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:

27 April 2012

Original:

English

IN TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before:

Judge Burton Hall, Presiding

Judge Guy Delvoie

Judge Frederik Harhoff

Registrar:

Mr. John Hocking

Decision of:

27 April 2012

PROSECUTOR

V

MIĆO STANIŠIĆ AND STOJAN ŽUPLJANIN

PUBLIC

DECISION DENYING STANIŠIĆ DEFENCE MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF WORD LIMIT FOR FINAL TRIAL BRIEF

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");

BEING SEISED OF the "Stanišić Motion for extension to the word limit for the Stanišić final trial brief", filed on 17 April 2012 ("Motion");

NOTING that paragraph 4 of the Practice Direction on the Length of Briefs and Motions ("Practice Direction")¹ provides that final trial briefs will not exceed 60,000 words;

NOTING that on 18 January 2012 the Trial Chamber having initially decided that the Stanišić Defence's final trial brief shall not exceed 60,000 words, increased this limit to 80,000 words after having considered the Stanišić Defence's oral request to file a final trial brief of 100,000 words; ³

NOTING that paragraph 7 of the Practice Direction requires the party seeking authorisation to exceed the relevant word limit to demonstrate to the Chamber exceptional circumstances that necessitate the oversized filing;

CONSIDERING that the Stanišić Defence has not put forward materially different reasons to the submissions made at the hearing of 18 January 2012 to support its request for a further 20,000 word increase to the word limit;

RECALLING that the Trial Chamber has already taken into account *inter alia* the complexity and the size of this case, the number of witnesses heard by the Trial Chamber, and the number of exhibits admitted into evidence when determining the authorised word limits for the final trial briefs of the parties;

CONSIDERING that Stanišić therefore has not established that there are exceptional circumstances that necessitate the filing of a final trial brief in excess of the currently authorised word limit of 80,000 words;

PURSUANT TO Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Practice Direction,

¹ IT/184/Rev. 2, 16 September 2005.

² Hearing, 18 January 2012, T. 26671-26672.

³ Hearing, 18 January 2012, T. 26672-26673, 26687. See also Order on final trial briefs and closing arguments, 30 March 2012, p. 1.

HEREBY DENIES the Motion.

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

Judge Burton Hall

Presiding

Dated this 27th day of April 2012

At The Hague

The Netherlands

[Seal of the Tribunal]