



Tribunal Pénal International pour le Rwanda International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

5200/H

IN THE APPEALS CHAMBER

ICTR-98-42-A 14th March 2013 {5200/H - 5198/H}

Before:

Judge Fausto Pocar, Pre-Appeal Judge

Registrar:

Mr. Bongani Majola

Dete

Action: Copied To:

ICTR Appeals Chamber

Decision of:

14 March 2013

THE PROSECUTOR

Pauline NYIRAMASUHUKO Arsène Shalom NTAHOBALI Svlvain NSABIMANA Alphonse NTEZIRYAYO Joseph KANYABASHI Élie NDAYAMBAJE

Case No. ICTR-98-42-A

DECISION ON PROSECUTION'S URGENT MOTION FOR AN ORDER TO RE-FILE

Counsel for Pauline Nyiramasuhuko

Nicole Bergevin and Guy Poupart

Counsel for Arsène Shalom Ntahobali

Normand Marquis and Mylène Dimitri

Counsel for Sylvain Nsabimana

Josette Kadji and Pierre Tientcheu Weledji

Counsel for Alphonse Nteziryayo

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International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Tribunal penal international pour le Rwanda

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I, FAUSTO POCAR, Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States Between 1 January and 31 December 1994 ("Appeals Chamber" and "Tribunal", respectively) and Pre-Appeal Judge in this case; 1

NOTING the motion filed by Élie Ndayambaje ("Ndayambaje") on 5 March 2013, in which Ndayambaje seeks leave to amend his notice of appeal;²

BEING SEISED of a motion filed by the Prosecution on 12 March 2013, in which the Prosecution requests the Appeals Chamber to find that because Ndayambaje has failed to comply with the requirement to specify all proposed amendments to his notice of appeal the Ndayambaje Motion is not validly filed, and to order Ndayambaje to correct and to re-file the two supporting documents attached to the Ndayambaje Motion, namely the annotated proposed notice of appeal ("Annex A") and the proposed amended notice of appeal ("Annex B");³

NOTING the Prosecution's submissions that Annex A and Annex B contain inconsistencies and errors resulting in ambiguity which makes it impossible to identify the amendments proposed by Ndayambaje;⁴

NOTING that the Prosecution further submits that it will only be in a position to address the proposed amendments and to respond to the Ndayambaje Motion after Annex A and Annex B are corrected and re-filed, and that the time-limit to respond should run from the date of the re-filing;⁵

NOTING that Ndayambaje's operative notice of appeal against the judgement pronounced by Trial Chamber II of the Tribunal on 24 June 2011⁶ was filed on 4 January 2012;⁷

CONSIDERING, proprio motu, that Ndayambaje fails to refer to the operative notice of appeal in the Ndayambaje Motion;⁸

⁸ Ndayambaje Motion, para. 4, pp. 6, 10, 11.

The

Order Assigning a Pre-Appeal Judge, 21 July 2011.

² Requête en extrême urgence d'Élie Ndayambaje en modification de son Acte, 5 March 2013 ("Ndayambaje Motion").
³ Prosecution Urgent Motion for an Order to Re-file, 12 March 2013 ("Motion"), paras. 2, 9. In the interests of justice, and given the urgency of the Motion, it is disposed of without awaiting Ndayambaje's response.

⁴ Motion, paras. 3, 4. ⁵ Motion, para. 9.

⁶ The Prosecutor v. Pauline Nyiramasuhuko et al., Case No. ICTR-98-42-T, Judgement and Sentence, delivered in public and signed on 24 June 2011, filed on 14 July 2011.

² Corrigendum to Élie Ndayambaje's Notice of Appeal, 13 February 2012 (original French version filed on 4 January 2012) ("Ndayambaje Notice of Appeal").

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RECALLING that an appellant is not free to vary his notice of appeal in any way without prior leave of the Appeals Chamber and that all proposed variations to a notice of appeal must be indicated in the request for leave to amend the notice of appeal;9

RECALLING FURTHER that, pursuant to the Practice Direction on Formal Requirements for Appeals from Judgement, where the wording of a filing is unclear or ambiguous, a Pre-Appeal Judge or the Appeals Chamber may issue an order for re-filing:¹⁰

FINDING that Annex A and Annex B contain numerous inconsistencies and erroneous references to Ndayambaje Notice of Appeal, and fail to reflect properly the amendments sought in the Ndayambaje Motion as well as to identify accurately the proposed variations between Ndayambaje Notice of Appeal and the proposed notice of appeal;

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS,

GRANT the Motion; and

ORDER Ndayambaje to re-file the Ndayambaje Motion with the appropriate references to the Notice of Appeal as well as the revised versions of Annex A and Annex B no later than 18 March 2013.

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

Done this fourteenth day of March 2013, at The Hague,

The Netherlands.

[Seal of the Tribunal]

Fausto Pocar Pre-Appeal Judge

Practice Direction on Formal Requirements for Appeals from Judgement, 4 July 2005, para. 13.

⁹ See Decision on Pauline Nyiramasuhuko's Motion to Amend her Amended Notice of Appeal, 18 February 2013, para. 16 and references cited therein.