

**UNITED
NATIONS**



International Residual Mechanism
for Criminal Tribunals

Case No.: MICT-22-124

Date: 5 May 2026

Original: English

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MECHANISM

Before: Judge Graciela Gatti Santana

Registrar: Mr. Abubacarr M. Tambadou

Date: 5 May 2026

IN THE MATTER OF

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

**PUBLIC WITH
CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX**

**REGISTRAR'S NINETEENTH 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 Nineteenth 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 in 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 2 September 2024, the Registrar filed the tenth bi-monthly report.¹⁵
14. On 2 November 2024, the Registrar filed the eleventh bi-monthly report.¹⁶
15. On 6 January 2025, the Registrar filed the twelfth bi-monthly report.¹⁷
16. On 6 March 2025, the Registrar filed the thirteenth bi-monthly report.¹⁸
17. On 6 May 2025, the Registrar filed the fourteenth bi-monthly report.¹⁹
18. On 4 July 2025, the Registrar filed the fifteenth bi-monthly report.²⁰
19. On 2 September 2025, the Registrar filed the sixteenth bi-monthly report.²¹
20. On 3 November 2025, the Registrar filed the seventeenth bi-monthly report.²²

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 *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.

¹⁶ *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.

¹⁷ *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.

¹⁸ *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.

¹⁹ *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.

²⁰ *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, 4 July 2025.

²¹ *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.

²² *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.

21. On 21 November 2025, the Single Judge issued a Decision in relation to the Order (“21 November 2025 Decision”),²³ *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”.²⁴ 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.”²⁵
22. 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.”²⁶
23. On 5 February 2026, the Registrar filed the eighteenth submission in relation to the Order (“Eighteenth Report”).²⁷

III. SUBMISSIONS

24. The Registry continued its efforts to find relocation States to host the Relocated Persons, in collaboration with their Counsel.²⁸

A. Collaboration with Counsel

25. On 26 February 2026, during a mission of officials of the Mechanism to the Republic of Rwanda (“Rwanda”), a Registry official informed officials of the Ministry of Justice of Rwanda during a working level meeting about the 21 November 2025 Decision, highlighting Mr. Nzuwonemeye’s ancillary request and the possibility of a voluntary relocation to Rwanda.

²³ *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”).

²⁴ See 21 November 2025 Decision, p. 8.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Decision in Relation to Reporting Regime, public, 5 December 2025.

²⁷ *Nzuwonemeye et al.*, Registrar’s Eighteenth Submission in Relation to the “Further Instruction to the Registrar” of 19 December 2022, public with confidential annex, 5 February 2026 (“Eighteenth Report”).

²⁸ 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).

26. On 30 March 2026, as part of the implementation of the 21 November 2025 Decision, the Registry sent via *Note Verbale*, a letter to the Minister of Justice of Rwanda formally transmitting the 21 November 2025 Decision.
27. On 2 April 2026, the Registrar brought the 21 November 2025 Decision to the direct attention of the Minister of Justice and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Rwanda during his mission to Rwanda. The Rwandan authorities confirmed receipt of the Registrar's *Note Verbale*.
28. The Registry will continue to engage with the Nigerien authorities specifically on the implementation of the 21 November 2025 Decision, including by leveraging its partnerships with United Nations entities on the ground.
29. Regarding the additional potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and paragraph 31 of the Eighteenth Report,²⁹ the Registry sent a *Note Verbale* requesting a virtual meeting with the relevant authorities to discuss a possible relocation. On 2 and 8 April 2026, the Registry followed up with the State and has not yet received a response.
30. Regarding the potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and in paragraph 32 of the Eighteenth Report,³⁰ on 29 April 2026, the Registry followed up with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs seeking assistance to establish direct contact with the relevant immigration authorities. On 30 April 2026, the Registry received a response from the relevant authorities indicating that the specific situation of the relocated person for whom the authorities were contacted does not allow him to benefit from a specific program for refugees in emergency situation. The authorities therefore advised the Relocated Person or his counsel to submit a request to enter the potential relocation State in conformity with the eligibility criteria of the State's immigration services.
31. The Registry has decided to suspend further correspondence with the relevant authorities of the potential relocation State mentioned in Annex A of this Submission and paragraph 33 of the Eighteenth Report, in view of the clear response previously received.³¹

²⁹ See confidential annex A.

³⁰ See confidential annex A

³¹ See confidential annex A and para. 33 of the Eighteenth Report.

B. Exchanges with Potential Relocation States

32. 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. As the Registry made contact with the relevant regional and country Offices of the United Nations as per the initial phase of the plan, it will proceed to follow-up with the relevant offices where relevant.
33. I remain available should you require any further information.

Respectfully submitted,



Abubacarr M. Tambadou
Registrar

Done this 5th May 2026
At Arusha,
Tanzania.



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Case Name/ Affaire :	Prosecutor v. François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye et al		Case Number/ Affaire n° : MICT-22-124					
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