



International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda

IN THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before:

Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, Presiding
Judge Mohamed Shahabuddeen
Judge Lal Chand Vohrah
Judge Wang Tieya
Judge Rafael Nieto-Navia

Registrar: Mr. Agwu U. Okali

Decision of: 3 November 1999

JEAN-BOSCO BARAYAGWIZA

v.

THE PROSECUTOR

DECISION

Counsel for the Appellant:

Mr. Justy P. L. Nyaberi

The Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. Mohamed C. Othman
Mr. N. Sankara Menon
Mr. Mathias Marcussen

Index

I. [INTRODUCTION](#)

II. [THE APPEAL](#)

A. The Appellant

B. The Prosecutor

C. Arguments of the Parties Pursuant to the 3 June 1999 Scheduling Order

1. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 21 February 1997 and 19 November 1997 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in relation to personal jurisdiction
2. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 23 February 1998 and 11 September 1998 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in regard to personal jurisdiction
3. The reason for any delay between the request for transfer and the actual transfer
4. The reason for any delay between the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal and his initial appearance.
5. The reason for any delay between the initial appearance of the Appellant and the hearing on the Appellant's urgent motion
6. The disposition of the *writ of habeas corpus* that the Appellant asserts that he filed on 2 October 1997

III. [APPLICABLE AND AUTHORITATIVE PROVISIONS](#)

A. The Statute

B. The Rules

C. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

D. European Convention on Human Rights

E. American Convention on Human Rights

IV. [DISCUSSION](#)

A. Were the rights of the Appellant violated?

1. Status of the Appellant

2. The right to be promptly charged under Rule 40*bis*

3. The delay between the transfer of the Appellant and his initial appearance

B. The Abuse of Process Doctrine

1. In general

2. The right to be promptly informed of the charges during the first period of detention
3. The failure to resolve the *writ of habeas corpus* in a timely manner
4. The duty of prosecutorial due diligence

C. Conclusions

D. The Remedy

V. [DISPOSITION](#)

Appendix A: Chronology of Events

1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens responsible for genocide and other such violations committed in the territory of neighbouring States, between 1 January and 31 December 1994 ("the Appeals Chamber" and "the Tribunal" respectively) is seized of an appeal lodged by Jean-Bosco Barayagwiza ("the Appellant") against the "Decision on the Extremely Urgent Motion by the Defence for Orders to Review and/or Nullify the Arrest and Provisional Detention of the Suspect" of Trial Chamber II of 17 November 1998 ("the Decision"). By Order dated 5 February 1999, the appeal was held admissible. On 19 October 1999, the Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal seeking to disqualify certain Judges of the Trial Chamber from sitting on his case ("19 October 1999 Notice of Appeal"). On 26 October 1999, the Appellant filed an additional Notice of Appeal concerning a request of the Prosecutor to amend the indictment against the Appellant ("26 October 1999 Notice of Appeal").

2. There are several areas of contention between the parties. The primary dispute concerns the arrest and detention of the Appellant during a nineteen-month period between 15 April 1996, when he was initially detained, and 19 November 1997, when he was transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit pursuant to Rule 40*bis* of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("the Rules"). The secondary areas of dispute concern: 1) the Appellant's right to be informed promptly of the charges against him; 2) the Appellant's right to challenge the legality of his arrest and detention; 3) the delay between the Tribunal's request for the transfer of the Appellant from Cameroon and his actual transfer; 4) the length of the Appellant's provisional detention; and 5) the delay between the Appellant's arrival at the Tribunal's detention unit and his initial appearance.

3. The accused made his initial appearance before Trial Chamber II on 23 February 1998. On 24 February 1998, the Appellant filed a motion seeking to nullify his arrest and detention. Trial Chamber II heard the oral arguments of the parties on 11 September 1998 and rendered its Decision on 17 November 1998.

4. The dispute between the parties initially concerns the issue of under what authority the accused was detained. Therefore, the sequence of events since the arrest of the accused on 15 April 1996, including the lengthy procedural history of the case, merits detailed recitation. Consequently, we begin with the following chronology.

5. On 15 April 1996, the authorities of Cameroon arrested and detained the Appellant and several other suspects on suspicion of having committed genocide and crimes against humanity in Rwanda in 1994. On 17 April 1996, the Prosecutor requested that provisional measures pursuant to Rule 40 be taken in relation to the Appellant. On 6 May 1996, the Prosecutor asked Cameroon for a three-week extension of the detention of all the suspects, including the Appellant. However, on 16 May 1996, the Prosecutor informed Cameroon that she only intended to pursue prosecutions against four of the detainees, *excluding* the Appellant.

6. The Appellant asserts that on 31 May 1996, the Court of Appeal of Cameroon adjourned *sine die* consideration of Rwanda's extradition request, pursuant to a request to adjourn by the Deputy Director of Public Prosecution of the Court of Appeal of the Centre Province, Cameroon. The Appellant claims that in making this request, the Deputy Director of Public Prosecution relied on Article 8(2) of the Statute.

7. On 15 October 1996, responding to a letter from the Appellant complaining about his detention in Cameroon, the Prosecutor informed the Appellant that Cameroon was not holding him at her behest. Shortly thereafter, the Court of Appeal of Cameroon recommenced the hearing on Rwanda's extradition request for the remaining suspects, including the Appellant. On 21 February 1997, the Court of Appeal of Cameroon rejected the Rwandan extradition request and ordered the release of the suspects, including the Appellant. The same day, the Prosecutor made a request pursuant to Rule 40 for the provisional detention of the Appellant and the Appellant was immediately re-arrested pursuant to this Order. The Prosecutor then requested an Order for arrest and transfer pursuant to Rule 40*bis* on 24 February 1997 and on 3 March 1997, Judge Aspegren signed an Order to that effect. The Appellant was not transferred pursuant to this Order, however, until 19 November 1997.

8. While awaiting transfer, the Appellant filed a *writ of habeas corpus* on 29 September 1997. The Trial Chamber never considered this application.

9. The President of Cameroon issued a Presidential Decree on 21 October 1997, authorising the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal's detention unit. On 22 October 1997, the Prosecutor submitted the indictment for confirmation, and on 23 October 1997, Judge Aspegren confirmed the indictment, and issued a Warrant of Arrest and Order for Surrender addressed to the Government of Cameroon. The Appellant was not transferred

to the Tribunal's detention unit, however, until 19 November 1997 and his initial appearance did not take place until 23 February 1998.

10. On 24 February 1998, the Appellant filed the Extremely Urgent Motion seeking to have his arrest and detention nullified. The arguments of the parties were heard on 11 September 1998. Trial Chamber II, in its Decision of 17 November 1998, dismissed the Extremely Urgent Motion *in toto*. In rejecting the arguments put forward by the Appellant in the Extremely Urgent Motion, the Trial Chamber made several findings. First, the Trial Chamber held that the Appellant was initially arrested at the behest of Rwanda and Belgium and not at the behest of the Prosecutor. Second, the Trial Chamber found that the period of detention under Rule 40 from 21 February until 3 March 1997 did not violate the Appellant's rights under Rule 40. Third, the Trial Chamber found that the Appellant had failed to show that the Prosecutor had violated the rights of the Appellant with respect to the length of his provisional detention or the delay in transferring the Appellant to the Tribunal's detention unit. Fourth, the Trial Chamber held that Rule 40*bis* does not apply until the actual transfer of the suspect to the Tribunal's detention unit. Fifth, the Trial Chamber concluded that the provisional detention of the Appellant was legally justified. Sixth, the Trial Chamber found that when the Prosecutor opted to proceed against some of the individuals detained with the Appellant, but excluding the Appellant, the Prosecutor was exercising prosecutorial discretion and was not discriminating against the Appellant. Finally, the Trial Chamber held that Rule 40*bis* is valid and does not contradict any provisions of the Statute. On 4 December 1998, the Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal against the Decision and ten days later the Prosecution filed its Response.

11. The Appeals Chamber considered the Appellant's appeal and found that the Decision dismissed an objection based on the lack of personal jurisdiction over the accused and, therefore, an appeal lies as of right under Sub-rule 72(D). Consequently, a Decision and Scheduling Order was issued on 5 February 1999, and the parties submitted additional briefs. Notwithstanding these additional submissions by the parties, however, the Appeals Chamber determined that additional information was required to decide the appeal. Consequently, a Scheduling Order was filed on 3 June 1999, directing the Prosecutor to specifically address the following six questions and provide documentation in support thereof:

1. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 21 February 1997 and 19 November 1997 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in relation to personal jurisdiction.
2. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 23 February 1998 and 11 September 1998 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in regard to personal jurisdiction.
3. The reason for any delay between the request for transfer and the actual transfer.
4. The reason for any delay between the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal and his initial appearance.

5. The reason for any delay between the initial appearance of the Appellant and the hearing on the Appellant's urgent motion.
6. The disposition of the *writ of habeas corpus* that the Appellant asserts that he filed on 2 October 1997.

12. The Prosecutor filed her Response to the 3 June 1999 Scheduling Order on 22 June 1999, and the Appellant filed his Reply on 2 July 1999. The submissions of the parties in response to these questions are set forth in section II.C., *infra*.

II. THE APPEAL

A. The Appellant

13. As noted *supra*, the Appellant has submitted numerous documents for consideration with respect to his arrest and detention. The main arguments as advanced by the Appellant are consolidated and briefly summarised below.

14. First, the Appellant asserts that the Trial Chamber erred in constructing a "Chronology of Events" without a proper basis or finding. According to the Appellant, the Trial Chamber further erred in dividing the events into arbitrary categories with the consequence that the Trial Chamber considered the events in a fragmented form. This resulted in a failure to perceive the events in their totality.

15. Second, the Appellant claims that the Trial Chamber erred in holding that the Appellant failed to provide evidence supporting his version of the arrest and detention. Thus, the Appellant contends, it was error for the Trial Chamber to conclude that the Appellant was arrested at the behest of the Rwandan and Belgian governments. Further, because the Trial Chamber found that the Appellant was detained at the behest of the Rwandan and Belgian authorities, the Trial Chamber erroneously held that the Defence had failed to show that the Prosecutor was responsible for the Appellant's being held in custody by the Cameroon authorities from 15 April 1996 until 21 February 1997.

16. Third, the Appellant contends that the Trial Chamber erred in holding that the detention under Rule 40 between 21 February 1997 and 3 March 1997, when the Rule 40*bis* request was approved, does not constitute a violation of the Appellant's rights under Rule 40. Further, the Trial Chamber erred in holding that there is no remedy for a provisionally detained person before the detaining State has transferred him prior to the indictment and warrant for arrest.

17. Fourth, the Appellant argues that the Trial Chamber erred in failing to declare that there was a breach of the Appellant's rights as a result of the Prosecutor's delay in presenting the indictment for confirmation by the Judge. Furthermore, the Appellant contends that the Trial Chamber erred in holding that the Appellant failed to show that the Prosecutor violated his rights due to the length of the detention or delay in transferring the Appellant. Similarly, the Appellant contends that the Trial Chamber erred

in holding that the provisional charges and detention of the Appellant were justified under the circumstances.

18. Fifth, with respect to the effect of the detention on the Tribunal's jurisdiction, the Appellant sets forth three arguments. The Appellant's first argument is that the overall length of his detention, which was 22 months, was unreasonable, and therefore, unlawful. Consequently, the Tribunal no longer has personal jurisdiction over the accused. The Appellant next asserts that the pre-transfer detention of the accused was 'very oppressive, torturous and discriminative'. As a result, the Appellant asserts that he is entitled to unconditional release. Finally, the Appellant contends that his detention cannot be justified on the grounds of urgency. In this regard, the length of time the Appellant was provisionally detained without benefit of formal charges amounts to a 'monstrous degree of prosecutorial indiscretion and apathy'.

19. In conclusion, the Appellant requests the Appeals Chamber to quash the Trial Chamber Decision and unconditionally release the Appellant.

B. The Prosecutor

20. In responding to the Appellant's arguments, the Prosecutor relies on three primary counter-arguments, which will be summarised. First, the Prosecutor submits that the Appellant was not in the custody of the Tribunal before his transfer on 19 November 1997, and consequently, no event taking place prior to that date violates the Statute or the Rules. The Prosecutor contends that her request under Rule 40 or Rule 40*bis* for the detention and transfer of the accused has no impact on this conclusion.

21. In support of this argument, the Prosecutor contends that the Appellant was detained on 15 April 1996 at the instance of the Rwandan and Belgian governments. Although the Prosecutor made a request on 17 April 1996 to Cameroon for provisional measures, the Prosecutor asserts that this request was 'only superimposed on the pre-existing request of Rwanda and Belgium' for the detention of the Appellant.

22. The Prosecutor further argues that the Tribunal does not have custody of a person pursuant to Rule 40*bis* until such person has actually been physically transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit. Although an Order pursuant to Rule 40*bis* was filed directing Cameroon to transfer the Appellant on 4 March 1997, the Appellant was not actually transferred until 19 November 1997. Consequently, the responsibility of the Prosecutor for any delay in bringing the Appellant to trial commences only after the Tribunal established custody of the Appellant on 19 November 1997.

23. The Prosecutor argues that custody involves 'care and control' and since the Appellant was not under the 'care and control' of the Tribunal prior to his transfer, the Prosecutor is not responsible for any delay resulting from Cameroon's failure to promptly transfer the Appellant. Furthermore, the Prosecutor asserts that Article 28 of the Statute strikes a delicate balance of distributing obligations between the Tribunal and States. Under this arrangement, 'neither entity is an agent or, *alter ego*, of the other: and the

actions of the one may not be imputed on the other just because they were carrying out duties apportioned to them under the Statute’.

24. The Prosecutor acknowledges that although the ‘delay in this transfer is indeed long, there is no factual basis to impute the fault of it to the ICTR Prosecutor’. She summarises this line of argument by concluding that since the Appellant was not in the custody of the Tribunal before his transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit on 19 November 1997, it follows that the legality of the detention of the Appellant while in the custody of Cameroon is a matter for the laws of Cameroon, and beyond the competence of the Appeals Chamber.

25. The second principal argument of the Prosecution is that the Prosecutor’s failure to request Cameroon to transfer the Appellant on 16 May 1996 does not give the Appellant ‘prescriptive claims against the Prosecutor’s eventual prosecution’. The thrust of this contention seeks to counter the argument that the Prosecutor is somehow estopped from prosecuting the Appellant as the result of correspondence between the Prosecutor and both Cameroon and the Appellant himself.

26. The Prosecutor asserts that simply because at a certain stage of the investigation she communicated to the Appellant that she was not proceeding against him, this cannot have the effect of creating statutory or other limitations against prosecution for genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Moreover, the Prosecutor argues that she cannot be barred from proceeding against an accused simply because she did not proceed with the prosecution at the first available opportunity. Finally, the Prosecutor claims that her ‘abstention from proceeding against the Appellant-Defendant before 3 March 1997 was due to on-going investigation’.

27. The third central argument of the Prosecutor is that any violations suffered by the Appellant prior to his transfer to the Tribunal’s detention unit have been cured by subsequent proceedings before the Tribunal, presumably the confirmation of the Appellant’s indictment and his initial appearance.

28. In conclusion, the Prosecution argues that there is no provision within the Statute that provides for the issuance of the order sought by the Appellant, and, in any event, the remedy sought by the Appellant is not warranted in the circumstances. In the event the Appeals Chamber finds a violation of the Appellant’s rights, the Prosecutor suggests that the following remedies would be proper: 1) an Order for the expeditious trial of the Appellant; and/or 2) credit for the period of undue delay as part of the sentence, if the Appellant is found guilty, pursuant to Rule 101(D).

C. Arguments of the Parties Pursuant to the 3 June 1999 Scheduling Order

29. With respect to the specific questions addressed to the Prosecutor in the 3 June 1999 Scheduling Order, the parties submitted the following answers.

1. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 21 February 1997 and 19 November 1997 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in relation to personal jurisdiction.

30. On 21 February 1997, following the Decision of the Cameroon Court of Appeal to release the Appellant, the Prosecutor submitted a Rule 40 Request to detain the Appellant for the benefit of the Tribunal. Further, the Prosecutor submits that following the issuance of the Rule 40*bis* Order on 4 March 1997, Cameroon was obligated, pursuant to Article 28, to implement the Prosecutor's request. However, because the Tribunal did not have custody of the Appellant until his transfer on 19 November 1997, the Prosecutor contends that the Tribunal 'could not regulate the conditions of detention or other matters regarding the confinement of the accused'. Nevertheless, the Prosecutor argues that between 21 February 1997 and 19 November 1997, 'there existed what could be described as joined or concurrent personal jurisdiction over the Appellant, the personal jurisdiction being shared between the Tribunal and Cameroon'.

31. The Appellant contends that Cameroon was holding him at the behest of the Prosecutor during this entire period. Furthermore, the Appellant argues that '[t]he only Cameroonian law applicable to him was the law concerning the extradition'. Consequently, he argues that the issue of concurrent or joint personal jurisdiction by both the Tribunal and Cameroon is 'fallacious, misleading and unacceptable'. In addition, he asserts that, read in conjunction, Articles 19 and 28 of the Statute confer obligations upon the Detaining State only when the appropriate documents are supplied. Since the Warrant of Arrest and Order for Surrender was not signed by Judge Aspegren until 23 October 1997, the Appellant contends that his detention prior to that date was illegal, given that he was being held after 21 February 1997 on the basis of the Prosecutor's Rule 40 request.

2. Whether the Appellant was held in Cameroon for any period between 23 February 1998 and 11 September 1998 at the request of the Tribunal, and if so, what effect did this detention have in regard to personal jurisdiction.

32. The parties are in agreement that the Appellant was transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit on 19 November 1997, and consequently was not held by Cameroon at any period after that date.

3. The reason for any delay between the request for transfer and the actual transfer.

33. The Prosecutor fails to give any reason for this delay. Rather, without further comment, the Prosecutor attributes to Cameroon the period of delay between the request for transfer and the actual transfer.

34. The Appellant contends that the Prosecutor 'forgot about the matter and didn't really bother about the actual transfer of the suspect'. He argues that since Cameroon had been

holding him pursuant to the Tribunal's Rule 40*bis* Order, Cameroon had no further interest in him, other than to transfer him to the custody of the Tribunal. In support of his contentions in this regard, the Appellant advances several arguments. First, the Prosecutor did not submit the indictment for confirmation before the expiration of the 30-day limit of the provisional detention as requested by Judge Aspegren in the Rule 40*bis* Order. Second, the Appellant asserts that the Prosecutor didn't make any contact with the authorities of Cameroon to provide for the transfer of the Appellant pursuant to the Rule 40*bis* Order. Third, the Prosecutor did not ensure that the Appellant's right to appear promptly before a Judge of the Tribunal was respected. Fourth, following the Rule 40*bis* Order, the Appellant claims, '[t]he Prosecutor didn't make any follow-up and didn't even show any interest'. Fifth, the Appellant contends that the triggering mechanism in prompting his transfer was his filing of a *writ of habeas corpus*. In conclusion, the Appellant rhetorically questions the Prosecutor, 'How can she expect the Cameroonian authorities to be more interested [in his case] than her?' [sic].

4. The reason for any delay between the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal and his initial appearance.

35. The Prosecutor contends that the Trial Chamber and the Registry have responsibility for scheduling the initial appearance of accused persons.

36. While the Appellant acknowledges that the Registrar bears some responsibility for the delay, he argues that the Prosecutor 'plays a big role in initiating of hearings' and plays a 'key part in the process'. The Appellant contends that the Prosecutor took no action to bring him before the Trial Chamber as quickly as possible. On the contrary, the Appellant asserts that the Prosecutor delayed seeking confirmation of the indictment and 'caused the removal of the Defence's motion for Habeas Corpus from the hearing list on 31 October 1997 thus delaying further the appearance of the suspect before the Judges'.

5. The reason for any delay between the initial appearance of the Appellant and the hearing on the Appellant's urgent motion.

37. With respect to the delay between the initial appearance and the hearing on the Urgent Motion, the Prosecutor again disclaims any responsibility for scheduling matters, arguing that the Registry, in consultation with the Trial Chambers, maintains the docket. The hearing on the Urgent Motion was originally docketed for 14 May 1998. However, on 12 May 1998, Counsel for the Appellant informed the Registry that he was not able to appear and defend his client at that time, because he had not been assigned co-counsel as he had requested and because the Tribunal had not paid his fees. Consequently, the hearing was re-scheduled for 11 September 1998.

6. The disposition of the *writ of habeas corpus* that the Appellant asserts that he filed on 2 October 1997.

38. With respect to the disposition of the *writ of habeas corpus* filed by the Appellant on 2 October 1997, the Prosecutor replied as follows:

24. The Prosecutor respectfully submits that following the filing of the *habeas corpus* on 2 October 1997 the President wrote the Appellant by letter of 8 October 1997, informing him that the Office of the Prosecutor had informed him that an indictment would be ready shortly.

25. The Prosecutor is not aware of any other disposition of the *writ of habeas corpus*.

39. In fact, the letter referred to was written on 8 September 1997—prior to the filing of the *writ of habeas corpus*—and the Appellant contends that it was precisely this letter which prompted him to file the *writ of habeas corpus*. Moreover, the Appellant asserts that he was informed that the hearing on the *writ of habeas corpus* was to be held on 31 October 1997. However, directly contradicting the claim of the Prosecutor, the Appellant asserts that ‘the Registry without the consent of the Defence removed the hearing of the motion from the calendar only because the Prosecution promised to issue the indictment soon’. Moreover, the Appellant claims that the indictment was filed and confirmed on 22 October 1997 and 23 October 1997, respectively, in order to pre-empt the hearing on the *writ of habeas corpus*. The Appellant is of the view that the *writ of habeas corpus* is still pending, since the Trial Chamber has not heard it, notwithstanding the fact that it was filed on 29 September 1997.

III. APPLICABLE AND AUTHORITATIVE PROVISIONS

40. The relevant parts of the applicable Articles of the Statute, Rules of the Tribunal and international human rights treaties are set forth below for ease of reference. The Report of the U.N. Secretary-General establishes the sources of law for the Tribunal. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights is part of general international law and is applied on that basis. Regional human rights treaties, such as the European Convention on Human Rights and the American Convention on Human Rights, and the jurisprudence developed thereunder, are persuasive authority which may be of assistance in applying and interpreting the Tribunal’s applicable law. Thus, they are not binding of their own accord on the Tribunal. They are, however, authoritative as evidence of international custom.

A. The Statute

Article 8

Concurrent Jurisdiction

1. The International Tribunal for Rwanda and national courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute persons for serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of Rwanda and Rwandan citizens for such violations committed in the territory of neighbouring States, between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994.

2. The International Tribunal for Rwanda shall have primacy over the national courts of all States. At any stage of the procedure, the International Tribunal for Rwanda may formally request national courts to defer to its competence in accordance with the present Statute and Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the International Tribunal for Rwanda.

Article 17

Investigation and Preparation of Indictment

1. [...]
2. The Prosecutor shall have the power to question suspects, victims and witnesses, to collect evidence and to conduct on-site investigations. In carrying out these tasks, the Prosecutor may, as appropriate, seek the assistance of the State authorities concerned.
3. [...]
4. Upon a determination that a prima facie case exists, the Prosecutor shall prepare an Indictment containing a concise statement of the facts and the crime or crimes with which the accused is charged under the present Statute. The Indictment shall be transmitted to a Judge of the Trial Chamber.

Article 20

Rights of the accused

1. [...]
2. [...]
3. [...]
4. In the determination of any charge against the accused pursuant to the present statute, the accused shall be entitled to the following minimum guarantees, in full equality:
 - a. To be informed promptly and in detail in a language in which he or she understands of the nature and cause of the charge against him or her;
 - b. [...]
 - c. To be tried without undue delay;
 - d. [...]
 - e. [...]
 - f. [...]
 - g. [...]

Article 24

Appellate Proceedings

1. [...]
2. The Appeals Chamber may affirm, reverse or revise the decisions taken by the Trial Chambers.

Article 28

Cooperation and Judicial Assistance

1. States shall cooperate with the International Tribunal for Rwanda in the investigation and prosecution of persons accused of committing serious violations of international humanitarian law.
2. States shall comply without undue delay with any request for assistance or an order issued by a Trial Chamber, including, but not limited to:
 - a. The identification and location of persons;
 - b. [...]
 - c. [...]
 - d. The arrest or detention of persons;
 - e. The surrender or transfer of the accused to the International Tribunal for Rwanda.

B. The Rules

Rule 2 Definitions

[...]

Accused: A person against whom one or more counts in an indictment have been confirmed in accordance with Rule 47.

[...]

Suspect: A person concerning whom the Prosecutor possesses reliable information which tends to show that he may have committed a crime over which the Tribunal has jurisdiction.

[...]

Rule 40

Provisional Measures

(A) In case of urgency, the Prosecutor may request any State:

- i. to arrest a suspect and place him in custody;
- ii. to seize all physical evidence;
- iii. to take all necessary measures to prevent the escape of a suspect or an accused, injury to or intimidation of a victim or witness, or the destruction of evidence.

The state concerned shall comply forthwith, in accordance with Article 28 of the Statute.

(B) Upon showing that a major impediment does not allow the State to keep the suspect in custody or to take all necessary measures to prevent his escape, the Prosecutor may apply to a Judge designated by the President for an order to transfer the suspect to the seat of the Tribunal or to such other place as the Bureau may decide, and to detain him provisionally. After consultation with the Prosecutor and the Registrar, the transfer shall be arranged between the State authorities concerned, the authorities of the host Country of the Tribunal and the Registrar.

(C) In the cases referred to in paragraph B, the suspect shall, from the moment of his transfer, enjoy all the rights provided for in Rule 42, and may apply for review to a Trial Chamber of the Tribunal. The Chamber, after hearing the Prosecutor, shall rule upon the application.

(D) The suspect shall be released if (i) the Chamber so rules, or (ii) the Prosecutor fails to issue an indictment within twenty days of the transfer.

Rule 40bis

Transfer and Provisional Detention of Suspects

(A) In the conduct of an investigation, the Prosecutor may transmit to the Registrar, for an order by a Judge assigned pursuant to Rule 28, a request for the transfer to and provisional detention of a suspect in the premises of the detention unit of the Tribunal. This request shall indicate the grounds upon which the request is made and, unless the Prosecutor wishes only to question the suspect, shall include a provisional charge and a summary of the material upon which the Prosecutor relies.

(B) The Judge shall order the transfer and provisional detention of the suspect if the following conditions are met:

(i) the Prosecutor has requested a State to arrest the suspect and to place him in custody, in accordance with Rule 40, or the suspect is otherwise detained by a State;

(ii) after hearing the Prosecutor, the Judge considers that there is a reliable and consistent body of material which tends to show that the suspect may have committed a crime over which the Tribunal has jurisdiction; and

(iii) the Judge considers provisional detention to be a necessary measure to prevent the escape of the suspect, physical or mental injury to or intimidation of a victim or witness or the destruction of evidence, or to be otherwise necessary for the conduct of the investigation.

(C) The provisional detention of the suspect may be ordered for a period not exceeding 30 days from the day after the transfer of the suspect to the detention unit of the Tribunal.

(D) The order for the transfer and provisional detention of the suspect shall be signed by the Judge and bear the seal of the Tribunal. The order shall set forth the basis of the request made by the Prosecutor under Sub-Rule (A), including the provisional charge, and shall state the Judge's grounds for making the order, having regard to Sub-Rule (B). The order shall also specify the initial time limit for the provisional detention of the suspect, and be accompanied by a statement of the rights of a suspect, as specified in this Rule and in Rules 42 and 43.

(E) As soon as possible, copies of the order and of the request by the Prosecutor are served upon the suspect and his counsel by the Registrar.

(F) At the end of the period of detention, at the Prosecutor's request indicating the grounds upon which it is made and if warranted by the needs of the investigation, the Judge who made the initial order, or another Judge of the same Trial Chamber, may decide, subsequent to an *inter partes* hearing, to extend the provisional detention for a period not exceeding 30 days.

(G) At the end of that extension, at the Prosecutor's request indicating the grounds upon which it is made and if warranted by special circumstances, the Judge who made the initial order, or another Judge of the same Trial Chamber, may decide, subsequent to an *inter partes* hearing, to extend the detention for a further period not exceeding 30 days.

(H) The total period of provisional detention shall in no case exceed 90 days, at the end of which, in the event the indictment has not been confirmed and an arrest warrant signed, the suspect shall be released or, if appropriate, be delivered to the authorities of the State to which the request was initially made.

(I) The provisions in Rules 55(B) to 59 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the execution of the order for the transfer and provisional detention of the suspect.

(J) After his transfer to the seat of the Tribunal, the suspect, assisted by his counsel, shall be brought, without delay, before the Judge who made the initial order, or another Judge of the same Trial Chamber, who shall ensure that his rights are respected.

(K) During detention, the Prosecutor, the suspect or his counsel may submit to the Trial Chamber of which the Judge who made the initial order is a member, all applications relative to the propriety of provisional detention or to the suspect's release.

(L) Without prejudice to Sub-Rules (C) to (H), the Rules relating to the detention on remand of accused persons shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the provisional detention of persons under this Rule.

Rule 58

National Extradition Provisions

The obligations laid down in Article 28 of the Statute shall prevail over any legal impediment to the surrender or transfer of the accused or of a witness to the Tribunal which may exist under the national law or extradition treaties of the State concerned.

Rule 62

Initial Appearance of Accused

Upon his transfer to the Tribunal, the accused shall be brought before a Trial Chamber without delay, and shall be formally charged. The Trial Chamber shall:

- (i) satisfy itself that the right of the accused to counsel is respected
- (ii) read or have the indictment read to the accused in a language he speaks and understands, and satisfy itself that the accused understands the indictment;
- (iii) call upon the accused to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty on each count; should the accused fail to do so, enter a plea of not guilty on his behalf;
- (iv) in case of a plea of not guilty, instruct the Registrar to set a date for trial.

Rule 72

Preliminary Motions

- A. Preliminary motions by either party shall be brought within sixty days following disclosure by the Prosecutor to the Defence of all material envisaged by Rule 66(A)(I), and in any case before the hearing on the merits.
- B. Preliminary motions by the accused are:
 - i. objections based on lack of jurisdiction;
 - ii. [...]
 - iii. [...]
 - iv. [...]
- C. The Trial Chamber shall dispose of preliminary motions *in limine litis*.
- D. Decisions on preliminary motions are without interlocutory appeal, save in the case of dismissal of an objection based on lack of jurisdiction, where an appeal will lie as of right.
- E. Notice of Appeal envisaged in Sub-Rule (D) shall be filed within seven days from the impugned decision.
- F. Failure to comply with the time-limits prescribed in this Rule shall constitute a waiver of the rights. The Trial Chamber may, however, grant relief from the waiver upon showing good cause.

C. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Article 9

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedures as are established by law.
2. Anyone who is arrested shall be informed, at the time of his arrest, of the reasons for his arrest and shall be promptly informed of any charges against him.
3. Anyone arrested or detained on a criminal charge shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorised by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release. It shall not be a general rule that persons awaiting trial shall be detained in custody, but release may be subject to guarantees to appear for trial, at any other stage of the judicial proceedings, and, should occasion arise, for execution of the judgment.
4. Anyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings before a court, in order that that court may decide without delay on the lawfulness of his detention and order his release if the detention is not lawful.

Article 14

1. [...]
2. [...]
3. In the determination of any criminal charges against him, everyone shall be entitled to the following minimum guarantees, in full equality:
 - a. To be informed promptly and in detail in a language which he understands of the nature and cause of the charge against him;
 - b. [...]
 - c. [...]
 - d. [...]
 - e. [...]
 - f. [...]
 - g. [...]
4. [...]
5. [...]
6. [...]
7. [...]

D. European Convention on Human Rights

Article 5

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law;

- a. [...]
- b. [...]
- c. the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence or when it is reasonably considered necessary to prevent his committing an offence or fleeing after having done so;
- d. [...]
- e. [...]
- f. the lawful arrest or detention of a person against whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or extradition.

2. Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a language which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.

3. Everyone arrested or detained in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1(c) of this Article shall be brought before a judge or other officer authorised by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release pending trial. Release may be conditioned by guarantees to appear for trial.

4. Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.

Article 6

- 1. [...]
- 2. [...]
- 3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:
 - a. to be informed promptly, in a language which he understands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusation against him;
 - b. [...]
 - c. [...]
 - d. [...]
 - e. [...]

E. American Convention on Human Rights

Article 7

- 1. [...]
- 2. [...]

3. No one shall be subject to arbitrary arrest or detention.
4. Anyone who is detained shall be informed of the reasons for his detention and shall be promptly notified of the charge or charges against him.
5. Any person detained shall be brought promptly before judge or other law officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to be released without prejudice to the continuation of the proceedings. His release may be subject to guarantees to assure his appearance for trial.
6. Anyone who is deprived of his liberty shall be entitled to recourse to a competent court, in order that the court may decide without delay on the lawfulness of his arrest or detention and order his release if the arrest or detention is unlawful. In states Parties whose law provides that anyone who believes himself to be threatened with deprivation of his liberty is entitled to recourse to a competent court in order that it may decide on the lawfulness of such threat, this remedy may not be restricted or abolished. The interested party or another person in his behalf is entitled to seek these remedies.
7. [...]

Article 8

1. Every person has the right to a hearing, with due guarantees and within a reasonable time, by a competent, independent, and impartial tribunal, previously established by law, in the substantiation of any accusation of a criminal nature made against him or for the determination of his rights and obligations of a civil, labor, fiscal, or any other nature.
2. Every person accused of a criminal offense has the right to be presumed innocent so long as his guilt has not been proven according to law. During the proceedings, every person is entitled, with full equality, to the following minimum guarantees:
 - a. [...]
 - b. prior notification in detail to the accused of the charges against him;
 - c. [...]
 - d. [...]
 - e. [...]
 - f. [...]
 - g. [...]
 - h. [...]
3. [...]
4. [...]
5. [...]

IV. DISCUSSION

A. Were the rights of the Appellant violated?

1. Status of the Appellant

41. Before discussing the alleged violations of the Appellant's rights, it is important to establish his status following his arrest and during his provisional detention. Rule 2 sets forth definitions of certain terms used in the Rules. The indictment against the Appellant was not confirmed until 23 October 1997. Pursuant to the definitions of 'accused' and 'suspect' set forth in Rule 2, the Appeals Chamber finds that the Appellant was a 'suspect' from his arrest on 15 April 1996 until the indictment was confirmed on 23 October 1997. After 23 October 1997, the Appellant's status changed and he became an 'accused'.

2. The right to be promptly charged under Rule 40bis

42. Unlike national systems, which have police forces to effectuate the arrest of suspects, the Tribunal lacks any such enforcement agency. Consequently, in the absence of the suspect's voluntary surrender, the Tribunal must rely on the international community for the arrest and provisional detention of suspects. The Statute and Rules of the Tribunal establish a system whereby States may provisionally detain suspects at the behest of the Tribunal pending transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit.

43. In the present case, there are two relevant periods of time under which Cameroon was clearly holding the Appellant at the behest of the Tribunal. Cameroon arrested the Appellant pursuant to the Rwandan and Belgian extradition requests on 15 April 1996. Two days later, the Prosecutor made her first Rule 40 request for provisional detention of the Appellant. On 6 May 1996, the nineteenth day of the Appellant's provisional detention pursuant to Rule 40, the Prosecutor requested the Cameroon authorities to extend the Appellant's detention for an additional three weeks. On 16 May 1996, however, the Prosecutor informed Cameroon that she was no longer interested in pursuing a case against the Appellant at 'that stage'. Thus, the first period runs from 17 April 1996 until 16 May 1996—a period of 29 days, or nine days longer than allowed under Rule 40. This first period will be discussed, *infra*, at sub-section IV.B.2.

44. The second period during which Cameroon detained the Appellant for the Tribunal commenced on 4 March 1997 and continued until the Appellant's transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit on 19 November 1997. On 21 February 1997, the Cameroon Court rejected Rwanda's extradition request and ordered the release of the Appellant. However, on the same day, while the Appellant was still in custody, the Prosecutor again made a request pursuant to Rule 40 for the provisional detention of the Appellant. This request was followed by the Rule 40bis request, which resulted in the Rule 40bis Order of Judge Aspegren dated 3 March 1997, and filed on 4 March 1997. This Order comprised, *inter alia*, four components. First, it ordered the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal's detention unit. Second, it ordered the provisional detention in the Tribunal's detention unit of the Appellant for a maximum period of thirty days. Third, it requested the Cameroon authorities to comply with the transfer order and to maintain the Appellant in custody until the actual transfer. Fourth, it requested the Prosecutor to submit the

indictment against the Appellant prior to the expiration of the 30-day provisional detention.

45. However, notwithstanding the 4 March 1997 Rule 40*bis* Order, the record reflects that the Tribunal took no further action until 22 October 1997. On that day, the Deputy Prosecutor, Mr. Bernard Muna (who had spent much of his professional career working in the Cameroon legal community prior to joining the Office of the Prosecutor) submitted the indictment against the Appellant for confirmation. Judge Aspegren confirmed the indictment against the Appellant the next day and simultaneously issued a Warrant of Arrest and Order for Surrender addressed to the Government of Cameroon on 23 October 1997. However, the Appellant was not transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit until 19 November 1997. Thus, Cameroon held the Appellant at the behest of the Tribunal from 4 March 1997 until his transfer on 19 November 1997. At the time the indictment was confirmed, the Appellant had been in custody for 233 days, more than 7 months, from the date the Rule 40*bis* Order was filed.

46. It is important that Rule 40 and Rule 40*bis* be read together. It is equally important in interpreting these provisions that the Appeals Chamber follow the principle of 'effective interpretation', a well-established principle under international law. Interpreting Rule 40 and Rule 40*bis* together, we conclude that both Rules must be read restrictively. Rule 40 permits the Prosecutor to request any State, in the event of urgency, to arrest a suspect and place him in custody. The purpose of Rule 40*bis* is to restrict the length of time a suspect may be detained without being indicted. We cannot accept that the Prosecutor, acting alone under Rule 40, has an unlimited power to keep a suspect under provisional detention in a State, when Rule 40*bis* places time limits on such detention if the suspect is detained at the Tribunal's detention unit. Rather, the principle of effective interpretation mandates that these Rules be read together and that they be restrictively interpreted.

47. Although both Rule 40 and Rule 40*bis* apply to the provisional detention of suspects, there are important differences between the two Rules. For example, the time limits under which the Prosecutor must issue an indictment vary depending upon which Rule forms the basis of the provisional detention. Pursuant to Rule 40(D)(ii), the suspect must be released if the Prosecutor fails to issue an indictment within 20 days of the transfer of the suspect to the Tribunal's detention unit, while Rule 40*bis*(H) allows the Prosecutor 90 days to issue an indictment. However, the remedy for failure to issue the indictment in the proscribed period of time is the same under both Rules: *release of the suspect*.

48. The Prosecutor may apply for Rule 40*bis* measures 'in the conduct of an investigation'. Rule 40*bis* applies only if the Prosecutor has previously requested provisional measures pursuant to Rule 40 or if the suspect is otherwise already being detained by the State to whom the Rule 40*bis* request is made. The Rule 40*bis* request, which is made to a Judge assigned pursuant to Rule 28, must include a provisional charge and a summary of the material upon which the Prosecutor relies.

49. The Judge must make two findings before a Rule 40*bis* order is issued. First, there must be a reliable and consistent body of material that tends to show that the suspect may

have committed an offence within the Tribunal's jurisdiction. Second, the Judge must find that provisional detention is a necessary measure to 'prevent the escape of the suspect, physical or mental injury to or intimidation of a victim or witness or the destruction of evidence, or to be otherwise necessary for the conduct of the investigation'.

50. Pursuant to Rule 40*bis*(C), the provisional detention of the suspect may be ordered for an initial period of thirty days. This initial thirty-day period begins to run from the 'day after the transfer of the suspect to the detention unit of the Tribunal'. Two additional thirty-day period extensions are permissible. At the end of the first thirty-day period, the Prosecutor must show that an extension is warranted by the needs of the investigation in order to have the provisional detention extended. At the end of the second thirty-day period, the Prosecutor must demonstrate that special circumstances warrant the continued provisional detention of the suspect for the final thirty-day period to be granted. In no event shall the total period of provisional detention of a suspect exceed ninety days. At the end of this cumulative ninety-day period, the suspect must be released if the indictment has not been confirmed and an arrest warrant signed.

51. The Statute and Rules of the Tribunal envision a system whereby the suspect is provided a copy of the Prosecutor's request, including provisional charges, in conjunction with the Rule 40*bis* Order. He is also served a copy of the confirmed indictment with the Warrant of Arrest, and pursuant to Rule 62(ii) he is to be orally informed of the charges against him at the initial appearance. In the present case, 6 days elapsed between the filing of the Rule 40*bis* Order on 4 March 1997 and the date on which the Appellant apparently was shown a copy of the Rule 40*bis* Order. Additionally, 27 days elapsed between the confirmation of the indictment against the Appellant on 23 October 1998 and the service of a copy of the indictment upon the Appellant on 19 November 1998.

52. The Trial Chamber found that the Appellant was initially arrested at the behest of Rwanda and Belgium, a point the Prosecutor reiterates in this appeal, contending that the Prosecutor's request was merely 'superimposed' on the existing requests of those States. However, the Prosecutor fails to acknowledge that on 16 May 1996, she requested a three-week extension of the provisional detention of the Appellant. The Appeals Chamber finds the Appellant was detained at the request of the Prosecutor from 17 April 1996 through 16 May 1996. This detention—for 29 days—violated the 20-day limitation in Rule 40.

53. The Prosecutor also successfully argued before the Trial Chamber that Rule 40*bis* is inapplicable, since its operative provisions do not apply until after the transfer of the suspect to the Tribunal's detention unit. It is clear, however, that the purpose of Rule 40 and Rule 40*bis* is to limit the time that a suspect may be provisionally detained without the issuance of an indictment. This comports with international human rights standards. Moreover, if the time limits set forth in Rule 40(D) and Rule 40*bis*(H) are not complied with, those rules mandate that the suspect must be released.

54. Although the Appellant was not physically transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit until 19 November 1997, he had been detained since 21 February 1997 solely at the behest of the Prosecutor. The Appeals Chamber considers that if the Appellant were in the constructive custody of the Tribunal after the Rule 40bis Order was filed on 4 March 1997, the provisions of that Rule would apply. In order to determine if the period of time that the Appellant spent in Cameroon at the behest of the Tribunal is attributable to the Tribunal for purposes of Rule 40bis, it is necessary to analyse the relationship between Cameroon and the Tribunal with respect to the detention of the Appellant. In fact, the Prosecutor has acknowledged that between 21 February 1997 and 19 November 1997, 'there existed what could be described as joined or concurrent personal jurisdiction over the Appellant, the personal jurisdiction being shared between the Tribunal and Cameroon'.

55. The Tribunal issued a valid request pursuant to Rule 40 for provisional detention, and shortly thereafter, pursuant to Rule 40bis, for the transfer of the Appellant. These requests were honoured by Cameroon, and *but for* those requests, the Appellant would have been released on 21 February 1997, when the Cameroon Court of Appeal denied the Rwandan extradition request and ordered the immediate release of the Appellant.

56. Thus, the Appellant's situation is analogous to the 'detainer' process, whereby a special type of warrant (known as a 'detainer' or 'hold order') is filed against a person *already in custody* to ensure that he will be available to the demanding authority upon completion of the present term of confinement. A 'detainer' is a device whereby the requesting State can obtain the custody of the detainee upon his release from the detaining State. The U.S. Supreme Court has stated that, '[I]n such a case, the State holding the prisoner in immediate confinement acts as agent for the demanding State...'. Moreover, that court has held that since the detaining state acts as an agent for the demanding state pursuant to the detainer, the petitioner is in custody for purposes of filing a *writ of habeas corpus* pursuant to U.S. law. Thus, the court reached the conclusion that the accused is in the constructive custody of the requesting State and that the detaining State acts as agent for the requesting state for purposes of *habeas corpus* challenges. In the present case, the relationship between the Tribunal and Cameroon is even stronger, on the basis of the international obligations imposed on States by the Security Council under Article 28 of the Statute.

57. Other cases have held that a defendant sentenced to concurrent terms in separate jurisdictions is in the constructive custody of the second jurisdiction after the first jurisdiction has imposed sentence on him. For example, In the Matter of Eric Grier, Peritioner v. Walter J. Flood, as Warden of the Nassau County Jail, Respondent, the court concluded that '*constructive custody attached before any sentence was imposed*. In Ex p. Hampton M. Newell, the court ruled that although the petitioner was in the physical custody of the federal authorities, he was in the constructive custody of the State of Texas on the basis of a detainer that Texas had filed against him.

58. The Prosecutor relies, in part, on a definition of custody ('care and control') from an oft-cited law dictionary. However, this same law dictionary also defines custody as 'the

detainer of a man's person by virtue of lawful process or authority'. Thus, even using the Prosecutor's authority, custody can be taken to mean the detention of an individual pursuant to lawful authority even in the absence of physical control. It would follow, therefore, that notwithstanding a lack of physical control, the Appellant *was* in the Tribunal's custody *if* he were being detained pursuant to 'lawful process or authority' of the Tribunal. Or, as a Singapore court noted in Re Onkar Shrian, '[T]hat the person bailed is in the eye of the law, for many purposes, esteemed to be as much in the prison of the court by which he is bailed, as if he were in the actual custody of the proper gaoler'.

59. The Prosecutor has also relied on In the Matter of Surrender of Elizaphan Ntakirutimana in support of the proposition that under international law, an order by the Tribunal for the transfer of an individual does not give the Tribunal custody over such a person until the physical transfer has taken place. Reliance on this case is misguided in two respects. First, the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals recently upheld a District Court ruling that reversed the Decision of the Magistrate that Ntakirutimana could not be extradited. Second, notwithstanding the reversal, Ntakirutimana had challenged the transfer process and is thus clearly distinguishable from the facts in the present case. There is no evidence here that either the Appellant sought to challenge his transfer to the Tribunal, or that Cameroon was unwilling to transfer him. On the contrary, the Deputy Prosecutor of the Cameroon Centre Province Court of Appeal, appearing at the Rwandan extradition hearing on 31 May 1996, argued that the Tribunal had primacy and, thus, convinced that Court to defer to the Tribunal. Moreover, as noted above, the President of Cameroon signed a decree order to transfer the Appellant prior to the signing of the Warrant of Arrest and Order for Surrender by Judge Aspegren on 23 October 1997. These facts indicate that Cameroon was willing to transfer the Appellant.

60. The co-operation of Cameroon is consistent with its obligation to the Tribunal. The Statute and Rules mandate that States must comply with a request of the Tribunal for the surrender or transfer of the accused to the Tribunal. This obligation on Member States of the United Nations is mandatory, since the Tribunal was established pursuant to Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

61. Thus, the Appeals Chamber finds that, under the facts of this case, Cameroon was holding the Appellant in constructive custody for the Tribunal by virtue of the Tribunal's lawful process or authority. In the present case, the Prosecutor specifically requested Cameroon to detain and transfer the Appellant. The Statute of the Tribunal obligated Cameroon to detain the Appellant for the benefit of the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor has admitted that it had personal jurisdiction over the Appellant after the Rule 40*bis* Order was issued. That Order also asserts personal and subject matter jurisdiction. This finding does not mean, however, that the Tribunal was responsible for each and every aspect of the Appellant's detention, but only for the decision to place and maintain the Appellant in custody. However, as will be discussed below, this limitation imposed on the Tribunal is consistent with international law. Even if the appellant was not in the constructive custody of the Tribunal, the principles governing the provisional detention of suspects should apply.

62. The Appeals Chamber recognises that international standards view provisional (or pre-trial) detention as an exception, rather than the rule. However, in light of the gravity of the charges faced by accused persons before the Tribunal, provisional detention is often warranted, so long as the provisions of Rule 40 and Rule 40*bis* are adhered to. The issue, therefore, is whether the length of time the Appellant spent in provisional detention, prior to the confirmation of his indictment, violates established international legal norms for provisional detention of suspects.

63. It is well-established under international human rights law that pre-trial detention of suspects is lawful, as long as such pre-trial detention does not extend beyond a reasonable period of time. The U.N. Human Rights Committee, in interpreting Article 9(2) of the ICCPR, has developed considerable jurisprudence with respect to the permissible length of time that a suspect may be detained without being charged. For example, in Glenford Campbell v. Jamaica, the suspect was detained for 45 days without being formally charged. In holding this delay to be a violation of ICCPR Article 9(2), the Committee stated the following:

[T]he Committee finds that the author was not "promptly" informed of the charges against him: one of the most important reasons for the requirement of "prompt" information on a criminal charge is to enable a detained individual to request a prompt decision on the lawfulness of his or her detention by a competent judicial authority. A delay from 12 December 1984 to 26 January 1985 does not meet the requirement of article 9, paragraph 2.

64. Similar findings have been made in other cases involving alleged violations of ICCPR Article 9(2). For example, in Moriana Hernández Valentini de Bazzano, a period of eight months between the commencement of detention and filing of formal charges was held to violate ICCPR Article 9(2). In Monja Jaona, a period of eight months under which the suspect was placed under house arrest without being formally charged was found to be a violation of ICCPR Article 9(2). In Alba Pietraroia, the petitioner was detained for seven months without being formally charged and the Committee held that this detention violated ICCPR Article 9(2). Finally, in Leopoldo Buffo Carballal, a delay of one year between arrest and formal filing of charges was held to be a violation of ICCPR Article 9(2).

65. The Appeals Chamber also notes that the delay in indicting the Appellant apparently caused concern for President Kama. In a letter sent to the Appellant's Counsel on 8 September 1997, President Kama:

I have already reminded the Prosecutor of the need to establish as soon as possible an indictment against Mr. Jean Bosco Barayagwiza, if she still intends to prosecute him. Only recently, Mr. Bernard Muna, the Deputy Prosecutor, reassured me that an indictment against Mr. Jean Bosco Barayagwiza should soon be submitted to a Judge for review.

However, even at that point the 90-day period had expired.

66. Additionally, the Trial Chamber, in its Decision dismissing the Extremely Urgent Motion, stated, ‘It is regrettable that the Prosecution did not submit an indictment until 22 October 1997’. Moreover, even the Prosecutor acknowledged that the delay in indicting the Appellant was not justified. During the oral argument on the Appellant’s Extremely Urgent Motion on 11 September 1998, Mr. James Stewart, appearing for the Prosecutor, acknowledged that the Appellant could or should have been indicted earlier:

Now, I will say this, and I have to be frank with you, the president of this tribunal – and this is reflected in one of the letters that was sent to the accused – was anxious for the prosecutor to produce an indictment, if we were going to indict this man, and it may have been that *the indictment was, was not produced as early as it could have been or should have been...*

67. In conclusion, we hold that the length of time that the Appellant was detained in Cameroon at the behest of the Tribunal without being indicted violates Rule 40*bis* and established human rights jurisprudence governing detention of suspects. The delay in indicting the Appellant violated the 90-day rule as set forth in Rule 40*bis*. In the present appeal, Judge Aspregren issued the Rule 40*bis* Order with the proviso that the indictment be presented for confirmation within 30 days (the Rule permits for two 30-day extensions). In doing so, he invoked Sub-rule 40*bis*, thereby making an assertion of jurisdiction over the Appellant. The Prosecutor agrees that there was ‘joined or concurrent jurisdiction’ over the Appellant. Sub-rule 40*bis*(H) provides explicitly that the suspect shall be released or, if appropriate, be delivered to the authorities of the State to which the request was initially made if the indictment is not issued within 90 days. This limitation on the detention of suspects is consistent with established human rights jurisprudence.

3. The delay between the transfer of the Appellant and his initial appearance

68. In the present case, the Appellant was transferred to the Tribunal on 19 November 1997. However, his initial appearance was not held until 23 February 1998—some 96 days *after* his transfer. At the outset of this analysis the Appeals Chamber rejects the Prosecutor’s contention that a 31-day holiday recess, between 15 December 1997 and 15 January 1998, could somehow justify this delay. The Appellant should have had his initial appearance well before the holiday recess even commenced and did not have it until over one month after the end of the recess.

69. The issue, therefore, is whether the 96-day period between the Appellant’s transfer and initial appearance violates the statutory requirement that the initial appearance is held without delay. There is no evidence that the Appellant was afforded an opportunity to appear before an independent Judge during the period of the provisional detention and the Appellant contends that he was denied this opportunity. Consequently, it is even more important for the protection of his rights that his initial appearance was held without delay.

70. Rule 62, which is predicated on Articles 19 and 20 of the statute, provides that an accused shall be brought before the assigned Trial Chamber and formally charged *without delay* upon his transfer to the seat of the Tribunal. In determining if the length of time between the Appellant's transfer and his initial appearance was unduly lengthy, we note that the right of the accused to be promptly brought before a judicial authority and formally charged ensures that the accused will have the opportunity to mount an effective defence. The international instruments have not established specific time limits for the initial appearance of detainees, relying rather on a requirement that a person should 'be brought promptly before a Judge' following arrest. The U.N. Human Rights Committee has interpreted 'promptly' within the context of 'more precise' standards found in the criminal procedure codes of most States. Such delays must not, however, exceed a few days. Thus, in Kelly v. Jamaica, the U.N. Human Rights Committee held that a detention of five weeks before being brought before a Judge violated Article 9(3).

71. Based on the plain meaning of the phrase, 'without delay', the Appeals Chamber finds that a 96-day delay between the transfer of the Appellant to the Tribunal's detention unit and his initial appearance to be a violation of his fundamental rights as expressed by Articles 19 and 20, internationally-recognised human rights standards and Rule 62. Moreover, we find that the Appellant's right to be promptly indicted under Rule 40*bis* to have been violated. Although we find that these violations do not result in the Tribunal losing jurisdiction over the Appellant, we nevertheless reaffirm that the issues raised by the Appellant certainly fall within the ambit of Rule 72.

72. In the Tadić Interlocutory Appeal Decision, the Appeals Chamber set forth several policy arguments for why a liberal approach to admitting interlocutory appeals is warranted. The Appeals Chamber there stated:

Such a fundamental matter as the jurisdiction of the International Tribunal should not be kept for decision at the end of a potentially lengthy, emotional and expensive trial. All the grounds of contestation relied upon by Appellant result, in final analysis, in an assessment of the legal capability of the International Tribunal to try his case. What is this, if not in the end a question of jurisdiction? And what body is legally authorized to pass on that issue, if not the Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal? Indeed—this is by no means conclusive, but interesting nevertheless: *were not those questions to be dealt with in limine litis, they could obviously be raised on an appeal on the merits. Would the higher interest of justice be served by a decision in favour of the accused, after the latter had undergone what would then have to be branded as an unwarranted trial.* After all, in a court of law, common sense ought to be honoured not only when facts are weighed, but equally when laws are surveyed and the proper rule is selected. In the present case, the jurisdiction of this Chamber to hear and dispose of the Appellant's interlocutory appeal is indisputable.

We find that the challenge to jurisdiction raised by the Appellant is consistent with the logic underlying the decision reached in the Tadić case. Given that the Appeals Chamber is of the opinion that to proceed with the trial of the Appellant would amount to an act of

injustice, we see no purpose in denying the Appellant's appeal, forcing him to undergo a lengthy and costly trial, only to have him raise, once again the very issues currently pending before this Chamber. Moreover, in the event the Appellant was to be acquitted after trial we can foresee no effective remedy for the violation of his rights. Therefore, on the basis of these findings, the Appeals Chamber will decline to exercise jurisdiction over the Appellant, on the basis of the abuse of process doctrine, as discussed in the following Sub-section.

B. The Abuse of Process Doctrine

1. In general

73. The Appeals Chamber now considers, in light of the abuse of process doctrine, the Appellant's allegations concerning three additional issues: 1) the right to be promptly informed of the charges during the first period of detention; 2) the alleged failure of the Trial Chamber to resolve the *writ of habeas corpus* filed by the Appellant; and 3) the Appellant's assertions that the Prosecutor did not diligently prosecute her case against him. These assertions will be considered. Before addressing these issues, however, several points need to be emphasised in the context of the following analysis. First and foremost, this analysis focuses on the alleged violations of the Appellant's rights and is not primarily concerned with the entity responsible for the alleged violation(s). As will be discussed, it is clear that there are overlapping areas of responsibility between the three organs of the Tribunal and as a result, it is conceivable that more than one organ could be responsible for the violations of the Appellant's rights. However, even if fault is shared between the three organs of the Tribunal—or is the result of the actions of a third party, such as Cameroon—it would undermine the integrity of the judicial process to proceed. Furthermore, it would be unfair for the Appellant to stand trial on these charges if his rights were egregiously violated. Thus, under the abuse of process doctrine, it is irrelevant which entity or entities were responsible for the alleged violations of the Appellant's rights. Second, we stress that the circumstances set forth in this analysis must be read as a whole. Third, none of the findings made in this sub-section of the Decision, in isolation, are necessarily dispositive of this issue. That is, it is the combination of these factors—and not any single finding herein—that lead us to the conclusion we reach in this sub-section. In other words, the application of the abuse of process doctrine is case-specific and limited to the egregious circumstances presented by this case. Fourth, because the Prosecutor initiates the proceedings of the Tribunal, her special responsibility in prosecuting cases will be examined in sub-section 4, *infra*.

74. Under the doctrine of "abuse of process", proceedings that have been lawfully initiated may be terminated after an indictment has been issued if improper or illegal procedures are employed in pursuing an otherwise lawful process. The House of Lords summarised the abuse of process doctrine as follows:

[P]roceedings may be stayed in the exercise of the judge's discretion not only where a fair trial is impossible, but also where it would be contrary to the public interest in the integrity of the criminal justice system that a trial should take place.

It is important to stress that the abuse of process doctrine may be invoked as a matter of discretion. It is a process by which Judges may decline to exercise the court's jurisdiction in cases where to exercise that jurisdiction in light of serious and egregious violations of the accused's rights would prove detrimental to the court's integrity.

75. The application of this doctrine has resulted in dismissal of charges with prejudice in a number of cases, particularly where the court finds that to proceed on the charges in light of egregious violations of the accused's rights would cause serious harm to the integrity of the judicial process. One of the leading cases in which the doctrine of abuse of process was applied is R. v. Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court *ex parte* Bennett. In that case, the House of Lords stayed the prosecution and ordered the release of the accused, stating that:

[A] court has a discretion to stay any criminal proceedings on the ground that to try those proceedings will amount to an abuse of its own process either (1) because it will be impossible (usually by reason of delay) to give the accused a fair trial or (2) *because it offends the court's sense of justice and propriety to be asked to try the accused in the circumstances of a particular case.*

The abuse of doctrine has been applied in several cases. For example, in Bell v. DPP of Jamaica, the Privy Council held that under the abuse of process doctrine courts have an inherent power to decline to adjudicate a case which would be oppressive as the result of unreasonable delay. In making this determination, the court set forth four guidelines for determining whether a delay would deprive the accused of a fair trial:

1. the length of the delay;
2. the prosecution's reasons to justify the delay;
3. the accused's efforts to assert his rights; and
4. the prejudice caused to the accused.

Regarding the issue of prejudice, in R. v. Oxford City Justices, *ex parte* Smith (D.K.B.), the court applied the abuse of process doctrine in dismissing a case on the grounds that a two-year delay between the commission of the offence and the issuing of a summons was unconscionable, stating:

In the present case it seems to me that the delay which I have described was not only quite unjustified and quite unnecessary due to inefficiency, but it was a delay of such length that it could rightly be said to be unconscionable. That is by no means the end of the matter. It seems to me also that the delay here was of such a length that it is quite impossible to say that there was no prejudice to the applicant in the continuance of the case.

In R. v. Hartley, the Wellington Court of Appeal relied on the abuse of process doctrine in quashing a conviction that rested on an unlawful arrest and the illegally obtained confession that followed.

76. Closely related to the abuse of process doctrine is the notion of supervisory powers. It is generally recognised that courts have supervisory powers that may be utilised in the interests of justice, regardless of a specific violation. The U.S. Supreme Court has stated that courts have a 'duty of establishing and maintaining civilized standards of procedure and evidence' as an inherent function of the court's role in supervising the judicial system and process. As Judge Noonan of the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has stated:

This court has inherent supervisory powers to dismiss prosecutions in order to deter illegal conduct. The "illegality" deterred by exercise of our supervisory power need not be related to a constitutional or statutory violation.

The use of such supervisory powers serves three functions: to provide a remedy for the violation of the accused's rights; to deter future misconduct; and to enhance the integrity of the judicial process.

77. As noted above, the abuse of process doctrine may be relied on in two distinct situations: (1) where delay has made a fair trial for the accused impossible; and (2) where in the circumstances of a particular case, proceeding with the trial of the accused would contravene the court's sense of justice, due to pre-trial impropriety or misconduct. Considering the lengthy delay in the Appellant's case, 'it is quite impossible to say that there was no prejudice to the applicant in the continuance of the case'. The following discussion, therefore, focuses on whether it would offend the Tribunal's sense of justice to proceed to the trial of the accused.

2. The right to be promptly informed of the charges during the first period of detention

78. In the present case, the Appellant makes several assertions regarding the precise date he was informed of the charges. However, using the earliest date, we conclude that the Appellant was informed of the charges on 10 March 1997 when the Cameroon Deputy Prosecutor showed him a copy of the Rule 40*bis* Order. This was approximately 11 months after he was initially detained pursuant to the *first* Rule 40 request.

79. Rule 40*bis* requires the detaining State to promptly inform the *suspect* of the charges under which he is arrested and detained. Thus, the issue is when does the right to be promptly informed of the charges attach to suspects before the Tribunal. Existing international norms guarantee such a right, and suspects held at the behest of the Tribunal pursuant to Rule 40*bis* are entitled, at a bare minimum, to the protections afforded under these international instruments, as well as under the rule itself. Consequently, we turn our analysis to these international standards.

80. International standards require that a suspect who is arrested be informed promptly of the reasons for his arrest and the charges against him. The right to be promptly informed of the charges serves two functions. First, it counterbalances the interest of the prosecuting authority in seeking continued detention of the suspect. In this respect, the suspect needs to be promptly informed of the charges against him in order to challenge

his detention, particularly in situations where the prosecuting authority is relying on the serious nature of the charges in arguing for the continued detention of the suspect. Second, the right to be promptly informed gives the suspect the information he requires in order to prepare his defence. The focus of the analysis in this Sub-section is on the first of these two functions. At the outset of this analysis, it is important to stress that there are two distinct periods when the right to be informed of the charges are applicable. The first period is when the suspect is initially arrested and detained. The second period is at the initial appearance of the accused after the indictment has been confirmed and the accused is in the Tribunal's custody. For purposes of the discussion in this Sub-section, only the first period is relevant.

81. The requirement that a suspect be promptly informed of the charges against him following arrest provides the 'elementary safeguard that any person arrested should know why he is deprived of his liberty'. The right to be promptly informed at this preliminary stage is also important because it affords the arrested suspect the opportunity to deny the offence and obtain his release prior to the initiation of trial proceedings.

82. International human rights jurisprudence has developed norms to ensure that this right is respected. For example, the suspect must be notified 'in simple, non-technical language that he can understand, the essential legal and factual grounds for his arrest, so as to be able, as he sees fit, to apply to a court to challenge its lawfulness...'. However, there is no requirement that the suspect be informed in any particular way. Thus, at this initial stage, there is no requirement that the suspect be given a copy of the arrest warrant or any other document setting forth the charges against him; in fact, there is no requirement at this stage that the suspect be notified in writing at all, so long as the suspect is informed promptly.

83. The European Court of Human Rights has held that the required information need not be given in its entirety by the arresting officer at the 'moment of the arrest', provided that the suspect is informed of the legal grounds of his arrest within a sufficient time after the arrest. Moreover, the information may be divulged to the suspect in stages, as long as the required information is provided promptly. Whether this requirement is complied with requires a factual determination and is, therefore, case-specific. Consequently, we will briefly survey the jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee and the European Court of Human Rights in interpreting the promptness requirement of Article 9(2) of the ICCPR, Article 5(2) of the ECHR and Article 7 of the ACHR.

84. As pointed out above, the Human Rights Committee held in Glenford Campbell v. Jamaica, that detention without the benefit of being informed of the charges for 45 days constituted a violation of Article 9(2) of the ICCPR. Under the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, intervals of up to 24 hours between the arrest and providing the information as required pursuant to ECHR Article 5(2) have been held to be lawful. However, a delay of ten days between the arrest and informing the suspect of the charges has been held to run afoul of Article 5(2).

85. In the present case, the Appellant was detained for a total period of 11 months before he was informed of the general nature of the charges that the Prosecutor was pursuing against him. While we acknowledge that only 35 days out of the 11-month total are clearly attributable to the Tribunal (the periods from 17 April—16 May 1996 and 4—10 March 1997), the fact remains that the Appellant spent an inordinate amount of time in provisional detention without knowledge of the general nature of the charges against him. At this juncture, it is irrelevant that only a small portion of that total period of provisional detention is attributable to the Tribunal, since it is the Tribunal—and not any other entity—that is currently adjudicating the Appellant’s claims. Regardless of which other parties may be responsible, the inescapable conclusion is that the Appellant’s right to be promptly informed of the charges against him was violated.

86. As noted above, in Bell v. DPP of Jamaica, the abuse of process doctrine was applied where unreasonable delay would have resulted in an oppressive result had the case gone to trial. Applying the guidelines set forth in that case convinces us that the abuse of process doctrine is applicable under the facts of this case. The Appellant was detained for 11 months without being notified of the charges against him. The Prosecutor has offered no satisfactory justifications for this delay. The numerous letters attached to one of the Appellant’s submissions point to the fact that the Appellant was in continuous communication with all three organs of the Tribunal in an attempt to assert his rights. Moreover, we find that the effect of the Appellant’s pre-trial detention was prejudicial.

3. The failure to resolve the *writ of habeas corpus* in a timely manner

87. The next issue concerns the failure of the Trial Chamber to resolve the Appellant’s *writ of habeas corpus* filed on 29 September 1997. The Prosecutor asserts that *after* the Appellant filed the *writ of habeas corpus*, the President of the Tribunal wrote a letter to the Appellant informing the Appellant that the Prosecutor would be submitting an indictment shortly. In fact, the President’s letter is dated 8 September 1997, and the Appellant claims that the *writ* was filed on the basis of this letter from the President. Moreover, the Appellant asserts that he was informed that the hearing on the *writ of habeas corpus* was to be held on 31 October 1997. The Appellant asserts that ‘the Registry without the consent of the Defence removed the hearing of the motion from the calendar only because the Prosecution promised to issue the indictment soon’. The Appellant also claims that the indictment was filed and confirmed on 22 October 1997 and 23 October 1997, respectively, in order to pre-empt the hearing on the *writ of habeas corpus*. These assertions by the Appellant are, of course, impossible for him to prove, absent an admission by the Prosecutor. We note, however, that the Prosecutor has not directed the Appeals Chamber to any evidence to the contrary, and that the Appellant was never afforded an opportunity to be heard on the *writ of habeas corpus*.

88. Although neither the Statute nor the Rules specifically address *writs of habeas corpus* as such, the notion that a detained individual shall have recourse to an independent judicial officer for review of the detaining authority’s acts is well-established by the Statute and Rules. Moreover, this is a fundamental right and is enshrined in international human rights norms, including Article 8 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Article 9(4) of the ICCPR, Article 5(4) of the ECHR and Article 7(6) of the ACHR. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights has defined the *writ of habeas corpus* as:

[A] judicial remedy designed to protect personal freedom or physical integrity against arbitrary decisions by means of a judicial decree ordering the appropriate authorities to bring the detained person before a judge so that the lawfulness of the detention may be determined and, if appropriate, the release of the detainee be ordered.

Thus, this right allows the detainee to have the legality of the detention reviewed by the judiciary.

89. The European Court of Human Rights has held that the detaining State must provide recourse to an independent judiciary in all cases, whether the detention was justified or not. Under the jurisprudence of that Court, therefore, a *writ of habeas corpus* must be heard, even though the detention is eventually found to be lawful under the ECHR. Thus, the right to be heard on the *writ* is an entirely separate issue from the underlying legality of the initial detention. In the present case, the Appellant's right was violated by the Trial Chamber because the *writ* was filed but was not heard.

90. The Appeals Chamber is troubled that the Appellant has not been given a hearing on his *writ of habeas corpus*. The fact that the indictment of the Appellant has been confirmed and that he has had his initial appearance does not excuse the failure to resolve the *writ*. The Appellant submits that as far as he is concerned the *writ of habeas corpus* is still pending. The Appeals Chamber finds that the *writ of habeas corpus* is rendered moot by this Decision. Nevertheless, the failure to provide the Appellant a hearing on this *writ* violated his right to challenge the legality of his continued detention in Cameroon during the two periods when he was held at the behest of the Tribunal and the belated issuance of the indictment did not nullify that violation.

4. The duty of prosecutorial due diligence

91. Article 19(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal provides that the Trial Chambers shall ensure that accused persons appearing before the Tribunal are guaranteed a fair and expeditious trial. However, the Prosecutor, has certain responsibilities in this regard as well. For example, the Prosecutor is responsible for, *inter alia*: conducting investigations, including questioning suspects; seeking provisional measures and the arrest and transfer of suspects; protecting the rights of suspect, by ensuring that the suspect understands those rights; submitting indictments for confirmation; amending indictments prior to confirmation; withdrawing indictments prior to confirmation; and, of course, for actually prosecuting the case against the accused.

92. Because the Prosecutor has the authority to commence the entire legal process, through investigation and submission of an indictment for confirmation, the Prosecutor has been likened to the 'engine' driving the work of the Tribunal. Or, as one court has stated, '[T]he ultimate responsibility for bringing a defendant to trial rests on the

Government and not on the defendant'. Consequently, once the Prosecutor has set this process in motion, she is under a duty to ensure that, within the scope of her authority, the case proceeds to trial in a way that respects the rights of the accused. In this regard, we note that some courts have stated that 'mere delay' which gives rise to prejudice and unfairness might by itself amount to an abuse of process. For example, in R. Grays Justices ex p. Graham, the Queen's Bench stated in *obiter dicta* that:

[P]rolonged delay in starting or conducting criminal proceedings may be an abuse of process when the substantial delay was caused by the improper use of procedure or inefficiency on the part of the prosecution and the accused has neither caused nor contributed to the delay.

93. The Prosecutor has asserted that her 'abstention from proceeding against the Appellant-Defendant before 3 March 1997 was due to on-going investigation,. The Prosecutor further argues that she should not be barred from proceeding against the Appellant simply because she did not proceed against the Appellant at the first available opportunity. In putting forth this argument, the Prosecutor relies on Judge Shahabuddeen's Separate Opinion from the Kovačević Decision. In that Separate Opinion, Judge Shahabuddeen referred to United States v. Lovasco, a leading United States case on pre-indictment delay, wherein the Court stated:

[T]he Due Process Clause does not permit courts to abort criminal prosecutions simply because they disagree with a prosecutor's judgement as to when to seek an indictment. Judges are not free, in defining 'due process', to impose on law enforcement officers our 'personal and private notions' of fairness and to 'disregard the limits that bind judges in their judicial function'. ... Our task is more circumscribed. We are to determine only whether the action complained of—here, compelling respondent to stand trial after the Government delayed indictment to investigate further—violates ... "fundamental conceptions of justice..." which "define the community's sense of fair play and decency"...

The Court continued:

It should be equally obvious that prosecutors are under no duty to file charges as soon as probable cause exists but before they are satisfied they will be able to establish the suspect's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

94. The facts in Lovasco are clearly distinguishable from those of the Appellant's case, and, therefore, we do not find the Supreme Court's reasoning persuasive. In Lovasco, the respondent was subjected to an 18-month delay between the alleged commission of the offences and the filing of the indictment. However, Mr. Lovasco had not been arrested during the 18-month delay and was not in custody during that period when the police were conducting their investigation. We also note that in United States v. Scott, in a dissent filed by four of the Court's nine Justices, (including Justice Marshall, the author of the Lovasco decision), the Lovasco holding regarding pre-indictment delay was characterised as a 'disfavored doctrine'.

95. Moreover, in the Kovačević Decision relied upon by the Prosecutor, the Appeals Chamber held that the Rules provide a mechanism whereby the Prosecutor may seek to amend the indictment. Pursuant to Rule 50(A), the following scheme for amending indictments is available to the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor may amend an indictment, without prior leave, at any time before the indictment is confirmed. After the indictment is confirmed, but prior to the initial appearance of the accused, the indictment may be amended only with the leave of the Judge who confirmed it. At or after the initial appearance of the accused, the indictment may be amended only with leave of the Trial Chamber seized of the case. The Prosecutor thus has the ability to amend indictments based on the results of her investigations. Therefore, the Prosecutor's argument that investigatory delay at the pre-indictment stage does not violate the rights of a suspect who is in provisional detention is without merit. Rule 40*bis* clearly requires issuance of the indictment within 90 days and the amendment process is available in situations where additional information becomes available to the Prosecutor.

96. Although a suspect or accused before the Tribunal is transferred, and not extradited, extradition procedures offer analogies that are useful to this analysis. In the context of extradition, several cases from the United States confirm that the prosecuting authority has a due diligence obligation with respect to accused awaiting extradition. For example, in Smith v. Hooey, the Supreme Court found that the Government had a 'constitutional duty to make a diligent, good-faith effort to bring [the defendant] before the court for trial'. In United States v. McConahy, the court held that the Government's obligation to provide a speedy resolution of pending charges is not relieved unless the accused fails to demand that an effort be made to return him and the prosecuting authorities have made a diligent, good faith effort to have him returned and are unsuccessful, or can show that such an effort would prove futile. We note that the Appellant made several inquiries of Tribunal officials regarding his status. It is also clear from the record that the Prosecutor made no efforts to have the Appellant transferred to the Tribunal's detention unit until after he filed the *writ of habeas corpus*. Similarly, the Prosecutor has made no showing that such efforts would have been futile. There is nothing in the record that indicates that Cameroon was not willing to transfer the Appellant. Rather, it appears that the Appellant was simply forgotten about.

97. Moreover, conventional law and the legislation of many national systems incorporate provisions for the protection of individuals detained pending transfer to the requesting State. We also note in this regard that the European Convention on Extradition provides that provisional detention may be terminated after as few as 18 days if the requesting State has not provided the proper documents to the requested State. In no case may the provisional detention extend beyond 40 days from the date of arrest.

98. Setting aside for the moment the Prosecutor's contention that Cameroon was solely responsible for the delay in transferring the Appellant, the only plausible conclusion is that the Prosecutor failed in her duty to take the steps necessary to have the Appellant transferred in a timely fashion. The Appellant has claimed that the Prosecutor simply forgot about his case, a claim that is, of course, impossible for the Appellant to prove. However, we note that after the Appellant raised this claim, the Prosecutor failed to rebut

it in any form, relying solely on the argument that it was Cameroon's failure to transfer the Appellant that resulted in this delay. The Prosecutor provided no evidence that she contacted the authorities in Cameroon in an attempt to get them to comply with the Rule 40bis Order. Further, in the 3 June 1999 Scheduling Order, the Appeals Chamber directed the Prosecutor to answer certain questions and provide supporting documentation, including an explanation for the delay between the request for transfer and the actual transfer. Notwithstanding this Order, the Prosecutor provided no evidence that she contacted the Registry or Chambers in an effort to determine what was causing the delay.

99. While it is undoubtedly true, as the Prosecutor submits, that the Registry and Chambers have the primary responsibility for scheduling the initial appearance of the accused, this does not relieve the Prosecutor of some responsibility for ensuring that the accused is brought before a Trial Chamber 'without delay' upon his transfer to the Tribunal. In the present case, the Appellant was transferred to the Tribunal on 19 November 1997. However, his initial appearance was not held until 23 February 1998—some 96 days *after* his transfer, in violation of his right to an initial appearance 'without delay'. There is no evidence that the Prosecutor took any steps to encourage the Registry or Chambers to place the Appellant's initial appearance on the docket. Prudent steps in this regard can be demonstrated through written requests to the Registry and Chambers to docket the initial appearance. The Prosecutor has made no such showing and the only logical conclusion to be drawn from this failure to provide such evidence is that the Prosecutor failed in her duty to diligently prosecute this case.

C. Conclusions

100. Based on the foregoing analysis, we conclude that the Appellant was in the constructive custody of the Tribunal from 4 March 1997 until his transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit on 19 November 1997. However, international human rights standards comport with the requirements of Rule 40bis. Thus, even if he was not in the constructive custody of the Tribunal, the period of provisional detention was impermissibly lengthy. Pursuant to that Rule, the indictment against the Appellant had to be confirmed within 90 days from 4 March 1997. However, the indictment was not confirmed in this case until 23 October 1997. We find, therefore, that the Appellant's right to be promptly charged pursuant to international standards as reflected in Rule 40bis was violated. Moreover, we find that the Appellant's right to an initial appearance, without delay upon his transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit under Rule 62, was violated.

101. Moreover, we find that the facts of this case justify the invocation of the abuse of process doctrine. Thus, we find that the violations referred to in paragraph 101 above, the delay in informing the Appellant of the general nature of the charges between the initial Rule 40 request on 17 April 1996 and when he was actually shown a copy of the Rule 40bis Order on 10 March 1997 violated his right to be promptly informed. Also, we find that the failure to resolve the Appellant's *writ of habeas corpus* in a timely manner violated his right to challenge the legality of his continued detention. Finally, we find that

the Prosecutor has failed with respect to her obligation to prosecute the case with due diligence.

D. The Remedy

102. In light of the above findings, the only remaining issue is to determine the appropriate remedy for the violation of the rights of the Appellant. The Prosecutor has argued that the Appellant is entitled to either an order requiring an expeditious trial or credit for any time provisionally served pursuant to Rule 101(D). The Appellant seeks unconditional immediate release.

103. With respect to the first of the Prosecutor's suggestions, the Appeals Chamber notes that an order for the Appellant to be expeditiously tried would be superfluous as a remedy. The Appellant is already entitled to an expedited trial pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Statute. With respect to the second suggestion, the Appeals Chamber is unconvinced that Rule 101(D) can adequately protect the Appellant and provide an adequate remedy for the violations of his rights. How does Rule 101(D) offer any remedy to the Appellant in the event he is acquitted?

104. We turn, therefore, to the remedy proposed by the Appellant. Article 20(3) states one of the most basic rights of all individuals: the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty. In the present case, the Appellant has been in provisional detention since 15 April 1996—more than three years. During that time, he spent 11 months in illegal provisional detention at the behest of the Tribunal without the benefits, rights and protections afforded by being formally charged. He submitted a *writ of habeas corpus* seeking to be released from this confinement—and was never afforded an opportunity to be heard on this *writ*. Even after he was formally charged, he spent an additional 3 months awaiting his initial appearance, and several more months before he could be heard on his motion to have his arrest and detention nullified.

105. The Statute of the Tribunal does not include specific provisions akin to speedy trial statutes existing in some national jurisdictions. However, the underlying premise of the Statute and Rules are that the accused is entitled to a fair and expeditious trial. The importance of a speedy disposition of the case benefits both the accused and society, as has been recognised by national courts:

The criminal defendant's interest in prompt disposition of his case is apparent and requires little comment. Unnecessary delay may make a fair trial impossible. If the accused is imprisoned awaiting trial, lengthy detention eats at the heart of a system founded on the presumption of innocence. ... Moreover, we cannot emphasize sufficiently that the public has a strong interest in prompt trials. As the vivid experience of a witness fades into the shadow of a distant memory, the reliability of a criminal proceeding may become seriously impaired. This is a substantial price to pay for a society that prides itself on fair trials.

106. The crimes for which the Appellant is charged are very serious. However, in this case the fundamental rights of the Appellant were repeatedly violated. What may be worse, it appears that the Prosecutor's failure to prosecute this case was tantamount to negligence. We find this conduct to be egregious and, in light of the numerous violations, conclude that the only remedy available for such prosecutorial inaction and the resultant denial of his rights is to release the Appellant and dismiss the charges against him. This finding is consistent with Rule 40bis(H), which requires release if the suspect is not charged within 90 days of the commencement of the provisional detention and Rule 40(D) which requires release if the Prosecutor fails to issue an indictment within 20 days after the transfer of the suspect. Furthermore, this limitation on the period of provisional detention is consistent with international human rights jurisprudence. Finally, this decision is also consistent with national legislation dealing with due process violations that violate the right of the accused to a prompt resolution of his case.

107. Considering the express provisions of Rule 40bis(H), and in light of the Rwandan extradition request for the Appellant and the denial of that request by the court in Cameroon, the Appeals Chamber concludes that it is appropriate for the Appellant to be delivered to the authorities of Cameroon, the State to which the Rule 40bis request was initially made.

108. The Appeals Chamber further finds that this dismissal and release must be with prejudice to the Prosecutor. Such a finding is consistent with the jurisprudence of many national systems. Furthermore, violations of the right to a speedy disposition of criminal charges have resulted in dismissals with prejudice in Canada, the Philippines, the United States and Zimbabwe. As troubling as this disposition may be to some, the Appeals Chamber believes that to proceed with the Appellant's trial when such violations have been committed, would cause irreparable damage to the integrity of the judicial process. Moreover, we find that it is the only effective remedy for the cumulative breaches of the accused's rights. Finally, this disposition may very well deter the commission of such serious violations in the future.

109. We reiterate that what makes this case so egregious is the combination of delays that seemed to occur at virtually every stage of the Appellant's case. The failure to hear the *writ of habeas corpus*, the delay in hearing the Extremely Urgent Motion, the prolonged detention of the Appellant without an indictment and the cumulative effect of these violations leave us with no acceptable option but to order the dismissal of the charges with prejudice and the Appellant's immediate release from custody. We fear that if we were to dismiss the charges without prejudice, the Appellant would be subject to immediate re-arrest and his ordeal would begin anew. Were we to dismiss the indictment without prejudice, the strict 90-day limit set forth in Rule 90bis(H) could be thwarted by repeated release and re-arrest, thereby giving the Prosecutor a potentially unlimited period of time to prepare and submit an indictment for confirmation. Surely, such a 'revolving door' policy cannot be what was envisioned by Rule 40bis. Rather, as pointed out above, the Rules and jurisprudence of the Tribunal permit the Prosecutor to seek to amend the indictment if additional information becomes available. In light of this possibility, the 90-day rule set forth in Rule 40bis must be complied with.

110. Rule 40*bis*(H) states that in the event that the indictment has not been confirmed and an arrest warrant signed within 90 of the provisional detention of the suspect, the ‘suspect shall be released’. The word used in this Sub-rule, ‘shall’, is imperative and it is certainly not intended to permit the Prosecutor to file a new indictment and re-arrest the suspect. Applying the principle of effective interpretation, we conclude that the charges against the Appellant must be dismissed with prejudice to the Prosecutor. Moreover, to order the release of the Appellant without prejudice—particularly in light of what we are certain would be his immediate re-arrest—could be seen as having cured the prior illegal detention. That would open the door for the Prosecutor to argue (assuming *arguendo* the eventual conviction of the Appellant) that the Appellant would not then be entitled to credit for that period of detention pursuant to Rule 101(D), on the grounds that the release was the remedy for the violation of his rights. The net result of this could be to place the Appellant in a worse position than he would have been in had he not raised this appeal. This would effectively result in the Appellant being punished for exercising his right to bring this appeal.

111. The words of the Zimbabwean Court in the Mlambo case are illustrative. In ordering the dismissal of the charges and release of the accused, the Zimbabwean Court held:

The charges against the applicant are far from trivial and there can be no doubt that it would be in the best interests of society to proceed with the trial of those who are charged with the commission of serious crimes. Yet, that trial can only be undertaken if the guarantee under...the Constitution has not been infringed. In this case it has been grievously infringed and the unfortunate result is that a hearing cannot be allowed to take place. To find otherwise would render meaningless a right enshrined in the Constitution as the supreme law of the land’.

We find the forceful words of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Brandeis compelling in this case:

Decency, security and liberty alike demand that government officials shall be subjected to the same rules of conduct that are commands to the citizen. In a government of laws, existence of the government will be imperilled if it fails to observe the law scrupulously. Our Government is the potent, the omnipresent teacher. For good or for ill, it teaches the whole people by its example. Crime is contagious. If the Government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself: it invites anarchy. To declare that in the administration of the criminal law the end justifies the means—to declare that the Government may commit crimes in order to secure the conviction of a private criminal—would bring terrible retribution. Against that pernicious doctrine this Court should resolutely set its face.

112. The Tribunal—an institution whose primary purpose is to ensure that justice is done—must not place its imprimatur on such violations. To allow the Appellant to be tried on the charges for which he was belatedly indicted would be a travesty of justice. Nothing less than the integrity of the Tribunal is at stake in this case. Loss of public

confidence in the Tribunal, as a court valuing human rights of all individuals—including those charged with unthinkable crimes—would be among the most serious consequences of allowing the Appellant to stand trial in the face of such violations of his rights. As difficult as this conclusion may be for some to accept, it is the proper role of an independent judiciary to halt this prosecution, so that no further injustice results.

V. DISPOSITION

113. For the foregoing reasons, THE APPEALS CHAMBER hereby:

Unanimously,

1. ALLOWS the Appeal, and in light of this disposition considers it unnecessary to decide the 19 October 1999 Notice of Appeal or the 26 October 1999 Notice of Appeal;

Unanimously,

2. DISMISSES THE INDICTMENT with prejudice to the Prosecutor;

Unanimously,

3. DIRECTS THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE of the Appellant; and

By a vote of four to one, with Judge Shahabuddeen dissenting,

4. DIRECTS the Registrar to make the necessary arrangements for the delivery of the Appellant to the Authorities of Cameroon.

Judge Shahabuddeen appends a [Separate Opinion](#) to this Decision.

Judge Nieto-Navia appends a [Declaration](#) to this Decision.

Done in both English and French, the English text being authoritative.

Gabrielle Kirk McDonald Mohamed Shahabuddeen Lal Chand Vohrah
Presiding

Wang Tieya

Rafael Nieto-Navia

Dated this third day of November 1999
At The Hague,
The Netherlands.

[Seal of the Tribunal]

Appendix A

Chronology of Events

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|-------------------|---|
| 15 April 1996: | Cameroon arrests twelve to fourteen Rwandans on the basis of international arrest warrants. The accused was among those arrested. The parties disagree with respect to the question of under whose authority the accused was detained. The Appellant asserts he was arrested by Cameroon on the basis of a request from the Prosecutor, while the Prosecutor contends that the Appellant was arrested on the basis of international arrest warrants emanating from the Rwandan and Belgian authorities. |
| 17 April 1996: | The Prosecutor requests that provisional measures under Rule 40 be taken in relation to the Appellant. |
| 6 May 1996: | The Prosecutor seeks a three-week extension for the detention of the Appellant in Cameroon. |
| 16 May 1996: | The Prosecutor informs Cameroon that she seeks to transfer and hold in provisional detention under Rule 40 <i>bis</i> four of the individuals detained by Cameroon, <i>excluding</i> the Appellant. |
| 31 May 1996: | The Court of Appeal in Cameroon issues a Decision to adjourn <i>sine die</i> consideration of the Rwandan extradition proceedings concerning the Appellant as the result of a request by the Cameroonian Deputy Director of Public Prosecution. In support of his request, the Deputy Director cites Article 8(2) of the ICTR Statute. |
| 15 October 1996: | The Prosecutor sends the Appellant a letter indicating that Cameroon is not holding the Appellant at her behest. |
| 21 February 1997: | The Cameroon court rejects Rwanda's extradition request for the Appellant. The court orders the Appellant's release, but he is |

immediately re-arrested at the behest of the Prosecutor pursuant to Rule 40. This is the second request under Rule 40 for the provisional detention of the Appellant.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 24 February 1997: | Pursuant to Rule 40 <i>bis</i> , the Prosecutor requests the transfer of the accused to Arusha. |
| 4 March 1997: | An Order pursuant to Rule 40 <i>bis</i> (signed by Judge Aspegren on 3 March 1997), is filed. This Order requires Cameroon to arrest and transfer the Appellant to the Tribunal's detention unit. |
| 10 March 1997: | The Appellant is shown a copy of the Rule 40 <i>bis</i> Order, including the general nature of the charges against him. |
| 29 September 1997: | The Appellant files a <i>writ of habeas corpus</i> . |
| 21 October 1997: | The President of Cameroon signs a decree ordering the Appellant's transfer to the Tribunal's detention unit. |
| 22 October 1997: | The Prosecutor submits the indictment for confirmation. |
| 23 October 1997: | Judge Aspegren confirms the indictment against the Appellant and issues a Warrant of Arrest and Order for Surrender to Cameroon. |
| 19 November 1997: | The Appellant is transferred to Arusha. |
| 23 February 1998: | The Appellant makes his initial appearance. |
| 24 February 1998: | The Appellant files the Extremely Urgent Motion seeking to nullify the arrest. |
| 11 September 1998: | The Trial Chamber hears the arguments of the parties on the Motion. |
| 17 November 1998: | The Trial Chamber dismisses the Extremely Urgent Motion <i>in toto</i> . |
| 27 November 1998: | The Appellant notified the Appeals Chamber of his intention to appeal, claiming that he did not receive the Decision until 27 November 1998. On that same day, he signs his Notice of Appeal. |