18 - 21 October

Prosecutor visits BiH and Croatia

In Sarajevo, Prosecutor Serge Brammertz met with members of the Bosnian Presidency and with the High Representative, Valentin Inzko. After meeting with Inzko, the Prosecutor called for increased efforts to apprehend the two remaining ICTY fugitives. The arrests of Ratko Mladić and Goran Hadžić have become an imperative, the Prosecutor said.

In Croatia, the Prosecutor held talks with Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor and other high-ranking officials about Zagreb’s co-operation with the Tribunal. The trip was the first of the Prosecutor’s planned working visits to the region in preparation for the OTP’s report to the UN Security Council. The Prosecutor plans to travel to Belgrade this month, and he will address the Security Council in early December. During these missions, Prosecutor Brammertz will meet with representatives of the government and judicial authorities to discuss ongoing co-operation with the Office of the Prosecutor and other matters related to the Tribunal’s Completion Strategy.

18 October

Outreach presentations resume for Kosovo high school students

The Tribunal’s Outreach Programme has launched a fresh round of its popular high school presentation programmes in Kosovo for the 2010 – 2011 school year. The multimedia presentations are designed to introduce Grade 12 students to the work and achievements of the Tribunal. The students will also learn about the Tribunal’s contribution to the establishment of facts and post-conflict justice in their region. In this round of presentations, a representative of the Humanitarian Law Centre (HLC) in Kosovo will join forces with Outreach and present the relevant information from the Kosovo Memory Book, a database compiled by HLC, which contains a record of each individual victim of the Kosovo conflict.

High school presentations were also held during the 2006 – 2007 and 2008 – 2009 school years, over which periods more than 1,200 students from more than 35 high schools learned about the Tribunal’s work.

19 October

ICTY donates computers to Bosnian elementary school

The Tribunal recently donated 15 computers, as well as other equipment, to an elementary school in Skelani near Srebrenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The computers will enable 120 pupils of the multi-ethnic Kosta Todorović elementary school to develop their IT skills and the school itself to improve its accounting and managing processes. “This is a very significant donation and it will be especially welcomed by our pupils who were unable to take information technology classes as the school could not afford computers,” said Ljubinko Katanić, the school’s director.

This latest donation is part of an ongoing ICTY project carried out by the Asset Disposal Unit that aims to furnish organisations in the former Yugoslavia with IT equipment and vehicles no longer used by the Tribunal. Since 2005, the Tribunal has made more than 48 separate donations, totalling 950 computers and numerous other pieces of office equipment to schools and institutions throughout the region.

24 October

Prosecutor says Serbian authorities must do more in hunt for Mladić

In an interview with the New York Times, ICTY Prosecutor Serge Brammertz said that the hunt for Ratko Mladić – one of the ICTY’s two remaining fugitives – had reached a critical stage. “The time for the Tribunal is running out and if we want to see Mladić tried before the ICTY, his immediate arrest is of paramount importance,” the Prosecutor said.

“We want to give a wake-up call that more can be done and needs to be done,” said the Prosecutor. The arrest of “the fugitives is crucial; for victims who want to see justice finally done; for reconciliation in the region; but also for the credibility of the international community.”

The full interview can be read by clicking on the following link:
2 November

Honorary Doctorate for Judge Meron announced

The Senate of the University of Warsaw plans to award a doctorate of law honoris causa to Judge Theodor Meron. The official ceremony will take place on Friday, 14 January 2011 at the Rector’s Palace of the University.

Judge Meron is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, honorary President of the American Society of International Law, member of the Institute of International Law, and of the Council on Foreign Relations. Since 1977, Judge Meron has been a Professor of International Law and is Charles L. Denison Professor Emeritus at New York University Law School. In 2000-2001, he served as Counselor on International Law in the U.S. Department of State. He also leads the annual ICRC seminar for UN diplomats in New York on International Humanitarian Law. Between 1991 and 1995 he was also Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, and he has been a Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard and at the University of California (Berkeley). He received his legal education at the Universities of Jerusalem, Harvard (where he received his doctorate), and Cambridge. He has been a judge on Appeals Chambers since 2001.

3 November

Suspension of proceedings ordered in Karadžić case

Trial Chamber III has ordered the suspension of proceedings in the Karadžić trial for a period of one month to enable the accused to review material recently disclosed to him by the Prosecution.

The suspension will allow Karadžić and his team to review around 14,000 pages of material containing potentially exculpatory information, which was disclosed to the accused by the Prosecution at the end of October 2010. In rendering his decision, Judge O-Gon Kwon, presiding, said “the Chamber is of the view that the sheer volume of this material is such that it is in the interest of justice to suspend the proceedings temporarily.”

In determining the period of suspension, the Chamber also took into consideration the significant number of violations by the Prosecution - recorded by the Chamber in several decisions to date - of its obligations to disclose documents to the accused in accordance with the Tribunal’s Rules of Procedure and Evidence. Having already admonished the Prosecution in those previous decisions to better organise and give greater priority to its disclosure processes, Judge Kwon stated that the Chamber was increasingly troubled by the potential cumulative effect of late disclosure on the overall fairness of the trial. He urged the Office of the Prosecutor to take its disclosure obligations seriously and to ensure that all necessary resources are dedicated to ensuring timely disclosure of material to the accused.

3 November

ICTY delivers first transcripts in local languages to Serbia

The ICTY today delivered a first set of trial transcripts produced in local languages to the Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor as part of a project that aims to enhance the capacity of judiciaries in the region of the former Yugoslavia to handle complex war crimes cases. Until now, the trial transcripts were available only in English and French, the official languages of the ICTY.

The War Crimes Justice Project is a 4 million euro regional project funded by the EU and carried out by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), in partnership with the ICTY, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and OSCE field operations.

“I have said on numerous occasions how regrettable and unfortunate it is that these transcripts are not available in the national languages of the countries concerned. I am thus very pleased that the War Crimes Justice Project is providing us with the opportunity to set that right,” said President Robinson.

The Tribunal consulted national authorities to select the most relevant trial hearings for transcription. It has also taken into account similar work already done by the Humanitarian Law Centre, a Serbian non-governmental organisation.

The first set of transcripts sent to Serbia, totalling some 400 pages, was produced as a matter of priority after a request made by the Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor. Other transcripts are expected to be delivered in late November to the authorities of Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In September, the Tribunal delivered 500 pages of transcripts to the Croatian authorities. The Tribunal will produce a minimum of 60,000 transcript pages in local languages as part of the War Crimes Justice Project.

For more information on the War Crimes Justice Project please visit:
http://www.icty.org/sid/240
COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 8 NOVEMBER – 19 NOVEMBER

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

MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Tolimir, Trial

TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER
Courtroom II  14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Tolimir, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial

WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER
Courtroom II  14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Tolimir, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial

THURSDAY 11 NOVEMBER
Courtroom I  15:00 – 17:30, Lukić & Lukić, Status Conference
Courtroom II  14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Tolimir, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial

FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial

MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER
Courtroom II  09:00 – 13:45, Perišić, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial

TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER
UN HOLIDAY: EID AL ADHA

WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER
Courtroom I  09:00 – 13:45, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial
Courtroom II  09:00 – 13:45, Perišić, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial
Courtroom III  14:15 – 19:00, Tolimir, Trial

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER
Courtroom I  09:00 – 13:45, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial
Courtroom II  09:00 – 13:45, Perišić, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, Stanišić & Simatović, Trial
Courtroom III  14:15 – 19:00, Tolimir, Trial

FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER
Courtroom II  09:00 – 13:45, Perišić, Trial
Courtroom III  09:00 – 13:45, Stanišić & Župljanin, Trial

The ICTY winter recess has been scheduled. The recess will take place between Monday 20 December 2010 and Friday 07 January 2011
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 124 of them: 12 have been acquitted, 63 sentenced (four are awaiting transfer, 25 have been transferred, 31 have served their term, and three 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 37 accused: 14 are at the appeals stage, 18 are currently on trial, and three are at the pre-retrial stage. Two fugitives are still at large.

A further 31 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings.