

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/14-01/18
Date: 03 December 2025

THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before: Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa, Presiding Judge
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 AND
PATRICE-EDOUARD NGAÏSSONA***

Public Document

**Ngaïssona Defence Response to the "Prosecution request for an extension of time
to respond to the Defence appeal briefs", ICC-01/14-01/18-2850**

Source: Defence of Patrice-Edouard 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

D29

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☒ Legal Representatives of the Victims
V44

☐ 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
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Reparations Section

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SUBMISSIONS

1. The Defence for Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona ('Ngaïssona Defence') hereby responds to the "Prosecution request for an extension of time to respond to the Defence appeal briefs" ('Prosecution Request'), filed on 28 November 2025.¹ The Ngaïssona Defence does not oppose the Prosecution Request.
2. Should the Appeals Chamber find that good cause has been shown and grant the Prosecution Request, the Ngaïssona Defence respectfully requests that it be granted an equivalent extension of time to respond to the Prosecution Appeal Brief.² This approach would be consistent with prior practice at the Court³ and preserve procedural fairness, by ensuring that all parties are on the same filing schedule.
3. There is significant thematic overlap between the "Ngaïssona Defence Appeal Brief against the Trial Judgment" ('Ngaïssona Defence Appeal Brief')⁴ and the Prosecution Appeal Brief, particularly regarding Mr Ngaïssona's contribution to the crimes he was found guilty of. The Ngaïssona Defence challenged several findings on Mr Ngaïssona's contribution,⁵ while the Prosecution relies on those same findings to argue that Mr Ngaïssona should be found guilty of further crimes.⁶ In this context, any disalignment in deadlines for the filing of responses might result in an undue advantage for the party filing last, as it would allow it to incorporate submissions in reply to the other party's response. The simultaneous filing of responses would prevent such potential procedural imbalance and preserve procedural fairness.
4. Granting the requested extension to the Ngaïssona Defence would not cause any additional delays. Pursuant to paragraph 91 of the Chambers Practice Manual ('Manual'), deadlines for holding an appeals hearing and for issuing

¹ ICC-01/14-01/18-2850.

² ICC-01/14-01/18-2846.

³ ICC-01/14-01/18-2794, para. 13; ICC-01/12-01/18-2647, para. 18; ICC-02/04-01/15-1861, para. 18

⁴ ICC-01/14-01/18-2847.

⁵ See Ngaïssona Defence Appeal Brief, particularly Ground 1.C.3 to Ground 1.C.7 and Ground 2.

⁶ See Prosecution Appeal Brief, section C.1.

the appeals judgment are to be calculated from “the filing of the response to the appeal brief”. While the Manual does not address the possibility of multiple appeal briefs with varying deadlines for responses, the deadlines set at paragraph 91 of the Manual can only have full effect if calculated from the filing of the last response. In light thereof, equally granting the requested extension to the Ngaïssona Defence would cause no additional delays in the proceedings, as future deadlines will in any event start running from the filing of the Prosecution’s response, if the Prosecution Request is granted.

5. In light of the above, the Ngaïssona Defence does not oppose the Prosecution Request and, should it be granted, respectfully requests the same extension of time to file its response to the Prosecution Appeal Brief.

Respectfully submitted,



G.J.Alexander Knoops
on behalf of
Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona

Dated this 03 December 2025

At The Hague, the Netherlands