

TRIAL CHAMBER I (“Chamber”) of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (“Special Court”) composed of Hon. Justice Pierre Boutet, Presiding Judge, Hon. Justice Bankole Thompson and Hon. Justice Benjamin Mutanga Itoe;

HAVING RECEIVED the Sesay Defence Urgent Application for Page Extension for Closing Brief, filed by Counsel for the First Accused, Issa Hassan Sesay (“Sesay Defence”) on the 16th of July 2008 (“Sesay Motion”);

HAVING RECEIVED the Urgent Prosecution Motion for Relief to File a Final Brief Not Exceeding 600 Pages, filed by the Office of the Prosecutor (“Prosecution”) on the 18th of July 2008 (“Prosecution Motion”);

HAVING RECEIVED the Prosecution Response to Sesay Defence Urgent Application for Page Extension for Closing Brief, filed by the Prosecution on the 18th of July 2008;

HAVING RECEIVED the Sesay Defence Response to Prosecution Request to File a Final Brief Not Exceeding 600 Pages, filed on the 21st of July 2008;

NOTING that Art. 6(F) of the Practice Direction on Filing Documents Before the Special Court for Sierra Leone, adopted on the 27th of February 2003, amended on the 1st of June 2004, the 10th of June 2005 and the 16th of January 2008, provides, *inter alia* that “final trial submissions shall not exceed 200 pages or 60,000 words, whichever is greater”;

MINDFUL of the submissions of the Sesay Defence and the Prosecution regarding the length of the final trial briefs made before the Chamber at the Status Conference held on the 12th of March 2008;¹

MINDFUL of our Order for the Filing of Final Trial Briefs and Presentation of Closing Arguments, filed on the 29th of April 2008;

CONSIDERING that the Sesay Defence requests an extension of the page limit for its final trial brief from 400 to 600 pages and that the Prosecution requests an extension of the page limit for its final trial brief from 500 to 600 pages;

CONSIDERING that the Prosecution bears the burden of proving its case beyond a reasonable doubt and must file one brief with respect to all three of the RUF Accused;

¹ Transcript of 12 March 2008, Peter Harrison and Wayne Jordash, pp. 47 - 59.

2.

CONSIDERING that case against the First Accused, Issa Hassan Sesay, is larger and more complex than the case against the Second and Third Accused, both of whom were given a limit of 400 pages for their final trial briefs;

CONSIDERING all relevant factors that may be taken into account when filing final trial briefs and having reviewed the practice of other international tribunals on this issue;

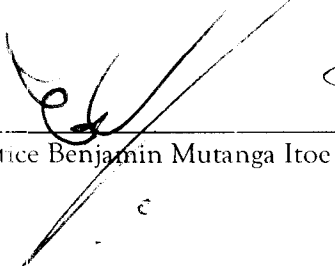
CONSIDERING that it is in the interests of justice and in keeping with the conduct of a fair and expeditious trial, for the Chamber to grant the Sesay Defence and the Prosecution an extension of the page limits set out in our Order for the Filing of Final Trial Briefs and Presentation of Closing Arguments;


PURSUANT TO Rules 26bis, 54 and 86 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Special Court;

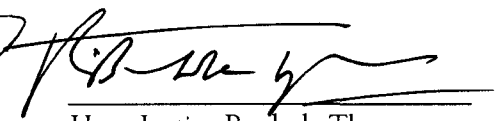
HEREBY ORDERS as follows:

1. The length of the final trial brief filed by the Prosecution shall not exceed 600 pages, including any headings, footnotes and quotations; and,
2. The length of the final trial brief filed by the Sesay Defence shall not exceed 500 pages, including any headings, footnotes and quotations.

Done at Freetown, Sierra Leone, this 23rd day of July 2008


 Hon. Justice Benjamin Mutanga Itoe


 Hon. Justice Pierre Boutet
 Presiding Judge
 Trial Chamber I


 Hon. Justice Bankole Thompson

