

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/05-01/08
Date: 22 October 2010

TRIAL CHAMBER III

Before: Judge Sylvia Steiner, Presiding Judge
Judge Joyce Aluoch
Judge Kuniko Ozaki

**SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
IN THE CASE OF
THE PROSECUTOR
V. JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO**

Public

**Victims and Witnesses Unit's Unified Protocol on the practices used to prepare and
familiarise witnesses for giving testimony at trial**

Source: Registrar

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor
Ms Petra Kneuer, Senior Trial Lawyer

Counsel for the Defence

Mr Nkwebe Liriss
Mr Aimé Kilolo-Musamba

Legal Representatives of Victims

Ms Marie-Edith Douzima-Lawson

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

**Unrepresented Applicants for
Participation/Reparation**

**The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

Ms Paolina Massidda

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

States Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Ms Silvana Arbia

Counsel Support Section

Deputy Registrar

Mr Didier Daniel Preira

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Ms Maria Luisa Martinod-Jacome

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Other

The Registrar of the International Criminal Court (the “Court”);

NOTING the Status Conference held by Trial Chamber III (the “Chamber”) on 21 October 2010¹;

NOTING articles 43(6) and 68(1), (3) and (4) of the Rome Statute, rules 16 to 19, 73, 76, 86 to 89 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, regulations 24*bis* and 41 of the Regulations of the Court and regulations 79 to 96 of the Regulations of the Registry;

CONSIDERING that the Chamber announced during the hearing held on 21 October 2010 that the Trial will commence on 22 November 2010²;

CONSIDERING that the Victims and Witnesses Unit (the “VWU”) will have to carry out a witness familiarisation procedure in the present case if so instructed by the Chamber;

CONSIDERING that the VWU established a procedure of witness familiarisation which is currently applied before Trial Chamber I and Trial Chamber II;

CONSIDERING that on the basis of the practice developed, the VWU finalized a consolidated document reflecting the relevant jurisprudence of the Court as well as the various substantial achievements reached over the years of experience;

¹ ICC-01/05-01/08-T-30-ENG.

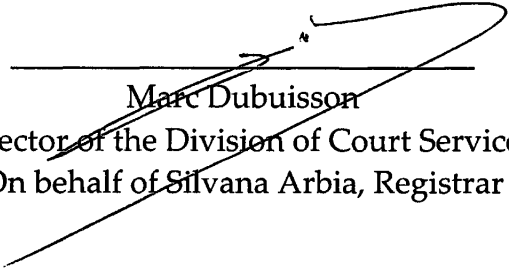
² ICC-01/05-01/08-T-30-ENG, p. 4, line 19.

CONSIDERING the upcoming simultaneous trials³, the VWU emphasizes as a principle the necessity to implement sustainable solutions;

CONSIDERING that in accordance with regulation 24*bis* the Registrar, when necessary for the proper discharge of his or her functions, in so far as they relate to any proceedings, may make oral or written submissions to a Chamber with notification to the participants;

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITS in the annex to the current document the Victims and Witnesses Unit's "Unified Protocol on the practices used to prepare and familiarise witnesses for giving testimony at trial".

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS the authorisation of the Chamber to apply the said Protocol for the purpose of the upcoming Trial.



Marc Dubuisson
Director of the Division of Court Services
On behalf of Silvana Arbia, Registrar

Dated this 22 October 2010

At The Hague, The Netherlands

³ In this respect the VWU recommends, whenever possible, that the witnesses travel and be accommodated jointly.