



UNITED NATIONS DISPUTE TRIBUNAL

Case No.: UNDT/GVA/2025/076
UNDT/GVA/2025/077
Order No.: 131 (GVA/2025)
Date: 21 November 2025
Original: English

Before: Duty Judge

Registry: Geneva

Registrar: Liliana López Bello

DE LA VARGA FITO

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**ORDER
ON CASE MANAGEMENT**

Counsel for Applicant:

Self-represented

Counsel for Respondent:

Rebecca Britnell, UNHCR
Elizabeth Brown, UNHCR

Introduction

1. On 28 October 2025, the Applicant filed an incomplete application with this Tribunal contesting the decision not to renew her fixed-term appointment. Upon the Tribunal's instructions, the Applicant completed her application on 4 November 2025. This application was registered as Case No. UNDT/GVA/2025/076.
2. On 29 October 2025, the Applicant filed an application with this Tribunal contesting the decision not to extend her temporary appointment in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Section of the Division of Human Resources beyond 30 April 2025. This application was registered as Case No. UNDT/GVA/2025/077.
3. Both applications were served to the Respondent for him to file a reply by 1 December 2025 in Case No. UNDT/GVA/2025/077 and by 4 December 2025 in Case No. UNDT/GVA/2025/076.
4. On 11 November 2025, the Respondent filed a motion for leave to join both applications, that is, Cases Nos. UNDT/GVA/2025/076 and UNDT/GVA/2025/077, and exceed the page limit in his reply.
5. On 19 November 2025, the Applicant, who is self-represented, filed a motion *inter alia*, concurring with the Respondent's motion for leave to join the applications.

Consideration

6. In his motion, the Respondent submits that the factual background of both decisions is similar, that the judicial efficiency and justice will be better served by having the same Judge adjudicating these applications. On this basis, the Respondent requests the Tribunal:
 - a. to join both applications,
 - b. to direct him to file one reply addressing both applications by 4 December 2025; and

c. to exceptionally grant him leave to exceed the recommended 10-page limit to 17 pages.

7. In her motion, the Applicant concurs with the Respondent's request to join both applications and request retroactive leave to exceed "the recommended 10-page limit". The Applicant also informed the Tribunal of her intention to file two additional applications challenging her non-selection in two separate selection processes and requested the Tribunal to "consider adjudicating the four applications jointly".

8. Having considered the case record of both applications, the Tribunal considers it appropriate to join both applications for judicial economy as well as for the fair and expeditious disposal of these cases. It thus follows that the Respondent's request to file one response exceeding the page limit and addressing both applications is acceptable.

9. Concerning the Applicant's request to exceed the page limit, the Tribunal notes that the Applicant has filed two separate applications, each of which exceeds the page limit. Therefore, the Applicant's motion is granted, and the applications are accepted in the case record as they are.

10. However, the Tribunal finds that the Applicant's request to join her four applications is premature as she has only filed the two applications subject to this order and the Tribunal cannot pronounce itself on the filing or case management of cases not yet filed. Each motion is assessed on its own merits and on due course.

Conclusion

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

- a. Cases No. UNDT/GVA/2025/076 and UNDT/GVA/2025/077 are hereby joined;
- b. The Respondent shall file a reply addressing both motions by **Thursday, 4 December 2025;**

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- c. The Respondent is exceptionally allowed to exceed the page limit as requested;
- d. The applications exceeding page limits in Cases No. UNDT/GVA/2025/076 and UNDT/GVA/2025/077 are accepted in the case record as they are.
- e. Other motions are rejected.

(Signed)
Judge Sun Xiangzhuang (Duty Judge)
Dated this 21st day of November 2025

Entered in the Register on this 21st day of November 2025
(Signed)
Liliana López Bello, Registrar, Geneva