



**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**

ICC-PIDS-WU-48/10_Eng

27 September 2010 #48 ICC Weekly Update



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. The trial, initially scheduled to start on 14 July, 2010, has been postponed.

Decisions taken between 20 - 24 September, 2010

Bemba case

Decision on the « Requête de la Défense aux fins de reclassification d'un document présenté par la République Sud-Africaine relative à la question de la liberté provisoire de M. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo »

Issued by the Trial Chamber III on 24 September, 2010

Order reclassifying the "Prosecution's Response to the Observations of the Central African Republic on the appeal proceedings against Trial Chamber III's 'Decision on the Admissibility and Abuse of Process Challenges'"

Issued by the Appeals Chamber on 23 September, 2010



Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo ©
ICC-CPI/Ed Oudenaarden

Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In this situation, three cases are being heard before the relevant Chambers: *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo*; *The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda*; and *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui*. The accused Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui are currently in the custody of the ICC. The suspect Bosco Ntaganda remains at large. The trial in the case *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo* started on 26 January, 2009. The trial in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui* started on 24 November, 2009.

Decisions taken between 20 - 24 September, 2010

DRC Situation

Order setting a new time limit for observations

Issued by the Pre-Trial Chamber I on 24 September, 2010

Decisions taken between 20 - 24 September, 2010

Lubanga case

Decision on the “Prosecution’s application to take testimony while proceedings are stayed pending decision of the Appeals Chamber”

Issued by Trial Chamber I on 24 September, 2010

Order in relation to confidential filings

Issued by the Appeals Chamber on 21 September, 2010



Thomas Lubanga Dyilo © ICC-CPI/Ed Oudenaarden

Relevant Links

Courtroom proceedings can be followed on the ICC website: www.icc-cpi.int

You can also consult the **hearing schedule**

Video summaries can be found on our **YouTube channel**

The ICC’s activities can also be followed through **Twitter**

Interacting with communities

Information session on the Review conference of the Rome Statute in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In response to confusion expressed by several journalists over the past few months regarding the Review Conference on the Rome Statute, the Network of Media Associations for Human Rights, a local NGO, organised an information session on 23 September, 2010, in Kinshasa. ICC Outreach staff informed participants on the issues discussed and decisions taken at the Review Conference. The session was followed by a question and answer session.



ICC Outreach staff informed participants about the Review Conference at an information session in Kinshasa © ICC-CPI

Central African Republic:**The ICC organises a seminar for judges and trainee judges**

On 21 September, 2010, the International Criminal Court (ICC), in conjunction with the Ministry of Justice, organised a one-day seminar in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR) for judges and trainee judges from the CAR.

The seminar, held in the lecture hall of ENAM (*Ecole Nationale de l'Administration et de la Magistrature*), was attended by sixty legal professionals: 17 judges from the ordinary and administrative courts and 43 trainee judges. The trainees have just joined the Ministry of Justice and are in the process of being assigned to their new posts.



Seminar with the legal community in the CAR © ICC-CPI

The opening speech was delivered by Marcel Samba-Sérékoissé, Director of the Office of the Minister of Justice. The ICC Outreach Unit then took the floor to present the permanent judicial institution. The seminar was an opportunity for the outreach teams to provide information about the progress of the proceedings in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba*, and to explain the reasons for the delays announced to the commencement of the trial. A number of audio-visual productions were used throughout the day to explain how the Court functions and to illustrate its work, not only in the Central African Republic, but also in the other countries where the Court is active.

There were many questions from the legal professionals about the way in which trials are conducted before the ICC, in particular, in terms of witness protection and respect for the rights of the Defence. The judges appeared to be extremely pleased with the one-day seminar and strongly urged the Court's teams to organise similar training sessions in the rest of the country, to target judges sitting in the provincial Appeals Courts.

The Director of the Office of the Minister of Justice wrapped up the day by stressing the important outreach work already accomplished by the ICC in the Central African Republic, while urging the Court to continue its work with affected communities in the rest of the country. He also indicated that he would like the ICC to publish a compendium on the decisions it has already handed down so that they may be included in the training of law students in the CAR.

Events

President of the Assembly met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kenya

The President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, His Excellency Ambassador Christian Wenaweser, met on 17 September, in New York, with His Excellency Mr. Moses Wetangula, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kenya. Minister Wetangula reiterated Kenya's firm support for the International Criminal Court, especially as it pertains to investigations currently underway in Kenya. With regard to the visit of President Omar Al-Bashir of Sudan to Nairobi, he highlighted his country's competing obligations towards the Court, the African Union, and regional peace and stability.

Ambassador Wenaweser underscored his view that the obligation to cooperate in accordance with the Rome Statute could not legally be suspended by a decision of the African Union. Only the Security Council could suspend the Court's investigations in accordance with article 16 of the Rome Statute. He expressed his hope that the recent events would lead to a fruitful and broad discussion on cooperation with the Court and to the reiteration of the universal commitment that the Court enjoyed among its States Parties, and welcomed the meeting as a possible first step in this regard. Ambassador Wenaweser highlighted the reliance of the Court on the cooperation of States, without which it could not operate.

The conversation also made reference to Ambassador Wenaweser's letter to Minister Wetangula, dated 28 August, wherein Ambassador Wenaweser forwarded the Decision issued by the Court's Pre-Trial Chamber I, informing the United Nations Security Council and the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute about President Omar Al-Bashir's presence in the territory of the Republic of Kenya. Minister Wetangula informed Ambassador Wenaweser that an official reply from the Kenyan Foreign Ministry would be forthcoming, and the parties agreed to continue the dialogue on cooperation.

Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
27	28	29	30			
OCTOBER 2010						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Regional Seminar on the ICC at Yaounde (Cameroon).						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Future events: 22 November, 2010: The confirmation of charges hearing is scheduled to commence in the case of <i>The Prosecutor v. Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain (Banda) and Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamus (Jerbo)</i>						

The calendar is subject to last minute changes.