



Before: Judge Sun Xiangzhuang

Registry: Geneva

Registrar: René M. Vargas M.

EFRATI

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**ORDER ON FURTHER
SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS**

Counsel for Applicant:

Robbie Leighton, OSLA

Counsel for Respondent:

Nicola Caon, AAS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

Miryoung An, AAS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

Introduction

1. By application filed on 9 March 2023, the Applicant, a Senior Staff Assistant with the United Nations Register of Damage at the United Nations Office at Vienna, contests the decision to impose on her the disciplinary measures of written censure, loss of two steps in grade, and deferment for two years of eligibility for salary increment, per staff rules 10.2(a)(i), (ii) and (iii). On the same day, the Applicant filed a motion to exceed the page limit.
2. On 20 April 2023, the Respondent filed his reply.
3. By Order No. 53 (GVA/2023) of 26 May 2023, the Tribunal granted the Applicant's motion to exceed the page limit, instructed the Applicant to file a rejoinder, and directed the parties to explore resolving the dispute amicably asking them to revert to it in this respect by 7 July 2023.
4. On 30 June 2023, the Applicant filed a rejoinder.
5. On the same day, the parties filed a joint motion for an extension of time until 14 July 2023 to inform the Tribunal whether the matter might be resolved amicably, which was granted by Order No. 67 (GVA/2023) of 4 July 2023.
6. On 13 July 2023, the parties filed a joint motion for an extension of two weeks until 28 July 2023 to continue settlement discussions, which was granted by Order No. 77 (GVA/2023) of 14 July 2023.
7. On 20 July 2023, the application was assigned to the undersigned Judge.
8. By a motion filed on 28 July 2023, the parties jointly request a further suspension of proceedings until 25 August 2023.

Consideration

9. In support of their motion, the parties inform the Tribunal that "settlement discussions have advanced well, however, some further time is required to finalise the discussions". Moreover, they point to the absence of Counsel for the Applicant from 8 to 19 August 2023.

10. Noting that settlement discussions have advanced well, the Tribunal commends the efforts made by the parties.

11. Considering the circumstances invoked by the parties, the Tribunal decides to grant their motion pursuant to art. 19.1 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure.

Conclusion

12. In view of the foregoing, it is ORDERED THAT:

a. The proceedings before the Tribunal in this matter be further suspended until **Friday, 25 August 2023** to allow the parties to finalise an amicable settlement of their dispute;

b. If a settlement agreement is reached within this period, the parties shall inform the Tribunal accordingly without delay, and the Applicant shall subsequently confirm to the Tribunal, in writing, that her application is withdrawn; or

c. If no settlement is reached within the prescribed period, the Tribunal will resume the proceedings unless the parties jointly request a further suspension of the proceedings.

(Signed)

Judge Sun Xiangzhuang

Dated this 28th day of July 2023

Entered in the Register on this 28th day of July 2023

(Signed)

René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva