecting the dune landscape with the edge of the city had a striking potential. By designing a compact building with a small footprint, we propose to return the landscape to the city," said Bjarne Hammer, founding partner and creative director of schmidt hammer lassen architects. He continued, "To the victims, to their families and to the world, the ICC building must communicate respect, trust, hope and most importantly, a faith in justice. This building cannot be anonymous; it must have the courage to express the values and the credibility of the ICC".



The States Parties to the Rome Statute will jointly fund the project. The Netherlands, as host State, offered the use of this land together with a loan and an architectural competition.

The completion of the design in all its details is expected to be achieved in 2012, after which construction will start. According to the plans the building will be ready in 2015 for the ICC to move into.

## About the ICC

The International Criminal Court is the only permanent international court established with the mission to help put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole, namely the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and thus to contribute to the prevention of such crimes.

## About schmidt hammer lassen architects

schmidt hammer lassen architects is one of Scandinavia's most recognised, award-winning architectural practices committed to innovative and sustainable design. The practice, which was founded in 1986, has offices in Aarhus, Copenhagen, London, Oslo and Shanghai. schmidt hammer lassen architects has designed the prestigious extension to the Royal Library in Copenhagen, Aberdeen University Library in Scotland, United Kingdom, Hörsaalzentrum RWTH in Aachen, Germany and Amazon Court in Prague, in the Czech Republic. For further information on schmidt hammer lassen architects please refer to their website: [www.shl.dk](http://www.shl.dk)

[Photos of the architectural design](#)

[Video of the design presentation](#)

[The Permanent Premises of the ICC fact sheet](#)

[ICC at a Glance fact sheet](#)

[The Court Today information sheet](#)

## Interacting with communities

### The International Criminal Court continues its information and outreach campaign in the interior of the Central African Republic

The Outreach Unit went to the town of Sibut (Kémo Prefecture) to meet with the local authorities, representatives of the various religious groups, women's groups and representatives of the voluntary sector.



**The Outreach team providing information on the work and activities of the International Criminal Court in Sibut (Kémo District) ©ICC-CPI**

Two awareness sessions were organised on Wednesday 24 February at the premises of the Ministry of Social Affairs in Sibut. A total of 125 people took part in these activities. The purpose of these initial meetings was to explain the general principles governing the International Criminal Court (ICC) to the authorities and the main representatives of civil society in Sibut and to provide them with information on the progress of the proceedings in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo*.

For around one third of participants, this was the first time they had heard of the ICC. Many of the questions asked by

the public thus concerned the mandate and functioning of the Court, and in particular the question of its independence. The opportunity provided to victims under the Rome Statute to participate in proceedings and to seek reparation also aroused a good deal of interest among the various entities that had come together for the occasion.

In a few weeks' time, the Court's representatives will return to Sibut to organise an information and outreach session open to the general public.

## Calendar

MARCH 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08 Press Conference re. the ICC permanent premises	09	10	11	12	13	14

# Calendar

MARCH 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Eighth session of the Assembly of States Parties in New York (resumption)						
29	30	31				
APRIL 2010						
			01	02	03	04
Future events: 31 May – 11 June: First Review Conference of the Rome Statute, Kampala, Uganda.						

The calendar is subject to last minute changes.