MICT-22-124 D2706 - D2699 03 November 2025 2706

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## UNITED NATIONS

International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

Case No.: MICT-22-124

Date: 3 November 2025

Original: English

#### THE PRESIDENT OF THE MECHANISM

Before: Judge Graciela Gatti Santana

Registrar: Mr. Abubacarr M. Tambadou

Date: 3 November 2025

IN THE MATTER OF

FRANÇOIS-XAVIER NZUWONEMEYE PROSPER MUGIRANEZA ALPHONSE NTEZIRYAYO ANDRÉ NTAGERURA INNOCENT SAGAHUTU

PUBLIC WITH CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX

REGISTRAR'S SEVENTEENTH BI-MONTHLY SUBMISSION IN RELATION TO THE "FURTHER INSTRUCTION TO THE REGISTRAR" OF 19 DECEMBER 2022

#### **Counsel for the Relocated Persons**

Mr. Peter Robinson for Mr. François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye

Ms. Kate Gibson for Mr. Prosper Mugiraneza

Mr. Iain Edwards for Mr. Alphonse Nteziryayo

Mr. Philippe Larochelle for Mr. André Ntagerura

Mr. Jean Flamme for Mr. Innocent Sagahutu

MICT-22-124 2705

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Rule 31(B) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals ("Mechanism"), the Registrar respectfully files this Seventeenth bi-monthly submission ("Submission"), in accordance with the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" dated 19 December 2022 ("Further Instruction").<sup>2</sup>

#### II. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- 2. In the Further Instruction, the President ordered the Registrar to, *inter alia*, file on the judicial record, every 60 days from 4 January 2023, reports on the Registrar's efforts to find a solution for the eight persons who were relocated on 6 December 2021 to the Republic of Niger ("Niger") following their acquittal by the International Criminal Tribunal of Rwanda or their release upon having served their respective sentences ("Relocated Persons"), in line with the Mechanism's duty of care towards them.<sup>3</sup>
- 3. On 6 March 2023, the Registrar filed the first bi-monthly report.<sup>4</sup>
- 4. On 8 May 2023, the Registrar filed the second bi-monthly report.<sup>5</sup>
- 5. On 13 June 2023, following the Registrar's request to amend the reporting period to quarterly,<sup>6</sup> the President confirmed the next report was due on 10 July 2023.<sup>7</sup>
- 6. On 6 July 2023, the Registrar filed the third bi-monthly report.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This Submission is filed with confidential annex as reference is made to matters that may be deemed sensitive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the Matter of François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye et al., Case No. MICT-22-124 ("Nzuwonemeye et al."), Further Instruction to the Registrar, public, 19 December 2022 ("Further Instruction").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Further Instruction, p. 3 (internal footnotes omitted). Since the filing of the Further Instruction, Mr. Tharcisse Muvunyi passed away on 9 June 2023, Mr. Anatole Nsengiyumva passed away on 7 May 2024, and Mr. Protais Zigiranyirazo passed away on 4 August 2025. See *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Filing in Relation to the Death of Mr. Tharcisse Muvunyi, public, 13 June 2023; *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Filing in Relation to the Death of Mr. Anatole Nsengiyumva, public, 8 May 2024; and *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Filing on Relation to the Death of Mr. Protais Zigiranyirazo, public with confidential and *ex parte* annex, 8 August 2025, and *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Corrigendum to "Registrar's Filing on Relation to the Death of Mr. Protais Zigiranyirazo", public with confidential and *ex parte* annex, 10 August 2025. There are now five Relocated Persons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's First Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annexes, 6 March 2023. The Registrar also filed a submission on 3 January 2023, concerning an overview of his efforts in 2022 to address the Relocated Persons' situation. See *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Public Redacted Version of "Registrar's Submission in Relation to the 'Further Instruction to the Registrar' of 19 December" of 3 January 2023, public with public redacted annexes, 3 March 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Second Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and *ex parte* annexes, 8 May 2023 ("Second Bi-monthly Submission").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Second Bi-monthly Submission, para, 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Decision in Relation to Reporting Regime, public, 13 June 2023, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Third Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 6 July 2023.

- 7. On 11 September 2023, the Registrar filed the fourth bi-monthly report.<sup>9</sup>
- 8. On 10 November 2023, the Registrar filed the fifth bi-monthly report. 10
- 9. On 9 January 2024, the Registrar filed the sixth bi-monthly report. 11
- 10. On 8 March 2024, the Registrar filed the seventh bi-monthly report. 12
- 11. On 6 May 2024, the Registrar filed the eighth bi-monthly report. 13
- 12. On 24 June 2024, a motion was filed by Mr. François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye requesting an additional lump sum payment of 11,500 USD for each Relocated Person for 2025 and payment of the annual rent for their residence in Niger, <sup>14</sup> which was joined by Messrs. Alphonse Nteziryayo and André Ntagerura, who filed motions in support the following day. <sup>15</sup>
- 13. On 5 July 2024, the Registrar filed the ninth bi-monthly report. <sup>16</sup>
- 14. On 24 July 2024, the Single Judge in the case, *inter alia*, invited "the Registrar, within 40 days of the filing of this Order, to make preliminary enquiries with the Government of Rwanda and file written submissions regarding the relevant arrangements that could be made with the Rwandan authorities to secure the return of the Relocated Persons onto their territory and provide them with appropriate guarantees of safety, as well as any other submissions relevant to the determination of the present matter, as appropriate" ("Order").<sup>17</sup>
- 15. Between July and September 2024, the Relocated Persons filed various motions in response to the Order.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Fourth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex *parte* annexes, 11 September 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Fifth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 10 November 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Sixth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 9 January 2024. 
<sup>12</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Seventh Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 8 March 2024. 
<sup>13</sup>*Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Eighth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 6 May 2024.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Nzuwonemeye Request for Financial Assistance – 2025, public, 24 June 2024.
 <sup>15</sup> See *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Nteziryayo Joinder to Nzuwonemeye Request for Financial Assistance – 2025, public,
 <sup>25</sup> June 2024; and *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Ntagerura Joinder to Nzuwonemeye Request for Financial Assistance – 2025, public,
 <sup>25</sup> June 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Ninth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annexes, 5 July 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Order to Show Cause, public, 24 July 2024.

Following this filing, see Nzuwonemye et al., Joint Motion for Assignment of Counsel and to Stay the 24 July 2024 "Order to Show Cause", public, 29 July 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Joinder by Protais Zigiranyirazo to Joint Motion for Assignment of Counsel and to Stay the 24 July 2024 "Order to Show Cause", public, 29 July 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Decision on Joint Motion for Assignment of Counsel and to Stay the Order to Show Cause, public, 6 August 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Demande de Protais Zigiranyirazo de Reconsidérer la Décision du Case No. MICT-22-124
2 3 November 2025

- 16. On 2 September 2024, the Registrar filed the tenth bi-monthly report. 19
- 17. On 12 September 2024, the Single Judge decided, inter alia, to remain seized of the Motion for Additional Subsistence Funds and Joinders.<sup>20</sup>
- 18. On 2 November 2024, the Registrar filed the eleventh bi-monthly report.<sup>21</sup>
- 19. On 22 November 2024, the Single Judge "ordered the Registrar to organize the renewal of the lease of the house of Relocated Persons in Niamey and provide necessary rental payment."22 The Registrar was further "ordered to provide monthly settlements at a pro-rata share, starting in January 2025 and until the conclusion of the litigation in this matter, including a possible appeal, of an additional payment of \$10,000 for the year 2025 to each of the Relocated Persons."23
- 20. On 6 January 2025, the Registrar filed the twelfth bi-monthly report.<sup>24</sup>
- 21. On 6 March 2025, the Registrar filed the thirteenth bi-monthly report.<sup>25</sup>
- 22. On 6 May 2025, the Registrar filed the fourteenth bi-monthly report. <sup>26</sup>
- 23. On 20 May 2025, Mr. Alphonse Nteziryayo filed his observations on the Fourteenth Bi-monthly requesting the President to order the Registrar to file an addendum to the Fourteenth Bi-monthly addressing specific questions related to the ongoing discussion with the Republic of Niger.<sup>27</sup>

Case No. MICT-22-124

<sup>24</sup> Juillet 2024 « Order to Show Cause », public, 14 August 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Nzuwonemeye Response to Order to Show Cause, public, 28 August 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Submission on the "Order to Show Cause" dated 24 July 2024, public, 29 August 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Submissions for Mr. Innocent Sagahutu, public, 1 September 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Public Redacted Version of Nteziryayo Response to Order to Show Cause, public, 2 September 2024; Nzuwonemeye et al., Public Redacted Version of Ntagerura Response to Order to Show Cause, public, 3 September 2024; and Nzuwonemeye et al., Additional Submission from Protais Zigiranyirazo following the "Order to Show Cause" of 24 July 2023, public, 6 September 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Tenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annex, 2 September 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Decision on Protais Zigiranyirazo Request for Reconsideration, public, 12 September 2024. <sup>21</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Eleventh Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 2 November 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Interim Order, public, 22 November 2024, p.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Twelfth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 6 January 2025. <sup>25</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Thirteenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 6 March 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Registrar's Fourteenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential and confidential and ex parte annexes, 6 May 2025. <sup>27</sup> Nzuwonemeye et al., Nteziryayo Observations on Registrar's Fourteenth Bi-monthly Submission and Request for Order for Additional Information, confidential with confidential annexes 1-7, 20 May 2025.

MICT-22-124 2702

- 24. On 30 May 2025, the President denied Mr. Nteziryayo's request, without prejudice to the Registrar's discretion to consider providing the requested information in his next submissions, as he deems appropriate.<sup>28</sup>
- 25. On 4 July 2025, the Registrar filed the fifteenth bi-monthly report.<sup>29</sup>
- 26. On 2 September 2025, the Registrar filed the sixteenth bi-monthly report ("Sixteenth Bi-monthly").<sup>30</sup>

#### III. SUBMISSIONS

27. The Registry continued its efforts to find relocation States to host the Relocated Persons, in collaboration with their Counsel.<sup>31</sup>

#### A. Collaboration with Counsel

- 28. Regarding the potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraph 30 of the Sixteenth Bi-monthly Submission,<sup>32</sup> the Registry remains available to collaborate where necessary with counsel regarding the potential relocation State and continues to await receipt of the requested information from the other counsel to initiate additional engagements for his client.
- 29. As for another potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraph 31 of the Sixteenth Bi-monthly Submission, after following up on 29 October 2025, the Registry awaits a response to its request for a working-level meeting with a representative of the Embassy to the United Republic of Tanzania to seek guidance on visa applications for family reunification.<sup>33</sup>

#### B. Exchanges with Potential Relocation States

4

Case No. MICT-22-124

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in Relation to the Request of Alphonse Nteziryayo for an Order for Additional Information, public redacted version, 30 May 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Fifteenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annex, 6 May 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar's Sixteenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annex, 2 September 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Consequently, this Submission continues to exclude the Registry's work regarding matters within Niger in relation to the Relocated Persons (e.g., payment of additional lump sums and medical expenses).

<sup>32</sup> See confidential Annex A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> See confidential Annex A.

- 30. The Registry continues its engagement with the Nigerien authorities following the Registrar's mission to Niger in February 2025 to personally meet with senior Government officials to ease the restrictions on the Relocated Persons.
- 31. The Registry persisted in leveraging its partnership by contacting various United Nation's entities with country presence to assist the Mechanism in finding long-term solutions to the relocation challenges and extend the visibility of the United Nations Security Council's repeated calls for Member States' cooperation in receiving the Relocated Persons on their territory.
- 32. Having submitted a total of seventeen reports since the Further Instruction, I would like to respectfully request leave to file future submissions on my efforts to find a solution for the Relocated Persons on a quarterly basis as it will continue to serve the purpose of placing my efforts in the public record and better capture potential developments. Should there be any significant developments in between the quarterly reports, these will be immediately brought to your attention either directly or through a public filing as appropriate.
- 33. I remain available should you require any further information.

Respectfully submitted,

Abubacarr M. Tambadou Registrar

Done this 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2025 At Arusha, Tanzania.



# NATIONS UNIES Mécanisme international appelé à exercer les fonctions résiduelles des Tribunaux pénaux

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From/     President/     Chambers/     Prosecution/     Defence/     X Registrar/     Other/       De:     Président     Chambre     Bureau du Procureur     Défense     Greffier     Autre
Case Name/ Affaire: In the Matter of Francois-Xavier Nzuwonemeye et al Case Number/ Affaire nº: MICT-22-124
Date Created/ Date du :  Date transmitted/ Transmis le :  Number of Pages/ Nombre de pages :
Original Language/       X English/       ☐ French/       ☐ Kinyarwanda       ☐ B/C/S       ☐ Other/Autre (specify/ préciser):         Langue de l'original :       Anglais       Français
Title of Document/ Titre du document:  Registrar's Seventeenth Bi-Monthly Submission in relation to the "Further Instruction to the Registrar" of 19 December 2022
Classification Level/ Catégories de classification:  □ Confidential/ Confidentiel  □ Ex Parte Defence excluded/ Défense exclue □ Ex Parte Prosecution excluded/ Bureau du Procureur exclu □ Ex Parte Rule 86 applicant excluded/ Article 86 requérant exclu □ Ex Parte Amicus Curiae excluded/ Amicus curiae exclu □ Ex Parte Other exclusion/ autre(s) partie(s) exclue(s) (specify/ préciser):
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