

IC IR, -98-44-I 29-03-2007 34656-34664) International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda

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TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Erik Møse, presiding Judge Jai Ram Reddy Judge Sergei Alekseevich Egorov

Registrar: Adama Dieng

Date: 29 March 2007

THE PROSECUTOR v. Théoneste BAGOSORA

Gratien KABILIGI Aleys NTABAKUZE

Anatole NSENGIYUMVA

Case No. ICTR-98-41-T



DECISION ON DEFENCE MOTIONS TO STRIKE EXCLUDED EVIDENCE FROM THE PROSECUTION CLOSING BRIEF

The Prosecution

Barbara Mulvaney Drew White Christine Graham Rashid Rashid Gregory Townsend Kartik Murukutla

The Defence

Raphaël Constant Allison Turner Paul Skolnik Frédéric Hivon Peter Erlinder Marc Nerenberg Kennedy Ogetto Gershom Otachi Bw⁺Omanwa

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THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

SITTING as Trial Chamber I, composed of Judge Erik Møse, presiding, Judge Jai Ram Reddy, and Judge Sergei Alekseevich Egorov;

BEING SEIZED OF the Kabiligi "Motion to Order the Prosecutor to Amend and Refile the 'Prosecutor's Final Trial Brief", etc., filed on 15 March 2007;

BEING FURTHER SEIZED OF the Ntabakuze "Motion to Oblige the Prosecutor to Strike All References to Evidence that Has Already Been Excluded", etc., filed on 16 March 2007;

HEREBY DECIDES the motions.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Prosecution filed its Closing Brief on 1 March 2007. It consists of 953 pages. The Chamber thereafter granted leave for the Bagosora Defence to file its Closing Brief by 10 May 2007 and for the three other Defence teams to file their respective briefs by 23 April 2007. Closing arguments are scheduled to take place from 28 May to 1 June 2007.¹ The Kabiligi and Niabakuze Defence teams now scek to have the Prosecution strike from its Closing Brief all references to evidence that the Chamber has allegedly excluded.²

2. The Kabiligi Defence identifies incriminating testimony by Witnesses Kambanda, XAI, DCH, and XXH. Consequently, a number of paragraphs in the Prosecution Closing Brief have to "be deleted, and withdrawn for all purposes of law".³ The Ntabakuze Defence provides a non-exhaustive list of three portions of testimony that, in its view, were excluded by the Trial Chamber. It asserts that the Defence is now improperly tasked with "doing a massive verification that the Prosecutor should have done in the first place".⁴ The Prosecution filed no response to the Defence motions.

DELIBERATIONS

3. It is obvious that the Chamber will not consider in its judgement evidence which has been excluded. To the extent that the Prosecution Closing Brief contains such material, it will be ignored. The Defence teams may wish to identify purportedly excluded evidence in their respective Closing Briefs. The Chamber's recent decisions granting them an extension of time to file their briefs provides them with additional time to do so.

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¹ Bagosora et al., Decision on Bagosora Defence Motion Concerning Schrduling of its Closing Brief (TC), 13 March 2007; Bagosora et al., Decision on Defence Motions for Extension of Time 10 File Their Closing Briefs (TC), 26 March 2007.

² See, e.g., Bagosora et al., Decision on Admissibility of Proposed Testimony of Witness DBY (TC), 18 September 2003; Decision on Exclusion of Evidence Outside the Scope of the Indictment (TC), 27 September 2005; Decision on Ntabakuze Motion for Exclusion of Evidence (TC), 29 June 2006; Decision on Kabiligi Motion for Exclusion of Evidence (TC), 4 September 2006; Decision on Severance or Exclusion of Evidence Based on Prejudice Arising from Testimony of Jean Kambanda (TC), 11 September 2006.

³ Kabiligi Motion, paras. 5-7, 10-22.

⁴ Ntabakuze Motion, paras. 3-4, 7.

The Prosecutor v. Bayosora, Kabiligi, Ntabakuze and Nsengiyumva, Case No. 1CTR-98-41-T

FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

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DENIES the motions.

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Arusha, 29 March 2007

Erik Møse Presiding Judge

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Jai Ram Reddy

Sergei Alekseevi

Sergei Alekseevich Egorov Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]





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