



Before: Duty Judge

Registry: Geneva

Registrar: René M. Vargas M.

DIETRICH

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**ORDER
ON CASE MANAGEMENT**

Counsel for Applicant:

Robbie Leighton

Counsel for Respondent:

Tiffany Henderson

Introduction

1. On 6 April 2023, the Applicant, a Governance Officer, Stop TB Partnership, United Nations Office for Project Services (“UNOPS”), filed an application contesting the decision to withdraw her international entitlements as of 1 September 2022.
2. On 12 April 2023, the application was served on the Respondent with a deadline to reply by 12 May 2023.
3. On 1 May 2023, the Respondent filed a Joint Motion for suspension of proceedings pending mediation.
4. On 2 May 2023, the Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations Funds and Programs informed the Registry about the parties’ agreement to mediate and requested suspension of the proceedings for 30 days pending mediation.
5. By Order No. 45 (GVA/2023) of 3 May 2023, the Tribunal granted the parties’ joint motion to suspend the proceedings until 5 June 2023. The Respondent’s deadline to file a reply was set to 5 July 2023.
6. On 5 June 2023, the Office of the Ombudsman informed that the parties were still involved in amicable discussions and requested a further suspension of the proceedings and extension of the Respondent’s deadline to reply.
7. By email notification of 6 June 2023, the Tribunal granted the request. The proceedings were suspended until 5 July 2023, and the Respondent’s reply extended to 7 August 2023.
8. On 5 July 2023, the Office of the Ombudsman requested a further suspension of proceedings for 30-days, which was granted by email notification on the following day.
9. On 31 August 2023, a new request for suspension of proceedings was granted.
10. On 12 October 2023, the Office of the Ombudsman informed the Tribunal that the parties have reached a settlement in principle, and requested an extension of the Respondent’s deadline to file a reply.

Consideration

11. The Office of the Ombudsman submits that the parties are finalizing the details of their settlement agreement, and that a one-week extension of time for the Respondent to file his reply is warranted.

12. The Tribunal takes note of this and recalls that the General Assembly has consistently encouraged alternative dispute resolution.

13. Having examined the case record and guided by arts. 15.3, 15.4 and 15.5 of its Rules of Procedure, the Tribunal finds that it is in the interest of justice to give the parties sufficient time to finish their settlement agreement by extending the Respondent's deadline to reply by one additional week, as requested.

Conclusion

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

- a. The Respondent shall file his reply by **Monday, 23 October 2023**; or
- b. If a mediation agreement is reached before then, the parties or the Office of the Ombudsman shall inform the Tribunal accordingly without delay, and the Applicant shall confirm to the Tribunal, in writing, that her application is withdrawn.

(Signed)

Judge Sun Xiangzhuang (Duty Judge)

Dated this 12th day of October 2023

Entered in the Register on this 12th day of October 2023

(Signed)

René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva