Cour Pénale Internationale



International Criminal Court

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

Date: 23 November 2017

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

Ninth decision on victims' participation in trial proceedings

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 Christopher Gosnell

Ms Nicole Samson

Legal Representatives of Victims Legal Representatives of Applicants

Ms Sarah Pellet Mr Dmytro Suprun

Unrepresented Victims Unrepresented Applicants for

Participation/Reparation

The Office of Public Counsel for

Victims

The Office of Public Counsel for the

Defence

Amicus Curiae States' Representatives

REGISTRY

Registrar **Counsel Support Section**

Mr Herman von Hebel

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Mr Nigel Verrill

Detention Section

Other

Victims Participation and Reparations

Section

Mr Philipp Ambach

Trial Chamber VI ('Chamber') of the International Criminal Court ('Court'), in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda*, having regard to Article 68(1) and (3) of the Rome Statute and Rules 85 and 86 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, and incorporating by reference the applicable law as set out in its prior decisions, issues this 'Ninth decision on victims' participation in trial proceedings'.

- 1. On 1 September 2015, the Chamber adopted a procedure for family members or individuals closely connected with deceased victims who wish to resume the action initiated by their deceased relatives before the Court.²
- 2. In accordance with that procedure, on 6 October 2017, the Registry transmitted to the Chamber five application forms for resumption of action initiated by deceased victims ('Resumption of Action Forms').³ The Registry indicated that it had assessed these five forms and considered that each of them meets the requirements set out by the Chamber.⁴
- 3. The Chamber has not identified any error in the Registry's assessment of the Resumption of Action Forms.⁵ Accordingly, and in line with the applicable law set out in its previous decisions, the Chamber deems it appropriate to authorise the individuals who submitted the Resumption of Action Forms to continue the action initiated by the deceased victims before the Court. In this regard, the Chamber recalls that persons who continue to act on behalf of a deceased victim

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¹ Decision on victims' participation in trial proceedings, 6 February 2015, ICC-01/04-02/06-449 ('First Victims Decision'), paras 41-51; Fourth decision on victims' participation in trial proceedings, 1 September 2015, ICC-01/04-02/06-805 ('Fourth Victims Decision'), paras 8 and 13.

² Fourth Victims Decision, ICC-01/04-02/06-805, para. 13.

³ Eighth Periodic Report on Victims in the Case and their General Situation, ICC-01/04-02/06-2056 ('Eighth Report') and one confidential, *ex parte* annex, available only to the Registry and both Legal Representatives of Victims and six confidential, *ex parte* annexes, available only to the Registry and the Legal Representative of the Victims of the Attacks.

⁴ Eighth Report, ICC-01/04-02/06-2056, para. 13.

⁵ The Chamber recalls that the standard applied in this regard is one of 'clear and material error' (Fourth Victims Decision, ICC-01/04-02/06-805, para. 13(iii)).

are only authorised to do so within the limits of the views and concerns expressed by the victim in his or her initial application.⁶

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE CHAMBER HEREBY

AUTHORISES the applicants in respect of victims a/00458/13, a/01225/13, a/01278/13, a/01561/13, and a/00203/13 to resume the action initiated before the Court by the respective deceased victims.

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

Judge Robert Fremr, Presiding Judge

Judge Kuniko Ozaki

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Judge Chang-ho Chung

Dated 23 November 2017

At The Hague, The Netherlands

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⁶ Fourth Victims Decision, ICC-01/04-02/06-805, para. 8.