Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

Original: English

No. ICC-01/09-02/11 OA Date: 1 August 2011

THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before:

Judge Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko, Presiding Judge

Judge Sang-Hyun Song Judge Akua Kuenyehia Judge Erkki Kourula Judge Anita Ušacka

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. FRANCIS KIRIMI MUTHAURA, UHURU MUIGAI KENYATTA and MOHAMMED HUSSEIN ALI

Public document

Decision on the Application on behalf of the Government of Kenya for Leave to Reply to the "Prosecution's response to the 'Appeal of the government of Kenya against the Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute"

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor Mr Fabricio Guariglia

Counsel for Francis Kirimi Muthaura

Mr Karim A. A. Khan Mr Kennedy Ogeto

Counsel for Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta

Mr Steven Kay Mr Gillian Higgins

Counsel for Mohammed Hussein Ali

Mr Evens Monari

Mr Gershom Otachi Bw'omanwa

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

Ms Paolina Massida

States Representatives

Mr Geoffrey Nice Mr Rodney Dixon

REGISTRY

Registrar

Ms Silvana Arbia

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The Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court,

In the appeal of the Republic of Kenya (hereinafter: "Kenya") against the decision of

Pre-Trial Chamber II entitled "Decision on the Application by the Government of

Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the

Statute" of 30 May 2011 (ICC-01/09-02/11-96),

Having before it the "Application on behalf of the Government of Kenya for Leave to

Reply to the 'Prosecution's response to the "Appeal of the Government of Kenya

against the Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the

Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute"" of 20 July

2011 (ICC-01/09-02/11-180 (OA), hereinafter: "Application to Reply"),

Unanimously,

Renders the following

DECISION

The Application to Reply is rejected.

REASONS

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. On 30 May 2011, Pre-Trial Chamber II (hereinafter: "the Pre-Trial Chamber")

issued its "Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the

Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute" (hereinafter:

"Impugned Decision") wherein it found the case against Mr Muthaura, Mr Kenyatta

and Mr Ali to be admissible. On 6 June 2011, Kenya filed its appeal against the

Impugned Decision.²

2. On 20 June 2011, Kenya filed its "Document in Support of the 'Appeal of the

Government of Kenya against the Decision on the Application by the Government of

¹ ICC-01/09-01/11-101.

² "Appeal of the Government of Kenya against the 'Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute'", ICC-01/09-02/11-104.

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Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute'" (hereinafter: "Document in Support of the Appeal").

- 3. On 12 July 2011, the Prosecutor filed the "Prosecution's response to the 'Appeal of the Government of Kenya against the Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the Case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute'" (hereinafter: "Response to the Document in Support of the Appeal").
- 4. On 20 July 2011, Kenya filed his Application to Reply in which it sought leave to reply to the Response to the Document in Support of the Appeal under regulation 24 (5) of the Regulations of the Court. Kenya submits that the Response to the Document in Support of the Appeal contains "new and erroneous assertions of law and fact" which are "central to the appeal".⁵
- 5. On 21 July 2011, the Appeals Chamber ordered the Prosecutor, Mr Muthaura, Mr Kenyatta and Mr Ali to file, before 26 July 2011, observations on whether the Application to Reply should be granted or rejected.⁶
- 6. On 22 July 2011, the Prosecutor filed his observations (hereinafter: "Prosecutor's Observations"), submitting that the Application to Reply should be dismissed
- 7. No suspect filed any observations.

II. MERITS

8. The Appeals Chamber observes that Kenya seeks leave to reply under regulation 24 (5) of the Regulations of the Court. The Appeals Chamber nevertheless recalls that it has previously held that replies to responses to documents in support of

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³ ICC-01/09-02/11-130. A Corrigendum thereto was filed on 21 June 2011, ICC-01/09-02/11-130-Corr.

⁴ ICC-01/09-02/11-168.

⁵ Application to Reply, para. 3; see also paras 13-20, 21-24, 25 and 26.

⁶ "Order on the filing of observations in relation to the Application on behalf of the Republic of Kenya for Leave to Reply to the 'Prosecution's response to the "Appeal of the Government of Kenya against the Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute'", ICC-01/09-02/11-186 (OA).

⁷ "Prosecution's response to the Application on behalf of the Government of Kenya for Leave to Reply to the 'Prosecution's response to the 'Prosecution's response to the "Appeal of the Government of Kenya against the Decision on the Application by the Government of Kenya Challenging the Admissibility of the case Pursuant to Article 19(2)(b) of the Statute"", ICC-01/09-02/11-190.

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appeal may not be filed pursuant to regulation 24 (5) of the Regulations of the Court

for appeals brought under rule 154 and 155 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

This is because "the more specific provisions of subsection 1 of Section 4 of Chapter

3 of the regulations of the Court do not foresee replies to responses to documents in

support of appeals."8 Therefore, the present application is rejected.

9. However, the Appeals Chamber has held that it has discretion under regulation

28 of the Regulations of the Court to order further submissions by parties or

participants when it is "necessary for the proper disposal of the Appeal [...] bearing in

mind the principle of equality of arms and the need for expeditious proceedings".9

The Appeals Chamber observes that while Kenya does not invoke regulation 28 of the

Regulations of the Court, the Prosecutor¹⁰ expressly refers to it in his observations,

submitting that the regulation does not apply to the circumstances of this case.

10. The Appeals Chamber is not persuaded that further observations from Kenya

would be necessary for the proper disposal of the appeal. In this respect, the Appeals

Chamber notes that Kenya raises several matters that it would address if its

application were granted, namely: (a) the relevant time for determination of the

admissibility challenge (b) the definition and evidence of "an investigation"; and (c)

the alleged erroneous assertions in the Prosecutor's responses. 11 None of these issues

warrant further submissions as they are already before the Appeals Chamber or, in the

view of the Appeals Chamber, appear to be mere disagreements with the Prosecutor's

arguments.

11. For these reasons, the Appeals Chamber does not deem it necessary to use its

discretion pursuant to regulation 28 of the Regulations of the Court, to order any

further submissions from Kenya.

⁸ "Decision on the Prosecutor's 'Application for Leave to Reply to "Conclusions de la défense en réponse au mémoire d'appel du Procureur'", 12 September 2006, ICC-01/04-01/06-424 (OA3), para. 6; and "Decision on the Prosecution's Request for Leave to Reply", 18 January 2008, ICC-01/04-

01/07-148 (OA), para. 6.

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⁹ "Decision on the Prosecutor's 'Application for Leave to Reply to "Conclusions de la défense en réponse au mémoire d'appel du Procureur''", 12 September 2006, ICC-01/04-01/06-424 (OA3), para. 7. See also "Decision on the 'Prosecution's Application under Regulation 28 to provide Clarification or Additional Details which Impact on the Appeals against the decisions to Stay the Proceedings and Release the Accused'", 13 October 2008, ICC-01/04-01/06-1476 (OA 12 and OA 13), para. 3.

¹⁰ Prosecutor's Observations, paras 5-6.

¹¹ Application to Reply, paras 13-25.

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

Judge Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko Presiding Judge

Dated this 1st day of August 2011

At The Hague, The Netherlands

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