



International Residual Mechanism  
for Criminal Tribunals

Case No.: MICT-25-134

Date: 12 November 2025

Original: English

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE MECHANISM**

**Before:** Judge Graciela Gatti Santana, President

**Registrar:** Mr. Abubacarr M. Tambadou

**Order of:** 12 November 2025

**IN THE MATTER OF**

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| JEAN-PAUL AKAYESU       | GRÉGOIRE NDAHIMANA    |
| AUGUSTIN BIZIMUNGU      | HASSAN NGEZE          |
| JEAN-BAPTISTE GATETE    | ILDÉPHONSE NIZEYIMANA |
| ILDEPHONSE HATEGEKIMANA | ALOYS NTABAKUZE       |
| JUVÉNAL KAJELIJELI      | CALLIXTE NZABONIMANA  |
| ALFRED MUSEMA           | LAURENT SEMANZA       |
| SIMÉON NCHAMIHIGO       | ATHANASE SEROMBA      |

***PUBLIC***

**ORDER TERMINATING REPORTING REGIME IN RELATION TO  
THE SEIZURE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**Counsel for the convicted persons whose devices were seized:**

Mr. John Philpot for Mr. Jean-Paul Akayesu & Mr. Ildéphonse Nizeyimana  
Mr. Peter Robinson for Mr. Augustin Bizimungu & Mr. Laurent Semanza  
Ms. Marie-Hélène Proulx for Mr. Jean-Baptiste Gatete  
Mr. John Philpot for Mr. Juvénal Kajelijeli  
Mr. Steven Kay and Ms. Gillian Higgins for Mr. Alfred Musema  
Ms. Marie-Hélène Proulx for Mr. Siméon Nchamihigo  
Mr. Mayombo Kassongo for Mr. Grégoire Ndahimana  
Ms. Mirjana Vukajlović for Mr. Hassan Ngeze  
Ms. Sandrine Gaillot for Mr. Aloys Ntabakuze  
Mr. Philippe Larochelle for Mr. Callixte Nzabonimana

**Mr. Ildephonse Hategekimana**

**Mr. Athanase Seromba**

**Republic of Benin**

**I, GRACIELA GATTI SANTANA**, President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (“President” and “Mechanism”, respectively);

**RECALLING** that, on 20 January 2025, I issued a consolidated decision concerning the search and seizure of electronic devices from 14 persons convicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and currently serving their sentences in the Republic of Benin (“Search and Seizure” and “Convicted Persons”, respectively), finding that the Search and Seizure did not violate minimum guarantees under international imprisonment standards;<sup>1</sup>

**NOTING** that, in the Decision, I instructed the Registrar of the Mechanism (“Registrar”) to, *inter alia*: (i) take all reasonable and necessary measures, in coordination with the Beninese authorities, to ensure that the *status quo* of the security and physical integrity of the seized devices is preserved, including the confidentiality of material contained on said devices; (ii) liaise with the Beninese authorities to determine if and under what conditions the Convicted Persons whose devices were seized may be granted access to their respective seized devices in order to facilitate their work on post-conviction matters; and (iii) if such access cannot be granted, liaise with the Beninese authorities and take all reasonable and necessary measures to facilitate the release of the seized items to Counsel for the Convicted Persons or, for those unrepresented, to the Registry of the Mechanism;<sup>2</sup>

**NOTING** that I further instructed the Registrar to file a submission providing all relevant information related to this matter within 30 days of the Decision, and to file an updated submission every 60 days thereafter until ordered otherwise (“Reporting Regime”);<sup>3</sup>

**NOTING** the five reports filed by the Registrar in compliance with the Reporting Regime;<sup>4</sup>

**NOTING** that, in the Fifth Report, the Registrar submitted that the Beninese authorities had: (i) decided to allow the Convicted Persons to retrieve their data from the seized devices; (ii) acknowledged that computers were made available to the Convicted Persons for their respective

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<sup>1</sup> Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices, 20 January 2025 (“Decision”), paras. 1, 3, 23-25, 30.

<sup>2</sup> Decision, para. 30.

<sup>3</sup> Decision, para. 30.

<sup>4</sup> Registrar’s Fifth Submission on the “Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices” of 20 January 2025, 14 October 2025 (“Fifth Report”); Registrar’s Fourth Submission on the “Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices” of 20 January 2025, 15 August 2025; Registrar’s Third Submission on the “Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices” of 20 January 2025, 16 June 2025; Registrar’s Second Submission on the “Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices” of 20 January 2025, 17 April 2025; Registrar’s Submission on the “Consolidated Decision Concerning the Seizure of Electronic Devices” of 20 January 2025, 17 February 2025.

post-conviction work; and (iii) made arrangements for the seized devices to be collected by Counsel or family members following the data retrieval;<sup>5</sup>

**CONSIDERING** that, on the basis of the information before me, the Registrar and the Beninese authorities have established an acceptable arrangement that ensures the Convicted Persons' access to their data on the seized devices;

**FINDING** that the continuation of the Reporting Regime is no longer warranted;

**EMPHASISING** that, due to the likely presence of information subject to judicial confidentiality orders on the seized devices and the risks associated for protected witnesses, such devices shall not be made available to family members of the Convicted Persons in the absence of this information being deleted;

**EMPHASISING** further that, while the seized devices remain in the possession of the Beninese authorities, appropriate measures must continue to be taken to prevent any disclosure of their contents in view of judicial confidentiality orders and prisoner privacy;

**FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS,**

**HEREBY ORDER** the termination of the Reporting Regime.

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

Done this 12th day of November 2025,  
At Arusha,  
Tanzania.



Judge Graciela Gatti Santana  
President

**[Seal of the Mechanism]**

<sup>5</sup> Fifth Report, paras. 7-8, 10, 13.



TRANSMISSION SHEET FOR FILING OF DOCUMENTS / FICHE DE TRANSMISSION POUR LE DÉPÔT DE DOCUMENTS

**I - FILING INFORMATION / INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES**

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| <b>Case Name/ Affaire :</b>                                 | In the Matter of Jean-Paul Akayesu et al.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                       | <b>Case Number/ Affaire n° :</b> MICT-25-134               |
| <b>Date Created/ Daté du :</b>                              | 12 November 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Date transmitted/ Transmis le :</b>                                                                | 12 November 2025                                           |
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| <b>Title of Document/ Titre du document :</b>               | Order Terminating Reporting Regime in Relation to the Seizure of Electronic Devices                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                       |                                                            |
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