



**Before:** Judge Agnieszka Klonowiecka-Milart

**Registry:** Nairobi

**Registrar:** Abena Kwakye-Berko

GAKIRA

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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**ORDER ON THE RESPONDENT'S  
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO FILE THE REPLY**

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**Counsel for the Applicant:**  
Self-represented

**Counsel for the Respondent:**  
Lanla Kamara-Joyner, UNECA

## **Introduction**

1. By an application filed on 14 April 2020, the Applicant contests the Management Evaluation Unit's evaluation of his claim against the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa ("UNECA") on harassment and abuse of authority.<sup>1</sup>

2. On 14 April 2020, the Registry served the application on the Respondent with a deadline for his reply set to Friday, 15 May 2020.

3. On 13 May 2020, the Respondent filed a motion for extension of time to file his reply until 31 May 2020. The reasons given in support of the motion include the fact that the Counsel for the Respondent assumed her position on 31 March 2020 and due to the current global COVID-19 pandemic she has not been able to travel to her duty station in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to take up her functions. This has created challenges for her access to the case materials, key witnesses, other people with information and language translation services. All these render her unable to respond to the application in the set timeframe.

## **Considerations**

4. Pursuant to art. 35 of the Dispute Tribunal's Rules of Procedure, the Tribunal may extend a time-limit fixed by these rules when the interests of justice so require.

5. Having considered the Respondent's reasons in support of his motion, the Tribunal finds it appropriate and in the interests of justice to grant the requested extension of time to submit a reply.

## **ORDER**

6. The Respondent shall submit his reply by **Monday, 1 June 2020**.

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<sup>1</sup> Application, section V.

*(Signed)*

Judge Agnieszka Klonowiecka-Milart

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020

Entered in the Register on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020

*(Signed)*

Abena Kwakye-Berko, Registrar, Nairobi