



UNITED NATIONS DISPUTE TRIBUNAL

Case No.: UNDT/NY/2025/015
Order No.: 64 (NY/2025)
Date: 24 July 2025
Original: English

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

APPLICANT

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ORDER
ON CASE MANAGEMENT

Counsel for Applicant:

Self-represented

Counsel for Respondent:

Nicole Wynn, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat
Victoria Mujunga, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

Introduction

1. On 3 June 2025, the Applicant, a Human Resources Partner with the Department of Operational Support (“DOS”) in New York, filed an application “contesting the decision of the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support [“the USG/DOS”] to summarily close the Applicant’s complaint of harassment, discrimination, and abuse of authority without initiating an investigation”.

2. On 7 July 2025, the Respondent filed his reply in which he contends that the contested decision “was lawful, rational, and procedurally correct” but that some of the other allegations contained in the application “are not receivable because they do not identify any contestable administrative decision in a clear and concise manner”.

3. By email dated 8 July 2025 to the Registry, the Applicant acknowledged receipt of the Respondent's reply and informed the Tribunal of her “intention to submit observations in rebuttal, pursuant to Article 9 of the [Dispute Tribunal’s] Rules of Procedure”. She also requested to know the deadline for submission of such observations.

Considerations

4. Pursuant to art. 19 of the Dispute Tribunal’s Rules of Procedure, the Tribunal may at any time issue any order or give any direction which appears to be appropriate for the fair and expeditious disposal of a case and to do justice to the parties.

5. The Tribunal recalls that the General Assembly has repeatedly reaffirmed that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice. Having considered the issues arising in this case, the Tribunal is of the view that the case may be amenable to informal and amicable resolution. The Tribunal therefore considers it appropriate to provide the parties with an opportunity to resolve the case informally.

6. Accordingly, the parties are encouraged to attempt informal resolution of the disputes arising in the case either through the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services or via *inter partes* discussions. Should the parties decide to attempt informal resolution of the matter, they shall promptly inform the Tribunal thereof and seek suspension of the proceedings.

7. If the parties do not agree to enter into informal settlement negotiations, the Tribunal will instruct the Applicant to file a rejoinder specifically addressing the receivability questions raised in the Respondent's reply.

8. Further, the Tribunal notes that among the remedies identified in the application, the Applicant requests the anonymization of the proceedings and the removal of her name from the Tribunal's orders and judgment in the present case pursuant to art. 18.1 of the Dispute Tribunal's Rules of Procedure.

9. In that connection, the Tribunal observes that the case file contains sensitive and personal information relating to the Applicant's health situation. The Tribunal also takes note of the Respondent's assertion that he "does not oppose the Applicant's request for anonymity". Therefore, the Tribunal will grant the request for anonymity (see, for instance, the Appeals Tribunal in *Monasebian* 2024-UNAT-1476, para. 46).

10. In light of the above,

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

11. The Applicant's request for anonymity is granted.

12. **By 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 13 August 2025**, the parties are to file a jointly signed statement informing the Tribunal whether they agree to attempt informal resolution. If so, they may request a suspension of the proceedings.

13. If the parties do not agree to attempt informal resolution, **by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 27 August 2025**, the Applicant is to file a rejoinder to the Respondent's reply specifically addressing the issue of receivability. The rejoinder

should be a maximum of five pages using font Times New Roman, font size 12 and 1.5 line spacing.

14. Upon receipt of the above-referenced submission, or at the expiration of the provided time limit, the Tribunal will issue further directives on case management.

(Signed)

Judge Solomon Areda Waktolla

Dated this 24th day of July 2025

Entered in the Register on this 24th day of July 2025

(Signed)

Isaac Endeley, Registrar, New York