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# Report on the activities of the International Criminal Court

# I. Introduction

- 1. This report presents an overview of the activities of the International Criminal Court ("ICC" or "Court") between 16 September 2023 and 15 September 2024. The report is structured around the active situations before the Court. The Annex provides an overview of the most important statistics ("The ICC's year in numbers"). The content of the present report does not reflect confidential activity before the Pre-Trial Chambers, which has increased in terms of both workload and output.
- 2. During the reporting period, the Court was seized of 29 cases in the public domain, involving 34 defendants, and 16 situations Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, People's Republic of Bangladesh/Republic of the Union of Myanmar ("Bangladesh/Myanmar"), the Republic of Burundi, Central African Republic ("CAR") II, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur (Sudan), Democratic Republic of the Congo ("DRC"), Georgia, the Republic of Kenya, State of Libya, the Republic of Mali, the State of Palestine, the Republic of the Philippines ("Philippines"), Republic of Uganda, Ukraine and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ("Venezuela I"). A detailed overview of the activities emanating from each situation that are in the public domain is provided in Part II of this report. Additionally, during the reporting period, the Office of the Prosecutor ("OTP" or "Office") was seized of three preliminary examinations, and other activities, described in Parts III and IV.

# II. Situations before the Court

#### A. Situation in Afghanistan

# 1. Investigations

3. The Office of the Prosecutor conducted major investigative activities including interviews of multiple witnesses and collection of documentary evidence, public statements and decrees by leaders, and large volumes of open source material. Allegations of systematic discrimination and persecution against women and girls, as well as minority and opposition groups, have been a priority of the Office's investigations. The groups under investigation include the Taliban leadership and different branches of their hierarchy, as well as the so-called Islamic State in Khorasan. Investigations are progressing efficiently, thanks to cooperation from civil society organizations, survivors, national authorities and international

<sup>\*</sup> Reissued for technical reasons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the interest of providing the most up-to-date information to the Assembly, selected important developments that occurred between 15 September 2023 and the finalization of the report are nevertheless mentioned.

organizations. The Office has integrated gender experts in its investigation team, along with country experts and psycho-social experts, ensuring that the gender dimension of alleged crimes is addressed. The significant progress made has set the basis for applications for warrants of arrest.

#### 2. Registry Activities

4. The Victims Participation and Reparations Section ("VPRS") responded to querries from victims and their representatives related to judicial developments and victims' rights before the Court. The Public Information and Outreach Section ("PIOS"), in cooperation with partners, maintained a monitoring of the media, to follow perceptions and potential rumours on the Court, and to identify misinformation. General information tools about the Court were made available in Dari and Pashto on the ICC website, and shared with partners. The Office of Public Counsel for Victims ("OPCV") provided advice to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests at the investigation stage.

# B. Situation in Bangladesh/Myanmar

## 1. Judicial developments

5. On 21 November 2023, Pre-Trial Chamber I dismissed *in limine* for lack of standing a request of four legal representatives of victims for the adoption of a protocol and for access to the confidential record of the Situation.

#### 2. Investigations

- 6. The Office of the Prosecutor's investigation continued with increased missions, collection and analysis of evidence, interviews with witnesses in Bangladesh facilitated by the rotational presence of investigators in the field, collection and analysis of open sources including social media and public statements, and initiatives aimed at strengthening engagement and cooperation with partners in the region. The investigation has been focusing on the mass deportation of the Rohingya population from Myanamar, including the different forms of violence against civilians that caused their displacement. The groups under investigation include different levels of the Myanmar Army and civilian notorious instigators of violence against the Rohingnya. Given severe trauma among victims caused both by the violent attacks in their homeland and by subsequent protracted displacement and harsh conditions of life, the Office has taken special care in adopting trauma-informed strategies, including careful contact and screening of potential witnesses, and specialised support by psycho-social experts. Gender and country experts have also joined the investigation and support strategic decision-making as well as interaction with survivors and local partners.
- 7. The Office has engaged with Government ministries in Bangladesh, diplomats, international organisations, and non-governmental organisations regarding requests for assistance and to inform them on developments. Significant progress with the investigations sets the basis for applications for warrants of arrest.

# 3. Registry Activities

8. The VPRS continued to respond to querries from victims and their representatives regarding relevant judicial developments and victims' rights before the Court. Together with PIOS, the VPRS prepared and transmitted to the Pre-Trial Chamber two periodic reports (in confidential and public redacted versions) on the Registry's information and outreach activities. PIOS continued to use online outreach activities with partners on the ground to bridge the information gap with the different target groups in Bangladesh. Additionally, to counter the spread of misinformation, PIOS continued coordinating a project of interactive Questions and Answers videos allowing the voices of ICC representatives to be heard directly by victims on the most pressing issues such as the status and scope of the current investigations, the next steps and questions on potential reparations for victims. The previously produced animation videos in Rohingya on key aspects of the ICC continued to be relayed by partners to the communities. The OPCV provided advices to external lawyers

representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests at the investigation stage.

9. The Registry registered 8 missions in relation to this situation.

## C. Situation in Burundi

#### 1. Investigations

10. The investigation continued with missions to a number of countries, despite the lack of cooperation from the Government of Burundi. The Office received cooperation from States, UN entities and civil society organisations, and has been progressively advancing its investigative work.

# 2. Registry Activities

11. The Court kept communicating with the ICC Network of Burundian Journalists and the member organisations of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court to continue to discuss potential collaborations in the event of judicial developments. Some general information tools on the ICC were already produced in Kirundi and made available on the ICC website and shared widely with these networks. The VPRS continued to engage with representatives of victims organizations and their lawyers in order to respond to their requests of information about the Court and the VPRS mandates.

# D. Situation in the Central African Republic II

#### 1. Judicial Developments

- (a) The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona
- 12. The Prosecution concluded its presentation of evidence on 11 September 2023, the Chamber having heard the testimony of 75 prosecution witnesses. In addition, the Chamber received more than 18,000 items of evidence from the Prosecution.
- 13. Following the Prosecution, the legal representatives of victims presented their evidence by calling three witnesses, and one Chamber's witness was heard. On 28 November 2023, the Defence for Mr Yekatom made its opening statements. The Chamber heard 19 witnesses called by the Defence teams of Mr Yekatom and Ngaïssona. On 27 and 28 August 2024, Mr Ngaïssona made an unsworn statement. In addition to live testimony, the Chamber received written testimony of over 70 witnesses from the Prosecution and the Defence.
- 14. The evidentiary hearings have concluded and the Chamber has set the calendar for the closing statements and the sentencing procedure. Notably, the Chamber decided to render any potential decision on sentencing pursuant to Article 76 of the Statute simultaneously with its judgment under Article 74 of the Statute. The Chamber granted participating status to 299 victims, bringing the total number to 1,965. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collects victims' information.
- 15. On 20 May 2024, in the appeal of Mr Ngaïssona against two decisions issued by Trial Chamber V on 6 October 2023, granting the Prosecutor's request for introduction of prior recorded testimony under Rule 68(2)(c) and (d) of the Rules, the Appeals Chamber delivered two judgments which confirmed both decisions.
- (b) The Prosecutor v. Mahamat Said Abdel Kani
- 16. In February 2023, the trial proceedings were adjourned on account of Mr Said's health. On 15 December 2023, the Trial Chamber VI found Mr Said fit to stand trial. The Chamber is currently sitting reduced hours on account of the accused's medical condition. The Chamber has heard 45 prosecution witnesses as at end-August. The Chamber granted participating status to 30 new victims, bringing the total number to 50. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collects victim information.

- (c) The Prosecutor v. Maxime Jeoffroy Eli Mokom Gawaka
- 17. Following the confirmation hearing that took place in August 2024, on 16 October 2023, the Prosecution notified the Chamber of the withdrawal of all charges against Mr Mokom. On 17 October 2023, the Chamber terminated the proceedings against him and ordered his immediate release. The Chamber ordered the Registry to ensure that Mr Mokom's rights as a free person are not restricted, while requesting him to abide by certain practical arrangements.
- 18. On 18 January 2024, following extended consultations on the transfer of Mr Mokom between the Registry and the Host State, as well as the government of the Central African Republic, Pre-Trial Chamber II rejected the extradition request from the Central African Republic. Noting that no other State was willing to accept Mr Mokom, Pre-Trial Chamber II decided that the residual jurisdiction of the Chamber regarding Mr Mokom would conclude on 8 February 2024 should no such State be identified in the meantime, entailing that Mr Mokom will fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Host State.
- 19. On 13 February 2024, in the appeal of Mr Mokom against Pre-Trial Chamber II's aforementioned decision of 18 January 2024, the Appeals Chamber issued a decision in which it found that the Defence's notice of discontinuance of the appeal, filed on 9 February 2024, was valid, and that the appellate proceedings, initiated by the Defence, were thus terminated. On 24 April 2024, Mr Mokom filed a request pursuant to Article 85 of the Statute, seeking compensation for the harm and damage allegedly caused to him as a result of the proceedings against him. A special chamber composed of three judges has been constituted to hear the claim. On 11 July 2024, the Chamber issued an Order scheduling a hearing regarding Mr Mokom's claim for compensation, which took place on 9 September 2024.

## 2. Investigations

20. Investigative activities continued in relation to all the pending cases before the Court, including the arrest warrant against Mr Mahamat Nouradine Adam. The Office of the Prosecutor has deepened its cooperation with the CAR authorities, including through the visit of Deputy Prosecutor Niang in November 2023, during which he signed Memoranda of Understanding with the Government of the CAR and the Special Criminal Court, reflecting a joint commitment to strengthen collaboration to effectively address international crimes committed in the country. The Office continued its tracking efforts with good cooperation from various stakeholders.

# 3. Registry Activities

- 21. The ICC Country Office in CAR ("COCAR") supported a high-level mission of the Office of the Prosecutor and held outreach activities and courtroom support including facilitating video link of testimonies. The Office also transmitted cooperation requests to MINUSCA and the CAR authorities.
- 22. PIOS led public information and outreach activities in Bangui and in key locations in the other parts of the country where there are communities of victims and/or communities associated with the accused persons. Activities were conducted e.g. in relation to the termination of the *Mokom* case and the continuation and key judicial instances of the *Yekatom & Ngaïssona* and *Said* cases, such as the opening statement of *Yekatom* Defence in November 2023 and the unsworn statement of Mr Ngaïssona in August 2024. PIOS also conducted extra-budgetary outreach activities funded by the United Kingdom.
- 23. The facilitation of the application process for victim participation by the VPRS and related field resources continued throughout the proceedings in the *Yekatom and Ngaïssona* case. Relevant staff reached out to victims and communities to inform them about the proceedings and the application process, and to collect relevant information, both, in CAR and Chad. In the *Said* case, VPRS continues the campaign to identify and map potential beneficiaries of reparations in accordance with the decision of the Chamber. VPRS received a total of 212 victims' applications and supplementary information in the CAR II situation (including 66 in the *Said* case and 54 in the *Adam* case). VPRS assessed and transmitted a total of 115 applications in the CAR II situation.

- 24. In the Yekatom and Ngaïssona case, a counsel from the OPCV has been representing a total of 292 former child soldiers, and a group of 1,673 victims of other crimes has been represented by another counsel from the OPCV, jointly with four external counsel. In the Saïd case, a counsel from the OPCV has been representing approximately 30 victims at the trial stage. In addition to Counsel from OPCV have also been assisting the victims they represent for the purpose of their inclusion and participation in the TFV's assistance programme in CAR. During the reporting period the VPRS prepared seven filings, including three periodic report on the victims admitted to participate in the Yekatom and Ngaïssona proceedings. At trial stage, a total of 1,965 applicants have been granted victim status. In February 2024, the Registry facilitated a temporary transfer of Mr Ngaïssona to France for humanitarian grounds.
- 25. In the *Mokom* case, on 17 October 2023 Pre-Trial Chamber II terminated the proceedings in the case following the Prosecution's notice of withdrawal of all charges against Mr Mokom. The VPRS plans to meet with the victims participants in order to inform them about the latest developments. In the *Said* case, the VPRS prepared two filings to transmit new applications and complete previously collected ones.
- 26. COCAR supported a total of 93 registered missions to CAR.

#### E. Situation in Côte d'Ivoire

#### 1. Investigations

27. The Office of the Prosecutor continued efforts to secure cooperation from national authorities, international organisations, civil society organisations and other relevant stakeholders to assist in accelerating the ongoing investigations into crimes allegedly committed in the context of post-electoral violence between December 2010 and June 2011. The Office has been conducting regular investigative missions and seeking to move its activities towards the next phase of proceedings.

## 2. Registry Activities

28. The field presence in Côte d'Ivoire provided support to the residual investigative activities of the OTP as well as to the assistance programme of the Trust Fund for Victims. Following the conclusion of the relevant judicial proceedings in Côte d'Ivoire, the field presence has further scaled down in 2023. For 2024, the Registry has further reduced its presence in the country, although it continued to provide support to missions. PIOS assisted the field presence in ensuring that the closure of the Registry presence in CIV is well understood by partners and in informing them about the headquarters' residual role in the future. PIOS also provided support to local NGOs and civil society actors. The total number of victim applications for participation received in relation to the situation remains at 3,896. As a result of the downsizing of the field presence and absence of active proceedings, the VPRS has carried out only limited and residual activities between September 2023 and September 2024 in relation to victims of the Situation by maintaining its contact with relevant actors based in the field. The field presence supported a total of 28 registered missions in CIV.

# F. Situation in Darfur

#### 1. Judicial developments

- (a) The Prosecutor v. Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman (Ali Kushayb)
- 29. The trial continued through 2023 and into 2024 with the presentation of views and concerns by the victims and the presentation of evidence by the Defence. The victims' presentation of evidence concluded in October 2023. The Defence started the presentation of its evidence immediately thereafter. The Chamber has heard 17 witnesses called by the Defence. The Chamber granted participating status to 731 new victims, bringing the total number to 1,332. The Registry continues to engage with victim communities and collects victim information.

## 2. Investigations

- 30. The Office of the Prosecutor continued to advance investigations with cooperation from different States, and increased cooperation from Sudanese authorities. In September 2023, the Prosecutor met with General Abdel-Fattah Abdelrahman Al-Burhan on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly and underlined the obligations of Sudan pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1593 to cooperate with the Court and to ensure justice for the people of Sudan. Following this meeting, a new focal point for cooperation was appointed by the Government of Sudan, which has assisted in improving cooperation. On 29 January 2024, during his visit to Chad, the Prosecutor briefed the Security Council on the Darfur situation. The Office is accelerating its operations with multiple field missions and advanced exploitation of online open sources, and harnessing its partnerships with civil society actors, victims' groups, national authorities and international and regional organisations. On 5 August 2024, the Prosecutor delivered a second briefing to the Security Council on the Darfur situation.
- 31. The Office continues to actively investigate the ongoing criminality in Darfur, prioritising investigations on crimes affecting children and Gender-Based Crimes. The Office has conducted several outreach missions to refugee camps in the east of Chad and continued to engage constructively with different national authorities who are developing relevant investigations. Further efforts to locate and secure the arrest of surrender of fugitives, including former President of the Republic of Sudan Omar H. A. Al Bashir, former Minister of National Defence Abdel Raheem M. Hussein and former Minister of State for the Interior Ahmad Muhammad Harun have continued.

### 3. Registry Activities

- 32. Owing to the ongoing armed conflict in Sudan, the Registry supports and facilitates the activities pertaining to the Abd-Al-Rahman taking place in other countries. Due to this, PIOS was not able to engage directly with the population in Sudan, and online activities were severely hampered by the unavailability of reliable internet in the country. Therefore, efforts were redirected to hybrid and online activities in countries hosting refugees from Darfur, with a focus on Uganda, and enhanced its reach of the Sudanese diaspora in the US, Canada and Europe through online activities. PIOS produced an unprecedented number of audio-visual programs in Arabic and Fur to publicise the opening statements and presentation of views and concerns by the Common Legal Representatives of Victims (CLRV) and the Defence's opening statements and case. In order to reach victims and affected communities in Darfur and Chad, PIOS leveraged its strong media partnerships to broadcast on short-wave radio several PIOS-produced audio-clips in Arabic summarising the views presented by the CLRV and the Defence opening statement in the *Abd-Al-Rahman* case.
- 33. VPRS continued its activities assisting victims in the process of assessing and completing their applications to participate in the proceedings. VPRS received 493 victims' applications and supplementary information in the case. 734 applications were transmitted to the Chamber for participation in the trial proceedings. All 1,459 participating victims are represented in the proceedings by external counsel. Moreover, VPRS conducted two missions in Chad to meet with victims, intermediaries and other interlocutors, during which it undertook activities for mapping potentially eligible beneficiaries of potential reparations, as instructed by the Trial Chamber in its order of 3 October 2022.

# G. Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ("DRC")

#### 1. Judicial developments

- (a) The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo
- 34. The Trust Fund for Victims continued implementing the symbolic and the collective service-based reparations ordered by Trial Chamber II. In total, 2,471 former child soldiers have been deemed eligible for a reparations award; 1,324 beneficiaries have completed or are currently benefitting from service-based reparations in the form of medical treatment,

psychological rehabilitation, and socio-economic support. The Trust Fund continues the construction of four community centres as part of the symbolic reparation awards.

#### (b) The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga

35. On 24 April 2024, a ceremony was convened at the request of the victims in Bunia, Ituri, Democratic Republic of the Congo, to mark the completion of the implementation of reparations in the Katanga case. The reparations ordered by Trial Chamber II on 24 March 2017 benefitted individuals who lost family members, who suffered physical and psychological harm, and who lost their homes, property and livestock as a result of the attack of 24 February 2003 on the village of Bogoro in Ituri Province, for which Mr Katanga was found guilty, as an accessory, of one count of crime against humanity (murder) and four counts of war crimes (murder, attacking a civilian population, destruction of property and pillaging).

# (c) The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda

- 36. Trial Chamber II remained seized of the implementation of the reparations order issued on 8 March 2021 by Trial Chamber VI and the addendum issued by Trial Chamber II on 14 July 2023, which included the estimation of the approximate number of direct and indirect victims of crimes against child soldiers (3,000), the estimation of the approximate number of direct and indirect victims of the attacks (7,500), and an assessment of Mr Ntaganda's liability for reparations (USD 31,300,000).
- 37. Mr Ntaganda and the legal representatives of the victims of the attack filed an appeal against the addendum. On 5 February 2024, the Appeals Chamber rejected requests for suspensive effect. On 17 April 2024, the Appeals Chamber issued a decision, finding that it does not deem it necessary to hold a hearing at the current stage of the appellate proceedings. The appeal is pending.
- 38. On 27 February 2024, Trial Chamber II approved the Trust Fund for Victims' updated Draft Implementation Plan for Reparations and endorsed eligibility determinations of beneficiaries. The Registry is conducting victim identification and eligibility screening for reparations in different locations. The Chamber has endorsed the Registry's identification of 927 victims eligible for reparations. Between 2022 and 2024, the Trust Fund for Victims provided initial reparations to 123 priority victims in urgent need.

#### 2. Investigations

39. The Office of the Prosecutor continues deepening its engagement with the DRC authorities and other stakeholders, including through multiple field deployments. This has included significant focus on encouraging national proceedings to address serious crimes, in line with the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 1 June 2023. Following a workshop organized in Kinshasa in November 2023, a follow-up mission of the Office's forensic team experts in February 2024 to identify challenges and capacity-building needs, and a further mission to share experiences and best practices with DRC judicial authorities in August 2024, the Office continues its evaluation of the handling of priority cases by the national judicial authorities.

# 3. Registry Activities

- 40. The Country Office in Kinshasa closed its physical premises in 2021, yet one staff member remains on the ground mainly to conduct residual outreach functions and serve as a liaison with the Government. Country Office Bunia, however, continued to support the activities of the TFV in relation to the reparations phase in the *Lubanga* and *Ntaganda* cases in Ituri province. It supported the TFV's high-level mission, and OTP's mission in three provinces.
- 41. In the *Lubanga* case, the Chamber concluded its assessment of the eligible beneficiaries. The Registry also facilitated the Trial Chamber's access to the file of beneficiaries admitted for reparations by the TFV. In the *Katanga* case, the external legal

representative and Counsel from the OPCV representing the beneficiaries participated in the ceremony marking the closing of the reparations proceedings held in Bunia on 24 April 2024.

- 42. In the *Ntaganda* case, VPRS continued to engage actively with the TFV in the implementation of the Trial Chamber's orders relating to reparations, including the issuance of 927 positive eligibility determinations and the transmission of 48 dossiers of victims for admission to the TFV's Initial Draft Implementation Plan programs as priority victims in urgent need. VPRS prepared eight filings, including the identification of potential beneficiaries for reparations, the collection of information, and the administrative eligibility process. Field staff continued to implement activities in the field related to the identification of potential new beneficiaries and collection of their information, applications for reparations and supporting documents. During the reporting period, the VPRS conducted eight missions to the DRC to advance the field activities described above and met victims and intermediaries and collected their views and completed application forms for reparations.
- 43. At the present reparations stage of the *Ntaganda* case, around 1,900 victims of the attacks and 300 former child soldiers are represented by two counsel from the OPCV. In the Katanga reparations proceedings, 283 victims were are represented by external, and 39 victims were are represented by the OPCV. Of the 2,471 victims that were admitted to receive reparations in the *Lubanga* case, 602 are represented by the OPCV and the remaining victims by external counsel. The CO-DRC supported a total of 78 registered missions.

# H. Situation in Georgia

#### 1. Investigations

44. Following the conclusion of the investigation phase on 16 December 2022, the Office has focused its efforts on ensuring trial readiness in relation to the existing warrants of arrest. The Office of the Prosecutor continued to monitor the situation as part of its tracking activities. The Office has undertaken preservation activities under Article 56 of the Statute and continues to monitor the status of its witnesses to alert the Pre-Trial Chamber of any unique investigative opportunity.

## 2. Registry Activities

45. The Country Office in Georgia ("COGEO") closed its physical premises in Tbilisi at the end of 2023, with relevant resources re-allocated to Ukraine, but continued to provide support to the remaining TFV's and OTP's activities on the ground, as well as to liaise with host authorities. COGEO also assisted the Victims and Witnesses Section ("VWS") in carrying out its activities in Georgia. The OPCV has provided advice to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests. The Registry registered 10 missions to Georgia.

# I. Situation in Kenya

#### 1. Investigations

46. On 27 November 2023, Deputy Prosecutor Khan announced the conclusion of the investigation phase in the Situation in Kenya, after considering the specific facts and circumstances. The Office will not pursue additional cases into the alleged criminal responsibility of other persons, but maintains its capacity to act on information relating to retaliation against witnesses.

#### 2. Registry Activities

47. The Registry registered four missions to Kenya.

# J. Situation in Libya

#### 1. Investigations

- 48. On 9 November 2023 and 14 May 2024, the Prosecutor briefed the UN Security Council on the situation pursuant to Resolution 1970 and outlined a roadmap aimed at completing the investigation phase by the end of 2025, subject to operational conditions. The Office succeeded in significantly advancing investigations, including through interviewing many witnesses, and collected substantial evidence, including open sources, documents, forensics and satellite imagery. The Office made particular progress with respect to the crimes of the 2014-2020 period and related investigations are advancing successfully towards completion. The investigations related to detention facilities and crimes against migrants are also advancing significantly. The implementation of new technologies and the new OTP-Link to receive submissions from the public have been instrumental to this progress.
- 49. The Prosecutor's vision to operate as a cooperation hub has been implemented in this situation with positive results. The Office continued to work closely with the Joint Team that is investigating crimes against migrants on the central Mediterranean route. This cooperation contributed importantly to prosecutions related to human trafficking in Italy and The Netherlands.
- 50. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its efforts to locate and secure the arrest of surrender of several fugitives in this situation.
- 51. In April 2024, Deputy Prosecutor Khan conducted a productive mission to Tripoli, setting the course for enhanced cooperation with the Attorney General and other national actors, including civil society.

## 2. Registry Activities

52. Throughout the reporting period, PIOS continued conducting online consultations with small groups of people to minimise security concerns, achieving a better knowledge of the context and relevant concerns about the Court. PIOS and VPRS conducted a joint mission with representatives of the OTP in November 2023. The delegation conducted information sessions and bilateral meetings with relevant stakeholders, in order to inform them about current judicial developments. The Registry gathered information about communication channels, the security situation and risk mitigating measures for PIOS and VPRS interlocutors. The OPCV has provided advice to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests.

## K. Situation in Mali

#### 1. Judicial developments

- (a) The Prosecutor v. Al Mahdi
- 53. The Trust Fund for Victims continued implementing the reparations ordered by Trial Chamber VIII on 17 August 2017 for the community of Timbuktu. The symbolic reparations award was completed in March 2021 through ceremonies in Bamako and Timbuktu. In June 2024, the Trust Fund completed the delivery of individual awards in the form of financial compensation to 1,685 eligible victims of the attacks against religious and historic buildings in June and July 2012. The Trust Fund continues to implement the collective awards which include restoring protected buildings of cultural value; memorialisation to address the moral damage caused to the Timbuktu community; and setting up an economic resilience facility to address the indirect economic damage caused to the community.
- (b) The Prosecutor v. Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud ("Mr. Al Hassan")
- 54. On 26 June 2024, Trial Chamber X, by majority, convicted Mr. Al Hassan of the crimes against humanity of torture, persecution and other inhumane acts and of the war crimes of torture, outrage upon personal dignity, mutilation, cruel treatment and the passing of sentences without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court,

affording all judicial guarantees which are generally recognized as indispensable. These crimes were committed between 2 April 2012 and 29 January 2013 in Timbuktu, northern Mali, in the context of control by Ansar Dine and AQIM over the region.

- 55. The Chamber found that certain crimes of sexual violence had been committed in Timbuktu during the relevant period, but that Mr. Al Hassan was not guilty of the war crimes of rape and sexual slavery or of the crimes against humanity of rape, sexual slavery and other inhumane acts in the form of forced marriage. He was also found not guilty of the war crime of attacking protected objects.
- 56. A public hearing before the Trial Chamber on sentencing was held on 4 September 2024. The Registry has re-launched consultations with victim communities and collects mapping information for impending reparation proceedings. On 26 July 2024, at the request of the Defence and the Prosecutor, the Appeals Chamber extended the time limit for the filing of eventual notices of appeal against the Trial Chamber's judgment to 18 September 2024. On 11 September 2024, the Appeals Chamber decided to extend the time limits for the filing of any appeal briefs to 5 December 2024.
- (c) The Prosecutor v. Iyad Ag Ghaly
- 57. On 21 June 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber I issued a public redacted version of the warrant of arrest against Mr Iyad Ag Ghaly initially issued on 18 July 2017 for war crimes and crimes against humanity allegedly committed in northern Mali between January 2012 and January 2013.

## 2. Investigations

58. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its activities and monitored developments and reports of atrocity crimes on the ground. The Office has also explored further options to reinforce the impact of its activities, including by developing synergies with the Malian national justice system and other partners in the framework of complementarity.

## 3. Registry Activities

- 59. The field presence in Mali provided operational support to the activities pertaining to the reparations in the *Al Mahdi* case and the judicial proceedings in the *Al Hassan* case, including support to the appearance of the witnesses via video link. All ICC entities operating in Mali received administrative, logistic and security support. Despite challenges related to the downsizing of the Court's presence on the ground in Mali, PIOS continued to fulfil its mandate of informing communities, particularly in relation to the proceedings in the *Al Hassan* case, by leveraging its well-established network of partners to maintain a consistent level of community engagement, albeit primarily through remote means.
- 60. Due to the security situation, certain areas, notably the Timbuktu region, became inaccessible, and PIOS relied on partners to distribute content. This included organizing screenings of video summaries of the trial and verdict in local languages at various cultural festivals in localities where affected communities reside. Additionally, the verdict summary and other relevant information was broadcast across Mali via a network of private radio stations.
- 61. An Outreach team travelled to Mali to arrange a live broadcast of the verdict in the *Al Hassan* case in Bamako, followed by a question-and-answer session. This event was attended by members of national and international civil society, the media, academics, victims' representatives, and the diplomatic community. Face-to-face sessions were also conducted in accessible areas where affected communities reside, such as Ségou and Sikasso, to address the concerns of local leaders, authorities, civil society representatives, and the media. Efforts within Bamako's academic community continued with training sessions for students' human rights associations. A new edition of the moot court competition on international crimes for law students was launched in partnership with a Malian student association.

- 62. VPRS continued to hold information sessions for its partners and to identify victims in affected communities in the field. During the reporting period, the VPRS received 171 reparations forms and 134 supplementary information, mainly pertaining to the *Al Mahdi* case. In the *Al Hassan* case, VPRS has continued its efforts to identify further potential beneficiaries of reparations and prepare a mapping for the Chamber. To this end, VPRS liaised with relevant partners, continued information sessions and training for its partners and affected communities in the field. These sessions and training took place in Bamako and other parts of the country, as well as remotely. All victims participating in the proceedings are represented by a team of three external counsel.
- 63. Following completion of the withdrawal of MINUSMA from Mali on 31 December 2023, the Registry scaled down its presence in-country. The Registry has identified alternative sources of logistical and security support to the continuous Court's activities and exploring partnership with other UN agencies.
- 64. The Registry Country Office facilitated and supported a total of 34 registered missions.

# L. Situation in Uganda

#### 1. Judicial Developments

- (a) The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen
- 65. Following Mr Ongwen's conviction on 4 February 2021, confirmed on appeal, Trial Chamber IX issued on 28 February 2024 a reparations order, setting the financial liability of Mr Ongwen to 52,429,000 EUR. The liability considered the estimated 49,772 victims affected by the 61 crimes for which Mr Ongwen was sentenced to 25 years in prison, including those of sexual and gender-based nature, those committed against children, and those creating transgenerational harm. The financial liability includes an award for collective community-based reparations, consisting of collective rehabilitation programmes, and symbolic/satisfaction measures, including a symbolic award of 750 EUR for all eligible victims. Mr Ongwen was transferred to Norway to serve his sentence in December 2023.
- 66. Mr Ongwen has appealed the reparations order. On 16 May 2024, the Appeals Chamber rejected Mr Ongwen's request for suspensive effect of the appeal. The appeal is currently pending.
- 67. Between May and July 2024, the Trust Fund for Victims conducted consultations with 2,715 potential beneficiaries of reparations in five locations in northern Uganda relevant to the crimes for which Mr Ongwen was convicted. The consultations will inform the draft implementation plan for reparations. The Trust Fund also announced its first urgent funding appeal of EUR 5 million in June 2024 to start a reparations programme in this case. At the same time, the Registry has been establishing a framework of victim identification and eligibility screening for reparations in different locations across the country.
- (b) The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony and Vincent Otti
- 68. On 17 November 2023, Pre-Trial Chamber II terminated the proceedings against Mr Vincent Otti, finding that, based on the information provided by the Prosecution, the only reasonable conclusion was that Mr Otti is deceased. Consequently, only the arrest warrant for Mr Joseph Kony remained outstanding in the situation.
- 69. On 23 November 2023, following the Prosecution's request to hold a confirmation of charges hearing in the Kony case in the suspect's absence, Pre-Trial Chamber II found that Mr Kony qualified as a person who 'cannot be found' within the meaning of Article 61(2)(b) of the Statute, that all reasonable steps to secure his appearance had been taken, and that there would be cause to hold a confirmation hearing against him, in his absence. The Chamber instructed the Registry to submit a plan indicating the outreach activities and notification efforts it would pursue to inform Mr Kony of the charges.
- 70. On 4 March 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber II found that all reasonable steps to inform Mr Kony of the charges had been taken and decided that the confirmation of charges hearing, to

be held in Mr Kony's absence should he not appear, would commence on 15 October 2024. On 21 June 2024, Mr Peter Haynes was appointed as Counsel for Mr Kony. On 23 July 2024, the Single Judge of Pre-Trial Chamber III held a status conference in presence of all the parties and participants.

71. On 12 August 2024, the Single Judge issued a decision on matters relating to the reclassification of the case file, notably ordering that some of the documents currently classified as secret be made available to the Defence for the purpose of the forthcoming proceedings. On 12 September 2024, the Chamber issued a decision postponing the confirmation of charges hearing.

## 2. Investigation

72. On 1 December 2023, the Prosecutor announced the conclusion of the investigation phase in the Situation in Uganda. Accordingly, absent a significant change in circumstances, and without prejudice to work required to support the ongoing judicial process, the Office will not pursue new lines of inquiry and will focus on ensuring the successful prosecution of Mr Joseph Kony, the alleged leader of Lord's Resistance Army. Concerted efforts with the Registry and relevant partners will continue to be devoted to secure his arrest. The Office continues to work with the Ugandan authorities and civil society to ensure information and evidence sharing under the Office's policy for complementarity.

#### 3. Registry Activities

- 73. The Country Office in Uganda ("COUGA") continued to support the activities of its clients in the country, provided support to missions and continued consultations with authorities, former abductees, victims who have not yet participated in proceedings, intermediaries and relevant community based organisations in relation to the mapping of victims that could be eligible for reparations. In relation to the *Ongwen* case, it conducted information sessions with direct survivors of thematic crimes in the districts of Kitgum, Pader and Agago, and expanded and reinforced networks in the different districts where survivors reside and built capacity to facilitate future victims identification. In relation to the *Kony* case, it carried out a number of activities to inform and identify potential new victims participants, held small focus group discussions to explain the *Kony* case, the victims' rights and collect information on legal representation of victims. It carried out primarily its activities in Gulu, Lira, and Soroti, also bringing in survivors from different districts in the Acholi, Lango, Teso and West Nile sub-regions. Further to an order by Pre-Trial Chamber II in the *Kony case*, PIOS furthermore carried out outreach activities and a media campaign to inform the suspect about the charges and the scheduled date of the confirmation of charges hearing.
- 74. In preparation for the delivery of the Reparations Order in the *Ongwen* case, extensive outreach activities were conducted in northern Uganda to manage the expectations of victims' communities and stakeholders effectively. During the reporting period, 202 face-to-face interactions with different stakeholders directly reached 47,448 people in northern Uganda.
- 75. Due to its geographical position as well as stable facilities and experienced staff, COUGA has also been utilised to provide support to the operational requirements associated with other situations in the region. COUGA facilitated five (5) testimony/hearing of witnesses via video link.
- 76. During the reporting period, the VPRS prepared three periodic reports in the Situation and three filings in the *Ongwen* case, and transmitted consolidated dossiers of the victims included in the sample of reparations applications. In the Reparations Order issued in the Ongwen case in February 2024, the Judges mandated the VPRS to identify, collect information and conduct eligibility assessment for all potential beneficiaries of reparations in the case. In March 2024, the VPRS made submissions on a number of aspects related to its mandates. In May 2024, following an order from the Appeals Chamber, the VPRS made submissions on the Defence request for suspensive effect in the context of their appeals against the Reparations Order. In the *Kony* case, following the Pre-Trial Chamber III's instructions, on 8 May 2024, the VPRS prepared two filings: it filed its submissions on matters related to the victims' participation in the proceedings. Additionally, it collected information on the victims' preferences as to their legal representation and subsequently

submitted a report on legal representation of victims on 28 June 2024. Out of the 4,095 victims currently participating in the Ongwen case, 1,501 are represented by Counsel from the OPCV and 2,594 by external counsel. 41 victims already authorised to participate in the Kony case are represented by the OPCV. The OPCV also represents 1,186 applicants.

77. The Registry Country Office supported 160 registered missions.

#### M. Situation in the State of Palestine

# 1. Judicial Developments

- 78. On 22 July 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber I granted leave for several *amici curiae* to file written observations pursuant to Rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and, on 30 July 2024, for the legal representatives of the victims to file views and concerns pursuant to Article 68(3) of the Rome Statute. The Chamber also authorised the Office of Public Counsel for Victims to appear pursuant to regulation 81(4)(e) of the Regulations of the Court and invited the Office of Public Counsel for the Defence to submit observations under rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence on the defendant's rights at this stage of the proceedings.
- 79. Pre-Trial Chamber I granted the Prosecution Request to submit a consolidated response to the *amicus curiae* and victims' submissions.
- 80. On 9 August 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber I terminated proceedings against Mr Ismail Haniyeh, following the Prosecutor's withdrawal of the application for a warrant for Mr Haniyeh's arrest.

#### 2. Investigations

81. Following dedicated investigative efforts including for events since 7 October 2023, the Prosecutor announced on 20 May 2024 his intention to apply for arrest warrants in the Situation in the State of Palestine. The applications were filed subsequently, in relation to five individuals. The Office's investigation into the situation continues, covering multiple lines of inquiry pertaining to alleged crimes committed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza since 13 June 2014. With a view to further strengthening action, the Office continues to engage with all relevant parties and stakeholders, including civil society, States and international and regional organisations.

## 3. Registry Activities

- 82. PIOS' outreach efforts focused on providing information through the production and distribution of general and situation-specific information materials in the local languages. PIOS disseminated communications from the Office of the Prosecutor to the widest possible audience through social media, the ICC website and emails the throughout the year. Following the Prosecutor's statement of 20 May 2024, PIOS devised a targeted social media campaign (#ICCProcess) on the Court's Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook and X/Twitter platforms to provide information about the Court's process and to counter any potential misinformation. Messages with core information about the Court's jurisdiction, mandate and process were posted in English, French, Arabic and Hebrew were shared with stakeholders to multiply their reach among affected groups.
- 83. VPRS and PIOS continued to update the Pre-Trial Chamber on the Registry's outreach activities in relation to the Situation through four periodic reports (in confidential and public redacted versions). VPRS also continued to engage with victims and legal representatives and organised a number of informative sessions and trainings on how to fill in the victim application forms upon request from various interlocutors. VPRS was also in contact with legal representatives of victims who submitted observations to the Pre-Trial Chamber in the proceedings triggered by a request from the United Kingdom to provide written *amicus curiae* observations under rule 103(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. During the report period, the VPRS received 17 forms from victims in relation to the Situation in Palestine.

84. The OPCV appeared before the Pre-Trial Chamber to represent the general interests of the victims in the proceedings ensuing from the *amici curiae* requests under Rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The OPCV has also provided advice to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests.

# N. Situation in the Philippines

#### 1. Investigations

85. The Office has substantially and rapidly progressed the investigation. It has also increased its engagement with key stakeholders, and authorities of different countries. The investigation focuses on executions and other crimes under the so-called "War on drugs", allegedly committed by government actors. Similar to other investigations, the Office is collecting different types of evidence, including witness statements, open source documents and different kinds of evidentiary and forensic records.

#### 2. Registry Activities

- 86. PIOS maintained an open channel of communication with partners on the ground, while remaining mindful of security concerns. Several online outreach sessions were held in cooperation with other sections and organs of the Court to provide information to the relevant stakeholders about the mandate and jurisdiction of the ICC, the status of the investigations of OTP, and on the role of victims at that stage. Joint activities are being prepared to raise the level of understanding of media representatives and improve their capacity to report accurately on the Court. General ICC information tools translated into Filipino continued to be shared with partners, for a wider distribution.
- 87. The VPRS continued to engage with victims and other interlocutors who sought information about procedural developments and victims' rights before the Court. Italso conducted a training on how to fill in victim application forms and an informative session, jointly with CSS, on legal representation of victims. The OPCV has provided advices to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests.

#### O. Situation in Venezuela I

#### 1. Judicial Developments

88. On 7 and 8 November 2023, the Appeals Chamber held a hearing on the appeal of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela against Pre-Trial Chamber I's decision of 27 June 2023 authorising the resumption of the Prosecution's investigation pursuant to Article 18(2) of the Statute and on 1 March 2024, it delivered a judgment confirming the decision. The Registry facilitated victims' participation in these proceedings through a standardised victim consultation system.

# 2. Investigations

89. Following the 27 June 2023 ruling by Pre-Trial Chamber I, the Office of the Prosecutor resumed and progressed with focus in its independent investigations. At the same time, it engaged in litigation before the Appeals Chamber following the appeal lodged by the authorities of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In this context, the Office benefitted from cooperation with various national and international entities, including States, International organisations and civil society organisations. In a parallel track of promoting cooperation and complementarity, the Office continued to engage with the Venezuelan authorities in the framework of the two Memoranda of Understanding it signed with the Government in 2021 and 2023. The Prosecutor conducted a fourth official visit to the country in June 2024 during which he inaugurated the Office's in-country office. The Office focuses on facilitating technical assistance in line with the Work Plan signed in December 2023, such as offering advice to national authorities on legislation to implement the Rome Statute crimes.

90. Following the Presidential elections in Venezuela on 28 July, the Office has received several communications on alleged crimes against humanity, and has been independently assessing these in the line with its mandate.

## 3. Registry Activities

- 91. Following the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela's Appeals Brief against the Pre-Trial Chamber's decision of 27 June 2023 and subsequent Appeals Chamber's order, VPRS collected victims' views and concerns in the appeal proceedings. Since November 2022, and up to September 2024, the VPRS has organised numerous informative sessions with a large number of interlocutors and actively participated in various events organised by victim groups, community-based and regional/international human rights organisations. The VPRS prepared two filings in the situation, including for the transmission of the views and concerns of approximately 2,684 victims and 104 families. After the Appeals Chamber rejected the appeal of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela against Pre-Trial chamber I's decision of 27 June 2023 and confirmed the decision to to resume the investigation, the VPRS has conducted activities aiming to explain and disseminate information about the proceedings to victims and their representatives.
- 92. PIOS ensured the publicity of judicial developments, especially the Appeals Chamber Judgment confirming the authorisation to resume the investigation, in close coordination with OTP and Venezuelan civil society. PIOS also translated and distributed various information materials and publications in Spanish to raise awareness about the Court and the investigation, as well as a series of 14 videos in Spanish and English addressing key topics. Finally, PIOS, in coordination with OTP and VPRS, met online and in person (outside of Venezuela) with stakeholders to answer questions, clarify misinformation and distribute ICC-produced information material. The OPCV has provided advices to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests. The Registry registered 11 missions to Venezuela.

## P. Situation in Ukraine

## 1. Judicial developments

93. On 5 March 2024, Pre-Trial Chamber II issued warrants for the arrest of Mr Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Lieutenant General in the Russian Armed Forces and Commander of the Long-Range Aviation of the Aerospace Force at the relevant time, and Mr Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, Admiral in the Russian Navy and Commander of the Black Sea Fleet at the relevant time, and on 24 June 2024, against Mr Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu, Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation at the relevant time, and Mr Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and First Deputy Minister of Defence at the relevant time. All four individuals are allegedly responsible for the war crime of directing attacks at civilian objects, the war crime of causing excessive incidental harm to civilians or damage to civilian objects, and the crime against humanity of inhumane acts, allegedly committed from at least 10 October 2022 until at least 9 March 2023. The Registry continues to receive victim applications.

# 2. Investigations

94. The Office of the Prosecutor continued its investigation across multiple, interconnected lines of investigation, engaging actively on the ground in Ukraine and the region. The Office has benefitted from effective cooperation with Ukraine and engaged in cooperation and coordination efforts with various domestic and international stakeholders, such as in the context of the Joint Investigation Team established under Eurojust auspices. The Office also continued to benefit from States Parties deploying teams of experts in the context of the Office's innovative forensic rotation model. The Court's Country Office in Ukraine ("COUKR") was officially opened in September 2023 in the presence of the ICC Prosecutor, deepening the Office of the Prosecutor's investigative activities in Ukraine and its engagement with the Office of the Prosecutor-General of Ukraine ("PGO"), local civil society organisations and other partners.

## 3. Registry Activities

- 95. Since the opening of the ICC COUKR and the accreditation of the Chief of Office in mid-September 2023, the Registry has been actively involved in setting up the office, adjusting premises according to security requirements and operational needs, procuring necessary services, equipment, and assets, and recruiting new staff members, liaising with relevant national authorities, and establishing working relations with the UN-family and diplomatic corps in Kyiv. At the same time, COUKR has been providing operational, administrative, and security support to COUKR staff members and Court's missions to Ukraine, both in Kyiv and in various regions of Ukraine.
- 96. In order to oversee the functioning of COUKR the ICC Registrar, together with the Executive Director of the TFV, paid an official visit to Ukraine at the beginning of June 2024. They met with national authorities, including the PGO, UN-family, the EU representatives, members of diplomatic community, as well as representatives of Ukrainian NGOs. The Registry, including COUKR, provided support to ICC Prosecutor's sixth official mission to Ukraine on 10-12 September 2024.
- 97. Throughout of the reporting period, ICC officials, both in The Hague and in COUKR in Kyiv, have held numerous meeting with relevant Ukrainian counterparts, where among other topics the ratification of the Rome Statute was discussed. In August 2024, The President of Ukraine submitted the bill on the ratification of the Rome Statute, which was subsequently approved by the Parliament and is subject to deposit with the UN Secretary General.
- 98. VPRS responded to querries from various interlocutors, including victims, organisations and legal representatives regarding procedural developments, victims' rights before the Court and victim application form for participation and/or reparations. VPRS received 3,017 applications for participation and/or reparations. The OPCV has been contacted by local lawyers and has provided support and assistance on substantive matters related to the participation of victims. Public information tools on the Court translated into Ukrainian and Russian continued to be made available on the ICC website as well as shared with partners. In addition, PIOS hired a consultant who produced a mapping of the media landscape in Ukraine, allowing the Registry to plan more strategically how to reinforce the capacity of Ukrainian media to cover issues related to the Court. The OPCV has provided advices to external lawyers representing victims on matters related to the representation of their interests. The Registry registered 82 missions to Ukraine.

#### O. Outstanding requests for arrest and surrender

- 99. Arrest warrants against 26 publicly known suspects at large remain outstanding:
  - i. DRC: Sylvestre Mudacumura, since 2012;<sup>2</sup>
  - ii. Uganda: Joseph Kony, since 2005;
  - iii. Central African Republic II: Mahamat Nouradine Adam, since 2019, unsealed in 2022;
  - iv. <u>Darfur</u>: Ahmad Harun, since 2007; Omar Al-Bashir, since 2009 and 2010; Abdel Raheem Muhammad Hussein, since 2012; Abdallah Banda, since 2014;
  - v. <u>Kenya</u>: Walter Barasa, since 2013 and Philip Kipkoech Bett, since 2015;
  - vi. <u>Libya</u>: Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi, since 2011, Abdurahem Khalefa Abdurahem Elshgagi, Makhlouf Makhlouf Arhoumah Doumah, Nasser Muhammad Muftah Daou, Mohamed Mohamed Al Salheen Salmi, Abdelbari Ayyad Ramadan Al Shaqaqi and Fathi Faraj Mohamed Salim Al Zinkal, since 2023, unsealed in 2024; <sup>3</sup>
  - vii. Mali: Iyad Ag Ghaly, since 2017<sup>4</sup>
  - viii. <u>Georgia</u>: David Georgiyevich Sanakoev, Gamlet Guchmazov and Mikhail Mayramovich Mindzaev, since 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Efforts are being undertaken to verify the reported death of Sylvestre Mudacumura (in 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The arrest warrants issued initially as under seal in 2023 were unsealed in October 2024, outside of the reporting period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The arrest warrant issued initially as secret has become public in 2024.

ix. <u>Ukraine</u>: Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and Maria Alekseyevna Lvova-Belova, since 2023; and Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu and Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov, since 2024.<sup>5</sup>

# **III. Preliminary examinations**

100. The Office of the Prosecutor has been seized of preliminary examinations in three situations: Nigeria, Venezuela II, and Democratic Republic of the Congo II. The preliminary examination in the situation in Nigeria is complete and the Office is engaged on next steps to be taken, including through a visit of Deputy Prosecutor Niang to Nigeria in March 2024, where he held constructive meetings with the relevant national authorities and institutions, the diplomatic community and civil society organisations. The Office noted Nigeria's determination to close the impunity gap but remains committed to move forward with investigations in the absence of genuine efforts by Nigerian authorities. In relation to Venezuela II, the Office worked towards finalising its preliminary examination assessment and engaged with the Venezuelan Government and civil society to this end. In relation to DRC II, the Office conducted an assessment of jurisdiction and admissibility, including in the context of a technical level mission to the country, as well as an assessment of the potential linkage of the situation with the DRC I situation. The Office also considered large volumes of submissions received under Article 15 of the Rome Statute and worked towards finalisation of its assessment on a number of situations at the initial filtering stage.

# IV. Other situations

101. The The Prosecutor visited Colombia in April 2024 in order to launch the Office's Cooperation and Complementarity Policy with the participation of Colombian government officials, senior national experts, and civil society representatives. Deputy Prosecutor Niang simultaneously led an event in Central African Republic to mark the launch.

102. In March 2024, Deputy Prosecutor Niang visited the Republic of Guinea in the context of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 28 September 2022 in Conakry. He met with senior government officials and expressed satisfaction with the ongoing trial and Guinea's commitment to bring the alleged perpetrators to justice. On 1 August 2024, the Office issued a statement, welcoming the first-instance judgement of the Guinean court, convicting perpetrators of the 28 September 2009 events and announcing that it will continue to follow the events in Guinea closely.

# V. Administration, management, and support activities

#### 1. Attacks against the Court

103. The Court's security posture has undergone a transformative shift because of its recent work in various situations, including most prominently that of Ukraine and the State of Palestine As such, the security of the ICC and its officials was one of the highest priorities of the Court's leadership during the reporting period in light of the increasing external threats against the institution, adding to pre-existing unwarranted and unjustified coercive measures such as the arrest warrants issued by the Russian Federation against several judges and the Prosecutor of the Court on account on their performance of their independent mandates as elected officials of a multilateral judicial institution.

104. On 15 September 2023, the Court detected a cybersecurity incident potentially affecting its systems and data. This was soon confirmed as a serious and unprecedented cyber-attack, exhibiting high levels of sophistication, focus, resources, and persistence. As a response, the Court commissioned a reputable commercial vendor to develop a blueprint for its future IT architecture. This blueprint is being implemented, with a series of projects to take place in the next two years to better protect the Court's information, personnel and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> While the warrants are secret, the Chamber has authorized the Registry to make public their existence, the names of the suspects and the legal qualification of the alleged crimes, considering that public awareness of the warrants may contribute to the prevention of the further commission of crimes pursuant to Article 58, paragraph 1 (b) (iii) of the Rome Statute.

operations in response to a heightened threat environment. The Registrar furthermore established a Special Fund for Security to provide urgent additional resources to implement high-level priorities of the blueprint.

105. The Court has taken prompt action to respond to these attacks and threats and is highly appreciative of the concrete assistance provided by several States Parties, in particular the Host State, to mitigate their impact. While making unprecedented progress in enforcing international law and advancing the global fight against impunity, the Court and its officials are being subjected to increasing attacks and threats from external actors. Gravely concerned about this worrisome trend, the Court's leadership calls upon States and the international community at large to redouble their commitment to the Court and its independence to enable it to effectively carry out its mandate of justice.

#### 2. Policy Initiatives

106. In December 2023, the Office of the Prosecutor issued its Policies on Children and on Gender Based Crimes. Work is ongoing in relation to the promulgation of policies on slavery crimes and environmental crimes. On 25 April 2024, the Office launched its policy on Complementarity and Cooperation through field-based events led by the Prosecutor and the Deputy Prosecutors. The Policy presents a fundamentally renewed approach to the principles at the heart of the Rome Statute by bringing its work closer to affected communities and deepening its partnerships with States, civil society, and regional and international organisations. It underlines the Office's commitment to deliver justice close to the affected communities, simultaneously focusing on delivering on the core investigative mandate of the Office while increasing its ability to support efforts of other criminal jurisdictions and accountability actors.

# VI. Conclusion

107. The reporting period marked a particularly active year for the International Criminal Court, where its workload remained extremely high in relation to pre-trial, trial and appeal proceedings, reparations to victims, and the preliminary examinations and investigations conducted by the Office of the Prosecutor on four continents, with a combined total of over 16,000 victims participating in the judicial proceedings. Among notable developments during the reporting period, one accused person was convicted and three other trials continued in the Court's courtrooms; a judicially ordered reparations programme was completed for the first time; the largest reparation order ever set by the Court was issued for the benefit of victims; four new arrest warrants were issued and one was unsealed; the Prosecutor announced he had applied for a number of other arrest warrants; and the investigation phase was concluded in two situations. In addition to the developments described during the reporting period, an increasing amount of confidential activity took place before the Court's pre-trial chambers.

108. The cooperation and support of States and the Assembly of States Parties remains crucial for the Court's ability to conduct its mandate effectively, especially at a time when it faces unprecedented attacks and threats aimed at undermining its independent work.

# Annex

# The ICC's year in numbers

Where	What	Details and remarks
	16 situations with ongoing investigations or pending cases; 29 cases involving 34 suspects or accused	AFGHANISTAN — no case; BURUNDI — no case; CAR II — 1) Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona; 2) Mahamat Said Abdel Kani;; COTE D'IVOIRE — no case; DARFUR (SUDAN) — 3) Omar Al Bashir, 4) Ahmad Muhammad Harun, 5) Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, 6) Abdallah Banda, 7) Abdel Raheem Muhammad Hussein; DRC — 8) Thomas Lubanga, 9) Bosco Ntaganda, 10) Germain Katanga, 11) Sylvestre Mudacumura; GEORGIA — 12) David Georgiyevich Sanakoev, Gamlet Guchmazov and Mikhail Mayramovich Mindzaev; KENYA — 13) Walter Osapiri Barasa, 14) Philip Kipkoech Bett; LIBYA — 15) Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi, 16) Al-Tuhamy Mohamed Khaled, 17) Abdelbari Ayyad Ramadan Al Shaqaqi, 18) Fathi Faraj Mohamed Salim Al Zinkal, 19) Nasser Muhammad Muftah Daou, 20) Makhlouf Makhlouf Arhoumah Doumah, 21) Abdurahem Khalefa Abdurahem Elshgagi, 22) Mohamed Mohamed Al Salheen Salmi; MALI — 23) Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi, 24) Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud 25) Iyad Ag Ghaly; STATE OF PALESTINE — no case; PHILIPPINES — no case; UGANDA — 26) Dominic Ongwen, 27) Joseph Kony; UKRAINE — 28) Vladimir Putin and Maria Lvova-Belova, 29) Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash and Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov; VENEZUELA I — no case.
In the courtroom	166 hearings with 74 witnesses testifying	74 witnesses testified, with 36 appearing physically before the Court in The Hague and 38 testifying via video link.
	13,012 participating victims	The figure includes 4,096 participating victims in the Ongwen case, 1,965 in the Yekatom/Ngaïssona case and 1,458 in Abd-Al-Rahman case. The figure also includes the number of beneficiaries of reparations: approx. 2,500 in the Lubanga case; and 1,500 in the Al Mahdi case. Victims are represented by both external counsel and the OPCV in different constellations. In the Said and Ntaganda proceedings, OPCV counsel represent the entirety of participating victims. In the Abd-Al-Rahman, Al Mahdi, Al Hassan and Mokom cases, legal representation is entirely external. In the Lubanga, Ongwen, and Yekatom/Ngaïssona cases, victims are divided into different groups, represented by external counsel and the OPCV respectively.
	587 total decisions and orders issued	Decisions and orders: excluding annexes, redacted versions and translations – 442.
	4 interlocutory appeal judgments	Yekatom and Ngaïssona (2)  OA3 (20 May 2024)  OA4 (20 May 2024)  Venezuela (1)  OA (1 March 2024)  Abd-Al-Rahman (1)  OA13 (6 March 2024)

	6,000 filings made	Includes originals, translations, annexes, corrected and redacted versions. 72,622 court record pages filed.
	Assistance provided on requests to 19 defence and victims' teams (excluding States' representatives and situation-related representatives)	The Registry's Counsel Support Section ("CSS") centralises and coordinates all logistical and administrative support to defence counsel, legal representatives of victims and their teams as well as duty counsel and state representatives. During the reporting period, it facilitated the deployment of 85 missions to both situation and non-situation countries. CSS provided support to 10 defence and 09 victims' teams, including 149 defence team members in Ntaganda, Ongwen, Al Mahdi, Al Hassan, Yekatom, Ngaïssona, Abd-Al-Rahman, Said, Mokom and Kony and 58 members of legal representatives of victims' teams in Lubanga 1 & 2, Katanga, Al Hassan, Al Mahdi, Ongwen, Yekatom and Ngaïssona, Abd-Al-Rahman and Mokom. CSS appointed 35 duty counsel. The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence ("OPCD") provided legal research and advice to external defence counsel representing suspects and accused in the proceedings.  The OPCD also conducted litigation to represent and protect the rights of the defence in the reporting period. In the <i>Kony</i> case, the OPCD sought leave to appeal the decision to hold the confirmation of charges hearing in the suspect's absence, and made submissions on the process for selecting Mr Kony's counsel. In the Palestine situation, the OPCD provided amicus curiae submissions on the prosecution's arrest warrant applications and the fair trial considerations at this stage of proceedings.
Behind the courtroom	7 to 5 persons in custody	The total number of persons in custody during the reporting period varied between 7 down to 5: Mr Onwgen, Mr Al Hassan, Mr Yekatom, M. Ngaïssona, Mr Abd-Al-Rahman, Mr Said, Mr Mokom. Mr Mokom was released following withdrawal of all the charges and Mr Ongwen has since left for enforcement of sentence.
	4,718 victims' applicationsfor participation and/or reparations received 4,284 applications and requested to be considered for a second case	This figure contains also relevant follow-up information on individual victim forms processed by VPRS.  The VPRS received requests, in the Uganda Situation, from the relevant Legal Representatives to register forms for a second case.
	119 witnesses and 535 dependents protected or relocated	The figure of protected witnesses and dependants is comparable to last years and it is indicative of the continuous heavy protection workload on the Victim and Witness Section. The decrease in the number of dependants is related to a change of methodology. Considering the fluctuation in the number of dependants over the years it has been decided to work on averages rather than actuals (the historical average of 4.5 dependants per protected individual has been used to reach the reported figure of 535).
	56 candidates admitted to the ICC List of counsel with a total of 1025 persons.	In addition, 48 persons added to the ICC List of Assistants to counsel, making a total of 524 persons. 4 persons admitted to the List of professional investigators, making a total of 55 persons.

15,355 Article 15 communications received	The OTP continued to analyse information received alleging the commission of crimes potentially falling within the Court's jurisdiction. From 16 September 2023 to 15 September 2024, the OTP registered 15,355 communications submitted under Article 15, of which 12,604 were linked to an ongoing investigation or prosecution, 88 were linked to a situation already under analysis, and 2,663 were unrelated to current situations.
4,062 interpreter days	Court and conference interpretation: hearings, seminars/ roundtables, visits from delegations, NGO/diplomatic briefings and others – 3,462 interpreter days; field and operational interpreter days – 600.
67267 pages or 1081 hearing-related transcripts, 624 English and 457 French.	Hearing related: Includes 27,265 pages of French and 40,002 pages of English transcripts.
21,406 pages of translation requested; 12,758 pages finalized.	19,529 pages of judicial translations were requested, with 11,085 pages finalized. 1,877 pages of non-judicial translations were requested, with 1,673 pages finalized.
29,903 visitors received (including virtual visitors)	260 VIP visitors in 66 visits; 2347 individuals who participated in 137 stakeholder visits (diplomats, NGOs, lawyers, prosecutors and journalists) 9,881 general information visitors (university students and general public, in person and virtually) 14,779 individuals who attended hearings. We held 26 events which included the Swearing-in of the newly elected Judges and the welcoming ceremony for Armenia as a new State Party.
12,085,391 website page views, 1,249,004 YouTube views, 883K Twitter followers, 244K LinkedIn followers	On the reporting period, the Court's website received a total of 12,085,391 page views and 3,446,789 visitors, including 3,390,583 new visitors. 126 press releases were distributed to a mailing list of more than 5,000 journalists and other stakeholders around the world. PIOS also continued to actively engage with global audiences through its various social media channels.  The YouTube channel saw significant growth, accumulating a total of 1,249,004 views and 164,554.3 watch hours. The channel gained 17,407 new subscribers, reflecting increased engagement and continuous audience expansion. Over 211 new videos were uploaded during this reporting period, contributing to the steady influx of views and subscriber growth. These metrics highlight the channel's consistent content production and growing popularity among viewers.  The Court's two Twitter accounts (English and French) have garnered more than 883K followers, from which 119K are new followers, the two Facebook accounts had more than 412K followers, and the Court's two Instagram pages have attracted almost 168K followers, ensuring that the various ICC messages, campaigns, informative products and innovative visuals were shared to a wide audience. Facebook and YouTube Live was also used

	successfully to broadcast further ICC hearings to a more global audience.
	The ICC LinkedIn Company Page garnered 52K new followers, reaching a total of 244K followers. The platform contributes in the efforts to increase the awareness of the ICC and its mandate, deliver content supporting gender and geographical representation, diversity in its workforce and promoting career opportunities at the Court.
54,091 job applications processed, with 176* recruitments, 806 staff members on established posts, 4 elected officials, and 21 judges *Only FTA and STA	During the period covered: 15,000 applications for short-term positions, 38,048 applications for fixed-term positions, with 92 recruitments for fixed-term and 84 recruitments for short-term positions. In addition, 148 staff members are on positions funded by General Temporary Assistance, 72 on short-term appointments and 11 staff occupy Junior Professional Officer (JPO) positions.
164 interns and 50 visiting professionals recruited	There were 164 interns and 50 visiting professionals at the Court, of which 8 visiting professional received a monthly stipend from the Court funded by the European Commission Grant and 17 interns and 5 visiting professionals received a monthly stipend from the Court funded by the Trust Fund for the development of interns and visiting professionals.
1 Presidential Directive and 2Administrative Instructions	1 Presidential Directive and 2 Administrative Instructions were published in this reporting period.
	External audits: Audit of Financial Statements of the International Criminal Court for the year ended 31 December 2023; Audit of Financial Statements of the Trust Fund for Victims for the year ended 31 December 2023; and Performance audit on cybersecurity.
3 external audits and 8 internal audits	Internal audits: Audit of Admnistrative and Financial Controls in the division of Judicial Services (September 2023); Advisory Service: Administrative and Financial Controls in Country Offices: review of self-assessment (December 2023); Audit of the System backup and restore management process (January 2024); Avisory Service: Risk Management – Risks identification and description (January 2024); Audit of the management of funds of the protection program for victims and witnesses (February 2024); Advisroy Service: review of the change management process regarding the strategy of Registry for field operations (July 2024); Advisory Service: Lessons Learned on the transitional mandate of the first focal point on gender equality (August 2024); Audit on IT Cloud Strategy (September 2024).
1,024 missions submitted <sup>1</sup>	OTP registered 150 missions in situation countries and 183 missions in non-situation countries for the purposes of, inter alia, collecting evidence, screening

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Understanding that Mission Plans and the submission process is distinct to the SAP Travel Module Processes and that more than one Mission Plan submitted may be related to the same activity in-country. The SAP Travel Module is specific to individual travelers with approval and certification for travel coming from each Organs'/Sections' own budget code and internal approval processes. Mission plans may include more than one person deployed or more than one mission plan may be submitted in relation to the same activity. Also understanding that "External Travel" data includes the following categories: Travel from HQ to a Situation Country/Country Office; travel from HQ to a non-Situation Country; travel between Situation Countries/Country Offices; travel from Situation Countries/Country Offices to HQ and travel from Situation Countries/Country Offices to non-Situation Countries. Similarly, "Internal Travel" data also includes plans from Country Office Drivers and/or Field Security submitted as separate Mission Plans in support to the operational needs from the OTP, Registry, TFV and/or Judiciary where applicable in-country. Further detailed analysis can be provided on request.

		and interviewing witnesses, and securing the continued cooperation of its partners. The Registry, including the Defence Teams, the Legal Representatives of the Victims, OPCV and OPCD registered 321 missions in situation countries and 231 missions in non-situation countries. 78 additional missions were registered undertaken in situation countries and 61 in non-situation countries by other entities including the Presidency, the Chambers, the Assembly of States Parties, the Trust Fund for Victims, the Audit and IOM.
In the field		Between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024:
	568 outreach meetings and workshops for affected communities.	572 Outreach meetings and workshops, including on Darfur (9), CAR (215), CIV (1), DRC (6), Uganda (211), Mali (16), Libya (14), Palestine (8), Burundi (2), Afghanistan (1), Myanmar/Bangladesh (2), Philippines (2), Venezuela (74) and Ukraine (7).
reaching out to an	reaching out to around 71,430 individuals	These meetings reached out to <b>71,406</b> individuals, of whom in Sudan/Darfur (130), CAR (10,428), CIV (10), DRC (129), Libya (50), Uganda (49,514), Mali (425), Palestine (63), Burundi (12), Afghanistan (40), Myanmar/Bangladesh (43), Philippines (43), Venezuela (3,690) and Ukraine (84).
	272 hours of media broadcast, with an estimated audience of 18,500,000 persons	Includes ICC radio and TV productions and local productions in partnership with the ICC, in English, French and local languages.
		According to local media statistics, estimated audiences reached: CAR – 3 million, DRC – 23 million, CIV – 25,000, Darfur – 2.3 million, Mali – 7 million, Uganda – 28 million and Georgia – 1 million .
	6 country offices/ field presence, 1 liaison office	Country offices/ field presence in Uganda; DRC; CAR; Côte d'Ivoire; Mali and Ukraine. The liaison office to the UN in New York promotes cooperation between the ICC and the United Nations, represents the Court in various meetings, and assists in organising relevant events as well as visits of senior Court officials.
	Outstanding arrest warrants against 26 individuals	Against: Mr Sylvestre Mudacumura, Mr Joseph Kony, Mr Mahamat Nouradine Adam, Mr Ahmad Muhammad Harun, Mr Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir, Mr Abdel Raheem Muhammad Hussein, Mr Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain, Mr Walter Osapiri Barasa, Mr Philip Kipkoech Bett, Mr Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi, Mr Abdurahem Khalefa Abdurahem Elshgagi, Mr Makhlouf Makhlouf Arhoumah Doumah, Mr Nasser Muhammad Muftah Daou, Mr Mohamed Mohamed Al Salheen Salmi, Mr Abdelbari Ayyad Ramadan Al Shaqaqi, Mr Fathi Faraj Mohamed Salim Al Zinkal, Mr Iyad Ag Ghaly, Mr David Georgiyevich Sanakoev, Mr Gamlet Guchmazov, Mr Mikhail Mayramovich Mindzaev, Mr Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, Ms Maria Alekseyevna Lvova-Belova, Mr Sergei Ivanovich Kobylash, Mr Viktor Nikolayevich Sokolov, Mr Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu and Mr Valery Vasilyevich Gerasimov.

States-related	124 States Parties	The Republic of Armenia ratified the Rome Statute on 14 November 2023, becoming the 124th State Party to the Statute.
	412 cooperation requests sent	During the reporting period, the Registry transmitted 412 primary judicial cooperation requests (including 66 requests from the Victims and Witnesses Section). 478 requests for assistance from OTP (in addition, 133 notifications of missions were sent).
	No new cooperation agreements	During the reporting period, the Court did not entered into an agreement on the release of persons, on the enforcement of sentence, or on relocation of witnesses.
	260 high-level visitors welcomed at the seat of the Court	Visitors to the seat of the Court included the Presidents of Slovenia; Vice President of Venezuela; Ministers of Foreign Affairs from Chile, Bangladesh, Japan, South Africa, Sweden, Slovenia, Palestine; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Argentina; Ministers of Justice from Albania, Armenia, Austria, Chile, Egypt, Estonia, Japan, Uganda, Poland; Vice Minister of Justice from Japan; as well as State Attorneys, high representatives from other international organisations and the EU.
	7 documents submitted for the ASP and 74 documents for the CBF. 29 documents submitted for the Audit Committee	For the 42 <sup>th</sup> and 44 <sup>st</sup> sessions of the CBF, the Court submitted 34 and 40 documents, respectively. There were no submissions for the 43 <sup>rd</sup> session.  For the 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> session of the Audit Committee, the Office of Internal Audit submitted 18 documents. The Court submitted 7 documents for the ASP during the reporting period.