

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No. ICC-01/14-01/18

Date: 30 July 2025

THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before: Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa, Presiding
Judge Luz del Carmen Ibáñez Carranza
Judge Kimberly Prost
Judge Gocha Lordkipanidze
Judge Erdenebalsuren Damdin

SITUATION IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

***IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v.
ALFRED ROMBHOT YEKATOM & PATRICE-EDOUARD NGAÏSSONA***

Public

Prosecution's Response to Mr. Yekatom's and Mr. Ngaïssona's requests for extension of time to file their notices of appeal and appeal briefs (ICC-01/14-01/18-2789 A, ICC-01/14-01/18-2790 A)

Source: The Office of the Prosecutor

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

D29

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☒ Legal Representatives of the Victims

V44

V45

☐ 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

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☐ Detention Section

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Reparations Section

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I. SUBMISSIONS

1. The Prosecution does not oppose YEKATOM's and NGAÏSSONA's requests for extension of time to file their notices of appeal and appeal briefs.¹
2. On 28 July 2025, YEKATOM requested an extension of nearly 60 days to file his notice of appeal against the Judgment and Sentence Decision, pursuant to rule 150(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and regulation 35(2) of the Regulations of the Court. Thus, instead of 25 August 2025,² YEKATOM requests filing his notice by 22 October 2025.³ YEKATOM also requests that the 60-day deadline to file the appeal brief commences from the date of notification of the notice.⁴
3. On 29 July 2025, NGAÏSSONA joined YEKATOM's Request, requesting that he be given the same extension of the deadline to file any notice of appeal and appeal brief on his own behalf.⁵
4. The Defence Requests are supported by good cause, including: (i) the time required to analyse the Trial Judgment and Sentencing Decision, which exceed 1,600 pages; (ii) the factual and legal complexity of the anticipated appeal; (iii) the current unavailability of any translation of the Trial Judgment and Sentencing Decision in a language that YEKATOM fully understands; (iv) the burden arising from concurrent appellate proceedings—both in relation to conviction and sentence—and potential reparations proceedings; and (v) the impact of the judicial summer recess at the very start of the appellate proceedings.⁶

¹ ICC-01/14-01/18-2789 A ("YEKATOM's Request"); ICC-01/14-01/18-2790 A ("NGAÏSSONA's Request"), and jointly "the Defence Requests". The Prosecution refers to Mr. Alfred Yekatom as "YEKATOM" and Mr. Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona as "NGAÏSSONA".

² In accordance with rule 150(1), an appeal (or notice of appeal) against a decision of conviction or acquittal under article 74, and a sentence under article 76, may be filed not later than 30 days from the date of notification of such decision.

³ YEKATOM's Request, paras. 29, 34. YEKATOM requests an extension of 35 days, to commence following the summer judicial recess, which ends on 15 August 2025.

⁴ YEKATOM's Request, paras. 1, 31, 34. *See* Regulations of the Court, reg. 58(1) (providing for a 90-day timeline since the notification of the relevant decision for the Appellant to file the appeal brief).

⁵ NGAÏSSONA's Request.

⁶ YEKATOM's Request, paras. 2, 7-28. NGAÏSSONA refers to similar factors: *see* NGAÏSSONA's Request, paras. 6, 8-33 (referring to (1) the length and complexity of the impugned decision, including the novelty of

5. Further, for many of the reasons put forward by the Defence, in particular those under items (i), (ii), (iv), and (v) above, and in the interest of ensuring a streamlined and synchronised appellate briefing schedule, the Prosecution requests pursuant to rule 150(2) that it be given the same extension of the deadline to file any notice of appeal and appeal brief on its own behalf. Accordingly, if the Defence Requests are granted, a notice by the Prosecution would be due on 22 October 2025 and its appeal brief 60 days following the notification of its notice.

6. The Prosecution's request for an extension of time is without prejudice to any future application for an extension of applicable deadlines for submissions of any document in support of the appeal or a response thereto.⁷

II. CONCLUSION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

7. For the reasons set out above, the Prosecution:

- a. Does not oppose the Defence Requests; and
- b. Requests an equivalent extension of time to file any notice of appeal and appeal brief on its own behalf.



Mame Mandiaye Niang, Deputy Prosecutor

Dated this 30th day of July 2025
At The Hague, The Netherlands

potential issues on appeal; (2) the need for the translation of the impugned decision; (3) the impact of the judicial recess and other resource constraints).

⁷ See also YEKATOM's Request, para. 31.