Case No.:
Order No.:

UNDT/GVA/2020/035 171 (GVA/2021)

Date:

18 November 2021

Original:

English

**Before:** Judge Teresa Bravo

Registry: Geneva

Registrar: René M. Vargas M.

APPLICANT

v.

# SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## ORDER ON CASE MANAGEMENT

### **Counsel for Applicant:**

Marcos Zunino, OSLA Ana Giulia Stella, OSLA

#### **Counsel for Respondent:**

Isavella Maria Vasilogeorgi, AAS/ALD/OHR Lucienne Pierre, AAS/ALD/OHR

Case No. UNDT/GVA/2020/035 Order No. 171 (GVA/2021)

Introduction

1. By application filed on 3 August 2020, the Applicant, a staff member of the

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ("UNODC"), contests the decision of

the Administration to impose on him the disciplinary sanction of loss of five steps,

and deferment, for two years, of eligibility for consideration for promotion, as well

as the administrative measure of requiring him to take training to improve his

gender awareness, and managerial sensitivity towards handling harassment issues.

2. On 2 September 2020, the Respondent filed his reply.

Consideration

3. Having reviewed the submissions on record, the Tribunal deems it

appropriate to invite the parties to a case management discussion ("CMD") pursuant

to art. 19 of its Rules of Procedure.

4. The purpose of the CMD is to:

a. Ascertain whether the parties are amenable to considering an alternative

resolution to the dispute;

b. Identify the factual and legal issues to be determined;

c. Consider what further information, if any, is required;

d. Consider if the case may be decided on the basis of the parties' written

submissions or if a hearing should be held;

e. Identify the relevant witnesses to be called and agree on dates for said

hearing, if needed; and

f. Discuss any other matter relevant to these proceedings.

5. Under art. 9.3 of the Tribunal's Statute and art. 16.6 of the Tribunal's Rules

of Procedure, the oral proceedings shall be held in public unless the Tribunal

decides, at its own initiative or at the request of either party, that "exceptional

circumstances require that the oral proceedings be closed". The Tribunal considers

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that oral proceedings involving sexual harassment claims, such as in the present case, constitute exceptional circumstances. Therefore, the Tribunal finds it necessary to have closed oral proceedings and hold the CMD *in camera*.

6. Given the nature of certain allegations at issue, the Tribunal finds it necessary to order that the Applicant's name be anonymized for publication purposes of this Order.

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT:

7. The parties shall attend a CMD on Monday, 6 December 2021, at 2.30 p.m. (Geneva Time), which will be conducted virtually through Microsoft Teams. In this connection, the parties are requested to provide the Geneva Registry with their contact details by Wednesday, 1 December 2021 (COB Geneva time).

(Signed)

Judge Teresa Bravo

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021

Entered in the Register on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021 (*Signed*)
René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva