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Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS

OR: ENG

TRIAL CHAMBER III

Before Judges:

Inés Mónica Weinberg de Roca, Presiding

Khalida Rachid Khan Lee Gacuiga Muthoga

Registrar:

Adama Dieng

Date:

31 January 2006

THE PROSECUTOR

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Protais ZIGIRANYIRAZO

Case No. 1CTR-2001-73-T

DECISION ON PROSECUTOR'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE ORAL DECISION EXCLUDING EVIDENCE ON THE MEETING OF 22 NOVEMBER 1992, OR FOR CERTIFICATION TO APPEAL THE SAME

Rules 73(A) and (B) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence

Office of the Prosecutor:

Wallace Kapaya Gina Butler Iskandar Ismail Jane Mukangira

Defence Counsel: John Philpot Peter Zaduk

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

SITTING as Trial Chamber III, composed of Judges Inés Mónica Weinberg de Roca, Presiding, Khalida Rachid Khan, and Lee Gacuiga Muthoga ("Chamber");

BEING SEIZED of the "Prosecutor's Motion for Reconsideration of a Decision, or for Certification of Appeal, in the Alternative" filed on 25 October 2005 ("Motion");

CONSIDERING the Defence "Reply to Prosecutor's Motion for Reconsideration of a Decision, or for Certification of Appeal, in the Alternative"; filed on 31 October 2005; and the Prosecutor's Rejoinder filed on 31 October 2005;

RECALLING the Oral Decisions made by the Chamber during the hearings on 5 and 18 October 2005;1

NOW DECIDES the matters solely based on the written briefs of the Parties pursuant to Rule 73(A) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules").

INTRODUCTION AND PARTIES' ARGUMENTS

- On 5 October 2005, Witness APJ testified about two meetings which took place in Giciye in 1992. The Accused was allegedly invited to the first one and took the floor to say that the population had to fight the enemy ("First Meeting"). The second meeting was between the bourgmestre and the conseillers as a follow-up to the First Meeting ("Second Meeting"). The Defence objected to the meetings being admitted into evidence. In the Oral Decision of 5 October 2005, the Chamber allowed evidence only on the First Meeting, where the Accused is alleged to have made a speech, because there is a general allegation in the Amended Indictment, the pre-trial brief, and the witness statement, of meetings that took place in 1994.² The Chamber chose to allow evidence from the First Meeting as it is alleged that the Accused was present.
- On 18 October 2005, Witness SGP testified about a well-known meeting convened by 2.. Léon Mugesera which took place on 22 November 1992. The Defence raised an objection which was granted ("Oral Decision of 18 October 2005") ("Impugned Decision") because this meeting was well-known and material to the case and should have been pleaded in the Indictment which the Prosecutor had adequate opportunity to amend at different occasions. The Chamber agreed with the Defence, as the Prosecutor was aware of the existence of this meeting since at least 2001.³
- The Prosecutor now seeks reconsideration of the Chamber's Oral Decision of 18 October 2005 on the ground that this later decision is not consistent with the one of 5 October 2005 and with the jurisprudence of the Tribunal, based on Rule 89(C) of the Rules. In the alternative, the Prosecutor seeks certification to appeal the Oral Decision of 18 October 2005.
- The Defence objects to the Motion in its two alternatives. 4.



T. 5 October 2005, pp. 42-58. T. 18 October 2005, p. 40.

T. 5 October 2005, pp. 42-58.

T. 18 October 2005, p. 40.

4326

DELIBERATIONS

- 5. According to the jurisprudence of the Tribunal, a Chamber can reconsider its own Decision (i) when a new fact has been discovered that was not previously known to the Chamber; (ii) where new circumstances have arisen since the filing of the impugned decision that affect the premise of the impugned decision; or (iii) where a party has successfully shown an error of law or that the Chamber has abused its discretion, and an injustice has been occasioned. In the present case, none of those requirements have been met by the Prosecutor in his arguments. As such, the Chamber will not reconsider the Oral Decision of 18 October 2005.
- 6. Rule 73(B) of the Rules provides for certification to appeal when (i) the impugned decision involves an issue that would significantly affect (a) the fair and expeditious conduct of the proceedings or (b) the outcome of the trial and (ii) for which, in the opinion of the Trial Chamber, an immediate resolution by the Appeals Chamber may materially advance the proceedings.
- 7. The Chamber, having considered the arguments of the Prosecutor, found that none of those requirements in Rule 73(B) have been met, and consequently the Motion shall be dismissed.

FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

DENIES the Prosecutor's Motion in all respects.

Arusha, 31 January 2006, done in English.

Inés Mónica Weinberg de Roca

Presiding Judge

Chalida Rachid Khan

Indee

Let Gacuiga Muthoga

Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]

Bagosora et al., Decision on Defence Motion for Reconsideration of the Trial Chamber's Decision and Scheduling Order of 5 December 2001 (TC), 18 July 2003; Ferdinand Nahimanu Jean-Bosco Barayagwiza, Hassan Ngeze v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-99-52-A, Decision on Ngeze's Motion for reconsideration of the Decision Denying an Extension of Page Limits His Appellant Brief (AC), 11 March 2004, p. 2.

Elièzer Nivitegeka v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-96-14-A, Decision of Defence Extremely Urgent Motion for Reconsideration of Decision dated 16 December 2003 (AC), 19 December 2003; Nivitegeka, Decision on Elièzer Nivitegeka's Urgent Motion for Reconsideration of Appeals Chamber Decision dated 3 December 2003 (AC), 4 February 2004; Bagosora et al., Decision on Reconsideration of Order to Reduce Witness List and on Motion for Contempt for Violation of that order (TC), 1 March 2004, para, 11.

Mucic et. al., Judgment on Sentence Appeal (AC), 8 April 2003, para. 49; Laurent Semanza v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-97-20-A, Decision on Application for Reconsideration of Amicus Curiac Application of Paul Bisengimana (AC), 19 May 2004; Bagosara et al., Decision on Prosecutor's Motion for Reconsideration of the Trial Chamber's "Decision on Prosecutor's Motion for Leave to vary the Witness List Pursuant to Rule 73Bis (E)" (TC), 15 June 2004, para. 15.

⁴ Nyiramasuhuko, Decision on Nyiramasuhuko for reconsideration: f the "Decision on Defence Motion for Certificate to Appeal the 'Decision on Defence Motion for a Stay of Proceedings and Abuse of Process" (TC), 20 May 2004.