

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/14-01/18
Date: 20 February 2026

TRIAL CHAMBER V

Before: Judge Bertram Schmitt, Presiding Judge
Judge Péter Kovács
Judge Chang-ho Chung

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

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

Public

Public Redacted Version of “Victims and Witnesses Unit’s Observations on the ‘Requête de l’Accusation sollicitant une prorogation des délais fixes dans la décision de la Chambre de première instance V portant ‘Initial Directions on the Conduct of the Proceedings’ aux fins d’octroi de mesures de protection au témoin P-2419 a l’audience’ (ICC-01/14-01/18-1576-Conf-Exp)”, ICC-01/14-01/18-1666-Conf-Red, filed on 17 November 2022

Source: Registry

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

D30

☒ 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

☐ Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

M. Zavala Giler, Osvaldo

☐ Counsel Support Section

☒ Victims and Witnesses Unit

☐ Detention Section

☐ Victims Participation and
Reparations Section

☐ Other

I. Introduction

1. The Victims and Witnesses Unit (“VWU” or “Unit”) submits these observations pursuant to Trial Chamber V’s (“Chamber”) Order communicated by way of email, dated 1 November 2022 (“Order”).¹

II. Classification

2. In accordance with regulation 23bis (2) of the Regulations of the Court, the present report is classified confidential *ex parte*, Prosecution and VWU only, as it refers to a document with that same classification.

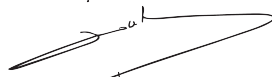
III. Report

3. The witness is a [REDACTED]. He is a [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED].
4. On [REDACTED] the VWU interviewed the witness to assess the need for in-court protective measures (“ICPMs”). The process was explained and the witness declared to have understood, and stated that he would like to be granted ICPMs during his testimony. He also stated that if the request for ICPMs is rejected, he is willing to testify in public.
5. The witness communicated his intention [REDACTED] [REDACTED], after his testimony, [REDACTED]. He clarified that the decision [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] is unsustainable for him and his family.
6. The witness believes that due to [REDACTED].
7. Apart from the general security situation in CAR, the witness has not expressed any security concerns related to his cooperation with the ICC, and confirmed that he has not received threats to himself or his family.
8. However, the VWU takes note of the witness’s concerns in relation to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Even more importantly, the VWU notes the

¹ Email from Trial Chamber V Communications, 1 November 2022 at 10:01.

witness's concerns regarding [REDACTED] in the area of [REDACTED] village and its environs, which is essentially non-existent.

9. The VWU is concerned that due to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] should an incident occur the witness will not be able [REDACTED].
10. This situation therefore presents a severe, objectively justifiable security risk.
11. In light of the information obtained through the interview, the VWU considers that the application of ICPMs may prevent a future escalation of risk. On this basis, the VWU recommends the following ICPMs: use of pseudonym, image distortion, voice distortion, and closed / private sessions.



Marc Dubuisson, Director of the Division of Judicial Services
on behalf of Osvaldo Zavala Giler, Registrar

Dated this 20 February 2026
At The Hague, the Netherlands