Cour Pénale Internationale





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No: ICC-01/04-01/06

Date: 7 September 2006

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before:

Judge Claude Jorda, Presiding Judge

Judge Akua Kuenyehia Judge Sylvia Steiner

Registrar:

Mr Bruno Cathala

SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. THOMAS LUBANGA DYILO

Public Document

Decision on the Prosecution deadline of 12 September 2006 and the Defence deadline of 12 September 2006

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor Mr Ekkehard Withopf, Senior Trial Lawyer Legal Representatives of Victims

a/0001/06 to a/0003/06

Mr Luc Walleyn Mr Franck Mulenda

Counsel for the Defence

Mr Jean Flamme Ms Véronique Pandanzyla

Office of Public Counsel for the Defence Ms Melinda Taylor

ıc Walleyn

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Pre-Trial Chamber I ("the Chamber") of the International Criminal Court ("the

Court");

NOTING the decision of Pre-Trial Chamber I at the first appearance of Thomas

Lubanga Dyilo on 20 March 2006, according to which the confirmation hearing was

initially scheduled for 27 June 20061;

NOTING the "Decision on the Final system of Disclosure and the Establishment of a

Timetable"² ("Final Decision on the System of Disclosure") issued by the single judge

on 15 May 2006;

NOTING the "Decision Establishing General Principles Governing Applications to

Restrict Disclosure pursuant to Rule 81 (2) and (4) of the Statute" ("the Decision

Establishing General Principles"), issued by the single judge on 19 May 2006;

NOTING the "Decision on the Postponement of the Confirmation Hearing and the

Adjustment of the Timetable Set in the Decision on the Final System of Disclosure"4

("Decision on the Postponement of the Confirmation Hearing"), issued by the single

judge on 24 May 2006, which rescheduled the confirmation hearing for 28 September

2006;

NOTING the "Prosecution's Application pursuant to Rule 81 (2) and 81(4)" ("the

Prosecution First Request"),5 filed by the Prosecution on 21 August 2006, in which it

requested leave of the Chamber to redact certain witness statements on which the

Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation hearing;

¹ ICC-01/04-01/06-T-3-EN, page 8.

² ICC-01/04-01/06-102

³ ICC-01/04-01/06-108.

⁴ ICC-01/04-01/06-126.

⁵ ICC-01/04-01/06-341-Conf.

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NOTING the "Prosecution's Application pursuant to Rules 81 (2) and 81 (4)" ("the

Prosecution Second Request"),6 filed by the Prosecution on 23 August 2006, in which

it requested leave of the Chamber to redact certain witness statements on which the

Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation hearing;

NOTING the "Decision on the Prosecution Practice to Provide to the Defence

Redacted Versions of Evidence and Materials without Authorisation by the

Chamber", issued by the single judge on 25 August 2006;

NOTING the "Final Decision on the E-Court Protocol for the Provision of Evidence,

Material and Witness Information on Electronic Version for their Presentation During

the Confirmation Hearing"7 ("Final Decision on the E-Court Protocol") issued by the

single judge on 28 August 2006;

NOTING the "Submission of the Document Containing the Charges pursuant to

Article 61 (3) (a) and of the List of Evidence pursuant to Rule 121 (3)",8 filed by the

Prosecution on 28 August 2006, which included the Prosecution Charging Document

and List of Evidence:

NOTING the "Prosecution's Request for Authorisation of Redactions in Documents"

("the Prosecution Third Request"),9 filed by the Prosecution on 28 August 2006, in

which it requested leave of the Chamber to redact certain documents on which the

Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation hearing or otherwise subject to

⁶ ICC-01/04-01/06-347-Conf.

⁷ ICC-01/04-01/06-360.

⁸ ICC-01/04-01/06-356.

9 ICC-01/04-01/06-357-Conf.

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inspection pursuant to rule 77 of the Rules of the Procedure and Evidence ("the

Rules");

NOTING the "Prosecution's Application pursuant to Rules 81 (2) and (4)" ("the

Prosecution Fourth Request"), 10 filed by the Prosecution on 28 August 2006, in which

it requested leave of the Chamber to redact several witness statements and

transcripts of interviews on which the Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation

hearing;

NOTING the "Prosecution's Request for Authorization of Redactions in Documents

Previously Disclosed to the Defence" ("the Prosecution Fifth Request"),11 filed by the

Prosecution on 29 August 2006, in which it requested leave of the Chamber to redact

forty-one documents previously disclosed to the Defence in redacted form without

prior authorisation of the Chamber;

NOTING the "Prosecution Application pursuant to Rules 81 (2) and 81 (4)" ("the

Prosecution Sixth Request"),12 filed by the Prosecution on 30 August 2006, and the

corrigendum to Annexes 1 to 5 of the Prosecution Sixth Request filed by the

Prosecution on 31 August 2006, in which the Prosecution requested leave to redact

the transcript of interviews of certain witnesses whose identity the Prosecution had

previously requested not be disclosed;

NOTING the "Decision on the Agenda of the Hearing of 1 September 2006" ("the

Decision on the Agenda"),13 issued by the single judge on 30 August 2006 and the

"Decision on the Supplementary Agenda of the Hearing of 1 September 2006" ("the

¹⁰ ICC-01/04-01/06-358-Conf.

¹¹ ICC-01/04-01/06-363-Conf-Exp.

¹² ICC-0104-01/06-367-Conf-Exp.

¹³ ICC-01/04-01/06-368-Conf-Exp.

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Decision on the Supplementary Agenda"),14 issued by the single judge on 31 August

2006 in which a second ex parte hearing with the Prosecution and the representatives

of the Victims and Witnesses Unit was convened for 4 September 2006;

NOTING the ex parte hearing with the Prosecution and the representatives of the

Victims and Witnesses Unit held in closed session on 1 September 2006, at which the

single judge (i) ordered the Prosecution to refile the annexes to the Prosecution

Requests and to address the questions posed and the concerns raised by the single

judge; and (ii) decided to postpone the ex parte hearing of 4 September 2006 and to set

a new date for that hearing only once the Prosecution has complied with the order

for re-filing by 11 September 2006;

NOTING the "Decision on the Prosecution Request for Extension of Time,

Clarification and Provision of Information", is issued by the single judge on 1

September 2006. and the "Decision concerning the Prosecution's Requests for

Redactions", issued by the single judge on 1 September 2006;16

NOTING the Defence's submission during the Status conference held on 5

September 2006, concerning its difficulties to comply with the deadline of 12

September 2006; to which the Prosecution has also recognized,

PURSUANT to articles 57 (3) (c), 61, 67 and 68 of the Rome Statute ("the Statute");

rules 15, 76 to 83, 121 and 131 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("the Rules");

regulation 26 of the Regulations of the Court ("the Regulations"); and regulation 21

of the Regulations of the Registry;

ICC-01/04-01/06-374-Conf-Exp.
 ICC-01/04-01/06-376-Corr.
 ICC-01/04-01/06-377-Conf-Exp

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CONSIDERING that, according to the Decision on the Postponement of the Confirmation Hearing, the confirmation hearing in the present case is scheduled for 28 September 2006; that, according to rule 121 (4) and (5) of the Rules, the Prosecution has until 12 September 2006, to provide to the Defence and to file with the Registry: (i) a document containing the amended charges, if any, together with the list of evidence that the Prosecution intends to bring in support of those charges at the hearing; and (ii) a list of the new evidence, if any, on which the Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation hearing ("the Prosecution List of Additional Evidence"); and that none of the circumstances referred to in the present decision justify any amendment to that time limit;

CONSIDERING however that, according to the Decision on the Postponement of the Confirmation Hearing and rule 121 (6) of the Rules, the Defence has until 12 September 2006 to file the Defence List of Evidence, as well as any request for leave to redact the evidence included in that list;

CONSIDERING that, on 28 August 2006, the Defence had access to (i) the Prosecution Charging Document and List of Evidence and (ii) the evidence referred to in that document for which the Prosecution did not request leave to make redactions; and that, by 7 September 2006 at the latest, the Defence will have access to an electronic version of that evidence with the particulars provided for in the Final Decision on the E-Court Protocol;

CONSIDERING that at the *ex parte* hearing on 1 September 2006, the single judge (i) stressed the need for a thorough revision of the documents by the Prosecution, the witness statements, and the transcripts of witness interviews contained in the various Prosecution's requests for leave to make redactions for the purpose of ensuring consistency and adequately guaranteeing the protection of the relevant witnesses;

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and (ii) decided that, these documents, witness statements and transcripts of witness

statements should be thoroughly revised by the Prosecution in the light of the

concerns raised by the single judge at the hearing on 1 September 2006,

CONSIDERING that at the *ex parte* hearing of 1 September 2006, the single judge

also decided that a new date will be set once the Prosecution has refiled, by 11

September 2006, the documents, witness statements and transcripts of witness

interviews;

CONSIDERING that, according to the Final Decision on the E-Court Protocol, the

Defence will have access only to an electronic version of that evidence with the

particulars provided for in the Final Decision on the E-Court Protocol within four

days of the notification of the decision of the single judge on the Prosecution

Requests;

CONSIDERING that, by the 12 September 2006, the Defence will not yet have access

to an important part of the evidence contained in the Prosecution Charging

Document and List of Evidence; and that, under these conditions, maintaining the 12

September deadline for the Filing of the Defence List of Evidence will be contrary to

the rights of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo to a fair trial;

FOR THESE REASONS

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DECIDES that the Prosecution has until 12 September 2006 to file:

(i) a document containing the amended charges, if any, together with the list

of evidence that the Prosecution intends to bring in support of those

charges at the hearing;

(ii) a list of the new evidence, if any, on which the Prosecution intends to rely

at the confirmation hearing ("the Prosecution List of Additional

Evidence");

(iii) any request for leave to make redactions in any evidence on which the

Prosecution intends to rely at the confirmation hearing and which was not

included in the Prosecution Charging Document and List of evidence filed

on 28 August 2006;

DECIDES to suspend the 12 September 2006 time limit for the filing of the Defence

List of Evidence;

DECIDES that at the status conference on 19 September 2006 at 1400 the following

matters will be dealt with, in addition to those matters related to the inter partes

disclosure process and the process of filing with the Registry the evidence on which

the parties intend to rely at the confirmation hearing:

- (i) the new deadline for the presentation of the Defence List of Evidence; and
- (ii) the consequences of this new deadline for the starting date of the confirmation hearing.

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

Judge Claude Jorda Presiding Judge

Judge Akua Kuenyehia

Judge Sylvia Steiner

Dated this Thursday 7 September 2006

At The Hague

The Netherlands