



## International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda

OR: ENG

#### TRIAL CHAMBER III

**Before Judges:** 

Dennis C. M. Byron, Presiding

Karin Hökborg

Gberdao Gustave Kam

Registrar:

Adama Dieng

Date:

16 December 2005

THE PROSECUTOR

v.

André RWAMAKUBA Case No. ICTR-98-44C-T

## DECISION ON DEFENCE MOTION FOR A VIEW LOCUS IN QUO Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence

Office of the Prosecutor:

Don Webster Dior Fall Adama Niane Iain Morley Tamara Cummings-John **Defence Counsel** David Hooper Andreas O'Shea



### THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA ("Tribunal"),

**SITTING** as Trial Chamber III, composed of Judges Dennis C. M. Byron, Presiding, Karin Hökborg and Gustave Gberdao Kam ("Chamber");

**BEING SEIZED** of the "Defence Motion for a View of *Locus in Quo*" filed on 29 November 2005 ("Defence Motion");

**HEREBY DECIDES** the Motion pursuant to Rule 73 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules").

#### Introduction

- 1. André Rwamakuba ("Accused") is currently charged with genocide or, alternatively, complicity in genocide pursuant to Article 2 of the Statute of the Tribunal ("Statute"), and extermination and murder, as crimes against humanity pursuant to Article 3 of the Statute. These charges are alleged with respect to events which took place mainly in Gikomero Commune, at Kayanga Health Center and at Butare Hospital.
- 2. The trial against the Accused commenced on 9 June 2005 with the presentation of the Prosecution's evidence. The Defence started the presentation of its case on 7 November 2005. The third trial session in the instant case is scheduled to start in January 2006.
- 3. The Defence now moves the Chamber to visit sites and places in Rwanda relevant to the determination of the facts of this case.

#### **DELIBERATIONS**

- 4. Relying upon Rules 4 and 89 of the Rules and the practice of *both* ad hoc Tribunals, the Defence contends that a site visit in this case is in the interests of justice and of the Accused. It is submitted that many of the issues are disputed and rely to an extent on the physical aspects of the area where the particular offence is alleged to have been committed. The Prosecution does not oppose the Motion but submits a few additional places to be viewed by the Chamber. I
- 5. Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence provides that "[a] Chamber or a Judge may exercise their functions away from the Seat of the Tribunal, if so authorized by the President in the interests of justice".
- 6. In accordance with the jurisprudence of the Tribunal, the Chamber considers that the need for a site visit must be assessed in view of the particular circumstances of each case.<sup>2</sup> A decision to carry out a site visit should preferably be made when the visit will be instrumental in the discovery of the truth and determination of the matter before the Chamber.<sup>3</sup> In that decision, the number of sites to be visited and their importance should also be taken into account.
- 7. The Chamber has reviewed the itinerary suggested by both parties. It is satisfied that the proposed site visits are relevant to the charges against the Accused and will be instrumental in the discovery of the truth and determination of the matter before the



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> T. 15 December 2005 and email sent to the attention of the Chamber by Lead Counsel for Prosecution on 15 December 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prosecutor v. Bagilishema, Case No. ICTR-95-1A-T, Judgement (TC), 7 June 2001; Prosecutor v. Bagosora et al, Case No. ICTR-98-41-T, Decision on Prosecutor's Motion for Site Visits in the Republic of Rwanda (TC), 29 September 2004; Prosecutor v. Simba, Case No. ICTR-01-76-T. Decision on the Defence Request for Site Visits in Rwanda (TC), 31 January 2005; Prosecutor v. Simba, Case No. ICTR-01-76-T, Decision on Defence Renewed Request for Site Visits in Rwanda (TC), 4 May 2005.

<sup>3</sup> Ibidem.

Chamber. In addition, the Chamber notes that these places could be visited in two to three days and therefore do not involve difficult logistical planning or high costs for the Tribunal.

While photographs, sketches and maps have been tendered as exhibits regarding these locations, the Chamber is of the view that, in the particular circumstances of this case a firsthand knowledge of the area will be in the interests of justice.

#### FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

- I. REQUESTS the President to authorize the Chamber's exercise of its function away from the Seat of the Tribunal, pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules; and if such authorization is granted;
- II. REQUESTS the Registry to make all the necessary arrangements, in liaison with the Chamber, to facilitate the implementation of this decision.

Arusha, 16 December 2005, done in English.

Dennis C. M. Byron Presiding Judge

Judge

Gberdao Gustave Kam Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]





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#### **COURT MANAGEMENT SECTION**

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I - GENERAL	INFORMATION (T	o be completed by t	the Chambers / Fi	iling Party)						
То:	Trial Chamber I N. M. Diallo	Trial Chamber II R. N. Kouambo	Trial Chamber III C. K. Hometowu	Appeals Chamber / Arusha F. A. Talon						
	Chief, CMS JP. Fomété  Deputy Chief, CMS M. Diop		Chief, JPU, CMS M. Diop	Appeals Chamber / The Hague R. Muzigo-Morrison K. K. A. Afanđe						
From:	Chamber	Defence	Prosecutor's Offic	Other:						
	Julie Greenspoon (names)	(names)	(names)	(names)						
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PROCEDURE AND EVIDENCE)

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# PROOF OF SERVICE – ARUSHA PREUVE DE NOTIFICATION – ARUSHA

Date:	19 December 2005	Case Name / Affaire: The Prosecutor v		s André RWAMAKUBA						
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Cc:			L. G. Munlo S. Menon		Niang	S. van Driessche				
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