



Original: English

No. ICC-01/14-01/18

Date: 4 July 2025

TRIAL CHAMBER V

Before: Judge Bertram Schmitt, Single Judge

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

**IN THE CASE OF
*THE PROSECUTOR v. ALFRED YEKATOM AND PATRICE-EDOUARD
NGAISSONA***

Public

Decision on the Request to Withdraw as Associate Counsel for Mr Ngaïssona

Document to be notified in accordance with regulation 31 of the Regulations of the Court to:

☒ **The Office of the Prosecutor**

☒ **Counsel for the Defence**

Yekatom Defence

Ngaïssona Defence

☒ **Legal Representatives of the Victims**

Common Legal Representative of the Former
Child Soldiers

Common Legal Representatives of Victims of
Other Crimes

☐ **Legal Representatives of the Applicants**

☐ **Unrepresented Victims**

☐ **Unrepresented Applicants
(Participation/Reparation)**

☐ **The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

☐ **The Office of Public Counsel for the
Defence**

☐ **States' Representatives**

☐ **Amicus Curiae**

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Osvaldo Zavala Giler

☒ **Counsel Support Section**

☒ **Victims and Witnesses Unit**

☒ **Detention Section**

☒ **Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

☐ **Other**

Judge Bertram Schmitt, acting as Single Judge on behalf of Trial Chamber V of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona*, having regard to Regulation 78(1) of the Regulations of the Court (the ‘Regulations’), issues this ‘Decision on the Request to Withdraw as Associate Counsel for Mr Ngaïssona’.

1. On 25 February 2021, the Registry informed the Chamber of Ms Marie-Hélène Proulx’s appointment as Associate Counsel for Mr Ngaïssona.¹
2. On 20 June 2025, Ms Proulx requested the Chamber’s leave to withdraw as Associate Counsel for Mr Ngaïssona as of 25 July 2025, pursuant to Regulation 78(1) of the Regulations (the ‘Request’).²
3. The Single Judge takes note that the Request is made at the Lead Counsel’s behest, who will continue to represent Mr Ngaïssona. The Single Judge also notes that Mr Ngaïssona has been informed of the Request and the underlying grounds, including the reduced size of the team at the next stage of the proceedings.³
4. In light of these circumstances, and noting that no objections were made to the Request, the Single Judge considers that Ms Proulx’s withdrawal will not cause any prejudice to the rights of the accused or affect the fairness and expeditiousness of the proceedings. Accordingly, the Single Judge grants the Request.
5. Ms Proulx is reminded of her continuing obligations under the Code of Professional Conduct for counsel, as well as any confidentiality obligations under the Rome Statute and the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The Single Judge appreciates the assurances made in this regard.⁴

¹ Registration of the appointment of Ms Marie-Hélène Proulx as Associate Counsel for Mr Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona, ICC-01/14-01/18-891 (with one confidential annex).

² Requête en retrait du conseil associé, ICC-01/14-01/18-2774.

³ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2774, para. 2.

⁴ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2774, para. 4.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE SINGLE JUDGE HEREBY

GRANTS the Request.

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



Judge Bertram Schmitt
Single Judge

Dated 4 July 2025

At The Hague, The Netherlands