JUDGE MOLOTO LEADS DEFENCE TRAINING

ICTY Judge, Prosecution and Defence Counsel meet with their counterparts in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The goal of the training was to enable participating lawyers to improve their skills in conducting opening statements, direct and cross examinations of witnesses and closing arguments. According to Judge Moloto, the training was also an opportunity to bring judges, prosecutors and defence attorneys together and address their divergent opinions on how cases should be presented.

This was the first advocacy training of the kind to be held in the region as part of the WCJP.

"With judges, prosecutors and defence attorneys working together, we can eliminate differences in expectations."

Judge Moloto during the advocacy training in Sarajevo

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Transcripts

- 30 June 2011
  Delivery of transcripts to BiH authorities

Upcoming Training Events

- 16-17 June 2011
  CEST Training Centre, Sarajevo, BiH
- 20-21 June 2011
  Training of Legal Professionals, Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Other project events

- 15 June 2011
  Peer-to-peer meeting of prosecutors, Skopje
- 27 June 2011
  Peer-to-peer meeting of judges, Budva, Montenegro

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Tribunal Case Law Now Online

B/C/S version of ICTY legal database is now publicly available on the ICTY website

The Tribunal is pleased to announce that its Appeals Chamber Case Law Research Tool (ACCLRT) database is now available in B/C/S on the ICTY website. Additionally, the database provides the legal professionals and general public from the former Yugoslavia and beyond greater access to the most significant legal findings of the Appeals Chamber of the ICTY and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). The ACCLRT contains summaries of the most significant decisions and judgements rendered by the ICTY and ICTR Appeals Chamber since 2004, which can be easily searched through the Index of legal categories. As a public tool, the database will be of crucial assistance to national jurisdictions dealing with war crimes cases.

The ACCLRT can be accessed through the ICTY website: http://www.icty.org/sid/9991

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All training sessions since last newsletter

- 18 March - Osijek, Croatia; total of nine judges and prosecutors from County Courts and Prosecutor Offices in Osijek, Slavonski Brod and Vukовар
- 28 March - Banja Luka, BiH; total of eight judges and prosecutors from District Courts and Prosecutor Offices in Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Sarajevo and Doboj
- 3 May - Banja Luka, BiH; total of 15 judges and prosecutors from the District Courts and Prosecutor Offices in Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Doboj and East Sarajevo
- 5 May - Belgrade, Serbia; total of nine legal professionals from the Appellate Court and High Court in Belgrade
- 13 May - Split, Croatia, total of 10 judges, legal advisors and deputy prosecutors from the County Courts and State Attorney’s Office in Split, Zadar, Šibenik and Dubrovnik
- 19 May - Pristina, Kosovo; total of 19 legal professionals from District Courts and Prosecutor Offices in Pristinë/Priština, Pejë/Pec, Prizren and Gnjilane/Gjilan

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War Crimes Justice Project

Project funded by the EU

Implemented by
Project Brings Region’s Witness Support Staff Together

ICTY and regional witness support providers shared experience of working with witnesses and victims

On 6 May, ICTY staff from the Victims and Witnesses Support Section met in Belgrade with around 20 of their counterparts from Serbia, Croatia, BiH and Montenegro to share their continued efforts to fair-ly and efficiently process war crimes cases. This was the first re-gional meeting of witness support providers to take place as part of the WCJP. Participants discussed and shared experiences on differ-ent models of witness support systems in the region, the develop-ment of witness support services after trials, and the experi-ences of witnesses testifying before national courts and the ICTY.

“The protection of wit-nesses is of crucial impor-tance in war crimes cases, given the sensitive nature of the testify-ing in war crimes cases can have serious life threat-en-ing consequences; then it is our joint obligation to pro-vide complete protection to all witnesses,” said Serbian Minister of Justice Snežana Malović. “The region has to do everything possible to provide full protection for war crimes witnesses on all levels, as the guarantee of their safety is key in determining the truth and is a necessary measure and precondition for reaching justice and reconciliation,” added Malović.

More Transcripts Delivered to Zagreb and Sarajevo

Further 5,900 pages of ICTY transcripts in B/C/S sent to the region

Since March, the Tribunal has delivered a further 5,900 pages of transcripts translated into B/C/S to Bosnian and Ser-bian authorities, bringing the total number of pages deliv-ered to the region to date up to 12,900. The latest delivery to BiH and Serbian authorities, which took place on 30 May, in-cluded 3,900 pages in total. The transcripts are pro-duced in the region’s local languages from the audio record-ings of ICTY court hearings. Up until October 2010, the trial transcripts were available only in English and French, the offi-cial languages of the ICTY. It is the Project’s aim to have 60,000 pages of transcripts produced by the end of 2011.

ICTY Provides Expert Assistance to 70 Legal Professionals

Tribunal holds six training sessions with counterparts in Serbia, Croatia, BiH and Kosovo

Since mid-March, the Tri-bunal has held a further six training sessions, enabling it to share its expertise and knowl-edge with a total of 70 judges, prosecutors, deputy prosecu-tors and legal advisors from a variety of judicial institutions across Serbia, Croatia, BiH and Kosovo.

“These trainings exemplify the practical ways in which we can support the hard work of the region’s justice actors in their continued efforts to fair-ly and efficiently process war crimes cases,” said Christopher Engels, the WCJP Regional Co-ordinator.

Topics covered included the use of electronic search tools such as the website, the ICTY Court Records Database and the Appeals Chambers Case Law Research Tool. The training also included making re-quests to the ICTY for legal as-sistance and for a variation of protective measures under the Tribunal’s Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

The objective of this training is to help participating le-gal professionals develop their skills in the handling of com-plex war crimes cases. This is achieved by sharing the Tribu-nal’s expertise and increasing their ability to locate and re-search the Tribunal’s informa-tion and materials relevant to their work.

ICTY witness support experts with their regional counterparts at the peer-to-peer meeting in Belgrade May 2011. (Photo: OSCE Mission to Serbia)

ICTY trainers, Srdan Mujanovic and Helena Eggleston during a recent training session in Banja Luka in May 2011

Facts & Figures

34,000 Total number of pages of ICTY court hearing audio material transcribed into B/C/S as of June 2011

12,900 Total number of transcript pages in B/C/S delivered to the regional judiciaries between October 2010 and June 2011

13,000 Total number of transcript pages in B/C/S currently available in the ICTY Court Records database, at http://icr.icty.org/bcs/

130 Total number of legal professionals from regional judiciaries who received training on searching and accessing publicly available ICTY material to date

WCJP video on Youtube (in English and B/C/S)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ctjvGxSDgo

Follow WCJP developments on www.un.org/icty/sections/Outreach/CapacityBuilding

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