57-05-88/2-A A1006-A1000 20 February 2014

1006

# UNITED **NATIONS**



International Tribunal for the

Prosecution of Persons

Responsible for Serious Violations of

International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the

Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Case No.

IT-05-88/2-A

Date:

20 February 2014

Original:

English

## IN THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before:

Judge Theodor Meron, Pre-Appeal Judge

Registrar:

Mr. John Hocking

Decision of:

20 February 2014

#### **PROSECUTOR**

**v**..

### ZDRAVKO TOLIMIR

#### **PUBLIC**

## DECISION ON TOLIMIR'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FILING AMENDMENTS TO THE BRIEF IN **REPLY**

## The Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. Serge Brammertz

Mr. Paul Rogers

## The Accused:

Mr. Zdravko Tolimir

I, THEODOR MERON, Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991 ("Tribunal"), and Pre-Appeal Judge in this case;<sup>1</sup>

**RECALLING** my decision of 28 October 2013 permitting Tolimir to file an amended version of his Reply Brief within 10 days of the filing of the B/C/S translation of the Prosecution's Response Brief:<sup>2</sup>

**NOTING** that the B/C/S translation of the Prosecution's Response Brief was filed on 12 February 2014;<sup>3</sup>

**BEING SEISED OF** the "Motion for Extension of Time Limit for Filing Amendments to the Brief in Reply," filed by Zdravko Tolimir ("Tolimir") on 17 February 2014 ("Motion"), by which Tolimir seeks an extension of time of three days, no later than 27 February 2014, to file an amended version of his Reply Brief;<sup>4</sup>

**NOTING** the "Prosecution's Response to Tolimir's Motion for Extension of Time Limit for Filing Amendments to the Brief in Reply," filed by the Office of the Prosecutor of the Tribunal ("Prosecution") on 19 February 2014 ("Response"), in which the Prosecution does not oppose the Motion;<sup>5</sup>

NOTING Tolimir's submission that good cause exists for granting the Motion since: (i) he is a self-represented appellant who requires assistance from his legal advisor in order to ascertain whether possible amendments to the Reply Brief are necessary, to formulate any such amendments, and to file these amendments in a timely manner;<sup>6</sup> (ii) the next Status Conference is scheduled for 25 February 2014 – a day after the deadline of the filing of possible amendments to his Reply Brief – and it would be in the interest of judicial economy to combine the purposes of his legal advisor's trip to The Hague for both attending the Status Conference and assisting him in relation to possible amendments to the Reply Brief;<sup>7</sup> and (iii) he needs time to refresh his memory of the contents of the Consolidated Appeal Brief, the Prosecution's Response Brief and his Reply Brief in order to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Order Designating a Pre-Appeal Judge, 27 December 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> T. 15, 28 October 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Tužiočev Podnesak Respondenta, 12 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Motion, para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Response, para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Motion, para. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Motion, para. 5.

appropriately address any potential amendments to the Reply Brief and to avoid unnecessarily repeating arguments;<sup>8</sup>

**CONSIDERING** that, pursuant to Rules 127(A)(i) and 127(B) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Tribunal ("Rules"), the Pre-Appeal Judge may, on good cause being shown, enlarge the time limits prescribed by or under the Rules;

**RECALLING** further that a Chamber must ensure that the proceedings before it are fair and expeditious pursuant to Article 20(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal;

**CONSIDERING** that the requested three day extension has not been objected to by the Prosecution and will not cause any undue delay in the appeal proceedings;

**FINDING** that there is good cause for granting Tolimir an extension of time for the filing of possible amendments to his Reply Brief;

PURSUANT to Rules 111, 112, 113, and 127 of the Rules;

**HEREBY GRANT** the Motion and **ORDER** Tolimir to file an amended version of his Reply Brief no later than 27 February 2014.

Done in English and French, the English text being authoritative.

Done this 20th day of February 2014, At The Hague, The Netherlands.

Judge Theodor Meron Pre-Appeal Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Motion, para. 7.