

UNITED
NATIONS



International Residual Mechanism
for Criminal Tribunals

Case No.: MICT-22-124
Date: 5 February 2026
Original: English

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MECHANISM

Before: Judge Graciela Gatti Santana

Registrar: Mr. Abubacarr M. Tambadou

Date: 5 February 2026

IN THE MATTER OF

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

**PUBLIC WITH
CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX**

**REGISTRAR'S EIGHTEENTH 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. Allison Turner for Mr. André Ntagerura
Mr. John Philpot for Mr. Innocent Sagahutu

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 Eighteenth submission (“Submission”),¹ in accordance with the “Further Instruction to the Registrar” dated 19 December 2022 (“Further Instruction”).²

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.³
3. On 6 March 2023, the Registrar filed the first bi-monthly report.⁴
4. On 8 May 2023, the Registrar filed the second bi-monthly report.⁵
5. On 13 June 2023, following the Registrar’s request to amend the reporting period to quarterly,⁶ the President confirmed the next report was due on 10 July 2023.⁷
6. On 6 July 2023, the Registrar filed the third bi-monthly report.⁸

¹ This Submission is filed with confidential annex as reference is made to matters that may be deemed sensitive.

² *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”).

³ 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.

⁴ *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.

⁵ *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”).

⁶ Second Bi-monthly Submission, para. 20.

⁷ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in Relation to Reporting Regime, public, 13 June 2023, p. 2.

⁸ *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.⁹
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 5 July 2024, the Registrar filed the ninth bi-monthly report.¹⁴
13. On 24 July 2024, following a motion regarding the lumpsum payments and annual rent filed by Mr. François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye which was joined by Messrs. Alphonse Nteziryayo and André Ntagerura,¹⁵ 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”).¹⁶
14. Between July and September 2024, the Relocated Persons filed various motions in response to the Order.¹⁷

⁹ *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.

¹⁰ *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.

¹¹ *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.

¹² *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.

¹³ *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.

¹⁴ *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.

¹⁵ See *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Nteziryayo Joinder to Nzuwonemeye Request for Financial Assistance – 2025, public, 25 June 2024; and *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Ntagerura Joinder to Nzuwonemeye Request for Financial Assistance – 2025, public, 25 June 2024.

¹⁶ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Order to Show Cause, public, 24 July 2024.

¹⁷ Following this filing, see *Nzuwonemeye 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 24 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 Case No. MICT-22-124

15. On 29 August 2024, the Registrar filed a submission related to the Order transmitting the response received from the Republic of Rwanda.¹⁸
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.²⁰
18. On 2 November 2024, the Registrar filed the eleventh bi-monthly report.²¹
19. On 6 January 2025, the Registrar filed the twelfth bi-monthly report.²²
20. On 6 March 2025, the Registrar filed the thirteenth bi-monthly report.²³
21. On 6 May 2025, the Registrar filed the fourteenth bi-monthly report (“Fourteenth Bi-monthly”).²⁴
22. 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.²⁵
23. 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.²⁶
24. On 4 July 2025, the Registrar filed the fifteenth bi-monthly report.²⁷

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.

¹⁸ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar’s Submission on the « Order to Show Cause” of 24 July 2024, public with confidential annexes, 29 August 2024.

¹⁹ *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.

²⁰ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision on Protais Zigiranyirazo Request for Reconsideration, public, 12 September 2024.

²¹ *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.

²² *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.

²³ *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.

²⁴ *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.

²⁵ *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.

²⁶ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in Relation to the Request of Alphonse Nteziryayo for an Order for Additional Information, public redacted version, 30 May 2025.

²⁷ *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.

25. On 2 September 2025, the Registrar filed the sixteenth bi-monthly report.²⁸
26. On 3 November 2025, the Registrar filed the seventeenth bi-monthly report (“Seventeenth Bi-monthly”).²⁹
27. On 21 November 2025, the Single Judge issued a Decision in relation to the Order (“21 November 2025 Decision”),³⁰ *inter alia*, instructing “the Registrar to continue to engage with the Government of Niger and monitor the daily situation of the Relocated Persons in Niamey in order to ensure the respect of their fundamental rights, including by addressing Nzuwonemeye’s ancillary request as stated in the present Decision”.³¹ The Single Judge further instructed “the Registrar, if the Relocated Persons accept to be relocated in Rwanda, to negotiate on their behalf with specific guarantees of safety and/or regular reporting from the Rwandan Government to the Mechanism, as appropriate.”³²
28. On 5 December 2025, the President “amend[ed] the reporting regime established in the Instruction by requiring the Registrar to file on the judicial record quarterly, rather than bi-monthly, reports.”³³

III. SUBMISSIONS

29. The Registry continued its efforts to find relocation States to host the Relocated Persons, in collaboration with their Counsel.³⁴

A. Collaboration with Counsel

30. On 12 December 2025, the Registry contacted the Relocated Persons, through their Counsel where applicable, enquiring about their willingness to be relocated to the Republic of Rwanda in order to implement the relevant parts of the 21 November 2025 Decision.

²⁸ *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.

²⁹ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar’s Seventeenth Bi-monthly Submission in Relation to the “Further Instruction to the Registrar” of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annex, 3 November 2025.

³⁰ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in relation to the order to show cause and motions for an order for additional subsistence funds, public, 21 November 2025 (“21 November 2025 Decision”).

³¹ See 21 November 2025 Decision, p. 8.

³² *Ibid.*

³³ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in relation to reporting regime, public, 5 December 2025.

³⁴ 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).

31. On 13 January 2026, referring to the 21 November 2025 Decision, the counsel for Mr. Prosper Mugiraneza reiterated her client's wishes to be relocated to two previously contacted potential relocation States mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraphs 28 and 29 of the Seventeenth Bi-monthly Submission. Counsel also requested the Registry to explore a possible relocation to an additional potential relocation State,³⁵ which the Registry is working on.
32. Regarding the potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraph 28 of the Seventeenth Bi-monthly Submission,³⁶ the Registry communicated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 10 December 2025, to establish direct contact with the relevant immigration authorities.
33. On 12 November 2025, the Registry met with the Deputy to the Ambassador of the State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraph 28 of the Seventeenth Submission,³⁷ to discuss relocation options within that State. On 30 December 2025, the Deputy informed the Registry that the State was not in a position to assist the Mechanism with its request. On 28 January 2026, the counsel for Mr. André Ntagerura conveyed her client's desire to also be relocated to that State.

B. Exchanges with Potential Relocation States

34. The Registry remains engaged with the Nigerien authorities. Following the 21 November 2025 Decision instructing the Registry to continue to engage with the Government of Niger and to address the request of Mr. Nzuwonemeye to invite the Government of Rwanda to inform the Government of Niger to consider the Relocated Persons free persons,³⁸ the Registry transmitted the 21 November 2025 Decision via *Note Verbale* on 26 December 2025, inviting the relevant Nigerien authorities to implement the relevant parts.
35. The Registry continues to leverage its partnerships within the United Nations system by contacting various entities with country presence to assist the Mechanism in finding long-term solutions to the relocation challenges. In this regard, on 28 November 2025, the Registry sent a letter to the United Nations Resident Coordinator of another potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A.³⁹

³⁵ See confidential annex A.

³⁶ See confidential annex A.

³⁷ See confidential annex A.

³⁸ See 21 November 2025 Decision, pp. 5 and 8.

³⁹ See confidential Annex A.

36. I remain available should you require any further information.

Respectfully submitted,



Abubacarr M. Tambadou
Registrar

Done this 5th February 2026
At Arusha,
Tanzania.



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