

- Before: Duty Judge
- Registry: Geneva

Registrar: René M. Vargas M.

# ABDELLAOUI

v.

## SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

# ORDER ON CASE MANAGEMENT

**Counsel for Applicant:** Self-represented

**Counsel for Respondent:** Adrien Meubus, LPAS, UNOG

Case No. UNDT/GVA/2022/038 Order No. 126 (GVA/2022)

#### Introduction

1. By motion filed on 7 November 2022, the Applicant sought a one-week extension of the deadline to file an application arising from comments that her Second Reporting Officer ("SRO") made in her 2021-2022 performance evaluation document.

2. By Order No. 107 (GVA/2022) of 10 November 2022, the Tribunal ordered that the Applicant file an application on the merits related to the matter referred to in para. 1 above by 29 November 2022, and that it includes the Applicant's arguments on its receivability.

3. On 29 November 2022, the Applicant filed a 40-page application.

4. On 30 November 2022, the Respondent filed a motion to strike confidential statements and documents included in the application, as well as to request case management measures.

5. By Order No. 119 (GVA/2022) of 5 December 2022, the Tribunal:

a. Invited the Applicant to file her comments on the Respondent's motion to strike by 12 December 2022; and

b. Ordered the Applicant to refile her application by 19 December 2022, which shall include a succinct statement of relevant facts and matters, and be a maximum of 15 pages, using font Times New Roman, font size 12 and 1.5 line spacing.

6. In the same Order, the Tribunal encouraged the Applicant to seek the assistance of the Office of the Staff Legal Assistance.

7. On 9 December 2022, the Applicant filed a motion, requesting, *inter alia*, an extension of time to refile her application.

8. On 12 December 2022, the Applicant filed her comments on the Respondent's motion to strike pursuant to Order No. 119 (GVA/2022).

## Consideration

#### The Respondent's motion to strike

9. In his motion to strike, the Respondent requested the Tribunal to order that several paragraphs in the application and several annexes to it be stricken from the record. In support of his request, he specifically argued that the Applicant had included in her application and its annexes information about statements made during a conflict-resolution process and about exchanges under the auspices of the United Nations Office of the Ombudsman and Mediation Services.

10. In her response, the Applicant stated that she would "modify her application to remove any reference to mediation efforts under the auspices of the Office of Ombudsman" as well as relevant annexes in accordance with art. 15.7 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure.

11. The Tribunal further recalls that it ordered the Applicant to refile her application pursuant to Order No. 119 (GVA/2022).

12. Accordingly, the Tribunal finds that the Respondent's motion to strike is moot.

13. In this connection, the Tribunal wishes to remind the Applicant that under art. 15.7 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure, all documents prepared for and oral statements made during any informal conflict-resolution process or mediation are absolutely privileged and confidential and shall never be disclosed to the Dispute Tribunal.

# The Applicant's motion for an extension of time

14. The Applicant requested an extension of time until the end of December 2022 to refile her application pursuant to Order No. 119 (GVA/2022). In support of her request, the Applicant submits that seeking legal assistance would probably take some time and that it is the holiday season.

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15. Having regard to the circumstances invoked by the Applicant and the need for fair and expeditious disposal of the case, the Tribunal considers it appropriate to grant the Applicant's motion.

16. Pursuant to art. 19 of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure,

## IT IS ORDERED THAT

17. By **Friday, 30 December 2022**, the Applicant shall refile her application pursuant to Order No. 119 (GVA/2022).

18. The Respondent's motion to strike is moot.

(*Signed*) Judge Teresa Bravo (Duty Judge) Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022

Entered in the Register on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022 (*Signed*) René M. Vargas M., Registrar, Geneva