



**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**

15 November 2010 #55 ICC Weekly Update



Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In this situation, four cases have been brought before the relevant Chambers: *The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo*; *The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda*; *The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui*; and *The Prosecutor v. Callixte Mbarushimana*. The accused Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui are currently in the custody of the ICC. The suspect Callixte Mbarushimana was arrested on 11 October, 2010, in France. He is currently in the custody of the French authorities, pending their consideration of the ICC Registrar's request for the surrender of the suspect. 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 8 - 12 November, 2010

Lubanga case

Redacted Decision on the "Prosecution's request for non-disclosure of information in transcripts of the Lubanga case to defence in the Katanga and Ngudjolo case" and the "Joint Application for maintaining discrete redactions to transcripts of witness DRC-OTP-WWWW-0007"

Issued by Trial Chamber I on 11 November, 2010

Decision on the scope of the prosecution's disclosure obligations as regards defence witnesses

Issued by Trial Chamber I on 12 November, 2010

Redacted Decision on the "Prosecution's Application for Admission of Documents related to Witness 297 Pursuant to Article 64(9)"

Issued by Trial Chamber I on 12 November, 2010

Katanga and Ngudjolo Chui case

Quatrième décision relative à 2 demandes de participation de victimes à la procédure

Issued by Trial Chamber II on 8 November, 2010

Décision aux fins d'autorisation de comparution des victimes a/0381/09, a/0018/09, a/0191/08 et pan/0363/09 agissant au nom de a/0363/09

Issued by Trial Chamber II on 9 November, 2010

Situation in the Central African Republic

The situation was referred to the Court by the Government of the Central African Republic in December 2004. The Prosecutor opened an investigation in May 2007. 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, is now scheduled to start on 22 November, 2010.

Decisions taken between 8 - 12 November, 2010

Situation in the CAR

Decision on Victims' Participation in Proceedings Related to the Situation in the Central African Republic

Issued by Pre-Trial Chamber II on 11 November, 2010

Bemba case

Decision on common legal representation of victims for the purpose of trial

Issued by Trial Chamber III on 10 November, 2010

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**

Events

ICC Registrar holds Seminar, proposes ways ahead, for the Registry's role in providing support and assistance to victims



The ICC Registrar and participants in the Seminar on the Registry's role in providing support and assistance to victims © ICC-CPI

On 8 and 9 November, the Registrar of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Ms Silvana Arbia, brought together external and internal experts, including Registry staff working in the different situation countries, at the seat of the Court for a special Seminar of the Registry's role in providing support and assistance to victims. The seminar was also attended by representatives of the other organs, the Office of Public Counsel for Victims and for Defence.

The Seminar included presentations and discussions which will aid the Registry in implementing the ICC Strategy in relation to Victims. In her welcoming remarks the Registrar stated that "the Registry has an important mandate in relation to victims which shaped its work since the beginning; while the Registry staff has done enormous and excellent work in this area, time has no come to take stock and reflect on the way ahead".

The Deputy Registrar provided the context of the seminar by outlining the Victims' strategy and providing an overview of the other organs/offices involved.

Special guest speakers included Justice Renate Winter, Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; Gina Donoso, Clinical and Social Psychologist and Human Rights Specialist; Jennifer Melton, representative from UNICEF's multisectoral response for survivors of sexual violence in the DRC; Carlos Martin Beristain, physician and psychologist; Helena Vranov-Schoorl, Associate Support Officer of the Victims and Witnesses Section at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; and Phuong Pham, Director of Research, Human Rights Center, University of California at Berkeley.

At the outset of the seminar the different sections of the Registry in regular contact with victims – the Victims and Witness Unit (VWU), Victims Participation and Preparations Section (VPRS), and Outreach Unit – explained their different roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis victims. After having been provided with an insight into relevant provisions in the ICC legal framework, the expectations of victims and the work of international and national institutions/agencies in relation to support and assistance, the seminar reflected upon how to improve Registry's work, in particular how to best cooperate with other actors for the implementation of the third strategic objective of the Victims' strategy.

The Seminar furthermore discussed the impact on staff dealing with victims who have suffered horrible crimes. "Not all of us are

psychologists; we have different professions such as journalist or lawyer. After meeting with victims, listening to their sad stories and often being shown the scars they still bear, we staff come to the field office and just hug each other” an outreach coordinator said.

In implementing the strategy the Registry will provide more clarity for victims on what is provided, to whom, by whom and when. The Registry will also reinforce its measures to ensure the well-being of staff dealing with victims and prevent secondary-traumatisation.

ICC welcomes the People’s Republic of Bangladesh as a new State Party



The Ambassador of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr Muhammad Ali Sorcar, receives a special, limited edition of the Rome Statute from ICC President Sang-Hyun Song, in the presence of ASP Vice-President H.E. Mr Jorge Lomónaco, at the seat of the Court © ICC-CPI

On 12 November, the International Criminal Court (ICC) held a ceremony at the seat of the Court to welcome the People’s Republic of Bangladesh as a new State Party to the Rome Statute.

During the ceremony, the President of the Court, Judge Sang-Hyun Song, presented the Ambassador of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr Muhammad Ali Sorcar, with a special, limited edition of the Rome Statute, as a symbol of welcoming Bangladesh into the community of States Parties.



ICC President Song recognized Bangladesh’s commitment to peace, justice and the rule of law, stating: “By ratifying the Rome Statute, Bangladesh has joined the growing number of the world’s nations that have combined forces to end impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to humanity”.

The Vice-President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) and Ambassador of Mexico, H.E. Mr Jorge Lomónaco, highlighted that as a result of this ratification, “156 million more persons are now protected by the legal regime of the Rome Statute system”. Bangladesh’s decision is also a call to other countries to join efforts “in the fight for global justice”, said the ASP Vice-President.

In response, Ambassador Sorcar reiterated Bangladesh’s commitment “to the pursuit of a tolerant, peaceful and just world where people from all color and creed live in harmony and dignity”.

The ceremony was held in the presence of several other high-ranking Court officials, including Judge Erkki Kourula, Judge Daniel Nsereko, Judge Christine Van den Wyngaert, and Judge Tarfusser, as well



as the Deputy Registrar, Mr Didier Preira and Ms Shamila Batohi on behalf of the Office of the Prosecutor.

Speech of the President of the ICC, Judge Sang-Hyun Song

Speech of the Vice-President of the Assembly of States Parties, the Ambassador of Mexico, H.E. Mr Jorge Lomónaco

Speech of the Ambassador of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr Muhammad Ali Sorcar

Video footage of the event is available on YouTube, [here](#).

Calendar

NOVEMBER 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Bemba trial scheduled to commence		Registry hosts ICC Seminar on protection of victims and witnesses				
ICC launches Female Counsel Campaign in Dakar, Senegal						
29	30					
DECEMBER 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Assembly of States Parties holds its ninth session in New York						
		Confirmation of charges hearing in the Banda and Jerbo case scheduled to commence				

The calendar is subject to last minute changes.