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No.: ICC-01/05-01/13

Date: 12/03/2014

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Cuno Tarfusser, Single Judge

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

***IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO,
AIMÉ KILOLO MUSAMBA, JEAN-JACQUES MANGENDA KABONGO,
FIDÈLE BABALA WANDU and NARCISSE ARIDO***

Public Document

Defence response to Prosecution request: ICC-01/05-01/13-247

Source: Defence for Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

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Legal Representatives of the Victims

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

Herman von Hebel

Defence Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

The Defence for Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo ("the Suspect") leaves the Prosecutor's request for an extension of the page limit of the document containing the charges to the discretion of the Single Judge.

The Defence welcomes the fact that the Prosecutor is presently able to estimate that she will require 60 pages for the purpose of setting out the charges against the Suspect. Such certainty suggests that her request for an extension¹ of the confirmation deadlines is not necessary after all.

The Defence takes the opportunity to recall the Single Judge's expectation that in drafting her document containing the charges, the Prosecutor: *"should be ultimately guided by the paramount need for exhaustiveness, clarity, thoroughness, factual and legal accuracy which should characterise all judicial submissions, in the interest of both the relevant party and, more significantly, the overall efficiency of judicial proceedings"*. Indeed, *"[t]he Prosecutor will be expected to abide by her "proposal of constructing the document containing the charges "in a way which will be footnoted and hyperlinked", so as to "readily direct the Chamber and Defence to the relevant supporting evidence".²*

The Defence also notes the Prosecutor's observations concerning the large quantity of information disclosed at this early stage of the proceedings and the corresponding complexity of the case. The Defence hopes that the Registrar (and those reviewing the exercise of his discretion) will factor this consideration into their deliberations on the quantum of financial legal assistance which should be afforded the Suspect.



Nicholas Kaufman

Counsel for Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo

Jerusalem, Israel
Wednesday, March 12, 2014

¹ ICC-01/05-01/13-234.

² ICC-01/05-01/13-134 at paragraph 8.