Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English No.: ICC-02/04-01/05

Date: 29 February 2008

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before:

Judge Mauro Politi, Presiding Judge Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra

Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova

Registrar:

Mr Bruno Cathala

SITUATION IN UGANDA

IN THE CASE OF
THE PROSECUTOR v. JOSEPH KONY, VINCENT OTTI, OKOT ODHIAMBO,
DOMINIC ONGWEN

Public Document

Request for Information from the Republic of Uganda on the Status of Execution of the Warrants of Arrest

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr Luis Moreno Ocampo, Prosecutor Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor Mr Eric MacDonald, Trial Lawyer The Government of the Republic of Uganda

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PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II (the "Chamber") of the International Criminal Court (the

"Court");

RECALLING the warrant of arrest for Joseph KONY, issued by the Chamber on

8 July 2005, as amended on 27 September 2005,1 and the warrants of arrest issued for

Vincent OTTI,² Okot ODHIAMBO,³ and Dominic ONGWEN⁴ on 8 July 2005 (the

"Warrants");

RECALLING the request for arrest and surrender of Joseph KONY, dated 8 July

2005, as amended on 27 September 2005,5 and the requests for arrest and surrender of

Vincent OTTI,6 Okot ODHIAMBO,7 Dominic ONGWEN8 to the Republic of Uganda,

dated 8 July 2005;

NOTING the "Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation Between the

Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord Resistance Army/Movement

Juba, Sudan" signed on 29 June 2007 (the "Principal Agreement");

NOTING the "Annexure to the Agreement on Accountability and Reconciliation

signed between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Lord Resistance

Army" on 19 February 2008 (the "Annexure");

NOTING articles 86, 87 and 93 of the Rome Statute of the Court (the "Statute"),

setting forth the obligation of States Parties to cooperate fully with the Court in any

matter related to the investigation and prosecution of crimes within its jurisdiction

and the modalities for such cooperation;

¹ ICC-02/04-01/05-53.

² ICC-02/04-01/05-54.

³ ICC-02/04-01/05-56.

⁴ ICC-02/04-01/05-57.

⁵ ICC-02/04-01/05-29-US-Exp, reclassified as public pursuant to Decision ICC-02/04-01/05-135.

⁶ ICC-02/04-01/05-13-US-Exp, reclassified as public pursuant to Decision ICC-02/04-01/05-135.

⁷ ICC-02/04-01/05-15-US-Exp, reclassified as public pursuant to Decision ICC-02/04-01/05-135.

⁸ ICC-02/04-01/05-16-US-Exp, reclassified as public pursuant to Decision ICC-02/04-01/05-135.

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NOTING, in particular, article 87(7) of the Statute, according to which, where a State

Party fails to comply with a request to cooperate, the Court may make a finding to

that effect and refer the matter to the Assembly of States Parties;

NOTING rule 176(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Court and

regulation 46(2) of the Regulations of the Court which respectively deal with, inter

alia, communication with requesting States concerning requests for cooperation and

the responsibility of the Pre-Trial Chamber for any matter, request or information

arising out of a situation;

NOTING that, under the Annexure, "... the government shall expeditiously prepare

and develop the necessary legislation and modalities for implementing the principle

agreement and this annexure";

NOTING also that, pursuant to the Annexure, the Republic of Uganda "shall

establish a unit" to carry out investigations and prosecutions especially against

individuals who are alleged to have planned or committed widespread, systematic,

or serious attacks directed against civilians, or who have allegedly committed grave

breaches of the Geneva Conventions;

NOTING further that the Annexure foresees the establishment of a "special division

of the High Court (...) to try individuals who are alleged to have committed serious

crimes during the conflict";

NOTING lastly that, under the Annexure, the "...Government [of Uganda] shall

ensure that serious crimes committed during the conflict are addressed by the special

Division of the High Court; traditional justice mechanisms; and any other alternative

justice mechanism established under the principal agreement...";

⁹ http://monitor.co.ug/artman/publish/news/Details_of_Government_LRA_agreement.shtml.

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CONSIDERING that, in light of these developments, and in order to ensure the

efficient conduct of the proceedings before the Court, it is necessary for the Chamber

to receive information from the Republic of Uganda on the impact of the Annexure

on Uganda's cooperation with respect to the execution of the Warrants;

FOR THESE REASONS,

REQUESTS the Republic of Uganda to provide the Chamber, at the earliest

convenience, preferably no later than 28 March 2008, with detailed information on

the implications of the Annexure on the execution of the Warrants and, in particular,

on the following issues:

a) The steps that the Republic of Uganda has undertaken or intends to undertake

with a view to implementing the Principal Agreement and the Annexure;

b) The exact competence attributed to the special division of the High Court of

Uganda and specifically, the competence ratione materiae and ratione personae;

c) The categories of offences and alleged perpetrators addressed by the

traditional justice mechanisms and other alternative justice mechanisms

referred to in the Annexure;

d) The impact of the establishment of the special division of the High Court of

Uganda and of recourse to traditional justice mechanisms or other alternative

justice mechanisms on the execution of the Warrants and on the cooperation

provided by the Republic of Uganda to the Court for their execution.

ORDERS the Registrar to transmit promptly this request to the Government of the

Republic of Uganda.

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

Man o Politi

Judge Mauro Politi

Presiding Judge

Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra

Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova

Dated this Friday, 29 February 2008

At The Hague, The Netherlands