

Archived Updates

April 2006

ICC Prosecutor holds roundtable briefing with the media

On 25 April 2006, ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo held a roundtable briefing with the media at the ICC headquarters in The Hague. In the future, such a briefing will be held every month. Luis Moreno Ocampo informed the press about the first three years of the OTP, of the situations currently under investigations and of future plans.

[ICC Media Advisory](#)

PTC 1 holds hearing on System of Disclosure

On 24 April 2006, Pre Trial Chamber 1 held a Public Hearing on the System of Disclosure for the Purpose of the Confirmation Hearing. The aim of the Chamber was to hear the parties' interpretation of the articles related to disclosure. The hearing was followed by a closed session. The parties will follow up in writing by the 2nd of May.

[ICC Press Release](#)

ICC Presidency Approves Regulations of the Registry

The Regulations of the Registry were made public on 19 April 2006, after being approved on 6 March by the Presidency of the Court in accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. These Regulations provide the practical arrangements for the judicial proceedings and the operation of the Registry itself.

[ICC Press Release](#)

[Regulations of the Registry](#)

Special Court for Sierra Leone issues regarding the location of the trial of Charles Taylor including the ICC premises

Beginning on 29 March 2006, there have been speculations about where the Special Court for Sierra Leone will hold the trial of former Liberian President Charles Taylor if it is not held in the Sierra Leonean capital of Freetown, including the possible use of the International Criminal Court's premises in The Hague.

[CICC Members Media Statements and Reports](#)

March 2006

First Appearance of Mr Thomas Lubanga Dyilo before the ICC

On 20 March 2006, ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I held a Public hearing during which Thomas Lubanga Dyilo appeared before the Chamber. The Pre-Trial Chamber I satisfied itself that Mr. Lubanga had been informed of the crimes which he is alleged to have committed, and of his rights under the Rome Statute. The confirmation of charges hearing was set for the 27 of June 2006.

ICC Press Release: [Initial appearance of Mr Thomas Lubanga Dyilo before the Pre-Trial Chamber I](#)

First Arrest for International Criminal Court

On 17 March 2006, the International Criminal Court announced that its Pre-Trial Chamber I had unsealed an arrest warrant concerning the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for the leader of a political and military movement, the Union of Congolese Patriots (UPC), Thomas Lubanga Dyilo. The ICC also announced that Mr. Lubanga was arrested and transferred to The Hague. This is the first arrest for the new permanent Court. This is the first unsealed arrest warrant issued for the DRC situation, but it is expected to lead to subsequent requests for arrest warrants as the Prosecutor continues his investigation.

NGO Media Statements on the DRC Arrest Warrant

ICC Press Releases:

First arrest for the International Criminal Court

Issuance of a Warrant of Arrest against Thomas Lubanga Dyilo

Presidency organizes Pre-Trial Chambers

On 14 March 2006, the Presidency issued a Decision regarding the constitution of the Pre-Trial Chambers noting the election of six judges on 26 January 2006 and deciding that Pre-Trial Chamber I consists of Judge Claude Jorda, Judge Akua Kuenyehia and Judge Sylvia Steiner; Pre-Trial Chamber II of Judge Mauro Politi, Judge Fatoumata Dembele Diarra and Judge Ekatarina Trendafilova; and Pre-Trial Chamber III of Judge Hans Peter Kaul, Judge Sylvia Steiner and Judge Ekatarina Trendafilova.

ICC Website: [Decision Constituting Pre-Trial Chambers](#)

President of the Court re-elected

On 11 March 2006, the ICC judges held a plenary session in which they re-elected Judge Philippe Kirsch (Canada) as President of the Court and Judge Akua Kuenyehia (Ghana) as First Vice-President of the Court. Judge René Blattmann (Bolivia) was elected as Second Vice-President.

ICC Press Release: [Election of the Presidency of the Court](#)

ICC newly elected judges make solemn undertaking

On 10 March 2006, the six ICC judges who were elected during the resumed session of the 4th ASP in January 2006 were sworn in at the seat of the Court in The Hague for a nine-year term.

ICC, Press Release: [Solemn Undertaking of the ICC Judges Elected in January 2006](#)

February 2006

ICC Prosecutor delivers OTP Update

On 10 February 2006, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) made public an update on communications received by the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) of the ICC. The update provided that the office has received 1732 communications from 103 countries including reports on alleged crimes in 139 countries in all regions of the world. The update annexed two letters to senders of communications regarding the situations in

Iraq and Venezuela respectively, informing them that the Prosecutor has concluded not to initiate an investigation with respect to these situations (but that this can be reconsidered in light of new facts or evidence) and that he has not received any referrals from states in this regard.

[ICC website \(the update\)](#)

[ICC website \(on Iraq\)](#)

[ICC website \(on Venezuela\)](#)

January 2006

6 ICC Judges elected

On 26 January 2006, the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC (ASP) elected six of the 18 judges of the ICC. They will serve full terms of nine years. Five judges have been re-elected: Hans-Peter Kaul (Germany), Erkki Kourula (Finland), Akua Kuenyehia (Ghana), Sang-Hyun Song (Republic of Korea) and Anita Ušacka (Latvia). New to the bench is Ekaterina Trendafilova from Bulgaria, who will replace Tuiloma Neroni Slade from Samoa.

Second Election of Judges - 2006

CICC Press Release on Election of Judges (27 January 2006)

<http://www.iccnw.org/pressroom/ciccmediastatements.html>

Insight on the ICC's Article on Election of Judges

http://www.iccnw.org/publications/insight/insight7_jan_feb2006en.pdf

Victims to participate in DRC proceedings

On 17 January 2006, Pre-Trial Chamber I of the ICC issued a decision that grants the status of victims to six Congolese petitioners, allowing them to participate during the investigation phase in the situation in the DRC. Both the OTP and the victims' representative made submissions with regards to this particular decision.

ICC Decision (in French)

To read a complete update on the DRC situation, including this decision, please consult the informal summary of recent developments and complete [timeline](#).

Brammertz to lead UN Investigation in Lebanon

On 16 January 2006, ICC Deputy Prosecutor for Investigations, Mr. Serge Brammertz, was granted leave to take on the role of Commissioner of UN International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC) in the investigation into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri.

ICC Press Release

CICC's policy on the referral and prosecution of situations before the ICC:

The Coalition for the ICC is not an organ of the Court. The CICC is an independent NGO movement dedicated to the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization. The Coalition will continue to provide the most up-to-date information about the ICC and to help coordinate global action to effectively implement the Rome Statute of the ICC. The

Coalition will also endeavor to respond to basic queries and to raise awareness about the ICC's trigger mechanisms and procedures, as they develop. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, do not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual CICC members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.

Communications to the ICC can be sent to:

ICC

P.O. Box 19519

2500 CM The Hague

The Netherlands