25376 Puk



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-95-5/18-PT

Date:

9 October 2009

Original: English

BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL

Before:

Judge Carmel Agius, Presiding

Judge Burton Hall Judge Guy Delvoie

Registrar:

Mr. John Hocking

Decision of:

9 October 2009

THE PROSECUTOR

RADOVAN KARADŽIĆ

DECISION ON MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A REPLY

The Office of the Prosecutor

Mr. Alan Tieger

Ms. Hildegard Uertz-Retzlaff

The Accused

Mr. Radovan Karadžić

THIS BENCH 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"),

NOTING that, on 22 September 2009, the self-represented accused Radovan Karadžić filed a motion requesting that Judge Melville Baird be recused from the Trial Chamber assigned to hear his case;¹

NOTING that the Prosecution responded to the Motion to Recuse on 25 September 2009;²

NOTING that, on 25 September 2009, the Presiding Judge in the *Karadžić* case issued a report to the President on the Motion to Recuse;³

NOTING that, on that same day, the President assigned Judge Mehmet Güney to consider the merits of the Motion to Recuse;⁴

NOTING that, on 28 September 2009, Mr. Karadžić filed a request for a panel of three judges to report on the merits of the Motion to Recuse pursuant to Rule 15(B)(ii) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules");⁵

NOTING that, on 30 September 2009, Judge Güney appointed this Bench to consider the merits of the Motion to Recuse:⁶

BEING SEIZED of a "Motion for Leave to Reply: Motion to Recuse Judge Baird", filed by Mr. Karadžić on 5 October 2009 ("Motion for Leave");

CONSIDERING Mr. Karadžić's arguments that he has not yet had an opportunity to file a reply to the Prosecution's Response, and that good cause to do so exists because he can distinguish the *Čelebići* Appeals Judgement, as well as address matters relating to Judge Baird's appointment by the Security Council, issues discussed in the Report and Decision;⁷

FINDING that, in the particular circumstances of this case, it is in the interests of justice that Mr. Karadžić be given the opportunity to reply to the Prosecution's Response;

¹ Motion to Recuse Judge Melville Baird, filed 22 September 2009 ("Motion to Recuse").

² Prosecution Expedited Response to Karadžić's Motion to Recuse Judge Melville Baird, filed 25 September 2009 ("Response").

³ Report by Presiding Judge to President on Motion to Recuse Judge Baird, 25 September 2009 ("Report").

⁴ Order Assigning a Motion to a Judge, 25 September 2009, p. 2.

⁵ Request for Appointment of Three Judge Panel, filed 28 September 2009.

⁶ Decision on Radovan Karadžić's Motion to Recuse Judge Melville Baird, 30 September 2009 ("Decision").

⁷ Motion for Leave, paras 2-3.

PURSUANT to Rule 54 of the Rules;

FOR THE FORGOING REASONS,

GRANTS the Motion for Leave; and

ORDERS Mr. Karadžić to file a reply to the Prosecution's Response within 5 days of the date of this decision.

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

Carmel Agius Presiding

Dated this 9th day of October 2009, At The Hague, The Netherlands

[Seal of the Tribunal]