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# UNITED NATIONS APPEALS TRIBUNAL TRIBUNAL D'APPEL DES NATIONS UNIES

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Case No. 2021-1553

**Purificación Tola Satué**

**(Appellant)**

**v.**

**President of**

**the International Fund for Agricultural Development**

**(Respondent)**

**ORDER No. 414 (2021)**

1. On 7 December 2020, Ms. Purificación Tola Satué (Appellant) submitted an appeal to the Joint Appeals Board (JAB) of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (Respondent) contesting the decision to adopt a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) in light of her 2020 Performance Evaluation.
2. On 4 February 2021, the JAB granted the IFAD's motion and declared the appeal not receivable.
3. On 4 May 2021, Ms. Tola Satué filed an appeal of the JAB decision with the United Nations Appeals Tribunal. Her appeal was registered as Case No. UNAT-2021-1553. On 6 May 2021, the appeal was transmitted to the Respondent for an answer, due within 60 days, i.e. by close of business on 5 July 2021.
4. On 18 June 2021, the Respondent filed a motion for extension of time limit to file his answer on grounds that the parties were engaged in settlement negotiations for 31 days and would request an extension of time for 31 days to file an answer.
5. Article 7 (3) of the Statute of the Appeals Tribunal provides that “[t]he Appeals Tribunal may decide in writing, upon written request by the applicant, to suspend or waive the deadlines for a limited period of time and only in exceptional cases”. Article 30 of our Rules of Procedure allows this Tribunal to shorten or extend a time limit “when the interests of justice so require”. In the present case, the Respondent argues that

both parties had been engaged in negotiations which included the Appellant's claims in this case for a period of 31 days, pursuant to a negotiation agreement that became effective on 12 May 2021, until 11 June 2021, when the Respondent received an e-mail from counsel for the Appellant communicating the termination of the agreement.

6. For the foregoing reasons, the Appellant should have an opportunity to comment on whether she agrees with the Respondent's request for time limit extension. The Appellant is therefore invited to file a submission limited to this issue within three days. If the Appellant does not file a submission, the Respondent's request will be granted and an Answer shall be submitted no later than 28 July 2021.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Appellant is invited to file comments no later than **Monday, 28 June 2021 by 11:59 p.m., New York time.**

Original and Authoritative Version: English

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2021  
in Juiz de Fora, Brazil.

*(Signed)*  
Judge Martha Halfeld,  
President

Entered in the Register on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day  
of June 2021 in New York, United States.

*(Signed)*  
Weicheng Lin, Registrar