



COMPLETION STRATEGY REPORTS

12 June 2013

President Meron highlights efforts being made to complete judicial work



Judge Theodor Meron addressed the UN Security Council in his dual capacity as President of both the ICTY and the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT). President Meron reported on the Tribunal's progress in relation to its

completion strategy and gave details on the ongoing work of the Mechanism and preparations for the launch of its branch in The Hague. President Meron stressed that "all efforts are being made on the part of the Tribunal to complete its pending judicial work as quickly as possible while fully respecting the fundamental rights of its accused and appellants to due process in accordance with international standards."

The President highlighted the Tribunal's achievements since his written report to the Security Council in November 2012, pointing out that trial and appeal proceedings had been completed in a total of seven cases. With regard to the remaining ongoing trial proceedings, President Meron assured the Security Council that the Hadžić and Mladić cases remained on schedule and were expected to be completed by the end of 2015 and mid-2016, respectively. Noting revisions to the estimated completion dates for Šešelj and Karadžić trials, the President explained that trial judgements in those cases were now expected in October 2013 and July 2015, respectively.

Turning to the work of the Mechanism, President Meron informed the Security Council that all arrangements were in place to ensure "a seamless transfer of functions from the ICTY to the Hague branch of the Mechanism."

Drawing attention to the pressing issue of the remaining fugitives, President Meron reminded the Council that the Mechanism is responsible for the trial of three individuals indicted by the ICTR and called on member states to take steps to ensure that all fugitives are arrested and brought to trial.

President Meron concluded his address by thanking the Security Council for "recognising (...) the Tribunal's contributions over the past twenty years" and "for recognising that the Mechanism plays an essential role in ensuring that the impending closure of the ICTY and ICTR will not leave the door open to impunity."

The full text of the President's [speech](#) and the [completion strategy report](#) can be found on the ICTY website.

Prosecutor Brammertz addresses "difficult and challenging period"



Prosecutor Serge Brammertz presented his office's 19th completion strategy report to the Security Council, addressing the progress made in trials and appeals, the cooperation of countries in the former Yugoslavia with the Tribunal, and the efforts made by the Office of

the Prosecutor (OTP) to support national war crimes strategies in the region.

The Prosecutor began by saying: "In this reporting period, as we marked 20 years since the ICTY's creation, we witnessed significant critique of the Tribunal's work. Never before has so much been said and written about our cases, our legacy and our contribution to reconciliation in the region. Certainly for the Office of the Prosecutor, it has been a difficult and challenging period. As a party to the proceedings, we must accept the judgements issued. However, we are using, and will continue to use, all remaining legal mechanisms to press for the outcomes we think are just and that properly reflect the culpability of accused persons brought before the Tribunal."

Having updated the Council on the progress of all ICTY trials and appeals, the Prosecutor stressed that the OTP's work had been helped by good cooperation from Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Turning to national war crimes strategies, Prosecutor Brammertz pointed to a number of remaining problems, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and emphasised the need for concrete and urgent action. In this regard, the Prosecutor will travel to Sarajevo in late June for in-depth discussions on the status of the remaining nine Category II cases transferred to Bosnia and Herzegovina by the OTP. In addition, the OTP will hold a practical information session in Sarajevo for entity-level prosecutors about accessing material from the OTP databases.

The Prosecutor concluded by saying: "The thousands who survived crimes committed during the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia should be foremost in our minds. For them the passage of 20 years has little meaning. The crimes they lived through, and the crimes that took away their loved ones, are ever present and we must redouble our efforts to facilitate redress for them."

The full text of the Prosecutor's [speech](#) and the [OTP's completion strategy report](#) can be found on the ICTY website.

MICT



Tribunal completes round of MICT workshops

Ahead of the launch of the Hague branch of the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT) on 1 July 2013, the ICTY hosted a number of workshops in Belgrade and Sarajevo to explain the new organisation's mandate to over 70 legal professionals and NGO partners.

In line with the Tribunal's longstanding commitment to strengthening ties with the judicial community and civil society in the in former Yugoslavia, the workshops aimed to facilitate continued cooperation between legal practitioners, NGOs, the ICTY, and the MICT.

Commenting on the importance of the workshops, the Registrar of the ICTY and MICT, John Hocking, said: "The Tribunal has developed effective working relationships with States across the former Yugoslavia. As we are nearing a successful completion of the ICTY mandate, we now look forward to building on those ties, working hand in hand with our partners as certain functions are transferred from the Tribunal to the Mechanism."

The workshops covered the MICT's mandate, the completion strategy of the ICTY, and the Mechanism's role in that process. They provided an opportunity for Tribunal representatives and partners to discuss the implications of the transition to the MICT and the importance of sustaining mutual support and assistance.

OUTREACH



Outreach Programme takes part in Sarajevo Kids' Festival

From 7 - 11 June, the Tribunal's Outreach Programme participated in the 10th annual 'Sarajevo Kids' Festival'. The festival welcomed nearly 40,000 children, who took part in workshops and games designed to build confidence and educate them about other cultures. The festival's main aim is the promotion of tolerance among different ethnic groups, and it is a particularly useful venue for sharing information about the work of the ICTY with the younger generation.

Outreach representatives met with children aged 11 to 14 from across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in a workshop about the Tribunal. Age-appropriate photographs from wartime events and ICTY proceedings were used as catalysts for a discussion on reconciliation efforts in BiH. Following the discussion, the children were encouraged to express their reactions to the workshop through the creation of drawings.

Festival director Susanne Pahl said: "After the workshop, 'Hague' has become more than a word for these children, it is now an institution with an important significance in the life of each BiH citizen, especially the young generation."

Participating in the festival allowed Outreach to extend its 'youth information' initiative to younger children. The project, which began in 2011, has already reached over 3,500 young people in high schools and universities across the former Yugoslavia.

IN THE COURTROOMS



Tolimir and Đorđević status conferences scheduled

Status conferences have been scheduled for 5 July and 17 July, respectively in the appeals case of Zdravko Tolimir and Vlastimir Đorđević.

On 12 December 2012, Tolimir, former assistant commander and chief for intelligence and security of the Main Staff of the Bosnian Serb Army was sentenced by a Trial Chamber to life imprisonment having been found guilty of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in 1995 after the fall of the enclaves of Srebrenica and Žepa, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On 23 February 2011, a Trial Chamber found Đorđević, formerly the assistant minister in the Serbian Ministry of Internal Affairs, guilty of the crimes of deportation, murder, forcible transfer and persecutions committed against the ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo, and sentenced him to 27 years in prison.

FACTS & FIGURES

161 INDIVIDUALS INDICTED

Since the very first hearing (a deferral request in the Tadić case) on 8 November 1994, the Tribunal has indicted a total of 161 individuals, and has already completed proceedings with regard to 136 of them.

18 have been acquitted, 69 sentenced (21 have been transferred to serve this sentences, 3 are awaiting transfer, 42 have served their term, and 3 died while serving their sentence), and 13 have had their cases transferred to local courts.

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| 136 | Total number of accused whose proceedings have been completed. |
| 36 | Cases terminated (either because indictments were withdrawn or because the accused died, before or after transfer to the Tribunal). |
| 25 | Proceedings are on-going with regard to 25 accused: 12 are currently on trial, and 13 are at the appeals stage. |
| 35 | A further 35 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings. |