

**Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale**



**International  
Criminal  
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-02/11-01/15

Date: 15 July 2015

**TRIAL CHAMBER I**

Before: Judge Geoffrey Henderson, Single Judge

**SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE  
IN THE CASE OF  
*THE PROSECUTOR v. LAURENT GBAGBO and CHARLES BLÉ GOUDÉ***

**Public**

**Decision on urgent Prosecution request for an extension of the word count limit  
for the Pre-Trial Brief**

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

**The Office of the Prosecutor**

Ms Fatou Bensouda  
Mr James Stewart  
Mr Eric MacDonald

**Counsel for Mr Laurent Gbagbo**

Mr Emmanuel Altit  
Ms Agathe Bahi Baroan

**Counsel for Mr Charles Blé Goudé**

Mr Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops  
Mr Claver N'dry

**Legal Representatives of Victims**

Ms Paolina Massidda

**Legal Representatives of Applicants**

**Unrepresented Victims**

**Unrepresented Applicants for  
Participation/Reparation**

**The Office of Public Counsel for  
Victims**

**The Office of Public Counsel for the  
Defence**

**States' Representatives**

*Amicus Curiae*

**REGISTRY**

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**Registrar**

Mr Herman von Hebel

**Counsel Support Section**

**Victims and Witnesses Unit**

**Detention Section**

**Victims Participation and Reparations  
Section**

**Others**

**Judge Geoffrey Henderson**, acting as Single Judge on behalf of Trial Chamber I ('Single Judge' and 'Chamber', respectively) of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé*, having regard to Regulation 36(3) of the Regulations of the Court, issues the following 'Decision on urgent Prosecution request for an extension of the word count limit for the Pre Trial Brief'.

1. On 10 July 2015, the Single Judge granted the request for an extension of the page limit up to 300 pages for the Pre-Trial Brief<sup>1</sup> ordered by the Chamber.<sup>2</sup>
2. On 14 July 2015, the Office of the Prosecutor ('Prosecution') urgently requested permission to file a Pre-Trial Brief that exceeds the word limit by approximately 15,000 to 20,000 words, but will be less than the 300-page limit ('Request').<sup>3</sup> It submits that the word count extension is necessary due to the manner in which the footnotes are constructed and the amount of evidence referenced.<sup>4</sup>
3. On 15 July 2015,<sup>5</sup> the defence for Mr Gbagbo,<sup>6</sup> defence for Mr Blé Goudé<sup>7</sup> and Legal Representative of Victims<sup>8</sup> informed the Chamber that they did not intend to respond to the Request.
4. The Single Judge recalls that it was in the interest of defence preparations and fair and expeditious proceedings that the Chamber ordered the filing of a Pre-Trial Brief to summarise the evidence the Prosecution intends to rely upon and explain how it relates to the charges.<sup>9</sup> In light of this requirement, its purpose, the volume of evidence and the scope of the charges,<sup>10</sup> the Single Judge is satisfied that an

<sup>1</sup> Decision on the Prosecution request for an extension of page limit for the Pre-Trial Brief, ICC-02/11-01/15-131.

<sup>2</sup> Order setting the commencement date of trial, 7 May 2015, ICC-02/11-01/15-58, paras 19 and 26.

<sup>3</sup> Email communication from Prosecution to Trial Chamber on 14 July 2015 at 17:04.

<sup>4</sup> Request, para. 3.

<sup>5</sup> The Chamber shortened the deadline for any response to 15 July 2015 at 13:00. Email communication from Trial Chamber Legal Officer to Parties and Participants on 14 July 2015 at 18:09.

<sup>6</sup> Email communication from defence for Mr Gbagbo to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 11:00.

<sup>7</sup> Email communication from defence for Mr Blé Goudé to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 10:27.

<sup>8</sup> Email communication from Legal Representative of Victims to Trial Chamber on 15 July 2015 at 9:19.

<sup>9</sup> ICC-02/11-01/15-58, paras 19 and 26.

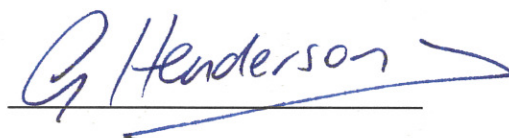
<sup>10</sup> ICC-02/11-01/15-131, para. 6.

extension of 20,000 words is warranted to facilitate references to evidence in the footnotes.

**FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE SINGLE JUDGE HEREBY**

**GRANTS** the Request.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G Henderson" with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Judge Geoffrey Henderson, Single Judge**

Dated 15 July 2015

At The Hague, The Netherlands