



Original: **English**

No.: **ICC-02/11-02/11**

Date: **22/06/2014**

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, Single Judge

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. CHARLES BLÉ GOUDÉ

Public Document

Defence observations on 199 applications for victim status

Source: Defence for Charles Blé Goudé

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

Eric Macdonald

Counsel for the Defence

Nicholas Kaufman

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented

Applicants

(Participation/Reparation)

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

Paolina Massidda

The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence

States' Representatives

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Deputy Registrar

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations Other
Section**

Charles Blé Goudé ("the Suspect") hereby presents observations on the 199 applications for victim status in his case¹ made by those recognized as victims in the Gbagbo case.

1. The Suspect reiterates his sympathy for the suffering – past and ongoing – experienced by all victims of the post-electoral crisis in Côte d'Ivoire.²

2. The Suspect, furthermore, expresses his appreciation for the consideration shown by the Single Judge in setting staggered deadlines for the provision of observations both in light of the volume of applications and the proximity of the confirmation hearing which will assuredly take place on 18 August 2014.

3. Without acknowledging such, the Suspect does not presently dispute the learned Single Judge's prior *prima facie* assessment that "(1) the link between the events described and the crimes charged and (2) the link between those events and the harm suffered is sufficient for the purpose of the assessment of the applicants' status in the present case".³ In due course, the Suspect will assert that he is not linked in any way to the crimes levelled against Laurent Gbagbo. The Suspect does not, however, wish to rehearse arguments which he will raise at confirmation in the context of this submission.

4. The Suspect reserves the right to use at confirmation such exonerating information as is contained in the forms submitted by the victim applicants and which is specific to his lines of defence.

5. Other than the aforementioned, the Suspect has no observations on the first 199 applications for victim status in his case.



Nicholas Kaufman
Counsel for Charles Blé Goudé

Done in Jerusalem, Israel
Sunday, June 22, 2014

¹ ICC-02/11-02/11-88 and annexes.

² ICC-02/11-02/11-T-3-Red-FRA WT 27-03-2014 7/15 at line 19.

³ ICC-02/11-02/11-83 at para. 15.