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OR: ENG

TRIAL CHAMBER DESIGNATED UNDER RULE 11 BIS

Before Judges:

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS

Erik Møse, presiding

Sergei Alckseevich Egorov

Florence Rita Arrey

Registrar:

Adama Dieng

Date:

9 November 2007

THE PROSECUTOR

v.

Gaspard KANYARUKIGA

Case No. ICTR-2002-78-1

JUDICIAL RECEIVED I: 16

DECISION ON THE REQUEST OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA FOR LEAVE TO APPEAR AS AMICUS CURIAE

Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence

Prosecution

Hassan Bubacar Jallow Bongani Majola Silvana Arbia Alex Obote-Odora Richard Karegyesa Georges Mugwanya Inncke Onsea François Nsanzuwera Florida Kabasinga

Defence

Ernest Midagu Bahati Camille Yuma Athanase Dushimilimana Jean Martin Ndahiriwe



THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

SITTING as a Trial Chamber designated under Rule 11 bis of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, composed of Judge Erik Møse, presiding, Judge Sergei Alekseevich Egorov, and Judge Florence Rita Arrey;

BEING SEIZED OF the "Request by the Republic of Rwanda for leave to appear and make submissions as amicus etc. ", filed on 22 October 2007;

HEREBY DECIDES the motion.

INTRODUCTION

On 22 October 2007, the Republic of Rwanda filed a request for leave to appear and make submissions as amicus curiae in support of the Prosecutor's Rule 11 bis request for the referral of the case of Gaspard Kanyarukiga to Rwanda. The request was made pursuant to Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The Defence has not filed a formal response.2

DELIBERATIONS

- Rule 74 provides that the Chamber may, if it considers it desirable for the proper 2. determination of the case, invite or grant leave to any State, organization or person to appear before it and make submissions on any issue specified by the Chamber. In considering whether a submission would assist the proper determination of the case, the submission must be relevant.3
- 3. Rule 11 bis (C) reads as follows: In determining whether to refer the case in accordance with paragraph (A), the Trial Chamber shall

satisfy itself that the accused will receive a fair trial in the courts of the State concerned and that the death penalty will not be imposed or carried out.

- The Chamber notes the willingness of the Republic of Rwanda to make submissions 4. on the following issues: Rwanda's preparedness, competence and readiness to offer a transparent and a fair trial to the accused; the institutional, budgetary, legal aid, witness and victim protection arrangements and other relevant mechanisms and projects in place for Rwanda to receive and effectively handle the Tribunal's Rule 11 bis cases, including the case of the Accused; post-acquittal and post-conviction guarantees available to Accused persons tried by courts in Rwanda; and the security guarantee against any infringement on the life of the detained during trial and, in the event of a conviction, after any conviction is recorded.
- The Chamber is of the view that any submission of the Republic of Rwanda as to its readiness to proceed against the Accused in the event of referral would be relevant and would therefore assist the Chamber with the proper determination of the case.5

¹ The front page of the request refers to "Yussuf Munyakazi" but it is clear from the context that this is simply a typographical error.

In a motion of 2 November 2007 to grant amicus curiae status to certain organizations, the Defence merely referred to the present request.

¹ Prosecutor v. Musema, Case No. ICTR-96-13-T, Decision on an Application by African Concern for Leave to Appear as Amicus Curiae (TC), 17 March 1999, para. 13. A Rwanda's Request to appear and make submissions, para. 9.

Prosecutor v. Kayishema, Case No. ICTR-2005-87-I, Decision on the Request of the Republic of Rwanda for Leave to Appear as Amicus Curiue (TC), 14 September 2007, paras. 2-4.

FOR THE ABOVE REASONS, THE CHAMBER

- GRANTS amicus curiae status to the Republic of Rwanda; 1.
- 2. INVITES written submissions by the Republic of Rwanda on the issue of its ability to satisfy the requirements of Rule 11 bis (C) of the Rules, to be filed. before the Chamber no later than 23 November 2007.

Arusha 9 November 2007

Presiding Judge

Alekseevich Egorov Judge

Florence Rita Arrey Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]