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UNITED NATIONS



International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991 Case No: IT-08-91-T

Date:

15 February 2012

Original: English

IN TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before:

Judge Burton Hall, Presiding

Judge Guy Delvoie

Judge Frederik Harhoff

Registrar:

Mr. John Hocking

Decision of:

15 February 2012

PROSECUTOR

V.

MIĆO STANIŠIĆ AND STOJAN ŽUPLJANIN

PUBLIC

DECISION TO HEAR THE TESTIMONY OF WITNESS SRBOLJUB JOVIČINAC VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCE LINK

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms. Joanna Korner Mr. Thomas Hannis

Counsel for the Accused

Mr. Slobodan Zečević and Mr. Slobodan Cvijetić for Mićo Stanišić Mr. Dragan Krgović and Mr. Aleksandar Aleksić for Stojan Župljanin

TRIAL CHAMBER II ("Trial Chamber") of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991 ("Tribunal");

NOTING that the Trial Chamber has decided to call Srboljub Jovičinac to testify pursuant to Rule 98 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules") in the current proceedings;

NOTING that the witness has indicated to the Chamber's Legal Officer and the Tribunal's Victims and Witnesses Section that he is unable to travel to The Hague to testify at the Tribunal and that he has requested to testify via video-conference link;

CONSIDERING that the Trial Chamber is satisfied that there are good and sufficient reasons why the witness is unable to travel to The Hague and that his testimony is sufficiently important to this case;

CONSIDERING that, in accordance with Rule 81 *bis*, it is in the interests of justice to allow Srboljub Jovičinac to give evidence via video-conference link from the Tribunal's facilities in Belgrade;

GRANTS the Motion; and

ORDERS, pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 of the Tribunal's Statute and Rule 81 bis of the Rules:

- a. that Srboljub Jovičinac shall testify via video-conference link from the Belgrade Field Office on 23 February 2012;
- b. the Registrar to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the video-conference link is established for 23 February 2012 and to inform without delay the Trial Chamber should that not be possible;
- c. the Registrar to appoint a Presiding Officer to ensure that the testimony is given freely and voluntarily;
- d. the Presiding Officer to identify the witness and explain the nature of the proceedings and the obligation to speak the truth, to inform the witness that he or she is liable to prosecution for perjury in case of false testimony, to administer the taking of the oath, and to keep the Trial Chamber informed at all times of the conditions at the location;

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¹ See Hearing, 18 January 2012, T. 26671; Order on procedure for the testimonial evidence of witnesses pursuant to Rule 98, 6 February 2012; Order scheduling the appearance of three witnesses pursuant to Rule 98, 15 February 2012.

- e. that the testimony of Srboljub Jovičinac shall be given in the physical presence only of the Presiding Officer and, if necessary, of a member of the Registry technical staff, unless the Trial Chamber decides otherwise;
- f. that the witness, using a monitor, shall be able to see, at various times, the Judges, the Accused, and the questioner and that the Judges, the Accused, and the questioner must be able to observe the witness on their monitors;
- g. that any statement made under solemn declaration by the witness shall be treated as having been made in the courtroom and that the witness shall be liable to prosecution for perjury in exactly the same way as if he or she had given evidence at the seat of the Tribunal.

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

Judge Burton Hall

Presiding

Dated this 15th day of February 2012 At The Hague The Netherlands

[Seal of the Tribunal]