

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**



Original: **English**

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

Date: **6 November 2015**

TRIAL CHAMBER VII

Before: Judge Bertram Schmitt, Presiding Judge
Judge Marc Perrin de Brichambaut
Judge Raul Pangalangan

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

**Request for Leave to Withdraw as Associate Counsel Pursuant to Regulation 78 (1) of
the Regulations of the Court**

Source: Associate Counsel for Narcisse Arido

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 Gombo

Melinda Taylor

Counsel for Aimé Kilolo Musamba

Paul Djunga Mudimbi

Steven Powles

Counsel for Jean-Jacques Mangenda Kabongo

Christopher Gosnell

Arthur Vercken

Counsel for Fidèle Babala Wandu

Jean-Pierre Kilenda Kakengi Basila

Roland Azama Shalie Rodoma

Counsel for Narcisse Arido

Charles Achaleke Taku

Philippe Larochelle

Legal Representatives of the Victims

Legal Representatives of the Applicants

Unrepresented Victims

Unrepresented Applicants

**The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence

Xavier-Jean Keïta

REGISTRY

Registrar

Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

Victims Participation and

Other

Reparations Section

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 10 April 2015, Narcisse Arido appointed Mr. Philippe Larochelle as associate counsel on his Defence team.¹ On 5 November 2015, Mr. Arido informed Mr. Larochelle of his intention to terminate his mandate and choose a new associate counsel. In accordance with Mr. Arido's right to choose counsel, Mr. Larochelle hereby requests leave from the Trial Chamber to withdraw from the case.

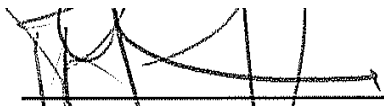
II. APPLICABLE LAW

2. Article 67 (1) (c) protects an Accused's right to choose counsel, a right also enshrined in international human rights instruments.² Article 18 (3) of the Code of Conduct for Defence counsel states that where counsel is discharged by the client, his withdrawal takes place in accordance with the Regulations of the Court. According to Regulation 78 (1) of the said Regulations, prior to withdrawal, Defence counsel shall seek the leave of the Chamber.

III. SUBMISSIONS

3. In light of Mr. Arido's choice not to retain current counsel, associate counsel respectfully requests the Trial Chamber to grant him leave to withdraw from the case, as instructed by Mr. Arido. Counsel is mindful of his obligations under the Code of Conduct, particularly those contained in Articles 8, 15, 17 to 19.

Respectfully submitted,



Philippe Larochelle, Associate Counsel for Narcisse Arido

Dated this 6th Day of November 2015

The Hague, The Netherlands.

¹ ICC-01/05-01/13-895-Conf-AnxIV.

² International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Art. 14 (3) (b); European Convention on Human Rights, Art. 6 (3) (c); African Charter on Human and People's Rights, Art. 7 (1) (c); American Convention on Human Rights, Art. 8 (2) (d).