NOTING the Statute of the Tribunal as adopted by the Security Council under Resolution 827 (1993), as subsequently amended, and in particular Article 21 thereof;

NOTING the Rules of Procedure and Evidence as adopted by the Tribunal on 11 February 1994, as subsequently amended ("Rules"), and in particular Rules 44, 45 and 62(B) thereof;

NOTING the Directive on the Assignment of Defence Counsel as adopted by the Tribunal on 28 July 1994, as subsequently amended ("Directive"), and in particular Articles 7, 8 and 11(B), thereof;

NOTING the Code of Professional Conduct for Counsel Appearing Before the International Tribunal ("Code of Conduct"), and in particular Articles 9 and 14 thereof;

NOTING that Mr. Ratko Mladić ("Accused") was transferred to the seat of the Tribunal on 31 May 2011, and that his initial appearance was held on 3 June 2011, and his further initial appearance was held on 4 July 2011;

NOTING that on 1 June 2011, Mr. Aleksandar Aleksić, attorney at law from Serbia, was assigned by the Deputy Registrar pursuant to Rule 45(C) and Rule 62(B) of the Rules as duty counsel to the Accused for the purposes of his initial appearance and for such other matters as necessary until a permanent counsel is assigned;

NOTING that the Accused has applied for the assignment of Tribunal-paid counsel pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 of the Directive on the basis that he does not have sufficient means to remunerate counsel;

CONSIDERING that on 22 July 2011, acting pursuant to Article 11(B) of the Directive, the Deputy Registrar assigned Mr. Branko Lukić, attorney at law from the Republic of Serbia, as lead counsel to the Accused for a period of 120 days, determining that an interim assignment of counsel was necessary to ensure that the Accused’s right to counsel was not affected while the Registry examines his ability to remunerate counsel;

CONSIDERING that on 18 November 2011, the Acting Deputy Registrar issued a decision extending Mr. Lukić’s assignment as counsel to the Accused for an additional period of 120 days, effective as of 19 November 2011;
CONSIDERING that on 23 February 2012, the Registrar assigned Mr. Miodrag Stojanović, attorney at law from Bosnia and Herzegovina, as co-counsel to Mr. Lukić;

CONSIDERING that the Registry is conducting an inquiry into the Accused's ability to remunerate counsel and that the inquiry is still in progress;

CONSIDERING that the Registrar has determined that it is necessary to continue Mr. Lukić's assignment on an interim basis, to ensure that the Accused's right to counsel is not affected while the Registry conducts its inquiry;

HEREBY DECIDES to extend Mr. Lukić's assignment as counsel to the Accused for an additional period of 120 days, effective as of 17 March 2012.

Dated this sixteenth day of March 2012
At The Hague,
The Netherlands.