

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**



Original: English

No.: ICC-02/11-01/15
Date: 08 January 2016

TRIAL CHAMBER I

Before: Judge Cuno Tarfusser
Judge Olga Herrera Carbuccion
Judge Geoffrey Henderson

**SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE
IN THE CASE OF
*THE PROSECUTOR v. LAURENT GBAGBO and CHARLES BLÉ GOUDÉ***

Public

**Decision on the request from the authorities of Côte d'Ivoire
to attend trial proceedings**

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 Eric MacDonald

Counsel for Laurent Gbagbo

Mr Emmanuel Altit

Ms Agathe Bahi Baroan

Counsel for Mr Charles Blé Goudé

Mr Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops

Mr Claver N'dry

Legal Representatives of Victims

Ms Paolina Massidda

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

Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

Mr Herman von Hebel

Counsel Support Section

Victims and Witnesses Unit

Detention Section

**Victims Participation and Reparations
Section**

Others
Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Trial Chamber I ('Chamber') of the International Criminal Court ('Court' or 'ICC'), in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé*, with regard to Article 64 of the Rome Statute, renders the following 'Decision on the request from the authorities of Côte d'Ivoire to attend trial proceedings'.

1. On 22 December 2015, the Registry transmitted a request from the Representatives of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire ('Request') asking that its representatives be permitted to attend the totality of the hearings in the case starting from 28 January 2016.¹
2. On 22 December 2015, the defence team for Mr Charles Blé Goudé ('Blé Goudé Defence') requested, *via* email, clarification on whether the 'regular timeframe' of 21 days to respond to a document filed in the case applied to the Request.²
3. The Chamber does not consider it necessary to receive responses prior to ruling on this particular Request.
4. The Chamber observes, firstly, that the Request was made by the representatives of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire without it having identified any legal basis for its request to attend the hearings in the case. The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire is neither a party nor participant in these proceedings and currently has no standing to address the Chamber on matters related to the case.
5. The Chamber may, however, if it considers it desirable for the proper determination of a case, invite or grant leave to a State to submit, in writing or

¹ Transmission of a request received from the Representatives of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, ICC-02/11-01/15-373. The transmission from the Registry contains, in Annex 1, a letter sent by a magistrate from the Ministry of Justice addressed to the Registrar providing a power-of-attorney for three individuals to represent the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire in the proceedings, and in Annex 2, the extract of an email sent by these persons requesting to be present in the court room and justifying their request on the basis that (i) the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire is the territory on which the alleged facts occurred; (ii) the accused are nationals of Côte d'Ivoire; and (iii) the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire has effectively cooperated with the parties and the Chamber so far.

² Email from Blé Goudé Defence to the Trial Chamber I Communications Inbox, 22 December 2015 at 14:27, *referring to* Regulation 34 of the Regulations of the Court.

orally, any observation on any issue that it deems desirable for the proper determination of the case. In the present circumstances, the Chamber does not consider it necessary or desirable for representatives of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to attend trial proceedings daily, given they have not identified any specific issue on which oral interventions would be warranted.

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE CHAMBER HEREBY

DISMISSES the Request.

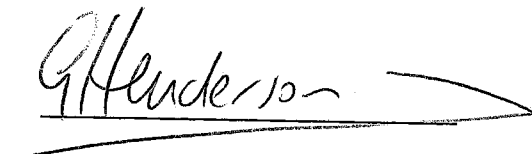
Done in both English and French, the English version being authoritative.



Judge Cuno Tarfusser



Judge Olga Herrera Carbuccion



Judge Geoffrey Henderson

Dated 08 January 2016

At The Hague, The Netherlands