



Before: Judge Margaret Tibulya

Registry: Nairobi

Registrar: Abena Kwakye-Berko

VALME

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**ORDER ON SUSPENSION OF
PROCEEDINGS**

Counsel for the Applicant:
Sètondji, Roland Adjovi

Counsel for the Respondent:
Miryoungh An, AAS/ALD/OHR
Nicola Esti Caon, AAS/ALD/OHR

Background

1. On 17 July 2019, the Applicant filed an application contesting the decision of the Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to impose on him the disciplinary measure of separation from service with compensation in lieu of notice and with termination indemnity.

2. The Respondent replied to the application on 15 August 2019.

3. The Tribunal began hearing the case on its merits on 23 November 2020 via the Microsoft Teams online platform. The Applicant and another witness, “FM”, were scheduled to give oral evidence on 16 December 2020.

4. On 16 December 2020, the Applicant’s Counsel informed the Tribunal that the Applicant was unable to appear for the hearing due to medical reasons and that FM was also unable to appear for the hearing due to an ongoing military conflict in Ethiopia which had resulted in disruption to internet connectivity where she was located within the country.

5. In order for a fair and expeditious disposal of the case and to do justice to the parties,

IT IS ORDERED;

6. By 23 December 2020, the Applicant shall file with the Registry, on an *ex parte* basis, supporting documentation to show that medical reasons prevented him from participating in the proceedings on 16 December 2020.

7. The proceedings in the present case are suspended to 1 April 2021.

8. By 1 April 2021, Counsel for the Applicant shall inform the Registry when/whether the Applicant and FM are available to appear before the Tribunal.

Case No. UNDT/NBI/2019/108

Order No. 238 (NBI/2020)

(Signed)

Judge Margaret Tibulya

Dated this 16th day of December 2020

Entered in the Register on this 16th day of December 2020

(Signed)

Abena Kwakye-Berko, Registrar, Nairobi