



**Before:** Judge Sun Xiangzhuang (Presiding), Judge Joelle Adda, Judge Sean Wallace

**Registry:** Geneva

**Registrar:** René M. Vargas M.

VANSHELBOIM

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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**ORDER  
ON CASE MANAGEMENT**

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**Counsel for Applicant:**

George Irving

**Counsel for Respondent:**

Jacob B. van de Velden, DAS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

Maria Romanova, DAS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

## **Introduction**

1. The Applicant, a former staff member of the United Nations Office for Project Services (“UNOPS”), contests the decision to impose on him the disciplinary measures of dismissal and a fine of twelve months’ net base salary. He also contests the decision to recover from him the amount of USD63,626,806 and to withhold the release of the PF.4 form (“separation notification”) to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (“UNJSPF”) until such indebtedness is fully recovered.

2. After several Orders on case management, by Order No. 49 (GVA/2024) of 8 May 2024, the Tribunal instructed the parties to confirm the availability of the proposed witnesses to attend a hearing on the merits between 5 and 16 August 2024.

3. By Order No. 72 (GVA/2024) of 25 June 2024, the Tribunal scheduled an in person hearing on the merits to be held at the Geneva Courtroom on 12, 13, and, if needed, 14 August 2024.

4. By Order No. 79 (GVA/2024) of 3 July 2024, the Tribunal informed the parties, *inter alia*, of its tentative schedule for the upcoming hearing on the merits.

5. By email dated 9 July 2024, Counsel for the Respondent confirmed that he will attend the hearing in person, and informed that his co-Counsel will participate remotely.

6. By motion dated 10 July 2024, Counsel for the Applicant requested that he and the Applicant be allowed to participate virtually due to visa restrictions and travel costs.

## **Consideration**

7. While the Panel laments that the Applicant and Counsel for the Applicant are both unable to participate in person at its upcoming hearing, it accepts their proposal to attend it virtually.

8. As Counsel for the Applicant and co-Counsel for the Respondent will now attend the hearing from New York, the Tribunal finds it appropriate to adjust the tentative schedule set out in Order No. 79 (GVA/2024) to better accommodate the different time zones.

9. In view of the foregoing, the tentative schedule of the hearing, which may be subject to change, is as follows:

**Monday, 12 August 2024 (all times are Geneva time)**

1 p.m.	Parties' opening statements
3 p.m.	The Applicant. Examination-in-Chief by Counsel for the Applicant, and cross-examination by Counsel for the Respondent.

**Tuesday, 13 August 2024**

2 p.m.	CFO, UNOPS. Examination-in-Chief by Counsel for the Respondent, and cross-examination by Counsel for the Applicant.
3 p.m.	Closing submissions

**Conclusion**

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

- a. The tentative schedule set out in Order No. 79 (GVA/2024) is rescinded; and
- b. The parties are notified of the tentative schedule of appearances at the hearing as per para. 9 above.

*(Signed)*

Judge Sun Xiangzhuang (Presiding)

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024

Entered in the Register on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024

*(Signed)*

René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva