

Judge Patrick Robinson and Judge O-Gon Kwon re-elected as President and Vice-President of the Tribunal

Judge Patrick Robinson (Jamaica) and Judge O-Gon Kwon (South Korea) were re-elected as, respectively, President and Vice-President of the Tribunal by the permanent judges in an Extraordinary Plenary Session on Monday 26 October.

President Robinson and Vice-President Kwon were re-elected by acclamation to two-year terms, effective 17 November 2009.

27 October

Biljana Plavšić released from Swedish prison

A prominent former ideologist of the Bosnian Serb leadership, Plavšić surrendered to the Tribunal on 10 January 2001. She initially pleaded not guilty, however, on 2 October 2002, she changed her mind and pleaded guilty to her participation in persecutions committed against Bosnian Muslim, Bosnian Croat and other non-Serb populations in 37 municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. On 27 February 2003, she was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment. She was subsequently transferred to Sweden to serve her sentence.

On 25 May 2009, the Swedish authorities informed the Tribunal that Plavšić was eligible for conditional release under Swedish law as of 27 October 2009, and sought the determination of the Tribunal President pursuant to Rule 124. On 14 September, President Robinson issued a decision granting Plavšić early release "in accordance with her entitlement to be released under Swedish law." The President's decision was grounded on "substantial evidence of rehabilitation," on the fact that Plavšić would have served two-thirds of her sentence as of 24 October 2009, and on a number of confidential "health and mental wellbeing" factors.

28 October

Appeal hearing in the Haradinaj et al. case

On 3 April 2008, Trial Chamber I acquitted Ramush Haradinaj and Idriz Balaj on all charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity alleged to have been committed in Kosovo between March and September 1998. During that period Haradinaj was a commander of the KLA in the Dukagjin area (north-western Kosovo), and Balaj was the commander of the Black Eagles Unit within the KLA. Following the judgement they were both released from custody.

Neither Haradinaj and Balaj exercised their right to be present at the appeal hearing.

The third accused in the case, Lahi Brahimaj, was also acquitted of crimes against humanity, but was convicted by of war crimes (cruel treatment and torture) committed against two persons at the Jablanica/Jabllanicë headquarters of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA). He was sentenced to six years' imprisonment.

The Appeals Chamber (consisting of Judge Patrick Robinson, Presiding, Judge Fausto Pocar, Judge Andrésia Vaz, Judge Liu Daqun, and Judge Theodor Meron) is now considering its judgement, which will be rendered in due course.

28 & 29 October and 4 & 5 November

Prosecutor visits Bosnia and Serbia

On 28 & 29 October, Serge Brammertz visited Sarajevo. During his visit he met members of the Presidency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the High Representative, and the War Crimes Prosecutor.

On 4 & 5 November, the Prosecutor was in Belgrade, where he met with the President, Prime Minister, the President of the National Council for Cooperation with the ICTY, and the War Crimes Prosecutor.

Prior to the trips, at the weekly press briefing, Olga Kavran, the Prosecutor's spokesperson, explained that "these are the Prosecutor's regular working visits to

the region of the former Yugoslavia in connection with the biannual report before the Security Council which is scheduled for December. In his meetings with the local authorities, the Prosecutor will discuss issues related to cooperation of the respective states with the Office of the Prosecutor and other matters related to the Tribunal's Completion Strategy."

[29 October](#)

Appeal hearing in the Boškoski & Tarčulovski case

In the Trial Chamber judgement of 10 July 2008, Johan Tarčulovski was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for crimes committed against ethnic Albanians in village of Ljuboten, near Skopje, on 12 August 2001. The Trial Chamber found him guilty of ordering, planning and instigating the crimes committed in Ljuboten.

With regard to Ljube Boškoski, previously the Minister of Interior of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), the Trial Chamber acquitted him, finding that "it has not been established that Ljube Boškoski failed to take the necessary and reasonable measures for the punishment" of his subordinates who had committed crimes.

The Appeals Chamber (consisting of Judge Patrick Robinson, Presidin, Judge Mehmet Güney, Judge Andréia Vaz, Judge Liu Daqun, and Judge Theodor Meron) is now considering its judgement, which will be rendered in due course.

[29 October](#)

Prosecution rests its case in the Dorđević trial

The OTP called 104 viva voce witnesses, including 57 Kosovo Albanians, and 21 members of the former Yugoslav military or police forces. The trial of Vlastimir Dorđević commenced on 27 January 2009.

A former senior Serbian police official, the accused faces charges of crimes against humanity and war crimes allegedly committed against Kosovo Albanian civilians in 1999. Indicted in October 2003, Dorđević managed to stay on the run for almost four years. He was arrested on 17 June 2007 in Montenegro and transferred to the Tribunal. At his initial appearance on 16 July 2007 and further initial appearance on 17 July 2008 he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

The Defence case is scheduled to begin on 30 November.

[5 November](#)

Karadžić case: Chamber orders appointment of counsel, and decides that trial will resume on 1 March 2010

The Chamber found that the Accused has "substantially and persistently obstructed the proper and expeditious conduct of his trial", thereby meeting the test for appointment of counsel set out by the Appeals Chamber in the Milošević case. The decision stated that Karadžić "has bought the trial to a halt, which is evidently his purpose" and "wishes to control when the trial will resume, rather than the Chamber" and that these were "blatant examples of deliberately obstructive conduct".

The Chamber therefore ordered the Registrar to appoint a counsel to prepare to represent the interests of the Accused at trial, and ordered that the trial resume on Monday, 1 March 2010.

However, the Chamber further stated that Karadžić will continue to represent himself, including by dealing with day-to-day matters and by preparing for trial, but that "should the Accused continue to absent himself from the resumed trial proceedings in March, or should he engage in any other conduct that obstructs the proper and expeditious conduct of the trial, he will forfeit his right to self-representation, no longer be entitled to assistance from his assigned defence team, and the appointed counsel will take over as an assigned counsel to represent him."

A more detailed press release is available on the ICTY web site.

COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 9 NOVEMBER – 20 NOVEMBER

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:45 – 18:00, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
Courtroom III 14:15 – 19:00, **Prlić**, Trial

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 11:00 – 12:30, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
13:30 – 18:40, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Prlić**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:45 – 16:15, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
Courtroom II 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Prlić**, Trial

THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 09:00 – 10:30, **Milošević**, Appeals judgement
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Prlić**, Trial

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial

MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Prlić**, Trial

TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Prlić**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Prlić**, Trial

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Prlić**, Trial

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Gotovina et al**, Trial

Public proceedings are broadcast with a 30-minute delay on the ICTY's website.

PROCEEDINGS COMPLETED WITH REGARD TO 120 ACCUSED

Since the very first hearing (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 120 of them: 11 have been acquitted, 60 sentenced (two are awaiting transfer, 28 have been transferred, 28 have served their term, and two died while serving their sentence), 13 have had their cases transferred to local courts. Another 36 cases have been terminated (either because indictments were withdrawn or because the accused died, before or after transfer to the Tribunal).

Proceedings are on-going with regard to 41 accused: 14 are at the appeals stage, 24 are currently on trial, and one is at the pre-trial stage. Two fugitives are still at large.

A further 30 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings.

The ICTY Digest is a publication of the Registry, prepared and produced by the LPTV Section.
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