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SCSL-03-01-A (026-028)

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## SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE

## IN THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before:

Justice Shireen Avis Fisher

Designated Judge

Registrar:

Ms. Binta Mansaray

Date:

20 June 2012

PROSECUTOR

**Against** 

CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR (Case No. SCSL-03-01-A)

SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEUNF

2 0 JUN 2012

Public

# DECISION ON DEFENCE MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE NOTICE OF APPEAL

## Office of the Prosecutor:

Ms. Brenda J. Hollis

Mr. Nicholas Koumjian

Mr. Mohamed A. Bangura

Ms. Nina Tavakoli

Ms. Leigh Lawrie

Mr. Christopher Santora

Ms. Kathryn Howarth

Ms. Ruth Mary Hackler

Ms. Ula Nathai-Lutchman

Mr. James Pace

Mr. Cóman Kenny

## **Defence Counsel for the Accused**

Mr. Morris Anyah

Mr. Eugene O'Sullivan

Mr. Christopher Gosnell

Ms. Kate Gibson

Justice Shireen Avis Fisher, Designated Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone ("Special Court"), acting in accordance with the Chamber's "Order Designating a Judge Pursuant to Rule 116" dated 7 June 2012;

**NOTING** the "Defence Motion for Extension of Time to File Notice of Appeal" ("Defence Motion") dated 5 June 2012, in which the Defence requests an extension of the deadline for the filing of its Notice of Appeal by five weeks, until 19 July 2012;

**NOTING** the "Prosecution Response to Defence Motion for Extension of Time to File Notice of Appeal" ("Prosecution Response") dated 6 June 2012, in which the Prosecution does not oppose a three week extension of the deadline for the Parties to file their respective Notices of Appeal by 5 July 2012;

**RECALLING** the "Scheduling Order for Status Conference on 18 June 2012" ("Scheduling Order") dated 8 June 2012 and the Corrigendum thereto dated 11 June 2012, by which the deadline for filing Notices of Appeal, pursuant to Rule 108(A) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Special Court ("Rules"), is stayed until further order of the Court;

**RECALLING** the Status Conference held on 18 June 2012 during which both Parties were heard in full as to the Defence Motion;

CONSIDERING that, in addressing whether good cause existed under Rule 116 of the Rules, both Parties made submissions about the length and complexity of the Trial Judgment and referred to practices of the Special Court and other International Criminal Tribunals<sup>1</sup> as well as the introduction of the new "Practice Direction on the Structure of Grounds of Appeal Before the Special Court," which requires Notices of Appeal to be more focused and Appellant's Submissions filed pursuant to Rule 111 to strictly conform to the Notice;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Status Conference transcript, 18 June 2012, pp. 49755-49757.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Practice Direction on the Structure of Grounds of Appeal Before the Special Court, 1 July 2011 (as amended 23 May 2012).



**NOTING** that additional time will allow the Parties to conduct a thorough review of the Trial Judgment and allow for more expeditious preparation of future filings pursuant to Rules 111, 112 and 113 of the Rules;

CONCLUDES that good cause has been shown for GRANTING the Defence Motion; and

## **HEREBY ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1. The stay for filing Notices of Appeal, pursuant to Rule 108(A), is lifted;
- 2. The Parties seeking to appeal the Judgment or Sentence shall file with the Registrar and serve upon the other party a written Notice of Appeal on or before 4:00 p.m. on 19 July 2012.

Done in The Hague, The Netherlands, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2012.

Justice Shireen Avis Fisher, Designated Judge

[Seal of the Special Court for Sierra Leone]