Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly and to the members of the Security Council the nineteenth annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, submitted by the President of the International Tribunal for Rwanda in accordance with article 32 of its statute (see Security Council resolution 955 (1994), annex), which states:

The President of the International Tribunal for Rwanda shall submit an annual report of the International Tribunal for Rwanda to the Security Council and to the General Assembly.

* A/69/150.
Letter of transmittal

1 August 2014

Excellencies,

I have the honour to submit the nineteenth annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, dated 1 August 2014, to the General Assembly and the Security Council, pursuant to article 32 of the statute of the International Tribunal.

(Signed) Vagn Joensen
President

President of the General Assembly
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

President of the Security Council
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
Nineteenth annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Summary

The present annual report outlines the activities of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

During the past year, the Tribunal transferred a second accused in its custody to Rwanda for trial and continued its efforts to complete the remaining appeals expeditiously. During the reporting period, the Appeals Chamber rendered three judgements concerning five persons, bringing the total number of persons whose judgements have been completed at the appellate level to 51. Completion of the appeals work in all but one case remains on track for completion before the end of 2014, with the final judgement in the multi-accused Butare case, concerning six accused, expected not before August 2015.

The Office of the Prosecutor focused on handing over of responsibility for tracking of fugitives to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and providing support for national authorities in the prosecution of crimes relating to the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Continuous support was also extended to Rwandan authorities to assist them in preparing for the transfer of cases from the Tribunal.

The Registry continued to provide a high level of administrative and judicial support to the Tribunal and to the Mechanism, the Arusha branch of which opened on 1 July 2012. The Registry ensured the cooperation and assistance of Member States with the Tribunal and further strengthened its outreach and capacity-building activities in Rwanda. The Division of Administrative Support Services continued to ensure the efficient management of the Tribunal’s downsizing process and handover to the Mechanism, while at the same time preparing staff members for a life after the Tribunal.

All organs of the Tribunal are devoting their best efforts to completing the work of the Tribunal expeditiously, and a smooth transition to the Mechanism is now well under way. The following objectives require essential cooperation and support of Member States: three fugitives remain to be arrested by the Mechanism, nine acquitted persons and three persons who have completed their sentences need countries for relocation, and the Tribunal needs to be provided with sufficient resources to be in a position to complete its tasks in the time frame expected. The Tribunal relies on the ongoing support of Member States to achieve these goals.
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I. Introduction

1. The present nineteenth annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994 outlines the activities of the Tribunal for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

2. The Tribunal, through the Office of the President, the Chambers, the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry, has continued its efforts to meet the goals of its completion strategy, as endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1503 (2003), with intense appeals judgement drafting and other activities in the Appeals Chamber remaining as the Tribunal’s core focus. During the reporting period, the Tribunal continued to hand over responsibilities to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, the Arusha branch of which commenced operations on 1 July 2012. The smooth transition to the Mechanism is now well under way.

II. Activities of the Tribunal

3. As at 30 June 2014, the Tribunal consists of the Trial Chamber, the Appeals Chamber, the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry. The President, Judge Vagn Joensen (Denmark), the Prosecutor, Hassan Bubacar Jallow (the Gambia) and the Registrar, Bongani Majola (South Africa) remain since the previous reporting period. The terms of the Tribunal’s President and Prosecutor, who also serve as the duty judge of the Arusha branch and Prosecutor, respectively, of the Mechanism, expire on 31 December 2014. Extensions for both terms will be requested later in 2014, in line with projections for completion of the Tribunal’s remaining work in 2015, as detailed herein.

A. Activities of the President

1. Judicial activity

4. During the reporting period, the President issued orders and decisions on a variety of matters in his role as both President of the Tribunal and duty judge of the Arusha branch of the Mechanism. Those decisions and orders related to matters including State cooperation, amendment of indictments and arrest warrants, witness protection review and contempt allegations related to both the Tribunal and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

2. Completion strategy

5. In close cooperation with the Prosecutor and the Registrar, the President has continued to implement the Tribunal’s completion strategy. On 5 December 2013 and 5 June 2014, the President presented the six-monthly completion strategy reports to the Security Council. In the course of the reporting period, the Tribunal issued three judgements at the appeals level concerning five accused. The work at the trial level was completed in December 2012 and only appeals remain.
6. Any further staff attrition would be an impediment to the timely achievement of completion strategy goals, especially in the Appeals Chamber. Replacement of departing staff members is a lengthy process, which even in a best-case scenario would result in delays and cannot compensate for the continuous loss of institutional memory. The Security Council, in its resolution 2054 (2012), reiterated its call upon the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to work with the Registrar of the Tribunal in order to find practicable solutions to address the staffing situation.

7. The Security Council, in its resolution 1966 (2010) establishing the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, requested the Secretary-General to make the practical arrangements necessary for the commencement of the Mechanism’s operations. Under the direction of the Office of Legal Affairs, the Tribunal has worked closely with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the Mechanism to implement that mandate. The initial priority was to develop a budget proposal for the biennium 2012-2013 and a draft Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The budget was approved by the General Assembly and the Rules of Procedure and Evidence were adopted by the judges of the Mechanism in June 2012. The next steps focused on harmonizing the policies, procedures and operations of the two Tribunals, and initial provision by the Tribunal of administrative services to the Mechanism. Those efforts resulted in the successful opening of the Arusha branch of the Mechanism on 1 July 2012, following which most judicial and prosecutorial functions have now been handed over from the Tribunal to the Mechanism. The remaining functions are being handed over on a continuous basis at the appropriate time, as agreed upon by the Tribunal and the Mechanism and in line with the Transitional Arrangements and resolution 1966 (2010).

3. **Diplomatic relations and other representation**

8. The President maintained regular contact with United Nations Headquarters and the diplomatic community in the host country, at the seat of the United Nations, and in other countries. The United Nations Secretariat, and in particular the Office of Legal Affairs, provided important legal advice and diplomatic support to ensure smooth cooperation between the Tribunal, the Security Council and the General Assembly.

9. On the occasion of their briefings before the Security Council, both the President and the Prosecutor of the Tribunal participated in meetings of the Security Council Informal Working Group on International Tribunals. This allowed for comprehensive and open discussions with the legal advisers of the members of the Security Council. The Registrar also participated in the June 2014 meeting of the Informal Working Group in order to provide detailed information on the issue of relocating acquitted and convicted released persons.

10. The President has continued to work closely with the Registrar to engage in diplomatic efforts towards the relocation of persons acquitted by the Tribunal and those convicted persons who have completed their sentences and have been released from the United Nations Detention Facility in the United Republic of Tanzania. Enhanced cooperation of Member States on the issue of relocation will be required in order for the Tribunal to be successful in implementing its strategic plan for relocation prior to the closure of the Tribunal.
B. Activities of coordination mechanisms

1. Coordination Council

11. The Coordination Council, consisting of the President, the Prosecutor and the Registrar, met regularly to discuss issues affecting the entire Tribunal, such as the completion strategy, staffing, cooperation with the Mechanism and budgetary and financial matters. A Joint Coordination Council, consisting of the Presidents, Registrars and Prosecutors of the Tribunal and Mechanism, also met regularly in order to take policy decisions to ensure coordinated efforts in preparation of the budgets of the two institutions for the biennium 2014-2015 and with respect to the ongoing transition.

2. Plenary session

12. During the reporting period, no formal plenary session was held. However, the President was in regular contact with the presiding judges of the remaining appeals cases in order to monitor the progress of the cases and deal with issues that may lead to difficulties in meeting completion targets.

3. Rules Committee

13. The Rules Committee submits or discusses proposals for amendments of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. During the reporting period, the Committee did not have any meetings, as no further revisions to the Rules were required to be considered.

C. Activity of the Chambers

1. Composition of the Chambers

14. The Chambers currently comprise one Trial Chamber and one Appeals Chamber and are currently composed of 12 permanent judges in the Appeals Chamber and one ad interim judge serving as President.

15. The one remaining ad interim judge, President Vagn Joensen (Denmark), is a member of the Trial Chamber. On 31 May 2013, Judge Andrésia Vaz (Senegal) resigned from her position as permanent judge of the Appeals Chamber, leaving 10 judges on the Appeals Chamber. In accordance with article 12 bis of the statute of the Tribunal, following a request from the President of the Tribunal to the Secretary-General, a replacement judge, Mandiaye Niang (Senegal) was appointed on 11 September 2013 to serve the remainder of Judge Vaz’s term, until 31 December 2014. The General Assembly also elected Koffi Afande (Togo) in November 2013 to serve as a judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Judge Afande was assigned to the joint Appeals Chamber for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and was sworn in as a permanent judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda on 13 December 2013.

16. Twelve permanent judges currently sit on the Appeals Chamber, including the two recent additions. Six of them are from the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, namely, Judges William H. Sekule (United Republic of Tanzania), Mehmet Güney (Turkey), Arlette Ramaroson (Madagascar), Khalida Rachid Khan (Pakistan),
Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov (Russian Federation) and Mandiaye Niang (Senegal). The six other permanent judges on the Appeals Chamber are from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, namely, Judges Theodor Meron (United States of America) as presiding judge, Patrick Robinson (Jamaica), Fausto Pocar (Italy), Liu Daqun (China), Carmel Agius (Malta) and Koffi Afande (Togo).

2. **Principal activity of the Trial Chamber and the Appeals Chamber**

   (a) **Trial Chamber**

   17. The substantive work before the Trial Chamber is complete.

   (b) **Appeals Chamber**

   18. During the reporting period, the Appeals Chamber was seized of appeals from seven judgements concerning 15 persons. The Appeals Chamber rendered three final judgements concerning five persons, and 57 pre-appeal orders and decisions.

   **Appeal Judgements: Ndahimana, Ndindiliyimana et al. and Bizimungu**

   19. Trial Chamber II convicted Grégoire Ndahimana, a former bourgmestre, of genocide and extermination as a crime against humanity on 17 November 2011 and sentenced him to 15 years of imprisonment. The Appeals Chamber heard the parties’ appeals on 6 May 2013. In its judgement of 16 December 2013, the Appeals Chamber affirmed Ndahimana’s convictions, entered findings concerning his form of responsibility and the Trial Chamber’s determination of his sentence, and increased his sentence to 25 years of imprisonment.

   20. From 7 to 10 May 2013, the Appeals Chamber heard appeals from the judgement of Trial Chamber II in the Ndindiliyimana et al. ("Military II") case pronounced on 17 May 2011. The Trial Chamber convicted Augustin Ndindiliyimana, the former Chief of Staff of the Rwandan gendarmerie, of genocide, extermination and murder as crimes against humanity, and murder as a serious violation of article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II thereto, sentencing him to time served. The Trial Chamber convicted François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye, former commander of the Reconnaissance Battalion, and Innocent Sagahutu, former commander of a squadron within the Reconnaissance Battalion, of murder as a crime against humanity and as a serious violation of article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II thereto. The Trial Chamber sentenced each of them to 20 years of imprisonment. Finally, the Trial Chamber convicted Augustin Bizimungu, the former Chief of Staff of the Rwandan army, of genocide, extermination, murder and rape as crimes against humanity, and murder and rape as serious violations of article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II thereto, sentencing him to 30 years of imprisonment.

   21. On 7 February 2014, the Appeals Chamber severed Bizimungu’s case from the Military II case, ordering further submissions from the parties. On 11 February 2014, the Appeals Chamber issued its judgement in respect of Ndindiliyimana, Nzuwonemeye and Sagahutu. The Appeals Chamber reversed Ndindiliyimana’s and Nzuwonemeye’s convictions in their entirety. It also partly reversed Sagahutu’s convictions, reducing his sentence to 15 years of imprisonment.
22. The Appeals Chamber issued its judgement in respect of Bizimungu on 30 June 2014. The Appeals Chamber affirmed Bizimungu's convictions for genocide; extermination, murder and rape as crimes against humanity; and murder and rape as serious violations of article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II, while it reversed findings of his responsibility for certain events. The Appeals Chamber affirmed the sentence of 30 years of imprisonment.

Further appeals from judgement

23. Deliberations are now in progress in the Karemera and Ngirumpatse, Nizeyimana and Nzabonimana cases, in which the Appeals Chamber heard arguments in February and April 2014. The Appeals Chamber is also seized of appeals in the Nyiramasuhuko et al. (“Butare”) case, in respect of which the briefing has concluded and the appeals are being prepared for a hearing.

D. Activities of the Office of the Prosecutor

24. Following the completion of all first instance trial proceedings, the focus of the Office of the Prosecutor is on the completion of ongoing appeals, the monitoring of cases referred to national jurisdictions, transitional activities to ensure a smooth and efficient transfer of functions to the Office of the Prosecutor of the Mechanism, preparation of materials for archiving and on multiple activities related to the Prosecutor’s Closing Report to the Secretary-General, and other essential legacy works initiated over the years.

25. The Office of the Prosecutor’s Appeals and Legal Advisory Division litigated 26 appeals in 7 cases during the reporting period. On 16 December 2013, the final judgement in the Grégoire Ndahimana appeal was issued, resulting in the imposition of an additional conviction and term of imprisonment. On 11 February 2014, the Appeals Chamber reversed Ndindiliyimana’s and Nzuwonemeye’s convictions in their entirety. It also partly reversed Sagahutu’s convictions, reducing his sentence to 15 years of imprisonment.

26. Oral argument in the appeals pending in the Karemera and Ngirumpatse, Nizeyimana, and Nzabonimana cases took place in February and April 2014 and the final judgements are scheduled to be delivered during the second half of 2014. The Appeals Chamber rendered a judgement in the Bizimungu appeal on 30 June 2014, affirming most of his convictions and his 30-year term of imprisonment.

27. In September 2013, one Office of the Prosecutor archival facility, along with records of 27 cases made up of 512 boxes and measuring about 100 linear metres, were formally transferred to the custody of the Mechanism. The records consist of inactive trial and appeals cases as well as administrative documents.

28. In addition, the Office of the Prosecutor has transferred a further 596 boxes of material concerning an additional five completed cases and investigation records to the Arusha branch of the Mechanism of the Office of the Prosecutor. The processing of prosecutorial records continues, with the appraisal and security classification of all records of the Office of the Prosecutor. While much has been achieved, there is still much more to be done.

29. In September 2013, the Office of the Prosecutor launched its manual on the tracking and arrest of fugitives from international criminal justice at the eighteenth
annual conference of the International Association of Prosecutors, held in Moscow. In January 2014, the Office of the Prosecutor hosted an international conference in Kampala and released a manual on best practices in the investigation and prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence. Other ongoing legacy initiatives include projects related to recording the course of events of the 1994 Rwandan genocide on the basis of facts established by the judicial process of the Tribunal and challenges regarding the referral of cases to national jurisdictions under rule 11 bis of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

E. Activities of the Registry

1. Office of the Registrar

30. The Office of the Registrar is responsible, inter alia, for providing support to the Chambers and the Office of the Prosecutor, including providing diplomatic liaison with Member States to meet the requirements of both the defence teams and the Office of the Prosecutor. It is also responsible for the administration of the Tribunal, including human resources and financial management. During the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014, the Office of the Registrar provided effective court management and filing services to both organs of the Tribunal as well as the Appeals Chamber. It supported the completion of the Ndindilyimana, Nzuwonemeye, Sagahutu and Bizimungu appeal cases as well as judicial filings involving appeal cases. It also continued to provide administrative support to defence lawyers, including securing cooperation from Member States.

31. During the period under review, the main activities of the Office of the Registrar focused on supporting the conclusion of the remaining appeals, engaging Member States on a variety of issues, providing support to the Mechanism and preparing the records of the Tribunal for archiving and handover to the Mechanism necessary to achieve an orderly closure of the Tribunal.

32. The Office of the Registrar continued to act as the channel of communication between the Tribunal and the diplomatic community. As such, the Office of the Registrar maintained high-level diplomatic contacts with Member States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations. During the reporting period, the Office of the Registrar transmitted more than 100 notes verbales and other correspondence related to the operations of the Tribunal, in particular, to secure support and cooperation from Member States with respect to the remaining appeal cases and the relocation of the acquitted and released persons. The Registry also dealt with a number of inquiries and requests for legal assistance from national jurisdictions.

33. The Office of the Registrar also assisted the Mechanism with its function of monitoring the cases of Uwinkindi and Munyagishari that were referred to Rwanda for trial, as well as the two cases referred to France.

34. The President and Registrar continue to deploy all efforts to find host countries for the remaining nine acquitted persons and three released convicts. In this regard, the Registrar visited a number of Member States in Africa and Europe and engaged the Government of Rwanda and the African Union with the aim of finding a solution to the problem of relocation. During the period under review, the Tribunal has continued to encounter obstacles in relocating these individuals. There have not yet
been any positive developments pursuant to Security Council resolutions 2029 (2011), 2054 (2012) and 2080 (2012), in which the Council commended Member States that have accepted the relocation to their territories of acquitted persons and released convicts who have completed serving their sentences and reiterated its call upon other Member States that are in a position to do so to cooperate with the Tribunal for that purpose. The President and Registrar have highlighted the urgency of the need for increased cooperation to many Member States, including through discussions with the Security Council Working Group and the group of African Ambassadors to the United Nations, and the President has continued to detail the urgency of the situation in his statements to the Security Council and General Assembly. Considering the imminent closure, the Tribunal remains in urgent need of the assistance of Member States to find a sustainable solution to this issue.

35. The Tribunal welcomed in Arusha a total of 2,850 visitors, including high-level United Nations and government officials, academics, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the general public, during the reporting period. The Office of the Registrar also managed the wide dissemination of information about the Tribunal’s activities by means of press meetings, newsletters and press releases as well as the website, films and information brochures in English, French and Kinyarwanda. Through its External Relations Communication and Outreach Unit, the Office distributed more than 10,000 copies of the Tribunal’s Cartoon Book, which is part of the Tribunal’s youth sensitization project in the five East African countries, namely, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. It also briefed the more than 2,800 visitors, including students, academics, military officers, media practitioners and government and non-government officials as well as members of the public, who visited and toured the Tribunal. Media outreach events and exhibitions were held in Arusha, Kigali, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, Nairobi and Johannesburg, South Africa.

36. At these events, film screenings, talks and discussions on the work of the Tribunal were held. The Unit also processed numerous local and international media enquiries and broadcast via satellite trial proceedings in the cases of The Prosecutor v. Grégoire Ndahimana; The Prosecutor v. Augustin Ndiguliyimana, François-Xavier Nzuwonemeye and Innocent Sagahutu; and The Prosecutor v. Augustin Bizimungu. The Office of the Registrar maintains an open line of communication with universities and other educational institutions in the region. In April 2014, the Office participated in an event held to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide in Dar es Salaam, jointly organized by the United Nations Office in the United Republic of Tanzania, the Rwanda High Commission and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. The President and Prosecutor attended other such events in Kigali, and an event was organized by the Arusha branch of the Tribunal, at which the President, Prosecutor and Registrar of the Tribunal and the Minister of Justice of Rwanda participated.

37. The Umusanzu Information and Documentation Centre in Kigali and 10 additional provincial information centres located across Rwanda continued to play a key role in promoting outreach activities of the Tribunal through information dissemination, improved communication and access to the jurisprudence and other legal materials of the Tribunal. The centres are visited daily by members of the Rwandan judiciary, students, researchers and the public, who are provided with informative materials and have access to briefings, training, library services, video screenings and the Internet. As part of the preparation for the handover of the
Umusanzu Information and Documentation Centre to the Government of Rwanda, the staff of the Centre have trained two librarians from the Government of Rwanda on library management, public information and outreach.

38. Significantly, the Umusanzu Information and Documentation Centre continues to receive greater awareness and use by senior government officials, including members of the military, and the police. The Centre was also regularly visited and used by civil society organizations from Rwanda and other countries, including Canada, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland and the United States of America, who are on official study and/or attachment visits in Rwanda. In October 2013, the Centre, within the framework of cooperation with partners of the Tribunal in Rwanda, conducted training in online legal research for legal professionals at the Rwandan Institute of Legal Practice and Development in the Southern province.

39. The Office of the Registrar continued its partnership with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat in promoting outreach in Rwanda through the Centre. From February to June 2014, the staff of the Centre conducted genocide awareness workshops in six districts in Rwanda, covering 18 secondary schools, one demobilization and reintegration camp and one institution of higher learning. Approximately 15,000 teachers, students and ex-combatants participated in the programme. The outreach team used the same opportunity to distribute information materials provided by the Tribunal and the Department of Public Information to all participating schools, camps, district local government offices and members of the public. During the reporting period, the Centre in Kigali received approximately 24,000 visitors, while the provincial information centres received approximately 20,000 visitors. On 29 and 30 April 2014, the Tribunal and Mechanism organized two open days at the Centre in Kigali to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda. The event was attended by senior officials of the Government of Rwanda, including the Prosecutor General, the Executive Secretary of the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission, other senior officials and the general public. It was also attended by the Resident Coordinator and the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Rwanda.

40. The Tribunal continues with the preparation of its hard copies, born-digital/electronic and audiovisual records for transfer to and management by the Mechanism. It is collaborating very closely with the Mechanism in that regard, especially to ensure that the records are prepared in a manner that will facilitate their effective management by the Mechanism after transfer. Since the completion of the remaining judicial work of the Tribunal is occurring in phases, a phased transfer of records with long-term to permanent value will be performed until the end of the mandate of the Tribunal. As at 30 June 2014, the ICTR had transferred to the Mechanism 671 linear metres of records with long-term to permanent value. The measures presently being taken to prepare for the disposition of the digital records are an inventory and appraisal of the records in systems across the Tribunal, including shared drives and personal workspaces, and the planning and implementation of the transfer process. The Tribunal is also working to implement an e-capture project, to capture both legacy and current e-mail accounts of staff members who played a significant role in the history of the Tribunal. Redaction of the audiovisual records of the trial proceedings is progressing. The audiovisual redaction process has been streamlined and prioritized to focus on the recordings
most likely to be of interest to external users. The prioritized list will significantly affect the quality and quantity of the final hours of records that will be handed over to the Mechanism by 31 December 2014.

2. Judicial and Legal Affairs Section

41. As part of the ongoing reorganization of the Tribunal, the Judicial and Legal Services Division was abolished as of 31 December 2013. In its place, the Judicial and Legal Affairs Section assumed some of the previous functions of the Division, including providing legal support to the appeals process, the Office of the President and the Registrar and supervising activities related to court management, defence counsel, detainees at the United Nations Detention Facility and acquitted and convicted persons released in the United Republic of Tanzania.

42. In particular, legal officers of the Section assisted the Mechanism by acting as interim monitors of the Uwinkindi and Munyagishari proceedings in Rwanda. Throughout the reporting period, the monitors submitted regular reports to the Mechanism and the Tribunal on the status of the pre-trial proceedings in both cases. Furthermore, the Section took part in the organization of capacity-building and knowledge-sharing sessions for various international, regional and domestic institutions, including the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights, the Rwandan judiciary and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Finally, the Section provided judicial assistance to domestic courts and government institutions, including in Belgium, Canada, France and Germany.

43. During the reporting period, the Section focal point for court management provided support services to the judicial processes of the Tribunal and the Mechanism, including the provision of transcripts of appellate proceedings. It also continued to prepare judicial records for transfer to the Mechanism, which includes the redaction of audiovisual recordings of the Tribunal’s proceedings so they may be made available to the public.

44. The Section focal point for defence counsel, detainees and acquitted and convicted persons released in the United Republic of Tanzania provided essential services to relevant persons. This included management of payments to defence counsel and attending to requests from detainees and released persons in the United Republic of Tanzania related to services provided by the Tribunal.

45. During the reporting period, the Section focal point for witness and victims support worked closely with the Mechanism to prepare witness files for handover in relation to 58 completed cases before the Tribunal. In accordance with protective measures ordered by the Chambers, transcripts were redacted to expunge identifying information concerning witnesses or their family members prior to the transcripts being made public.

46. The United Nations Detention Facility, as at 30 June 2014, housed a total inmate population of 13 detained persons. This includes 11 convicted persons awaiting judgements on appeal by the Tribunal, one convicted person awaiting judgement on appeal by the Mechanism and one convicted person awaiting an order for transfer for the enforcement of sentence by the Mechanism.

47. The Language Services Section continued to provide interpretation and translation services in English, French and Kinyarwanda to the Tribunal and Mechanism during proceedings conducted before the Appeals Chamber and the
Mechanism. In this regard, the Section dealt with documents emanating from the Mechanism, the Appeals Chamber and the parties (prosecution and defence). It also provided the same services to the Office of the Prosecutor, the Registry and other Tribunal and Mechanism departments. In addition to translation and interpretation, the Section provided reproduction services to all organs of the Tribunal and the Mechanism. During the reporting period, the Section received a number of documents for translation, including five appeal judgements, 12 briefs and many other appeal-related filings from different parties, numerous decisions as well as other judicial documents. The Section also continued to translate trial and appeal judgements and decisions accrued from the translation backlog. With the reduction of court sessions, interpreters have continued to assume a significant proportion of the translation workload, thereby enabling the Section to substantially improve delivery times.

48. The Legal Library and Reference Unit delivered legal information to both internal and external users who need to access the materials of the Tribunal and the Mechanism, including their jurisprudence. During this period, the Unit released a DVD containing the basic documents and case law of the Tribunal for the period 1995-2013. The Unit also maintained the web database to enable a large number of researchers to access the Tribunal’s jurisprudence.

49. On 1 January 2014, the Office of the Registrar completed the transfer of the Unit together with its functions to the Mechanism, in line with the decision of the Coordination Council. This will enable the Mechanism to provide the necessary support to the prosecution and defence teams and its judges in case of an arrest and trial or appeal. It will help the Library to preserve its collections and continue to inspire scholars, legal professionals and researchers who need to learn from the work of the International Tribunals, especially the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, well past its closure.

3. Division of Administrative Support Services

50. The Division of Administrative Support Services carries the responsibility of providing a wide range of services, such as budget and finance, medical services, security, travel, human resources, training and counselling services, buildings management and property control. During the reporting period, the Division provided administrative services to the Mechanism in line with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1966 (2010).

51. The process of downsizing continued to pose major challenges to the operations of the entire Tribunal and the Division has continued to respond to those challenges in a proactive and flexible manner. Staff retention exercises were conducted in order to determine the number and composition of staff to be retained until the completion of the Tribunal’s work. As at 30 June 2014, the Tribunal had 283 staff members, against an authorized staffing level of 306 posts. The Tribunal’s staff comes from 55 countries and, as at 30 June 2014, the gender ratio of staff was 62 per cent male and 38 per cent female.

52. The Tribunal continued to provide administrative support to the Arusha branch of the Mechanism following its establishment on 1 July 2012, including facilitation of recruitment and provision of administrative services to the Mechanism staff members in the Arusha and Kigali duty stations up to 31 December 2013. These
administrative services were taken over by the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia from 1 January 2014.

53. Through the Human Resources and Planning Section, the Tribunal continued to undertake a smooth and objective downsizing process with respect to the large number of staff separating from the Tribunal. Repatriation, relocation and career counselling, in addition to the other staff administration and recruitment activities, made up the majority of the workload of the Section during the reporting period. With more than 50 per cent of the Tribunal’s workforce consisting of staff members who have been with the Tribunal since its inception, the looming closure and few options for future jobs has been a source of stress and concern that the Tribunal has to deal with as part of the completion strategy. It should also be noted that the short duration of contracts issued to current staff members continued to contribute to increased uncertainty and to have a negative impact on productivity. In addition, it has proved difficult to attract qualified candidates for short-duration contracts. The current limitations to temporary appointments have the potential to create a negative impact on the timely liquidation of the Tribunal’s assets and liabilities, which is also part of the completion strategy.

54. The Career Development and Counselling Unit is implementing a four-pronged strategy to support the completion of the Tribunal’s mandate, as follows:

(a) Training programmes to support personal and professional transition of staff, aimed at providing management and staff with skills to meet the challenges of organizational change and downsizing, multi-tasking and double-hatting. They also aim to provide staff with skills to successfully make the transition to another job, self-employment or retirement, as the case may be;

(b) Training programmes to support completion of operations: these are technical training programmes aimed at helping sections complete their operations successfully, either to close down or transfer functions to the Mechanism;

(c) Stress counselling and coaching support during the completion process: this aims to help staff and their families deal with the stress and challenges of the downsizing, and to coach them on issues such as interview preparation, career planning, problem solving and decision-making;

(d) Provision of welfare support to separating and relocating staff and families: this is aimed at providing practical help and information during separation and relocation, and promoting physical fitness and social well-being of Tribunal staff and families during the final period of the Tribunal.

55. The Security and Safety Section continued to support the Tribunal and the Mechanism in ensuring the safety and security of their staff, premises, assets and operations through implementation of United Nations security management system policies, including minimum operating residential security standards and minimum operating security standards. With the ever-increasing levels of insecurity in the East Africa region exacerbated by recent detonations of improvised explosive devices in Arusha, the Section has continued to promote close collaboration with the host Government authorities in monitoring security trends and ensuring appropriate measures are in place to provide adequate notification and implementation of well-rehearsed mitigating measures to staff.
56. The Health Services Unit provided curative, preventive and trauma counselling support and performed medico-administrative duties for staff members and officials of the Tribunal and Mechanism and their dependants. The Unit is also responsible for providing medical services to detainees, witnesses and victims and acquitted persons.

57. The Information Technology Services Section continues its consolidation and optimization process in liquidating Kigali facilities, supporting the Mechanism’s information technology infrastructure in Arusha and Kigali and sustaining services required by the Tribunal completion strategy.

58. In the area of resources management, the Budget and Finance Section continued to provide expertise on proper planning, control and monitoring of the utilization of available resources as well as timely and reliable services to staff members and clients of the Tribunal.

59. The General Services Section provided vital support to the Tribunal, which included realignment of office space, preparing administrative documents for archiving, construction of a temporary archives facility, general repairs and maintenance and asset control and management.

60. During the reporting period, the Building Management Services continued to review use of office space in line with the completion strategy, and apart from the staff of the Office of the Prosecutor, all Tribunal staff members have been consolidated into one wing of the Arusha International Conference Centre complex. All courtrooms, apart from the one being retained for the use of the Appeals Chamber and Mechanism, have been dismantled and the space has been reorganized or returned to the landlord.

61. The use of the Galileo Inventory Management System for Asset Management Services is now fully implemented at the Tribunal. The result is improved internal controls on asset management. Disposal of excess assets in line with the completion strategy is ongoing.

62. With the impending closure of the Tribunal, the main function of the Procurement Section has been the disposal of the Tribunal’s assets and transferring those that may be utilized by the Mechanism into its custody. During the reporting period, the procurement workload has also increased owing to demands for the procurement, shipping and clearing of items procured for the Mechanism.

63. The Administrative Legal Services Unit has continued to play an important legal advisory role for issues pertaining to the proper implementation and interpretation of United Nations administrative rules, cases relating to the privileges and immunities of staff regarding civil and criminal cases, and disputes related to domestic employees of Tribunal staff members. In addition, the Unit has been assisting the Registrar with appeals related to the downsizing and retention processes, performance evaluations and investigations of allegations and misconduct in collaboration with the Office of Internal Oversight Services. The Unit has also been responsible for coordination activities of all other oversight bodies.

### III. Conclusion and recommendations

64. The Tribunal has made significant achievements during the past year towards the goals of the completion strategy in the face of a very high workload, and significant
progress was made on the appeals and on the transition to the Mechanism. The reporting period continued to see an ongoing shift in the Tribunal’s focus with respect to both judicial and administrative activities. With the completion of trials and the transfer to Rwanda of the second case of an accused in the Tribunal’s custody, the focus is now entirely on the transition to the Mechanism and the completion of the appeals in an efficient and timely manner without compromising fair trial rights.

65. State cooperation remains the cornerstone for the ability of the Tribunal to complete its mandate. The Tribunal appreciates the continued trust and support of Member States and has continued to work in close cooperation with Member States to ensure a seamless transfer to the Mechanism of tracking efforts with respect to the remaining fugitives. The Tribunal could benefit, however, from increased cooperation with respect to its efforts to relocate acquitted persons and those convicted persons released in the United Republic of Tanzania.

66. In this respect, the Tribunal reiterates the call for urgent action to help find host countries for the now nine acquitted persons who remain in a safe house in Arusha under the Tribunal’s protection and for the three convicted persons in Arusha who have been released after completion of their sentences. The Tribunal remains concerned about the consequences of failing to fulfil its obligation to relocate acquitted persons and those who have completed their sentences. In this respect, the President and Registrar have continued their extensive efforts to find States for relocation and hope that Member States will actively contribute to finding a meaningful solution to this problem.

67. Finally, as the Tribunal continues to separate staff pursuant to the completion strategy, the request for absorption of the Tribunal’s staff members into the United Nations system is re-emphasized. The Tribunal would appreciate the usual support given by Member States in addressing its numerous challenges.

68. As the Tribunal continues the post-trial phase, in which its mandate draws ever nearer to completion, it is our intention to continue efforts to ensure that the legacy of the Tribunal is more than just its judicial decisions; the knowledge gained and lessons learned with respect to running an international judicial institution must also be preserved for posterity and shared with the international community for guidance in future endeavours related to international crimes. The Tribunal’s efforts regarding capacity-building, training and education, which have now expanded beyond East Africa, will remain strong. The impact of the Tribunal’s work will not only challenge impunity, but will also help to improve the means to dispense justice for an entire region and educate the world on why it is important to fight to ensure that there is never again another tragedy like that of the Rwandan genocide.

69. The countdown to the closure of the Tribunal has begun. On 8 November 2014, the Tribunal will mark 20 years since its creation by the Security Council, and at the same time there will be approximately one year left until the projected closure of the Tribunal. As the Tribunal continues to wrap up its work, however, a great deal remains to be done before it can close its doors. In order to achieve what is necessary prior to closure, we the Tribunal again call upon the international community to provide it with the support necessary to achieve completion of its mandate.