Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English No.: ICC-01/04-02/06

Date: 30 April 2015

### TRIAL CHAMBER VI

Before:

Judge Robert Fremr, Presiding Judge

Judge Kuniko Ozaki Judge Chang-ho Chung

# SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. BOSCO NTAGANDA

### **Public**

Decision on the Prosecution request for variation of time limit for disclosure of the report of one expert witness

Decision to be notified, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Regulations of the Court, to:

The Office of the Prosecutor Counsel for Bosco Ntaganda

Ms Fatou Bensouda Mr Stéphane Bourgon

Mr James Stewart Mr Luc Boutin

Ms Nicole Samson

Legal Representatives of Victims Legal Representatives of Applicants

Ms Sarah Pellet Mr Dmytro Suprun

Ms Paolina Massidda

Unrepresented Victims Unrepresented Applicants for

Participation/Reparation

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

Victims Defence

States' Representatives Amicus Curiae

**REGISTRY** 

Registrar Counsel Support Section

Mr Herman von Hebel

Victims and Witnesses Unit Detention Section

Victims Participation and Reparations Others

Section

**Trial Chamber VI** ('Chamber')¹ of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda*, having regard to Article 64(6)(f) of the Rome Statute and Regulation 35 of the Regulations of the Court ('Regulations'), issues the following 'Decision on the Prosecution request for variation of time limit for disclosure of the report of one expert witness'.

## I. Procedural history and submissions

- 1. On 9 October 2014, the Chamber ordered that the disclosure of the reports of any expert witness, who is subject to joint instruction pursuant to Regulation 44(2) of the Regulations, or who will be called by the Office of the Prosecutor ('Prosecution'), is to be completed by 17 April 2015.<sup>2</sup>
- 2. On 16 April 2015, the Prosecution submitted its list of the thirteen proposed expert witnesses it intends to call, indicating that it will provide copies of their reports by 17 April 2015 with the exception of a report by the proposed trauma expert for which it requests a variation of time limit ('Prosecution Request').<sup>3</sup> The Prosecution submits that due to previous commitments and his professional schedule, the proposed expert in question, Dr John Yuille, will be unable to provide his report by 17 April 2015.<sup>4</sup> It therefore seeks an extension of the deadline until 6 May 2015.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Where 'Chamber' is used in this decision it refers to both Trial Chamber VI as composed by the Presidency's 'Decision replacing a judge in Trial Chamber VI', 18 March 2015, ICC-01/04-02/06-521 and to the Chamber in its previous composition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Order Scheduling a Status Conference and Setting the Commencement Date for the Trial, 9 October 2014, corrected version 28 November 2014, ICC-01/04-02/06-382-Corr.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Prosecution's list of expert witnesses and request pursuant to regulation 35 to vary the time limit for disclosure of the report of one expert witness, ICC-01/04-02/06-560.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Prosecution Request, ICC-01/04-02/06-560, para 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Prosecution Request, ICC-01/04-02/06-560, para 17.

3. On 23 April 2015, the defence team for Mr Ntaganda ('Defence') filed its response indicating that it considers that good cause had been shown and that it does not oppose the Prosecution Request.<sup>6</sup>

# II. Analysis

- 4. The Chamber notes that the proposed expert witness is unable to provide his report by the 17 April 2015 deadline due to other professional commitments, but would be able to do so by 6 May 2015, thus causing only a few weeks delay. The Chamber further notes that the Defence does not oppose the delayed provision of the report.
- In light of the foregoing, the Chamber considers that the delay caused by the requested variation of time limit will not prejudice the fair and expeditious conduct of proceedings.

# FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE CHAMBER HEREBY

**GRANTS** the Prosecution Request; and

**DIRECTS** the Prosecution to submit the outstanding report of the proposed expert by 6 May 2015.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Response on behalf of Mr Ntaganda to Prosecution request pursuant to regulation 35 to vary the time limit for disclosure of the report of one expert witness, ICC-01/04-02/06-570.

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Done in both English and French, the English version being authoritative.

J. M.

Judge Robert Fremr, Presiding Judge

Judge Kuniko Ozaki

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Judge Chang-ho Chung

Dated this 30 April 2015

At The Hague, The Netherlands