



UNITED NATIONS DISPUTE TRIBUNAL

Case No.: UNDT/NY/2024/030
Order No.: 005 (NY/2025)
Date: 21 January 2025
Original: English

Before: Duty Judge
Registry: New York
Registrar: Isaac Endeley

LANKOANDE

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ORDER
ON REFERRAL TO MEDIATION

Counsel for Applicant:

Self-represented

Counsel for Respondent:

Nisha Patel, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat
Charlene Ndirangu, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

Introduction

1. By Order No. 103 (NY/2024) dated 4 October 2024, the Tribunal ordered the parties to “explore the possibility of resolving the dispute between them amicably or through the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services and revert to the Tribunal” by 1 November 2024.

2. On 10 October 2024, the Applicant filed a submission by which he confirmed his “agreement and availability for amicable settlement of the dispute and [his] commitment to engage in good faith and in a spirit of openness”.

3. On 1 November 2024, the Respondent filed a motion by which he informed the Dispute Tribunal that he was “still enquiring with the United Nations entities referred to in the Applicant’s case on the possibility of an amicable resolution”. He therefore requested “an extension of 30 calendar days to complete his enquiries and update the Dispute Tribunal on the outcome”.

4. By email of 8 November 2024, the Duty Judge (Judge Adda) granted the Respondent’s 1 November 2024 motion for extension of time and postponed the deadline until 2 December 2024.

5. By joint submission dated 28 November 2024, the parties informed the Dispute Tribunal that “they agree to have the case referred to the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services [“UNOMS”] for informal discussions” and requested the Dispute Tribunal to “suspend the present proceedings for an initial period of 21 days”.

6. By email of 29 November 2024, the Registry informed the parties that it had “transmitted the joint submission to the Duty Judge (Judge Adda)” and that “a formal order [would] follow soon”.

Consideration

7. The Tribunal commends the parties on their efforts to resolve the matter amicably, and with reference to art. 15 of its Rules of Procedure, grants their request for referral to UNOMS.

8. In light of the above,

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

9. The present case is referred to UNOMS.

10. Upon confirmation from UNOMS that the present referral is accepted as per para. 7 of Practice Direction No. 3 (Mediation), the present proceedings will be suspended for 21 calendar days.

(Signed)

Judge Francis Belle

Dated this 21st day of January 2025

Entered in the Register on this 21st day of January 2025

(Signed)

Isaac Endeley, Registrar, New York