

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/05-01/13
Date: 18 December 2014

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova, Presiding Judge
Judge Cuno Tarfusser
Judge Christine Van den Wyngaert

SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

IN THE CASE OF

***THE PROSECUTOR v. JEAN-PIERRE BEMBA GOMBO, AIME KILOLO
MUSAMBA, JEAN-JACQUES MANGENDA KABONGO, FIDELE BABALA WANDU
AND NARCISSE ARIDO***

Public Document

**Prosecution's Response to the Bemba Defence's "Counsel's request to withdraw
pursuant to Regulation 78(1) of the Regulations of the Court"**

Source: The Office of the Prosecutor

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

The Office of the Prosecutor

Fatou Bensouda

James Stewart

Kweku Vanderpuye

Counsel for Jean-Pierre Bemba

Nicholas Kaufman

Counsel for Aimé Kilolo Musamba

Paul Djunga

Counsel for Jean-Jacques Mangenda Kabongo

Jean Flamme

Counsel for Fidèle Babala Wandu

Jean-Pierre Kilenda Kakengi Basila

Counsel for Narcisse Arido

Göran Sluiter

Legal Representatives of Victims

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants for Participation/Reparation

States Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witness Unit

Nigel Verrill

Detention Section

Victims Participation and Reparations Section Others

1. The Office of the Prosecutor ("Prosecution") does not oppose the 17 December 2014 request of Counsel Nicholas Kaufman seeking leave to withdraw from representing the Accused Jean-Pierre Bemba ("Request").¹

2. Nevertheless, the Prosecution wishes to underscore the importance of ensuring the continuity and quality of legal representation of the Accused Bemba throughout the entirety of the proceedings, especially as the case nears the trial stage, and respectfully suggests that the Pre-Trial Chamber be guided primarily by this consideration in deciding on the Request.



Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor

Dated this 18th Day of December 2014
At The Hague, The Netherlands

¹ ICC-01/05-01/13-783.