

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

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

Date: 8 July 2015

TRIAL CHAMBER VII

Before: Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji, Presiding Judge
Judge Olga Herrera Carbuccion
Judge Bertram Schmitt

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

**Decision on the Prosecution Request for Extension of Page and Time Limits
regarding its Pre-Trial Brief**

Decision to be notified, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the *Regulations of the Court*, to:

The Office of the Prosecutor

Ms Fatou Bensouda

Mr James Stewart

Mr Kweku Vanderpuye

Counsel for Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo

Ms Melinda Taylor

Counsel for Aimé Kilolo Musamba

Mr Paul Djunga Mudimbi

Counsel for Jean-Jacques Mangenda Kabongo

Mr Christopher Gosnell

Counsel for Fidèle Babala Wandu

Mr Jean-Pierre Kilenda Kakengi Basila

Counsel for Narcisse Arido

Mr Charles Achaleke Taku

Legal Representatives of Victims

Legal Representatives of Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants for Participation/Reparation

The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence

States Representatives

Others

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

Victims Participation and Reparations Section

Trial Chamber VII (the 'Chamber') of the International Criminal Court, in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, Aimé Kilolo Musamba, Jean-Jacques Mangenda Kabongo, Fidèle Babala Wandu and Narcisse Arido*, having regard to Regulations 35 and 37 of the Regulations of the Court (the 'Regulations'), renders this 'Decision on the Prosecution request for Extension of Page and Time Limits regarding its Pre-Trial Brief.'

I. Procedural history and submissions

1. On 10 June 2015, the Chamber invited the Prosecution to file a Pre-Trial Brief by 16 July 2015.¹
2. On 3 July 2015, the Office of the Prosecutor (the 'Prosecution') filed a request for extension of page and time limit concerning its Pre-Trial Brief (the 'Request').² It requests a page limit extension to a total of 200 pages and to vary the time limit by one week, until 23 July 2015.
3. With regard to the extension of page limit, the Prosecution states that, taking into account the number of accused in the present case and in order for the Prosecution to explain the case theory regarding each confirmed charge and relevant evidence, it would require a page limit extension.³
4. Furthermore, the Prosecution states that good cause exists to grant an extension of time for filing a significant and effective Pre-Trial Brief. It submits that extending the filing deadline to 23 July 2015 would not be

¹ Decision on the Submission of Auxiliary Documents, ICC-01/05-01/13-992, para. 21.

² Prosecution's Request for Variation of Page and Time Limits Concerning the Pre-Trial Brief, ICC-01/05-01/13-1055-Conf.

³ Request, ICC-01/05-01/13-1055-Conf, paras 9-14.

prejudicial to the Defence. Further, it argues that a Pre-Trial Brief is not a statutory document and its submission discretionary.⁴

II. Analysis

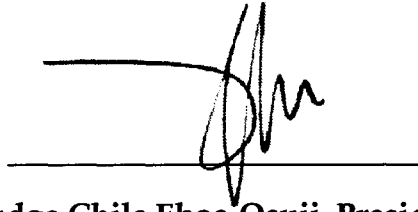
5. The Chamber first notes that it has all the necessary information to rule on the Request. Therefore, in the interest of expeditiousness, it will rule on the Request without responses by the parties.
6. The Chamber accepts the grounds for a variation of time relating to the number of accused in the case and the multitude of charges confirmed by the Pre-Trial Chamber. Moreover, taking into account the limited amount of time for which an extension is requested, this variation of time will not be prejudicial to the Defence. The Chamber therefore considers that the Prosecution has shown good cause pursuant to Regulation 35(2) of the Regulations.
7. As regards the requested 200 page limit, the Chamber considers that, given the nature of the pre-trial brief, an extension is justified pursuant to Regulation 37 of the Regulations.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS THE CHAMBER HEREBY

GRANTS the Request.

⁴ Request, ICC-01/05-01/13-1055-Conf, paras 2, 15-17.

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

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Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji, Presiding

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large 'O' and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Judge Olga Herrera Carbuccion

A handwritten signature in black ink, with a large 'B' and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Judge Bertram Schmitt

Dated 8 July 2015

At The Hague, The Netherlands