Case No. 2014-583

Bastet (Applicant)

V.

Secretary-General of the United Nations (Respondent)

ORDER No. 179 (2014)

- 1. On 16 December 2013, the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (Dispute Tribunal or UNDT) in Geneva issued Judgment No. 2013/172 in the case of Bastet v. Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- 2. On 7 February 2014, counsel for Mr. Bruno Bastet filed a Motion with the United Nations Appeals Tribunal (Appeals Tribunal) seeking an extension of the time limit to file an appeal against the UNDT Judgment. He submits that, at the time of the filing of this Motion, the English version of the UNDT Judgment is unavailable, "causing delay and prejudice to the [...] preparation of his [a[ppeal". He therefore asks that the Appeals Tribunal rule that for the purpose of his appeal, the time-limit shall start to run from the day he receives the official English translation of the UNDT Judgment.
- 3. Pursuant to Article 7(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Appeals Tribunal (Rules), an appeal must be filed within 60 calendar days of receipt of the judgment of the Dispute Tribunal. Pursuant to Article 11(5) of the Statute of the Appeals Tribunal, the Applicant shall "receive a copy in the language in which the application was submitted".
- 4. The underlying rationale of an appellant's right to receive a judgment in the language of the application before the UNDT is that, in order to exercise his or her right to appeal, he or she needs to be able to fully understand the Judgment. In the case at bar, however, the Appellant is a French national and his counsel is French speaking and thus perfectly able to comprehend the Judgment in French.

5. For the foregoing reasons, I dismiss the Appellant's request for an extension of time to appeal the UNDT Judgment. However, given that the time limit to appeal Judgment No. UNDT/2013/172 has now lapsed, and as a way forward, I exceptionally grant the Appellant ten working days to file his appeal from the date he receives this Order.

Original and Authoritative Version: English

Dated this 2nd day of April 2014 in New York, United States.

(Signed)
Judge Mary Faherty,
President

Entered in the Register on this 2nd day of April 2014 in New York, United States.

(Signed)
Weicheng Lin, Registrar