

# BULLETIN

of the  
COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT



## IN FOCUS: Lubanga Sentenced to 14 Years; First Decision on Victims' Reparations

On 10 July, Trial Chamber (TC) I of the International Criminal Court (ICC) **sentenced** Thomas Lubanga to 14 years imprisonment in the Court's first trial. Lubanga has already served some six years in detention awaiting completion of the trial, which will be deducted from his final sentence. On 7 August, ICC judges issued a **decision** on the principles that will lead to the first award of reparations to victims of crimes under the Court's jurisdiction. The ICC **Trust Fund for Victims** is to collect reparations proposals from the victims of Lubanga's crimes, which will then be approved by the Chamber. It is hoped that the eventual reparations awards will contribute to relieving harm suffered, as well as to the reintegration into society of the former child soldiers involved in the case. Several organizations, including Coalition members, had submitted observations on reparations procedures. In March of this year, Lubanga was found guilty of the war crimes of enlisting and conscripting children and using them to participate actively in hostilities in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in 2002-2003. Read a Coalition **Q&A** on reparations and Coalition members' reactions to the decision on the **Coalition website**.

## CASES AND SITUATIONS

### DRC

#### Second arrest warrant for Ntaganda

On 13 July, Pre-Trial Chamber (PTC) II **issued** a second arrest warrant for Bosco Ntaganda for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in the DRC in 2002-2003. A first arrest warrant for Ntaganda was issued in August 2006 for three counts of war crimes.

#### Arrest warrant issued for Mudacumura

On 13 July, PTC II **issued** an arrest warrant for Sylvestre Mudacumura, commander of the military wing of the rebel Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), for alleged war crimes in the DRC in 2009-2010.

### CAR

#### Bemba trial continues

On 14 August, the defense case **began** in the trial of Jean-Pierre Bemba, former vice president of the DRC. Around 63 witnesses are expected to be called. Bemba is charged with crimes against humanity and war crimes allegedly committed in the Central African Republic in 2002-2003.

### KENYA

#### Trial dates set for post-election violence suspects

On 9 July, TC V set the dates of 10 and 11 April 2013 for the commencement of the Ruto/Sang and Muthaura/Kenyatta trials, respectively. The four are suspected of crimes against humanity allegedly committed in the aftermath of disputed elections in Kenya in 2007-2008.

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE

#### Second postponement of key hearing in Gbagbo case

On 3 August, the confirmation of charges hearing in the case against Laurent Gbagbo, the former president of Côte d'Ivoire suspected of crimes against humanity, was postponed for a second time. Scheduled for 13-17 August, PTC I **postponed** the hearing until the issue of Gbagbo's fitness to take part in proceedings is resolved. On 13 July, PTC I refused Gbagbo's request for provisional release.

### MALI

#### Mali refers situation on its territory to ICC prosecutor

On 18 July, the government of Mali **referred** the situation on its territory since January 2012 to the ICC prosecutor, who then **announced** the commencement of a preliminary examination into the conflict. In September the Office of the Prosecutor visited Mali to gather information about possible crimes committed.

### CICC

In a **letter** of 20 July on the role and importance of communications for a fair, effective, independent and efficient ICC, the Coalition called on states to give active, vocal and financial support to the communications activities of the Court in 2013 and beyond.

On 21 August, ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda **announced** the appointment of Brigid Inder as her special gender adviser. Ms. Inder is executive director of the Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, a Coalition Steering Committee member.

## REGIONAL

### World Celebrates International Justice Day and ICC 10th Anniversary

On 1 and 17 July respectively, the world celebrated the 10th anniversary of the ICC and International Justice Day. Coalition members marked this day in solidarity with victims and victim communities of crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes by issuing statements and holding events worldwide. The ICC and states parties to the Rome Statute (RS) also held a number of activities. A **list of events and activities**, as well as numerous publications and resources, can be found

on the Coalition's **10th anniversary webpage**. Statements were issued by several Coalition members, including No Peace Without Justice, FOHRID (Nepal), Lira NGO Forum (Uganda), Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, the Turkish Coalition, Asuntos del Sur, the Canadian Centre for International Justice, the International Center for Transitional Justice, the El Salvador Human Rights Commission, TRIAL-Switzerland, HURINET-U and the Uganda Coalition. Meanwhile, Amnesty International took the opportunity to launch a

new website—**Demand Justice**—for its global Campaign for International Justice.

### EUROPE

**European Union**—In June, the Council of the European Union (EU) adopted a "**Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy**," which reaffirms the fight against impunity and support to the ICC as key priorities. In September, Stavros Lambrinidis will take up the newly-created role of EU special representative for human rights, charged with enhancing the effectiveness and visibility of the new

## REGIONAL

EU human rights policy .

**The Netherlands**—On 11 July, the French embassy in The Hague held a Francophone seminar commemorating the ICC's 10th anniversary. Speakers included ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda, ICC President Judge Sang-Hyun Song, ICC Registrar Silvana Arbia, Trust Fund for Victims Executive Director Pieter de Baan, French Ambassador H.E. Ambassador Pierre Ménat, representatives of the ICC offices of public counsel for the defense and for victims, academics and Coalition Regional Coordinator for Europe Kirsten Meerschaert-Duchens.

**Belgium**—On 12 July, the **Heinrich Böll Foundation** held a debate in Brussels for the ICC's 10th anniversary. Guest speakers ICC President Song, Rolf Timans of the European External Action Service, Barbara Lochbihler, member of the European Parliament (EP) and chair of its subcommittee on human rights, and the Coalition's regional coordinator for Europe discussed the Court's achievements and future challenges.

**Switzerland**—On 17 July, Coalition member TRIAL-Switzerland launched a quiz, inviting participants to test their knowledge of international justice. TRIAL also arranged to have Geneva's iconic landmark, the 'jet deau' to be illuminated in red in commemoration of the ICC's 10th anniversary.

**Turkey**—In July 2012, Coalition member **Human Rights Association-Turkey** celebrated its 26th anniversary by issuing a press release and holding a rally in Istanbul to call on Turkey to join the ICC.

### MENA

**Jordan**—On 11-12 July, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Coalition held a **conference** in Amman on the ICC and the Arab World. Arab and international civil society, as well as academic and government experts analyzed emerging ICC jurisprudence and its relevance to the region. The role of regional civil society in tackling ICC issues at the national level was also discussed.

**Morocco**—On 12 July, a strategy meeting was held in Rabat to discuss the work of the Moroccan Coalition and means of increasing dialogue with newly established national civil society organizations.

**Iraq**—On 17 July, Coalition members in Irbil held a **demonstration** at the Iraqi Kurdistan parliament calling for its support for efforts to convince the Iraqi government to join the ICC. One hundred and thirty-two civil society organizations, political parties and MPs are supporting the call.

### ASIA

**Indonesia**—On 17 July, the National Human Rights Commission and the Indonesian Coalition held a **workshop** in commemoration of ICC's 10th anniversary. Indonesian government representatives indicated they remained committed to joining the Court by 2013, as stated in the National Plan of Action on Human Rights for 2011-2014.

**Philippines**—On 22 August, an expert group for the domestic implementation of the RS, composed of representatives from government, academia, the Coalition's Asia office and the Philippine National Coalition, met to finalize proposals for government consideration. On 17 July, the Philippine Coalition held a forum on gender justice after the conviction of Thomas Lubanga.

**Cambodia**—On 2 July, the **Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association** held a **workshop** in Phnom Penh for the ICC's 10th anniversary. Government representatives, academics, diplomats and human rights organizations discussed RS implementation and the work and outcomes from the hybrid international tribunal in Cambodia.

### AMERICAS

**Uruguay**—On 26 July, Uruguay and Coalition member **Parliamentarians for Global Action** (PGA) held a **seminar** for the ICC's 10th anniversary, bringing together parliamentarians, civil society and the general public. Speakers

### Ratifications/accessions

Rome Statute: 121

Most Recent: **Guatemala** (2 April 2012)

APIC: 71

Most Recent: **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
(24 January 2012)

**Universal Ratification Campaign 2012**

June: **Mauritania, Turkey**

July: **Indonesia, Ukraine**

August: **Nepal, Rwanda**

September: **Brunei-Darussalam**

October: **Singapore**

included former ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo and Argentinean MP Margarita Stolbizer.

**USA**—On 4 July, American Coalition Convener John Washburn and US Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice Stephen J. Rapp celebrated the ICC's 10th anniversary at wreath-laying ceremony and lecture in Delft, the Netherlands.

### AFRICA

On 23 July, in an op-ed on the Africa and ICC on its 10th anniversary, Obiageli Oraka of the West Africa Bar Association, a Coalition member, **urged** African states to support the ICC due its work for Africa and African victims.

**Côte d'Ivoire**—On 12-18 July, Coalition Regional Coordinator for Africa Francis Dako traveled to Abidjan to meet with government officials and participate in a **colloquium** on victims' rights before the ICC hosted by the Ivorian Coalition. The event gathered over 50 participants from NGOs, national and international organizations, ministries and victims' associations, who issued a set of **recommendations** at its conclusion.

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