



Original: English

No. ICC-01/14-01/18

Date: 5 March 2026

TRIAL CHAMBER V

Before: Judge Beti Hohler, Presiding Judge
Judge Joanna Korner
Judge Keebong Paek

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC II

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

Public

**Decision on the Common Legal Representative of Victims' request for extension
of time to submit observations on reparations**

Decision 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 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**
Central African Republic

☒ **Trust Fund for Victims**

☒ **Amicus Curiae**

REGISTRY

Registrar
Osvaldo Zavala Giler

☐ **Counsel Support Section**

☐ **Victims and Witnesses Unit**

☐ **Detention Section**

☒ **Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

☒ **Public Information and Outreach
Section**

☐ **Other**

TRIAL CHAMBER V of the International Criminal Court (the ‘Chamber’), in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona* (the ‘*Yekatom and Ngaïssona* case’), having regard to article 75 of the Rome Statute (the ‘Statute’) and regulation 35 of the Regulations of the Court (‘Regulations’), issues this ‘Decision on the Common Legal Representative of Victims’ request for extension of time to submit observations on reparations’.

1. On 8 October 2025, the Chamber issued the ‘Order for Submissions on Reparations’,¹ where it, *inter alia*, instructed the parties and participants to make submissions on reparations by 27 March 2026.²
2. On 23 February 2026, the Common Legal Representatives of Victims of Other Crimes (the ‘CLR V’) filed the ‘Common Legal Representative of Victims’ Request for a limited extension of time limit to submit observations on reparations’³ (the ‘Request’) in which it requests an extension of time to submit its observations on reparations until 10 April 2026.⁴
3. The CLR V submits that a significant portion of the CLR V’s clients reside in a country outside the Central African Republic and that ‘it is of paramount importance that their views are comprehensively reflected in the upcoming submissions’.⁵ To that end, the CLR V indicates that it has taken the necessary administrative and logistical steps to organise a mission to the respective State in order to meet with the victims as soon as practicable.⁶ However, due to logistical difficulties and security concerns, the mission has been delayed and will now take place only at the beginning of March 2026.⁷
4. In light of this delay, the CLR V indicates that, to ensure it can ‘fully incorporate the views and concerns of all victims’ in its submissions, including victims

¹ Order for Submissions on Reparations, ICC-01/14-01/18-2821 (the ‘[Order for Submissions](#)’).

² [Order for Submissions](#), ICC-01/14-01/18-2821, pp. 7-8. *See also* para. 6.

³ Common Legal Representative of Victims’ Request for a limited extension of time limit to submit observations on reparations, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf.

⁴ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, paras 1-2.

⁵ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, para. 8.

⁶ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, para. 9.

⁷ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, para. 9.

residing in the State indicated by the CLRV,⁸ it requires an additional two weeks to file its observations.⁹

5. The Defence for Mr Alfred Yekatom (the ‘Yekatom Defence’)¹⁰, the Defence for Mr Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona (the ‘Ngaïssona Defence’)¹¹ and the Office of the Prosecutor (the ‘Prosecution’)¹² do not oppose the Request. The Yekatom Defence and the Ngaïssona Defence ask to be afforded the same extension, should the Chamber grant the Request.
6. The Chamber considers that the logistical and security challenges described by the CLRV, constitute good cause for a limited extension of time pursuant to Regulation 35(2) of the Regulations, and therefore grants the CLRV’s Request. The Chamber considers that an extension of two weeks will not disproportionately affect the progress of the reparations proceedings.
7. To facilitate a fair conduct of the proceedings and give all parties and participants the same time to file their observations, the Chamber sets the new deadline for submissions on reparations on 13 April 2026.¹³ Accordingly, the Yekatom Defence, the Ngaïssona Defence, the Registry, the Trust Fund for Victims (the ‘TFV’), the Prosecution, the authorities of the Central African Republic and the *amici curiae*¹⁴ may also submit their observations on reparations on 13 April 2026 at the latest. This deadline applies also to the Registry’s report on mapping of victims eligible for reparations.
8. The parties’ responses to the submissions on reparations may then be filed by 13 May 2026.

⁸ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, paras 2, 8, 13, 15.

⁹ Request, ICC-01/14-01/18-2883-Conf, para. 15.

¹⁰ Email from the Yekatom Defence to the Chamber, 27 February 2026, 16:44.

¹¹ Email from the Ngaïssona Defence to the Chamber, 3 March 2026, 09:25.

¹² Email from the Prosecution to the Chamber, 4 March 2026, 10:55.

¹³ The Chamber notes that the date proposed by the CLRV (Friday, 10 April 2026) falls within the period of spring recess and thus decided to fix the new deadline for the following Monday, 13 April 2026.

¹⁴ See [Decision on the requests for leave to make *amicus curiae* submissions](#), 16 December 2025, ICC-01/14-01/18-2860.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE CHAMBER HEREBY

GRANTS the CLRV's Request and amends the briefing schedule for the reparation proceedings;

INSTRUCTS the CLRV, the Yekatom Defence, the Ngaïssona Defence, the Registry and the TFV to file their submissions, of up to 50 pages each, on any or all of the issues referred to in the Order for Submissions, by 13 April 2026 at the latest;

INSTRUCTS the Registry to submit the final report of the mapping of victims potentially eligible for reparations by 13 April 2026 at the latest;

INVITES the Prosecution to make submissions, of up to 20 pages, in accordance with the Order for Submissions, by 13 April 2026 at the latest;

INVITES the authorities of the Central African Republic to make submissions, of up to 20 pages, in accordance with the Order for Submissions, by 13 April 2026 at the latest;

INVITES the authorised *amici curiae* to make submissions of up to 20 pages, in accordance with the Decision granting their request, by 13 April 2026 at the latest;

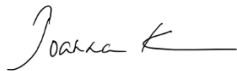
INVITES the CLRV, the Yekatom Defence and the Ngaïssona Defence to respond to the submissions on reparations, in a response not exceeding 30 pages, by 13 May 2026 at the latest; and

INSTRUCTS the CLRV to file a public redacted version of the Request by 12 March 2026.

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



**Judge Beti Hohler,
Presiding Judge**



Judge Joanna Korner



Judge Keebong Paek

Dated 5 March 2026

At The Hague, The Netherlands