Organisation internationale du Travail Tribunal administratif International Labour Organization

Administrative Tribunal

N.
v.
FAO

138th Session

Judgment No. 4856

THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL,

Considering the complaint filed by Mr A. A. N. against the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on 10 May 2021 and corrected on 30 June and 4 August, the FAO's reply of 10 November 2021, the complainant's rejoinder of 17 December 2021 and the FAO's surrejoinder of 1 March 2022;

Considering Articles II, paragraph 5, and VII of the Statute of the Tribunal;

Having examined the written submissions and decided not to hold oral proceedings, for which neither party has applied;

Considering that the facts of the case may be summed up as follows:

The complainant impugns the decision to dismiss him for misconduct.

The complainant, a national of Kenya, joined the World Food Programme (WFP) – an autonomous joint subsidiary programme of the United Nations and the FAO – in 1996 as an employee in the Kenya Country Office. In 2005, he was granted a fixed-term appointment as a Programme Officer, at grade P-4, in the Sudan Country Office. He subsequently served in WFP offices in various duty stations and, in 2017, he was appointed Deputy Country Director and Head of Programme, at grade P-5, in the Myanmar Country Office.

In May 2017, allegations regarding the complainant's involvement in a Political Party in Kenya and his running for political office in that country were referred to the Office of Inspections and Investigations (OIGI). An investigation was launched on 29 May 2017, and the complainant was relevantly informed by a memorandum of 5 July 2017.

In its report of 7 September 2017 (investigation report), OIGI found sufficient evidence that the complainant had engaged in unauthorised political activities in his home country, and his actions were of public knowledge, including the fact that he had sought political office to become the Kisumu County Governor in 2017. Moreover, the complainant had not filed the Annual Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire with the Ethics Office to inform it about his political activities or to obtain authorisation. OIGI concluded that by engaging in political activities while on a WFP staff contract and without proper authorisation, the complainant had committed misconduct, in breach of the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service and other rules and regulations. In addition, he had exposed the WFP and the United Nations to a reputational risk, in particular because the official materials used to promote his candidacy made explicit mention of his affiliation with these institutions/organisations.

By a memorandum of 22 December 2017 (the charge memorandum), the complainant was informed of the charges against him, namely that he had: (i) become a candidate for a public office of a political character while still employed with the WFP; (ii) that he had failed to conduct himself in a manner befitting his status as an international civil servant by engaging in activities which were inconsistent with, and reflected adversely upon, the independence and impartiality required from him; (iii) that he had engaged in activities amounting to a conflict of interest; and (iv) in so doing, he had exposed the WFP to a significant reputational risk. The complainant was also informed that the charges against him were sufficiently serious to warrant the initiation of disciplinary proceedings and that the proposed disciplinary measure was dismissal. He was invited to respond, which he did on 9 and 22 January 2018, denying the charges.

In a memorandum of 6 April 2018, the Administration advised the complainant that it had been established beyond a reasonable doubt that he had engaged in misconduct, based on the charges raised in the charge memorandum, and that these were sufficiently serious as to have irreparably breached the bond of trust between the WFP and himself. Accordingly, the Administration had decided to impose on him the disciplinary measure of dismissal with compensation in lieu of notice and without termination indemnities, as per FAO Staff Rule 303.0.1 and WFP Human Resources (HR) Manual Section VIII.1.5.1(a) and (e).

On 25 June 2018, the complainant filed an appeal with the WFP Executive Director against the 6 April decision to impose on him the disciplinary measure of dismissal. Further to the rejection of this appeal on 24 August 2018, the complainant filed an appeal with the FAO Appeals Committee, on 11 October 2018, asking the Appeals Committee to recommend that the decision to dismiss him with compensation in lieu of notice and without termination indemnities be set aside; that he be reinstated or, alternatively, that he be paid compensation in an amount equal to his salary, entitlements and pension contributions he would have received until his mandatory age of separation; that he be paid material and moral damages, and costs; and that the Administration provide professional translations of the videos.

The Appeals Committee submitted its report on 3 August 2020, recommending that the appeal and all requests made by the complainant be rejected as unfounded. The Appeals Committee also recommended that the WFP take steps to remind its staff of the requirement to complete the Annual Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire, and not only the financial disclosure form.

By a letter of 10 February 2021, the FAO Director-General informed the complainant of his decision to accept the recommendation of the Appeals Committee. This is the impugned decision.

The complainant asks the Tribunal to set aside the decision to dismiss him with compensation in lieu of notice and without termination indemnities, to reinstate him or, if reinstatement is not possible, to compensate him with an amount equal to the salary, including pension contributions, and all entitlements he would have

received until his mandatory age of separation. He claims material and moral damages and costs as follows: (i) 778 United States dollars for courier services used to send documents to the Tribunal in June and July 2021; (ii) 105 dollars for courier services used to send documents to the FAO Appeals Committee; (iii) 196 dollars for equipment and stationary required to file his complaint with the Tribunal; (iv) 176 dollars for the equipment he purchased to monitor the high blood pressure he developed as a result of his abrupt dismissal and ensuing loss of income, embarrassment and reputational harm – he had no history of high blood pressure prior to that; (v) 3,380 dollars for medical expenses resulting from his abrupt dismissal and ensuing drastic loss of income, embarrassment and reputational harm; (vi) moral damages in the amount of 214,671.44 dollars per annum, from the date of his dismissal until the date of the Tribunal's determination of his complaint.

The FAO asks the Tribunal to dismiss the complaint in its entirety.

CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. The facts disclose the four underlying charges, of which the complainant was notified by way of the memorandum of 22 December 2017 (the charge memorandum), and on which he was dismissed by way of the memorandum of 6 April 2018 from the service of the World Food Programme (WFP) with compensation in lieu of notice and without termination indemnities. His dismissal followed an investigation by the Office of Inspections and Investigations (OIGI) into allegations made against him which the facts also reveal. He was interviewed by OIGI on 5 and 11 July 2017 and he provided further documents and information to OIGI between 14 July and 1 August 2017. OIGI issued its report on 7 September 2017.
- 2. In challenging the impugned decision, the complainant refers to statements, submissions and/or arguments and explanations he submitted in the internal appeal procedure, attempting to incorporate by reference his pleadings in that procedure into the proceedings before the Tribunal. The Tribunal will not take them into consideration in this

judgment. The case law makes it clear that it is not acceptable to incorporate by reference into the pleadings before the Tribunal arguments, contentions and pleas found in documents created for the purposes of internal review and appeal (see Judgment 4014, consideration 7, and the judgments cited therein). The Tribunal has also stated, in Judgment 2264, consideration 3(e), also referred to in Judgment 3434, consideration 5, for example, that this manner of proceeding is contrary to Article 6(1)(b) of its Rules and makes it impossible for it (the Tribunal) and the other party to understand the complainant's pleas with sufficient ease and clarity.

- 3. As this complaint challenges a disciplinary decision, the Tribunal recalls its settled case law that the burden of proof in such cases rests on an organization to prove the underlying allegations beyond a reasonable doubt before a disciplinary sanction can be imposed (see, for example, Judgment 3649, consideration 14). Consistent precedent also has it that where there is an investigation by an investigative body prior to disciplinary proceedings, the Tribunal's role is not to reweigh the evidence collected by it, as reserve must be exercised before calling into question the findings of such a body and reviewing its assessment of the evidence. The Tribunal will interfere only in the case of manifest error (see Judgments 4106, consideration 12, and 3593, consideration 12).
- 4. With respect to the first charge, the FAO/WFP's regulatory framework prohibits a staff member from engaging in any political activities or being a candidate for a public office of a political character. WFP Human Resources (HR) Manual Section I.2.2.3 relevantly states that staff members wishing to submit their candidacy for a public office, provided that it is not political in nature, must obtain prior authorization from the Executive Director. This section however refers to Staff Regulation 301.1.7, which states that any staff member who becomes a candidate for public office of a political character, while still employed with the WFP, shall resign from the Organization. This makes it obvious that a staff member's participation in such political activity is inimical to the interest of the WFP and is strictly forbidden. Notably, the Tribunal has stated, in Judgment 1061, consideration 5, that the

reason for the provision in Staff Regulation 301.1.7 is that an international civil servant, though entitled to hold his own political views, must stand aloof from demonstrations of adherence to a political party and that integrity, loyalty to the international civil service, independence and impartiality are the standards required of an international civil servant and they require him or her to keep clear of involvement in national party politics.

- Regarding the second charge, FAO/WFP Staff Regulation 301.1.4 requires WFP staff members to conduct themselves in a manner befitting their status as international civil servants and forbids them from engaging in any activity that is incompatible with the proper discharge of their duties. It requires them to avoid, in particular, any kind of public pronouncement which may adversely reflect on their status and to bear in mind, at all times, the reserve and tact incumbent upon them by reason of their international status. Additionally, paragraph 48 of the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service (the Standards of Conduct) states, in part, that in view of the independence and impartiality international civil servants must maintain, they should not participate in political activities, such as standing for or holding local or national political office, and should not accept or solicit funds, write articles or make public speeches or statements to the press.
- 6. Regarding the third charge, conflict of interest is defined in HR Manual Section I.2.3.2(a) as "a real or apparent incompatibility between a staff member's private interests and either the staff member's official duties or the interests of the [WFP]". HR Manual Section I.2.2.2 requires staff members to regulate their conduct with the interest of the WFP alone in view, and, consequently, they must subordinate their private interests to those of the WFP and avoid placing themselves in a situation in which their interests might conflict with those of the WFP. They must exercise their functions with integrity, loyalty and impartiality and remain independent of any outside authority in the performance of their duties. Paragraph 23 of the Standards of Conduct relevantly states that conflicts of interest may occur when an

international civil servant's personal interests interfere with the performance of his or her official duties or call into question the qualities of integrity, independence and impartiality required of their status, including circumstances in which he or she may, directly or indirectly, improperly benefit, or allow a third party to so benefit from their association with their organization. Paragraph 23 further requires a staff member to disclose even a possible conflict of interest.

- 7. Regarding the fourth charge, HR Manual Section VIII.1, Annex 2, paragraph 19, states, in effect, that misconduct may include any act or omission that brings or risks bringing the WFP into disrepute.
- 8. For the purpose of its investigation, OIGI collected and reviewed documents accessed from four social media accounts purportedly linked to the complainant, as well as from websites and videos available on the internet. The only other witness OIGI interviewed referred to them. The documents from those sources contained photographs of the complainant (as he admitted during his OIGI interviews) and other information which, among other things, showed him in instances wearing campaign attire of a Political Party, purportedly campaigning as one of six aspirants in the Party's April 2017 primary election to select a candidate to contest for the Office of County Governor. The documents and information also show that the complainant's name was on the list of candidates for the primary election and also on the ballot. He admitted that he voted in the primary.
- 9. However, when OIGI interviewed the complainant, he denied the allegation that he had been involved in any political activity. He alleged that the documents and information were created by other persons without his knowledge or consent. Those persons had taken over his social media accounts and posted information purporting to show him involved in the campaign using his profiles from those accounts.

- 10. In its report, OIGI concluded that the interviews and documentary evidence it reviewed had established, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the complainant had engaged in unauthorized political activities while employed by the WFP and had campaigned as an aspirant in a Political Party's primary elections. It also concluded that the weblinks and documents it reviewed were real and not mere coincidences and that the complainant had corroborated the evidence given by the other witness and that his political activities were of public knowledge. More particularly, OIGI concluded that the photos seen in the postings and the video clips were the complainant's (as he admitted). It also noted the complainant's admission that he first noticed the postings on one of his social media accounts in April or May 2015, in line with its own tracing on the links which shows that the postings were made between May 2015 and April 2017 and that this was also consistent with the period of his alleged political activities.
- 11. OIGI further found that the complainant had engaged in unauthorised political activities between April 2015 and 2017, as evidenced from the extensive online information, including from his social media accounts. It noted, particularly, that his membership card and Registration number showed that he was a life member and Delegate of a popular Political Party in Kenya; that his name was included in that Political Party's list as one of its aspirants to contest in the primaries that the Political Party, in accordance with the 2011 Electoral Act, submitted to the Electoral Commission, which published the list to the public on its website. OIGI also noted that his campaign posters were posted online, in newspapers and on his social media accounts. It further found that there was evidence that he had engaged in political activities in the media, in videos, newspapers, on radio stations and in local group meetings, among others, where he granted political interviews and made speeches at campaign rallies to his supporters, and he wore the Political Party's attire when attending campaign events. OIGI further found that the complainant participated in fundraising for the Political Party in keeping with his responsibilities and loyalty to it, and that he did those things while he was a WFP staff member. OIGI also found that the complainant did not file the Annual

Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire with the Ethics Office, to inform it of his political activities and to obtain authorization to be involved in those activities, which conflicted with his duties as a staff member. OIGI therefore concluded that the complainant had engaged in misconduct, in breach of the applicable regulatory provisions, thereby causing reputational harm to the WFP and the United Nations (UN), particularly as the official WFP photos and social media, among other things, were used to promote his candidacy with explicit mention of his affiliation to those Organizations. OIGI noted the admissions the complainant made and provided a detailed analysis of inconsistencies and contradictions in his testimony.

12. In his responses to the charges, dated 9 and 22 January 2018, the complainant submitted that none of the charges had been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

Regarding the first charge, he stated that the evidence to support it was unreliable because the documents and related information came from postings purportedly made on his social media accounts, which he did not manage or control at the material time, so he could not be held responsible for the postings other persons made on them without his approval or consent. The postings reflected what the persons who controlled the accounts thought about him. The complainant submitted two letters purportedly signed by two brothers, B.O. and O.O., who stated that they had created the social media accounts from which evidence was taken without the complainant's consent or approval. They did so because of their wishful desires for him to be the Governor of the County. The complainant insisted that he was not eligible to be a candidate, as he did not take the steps the electoral law required a candidate for political office to take. He was not a member of the Political Party; he did not complete or sign the required nomination forms; he did not raise any funds for the Political Party, as alleged; and he was in the process of investigating how his name appeared on the list of candidates and on the ballot for the elections. He indicated that he had asked the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Political Party to provide him with a letter stating that he was not qualified under the Party's rules to be a candidate for the primary election. He promised to follow up the request when ongoing political hostilities subsided. The complainant subsequently produced a letter, purportedly from the CEO of the Political Party, dated 4 July 2017. In the Tribunal's view, two things are notable. One is that the complainant did not submit the letter during the period up to 1 August 2017, when he had submitted additional documents to OIGI and before OIGI issued its report. The second is that the question is not whether the complainant was eligible to be a candidate in the elections, but whether, contrary to the applicable rules, he engaged in the misconduct alleged. In its totality, the evidence referred to in the charge memorandum makes it clear that the charge refers to the complainant campaigning as an aspirant in the primaries seeking to be the Political Party's candidate for the later elections for Governor of the County.

Regarding the second charge, the complainant repeated that he did not run for political office and did not meet the required qualifications. He made none of the statements obtained from social media and took no part in political activities, as alleged, and the Political Party should be asked for evidence that he did, including receipts or bank deposits. He stated that the charge insinuated he was part of a team which bore his name, which team did not exist. He asked to be provided with evidence of the team's physical location and a list of its members.

Regarding the third charge, the complainant referred to steps he had taken, supposedly, when he realized that the media postings existed. He had tracked down the two brothers, who said that they had created the accounts; demanded answers from the CEO of the Political Party; explained the situation to a Senior WFP Manager; reported the misuse of his social media accounts to the administrator of the social media platform; declared any social activity he had engaged in that could have raised the issue of conflict of interest in the required questionnaire, and even sought the advice of the Ethics Office. He insisted that his name appearing on the ballot and in the public list of the six candidates who contested the primaries was illegal and irregular (in effect fabricated) and was the subject of ongoing investigations.

Regarding the fourth charge, the complainant agreed that had the facts provided in the charge memorandum been true, WFP would have been exposed to significant reputational harm due to the public nature of their contents. He however repeated his submission that the evidence is unreliable and he did not engage in the political alleged activities.

13. The complainant essentially repeated the foregoing statements in his internal appeal to the Appeals Committee. He argued, in effect, that the first charge, which was pivotal to the other charges, had not been proved beyond a reasonable doubt, because the social media postings used as evidentiary basis were improper and unreliable. He indicated that he had obtained a letter from the CEO of the Political Party, which he provided. According to him, the letter showed that he was not a candidate in the subject primary elections. He repeated that he did not submit the required nomination forms, was not an active member of the Political Party and did not raise funds for it; he did not participate in a political campaign and was not responsible for the postings collected from the social media by OIGI, most of which, he stated, were posted while he worked at three duty stations outside the country. He stated, for the first time, that his social media accounts had been manipulated and images posted on it were photoshopped to make the images appear to be his campaigning in the Political Party's attire. He provided the two letters, purportedly signed by the brothers (B.O. and O.O.), upon which he seemed to rely to support his argument that his images in the video and internet postings had been manipulated to show him in the Political Party's attire. It is however notable that in his testimony to OIGI, the complainant had admitted that at least one social media depiction of him wearing a cap and shirt of the Political Party (with its poster in the background) was a photograph of him. He stated that the event it depicted was at a university meeting. The complainant further stated that the videos and photos relied upon in the investigation had been taken out of context, as they were related to him participating in his charitable works to support women, the elderly and youth activities, which he declared in an Annual Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire. He stated that he had filed the questionnaire in 2016 concerning these activities, but that the Ethics Office did not provide

any feedback. The complainant submitted that he had been denied the right to due process in the OIGI's investigation, because OIGI did not contact the two brothers, the Political Party, or the police to whom he had reported the matter, or the radio station on which, according to him, he had stated that he was not a candidate in the primaries.

14. The Appeals Committee recommended that the complainant's appeal be rejected on the ground that all of his requests therein were unfounded. The Appeals Committee also made another administrative recommendation, which is not relevant to this complaint. In its wellreasoned opinion, the Committee correctly concluded (and the Director-General confirmed in the impugned decision) that due process was observed during the OIGI's investigation, noting that the complainant had been interviewed and given the opportunity to test the evidence. This is apparent from the information contained in consideration 1 of this judgment. The Committee also concluded, correctly in the Tribunal's view, and as the Director-General accepted in the impugned decision, the fact that OIGI did not interview persons whom the complainant mentioned during his interview, notably, the two brothers or the CEO of the Political Party, did not violate due process because the complainant had not shown that not interviewing them caused him prejudice. The Tribunal observes that when OIGI interviewed the complainant, he did not name these persons as witnesses to be called. Moreover, he provided the letters purportedly signed by them with his 9 January 2018 response to the charges and the letter purportedly from the CEO on 22 January 2018, after OIGI issued its report. As to the complainant's suggestion that OIGI violated his due process rights because it did not use a certified translator to translate the speeches on the videos, as the Director-General stated in the impugned decision, there was no such requirement. Moreover, as the Director-General also noted, the translations by a certified translator, whose services were subsequently obtained at the complainant's request, found only minor variations.

- 15. Regarding the complainant's argument that his right to due process was violated during the disciplinary process that followed the OIGI's investigation, the Appeals Committee correctly noted that he was given the opportunity to reply to the charges proffered against him before a final decision was taken, and that due process was not violated simply because the evidence he presented was not considered credible or sufficient to rebut the charges. The Tribunal is satisfied that the complainant's arguments, in these proceedings, that he was not afforded due process, as by failing to interview his "key witnesses", the WFP denied him vital information and facts to support his case, and that the WFP's exclusion of his "key witnesses" demonstrates bias in the investigation process, lack of fairness, and lack of due process, are unmeritorious, as is obvious from the Appeals Committee's conclusions and the impugned decision. The Tribunal notes, for example, that during his interview, the complainant told OIGI that he had spoken to his supervisors in late 2016 and in February 2017, respectively, about rumours going around that he was running for political office but received no support. The record shows that OIGI contacted one of his supervisors who could not recall that the complainant had spoken with him about the matter. It seems obvious that, as the complainant's case evolved, he referred to persons or offices that could not speak creditably, or at all, to the primary charge that he became a candidate for political office at the material time. For example, he suggests that the national radio station should have been called to verify that on 23 March 2016 he had made a public announcement on that station disavowing that he was a candidate for the primaries, when it seems apparent that he could not himself obtain confirmation of this as he had promised.
- 16. Regarding the first charge, in his internal appeal, the complainant submitted that the disciplinary measure of dismissal was imposed upon him in a "superficial manner" and on the basis of a "superficial investigation" by OIGI, in which it relied upon evidence taken from unreliable social media postings, for which he was neither responsible and had not consented to. In effect, that the evidence was the result of cybercrime against him. In its opinion, the Appeals

Committee concluded that the first charge had been established, beyond a reasonable doubt, as the complainant had, at the material time, become a candidate for a public office of a political character constituting misconduct. According to the Committee, it had considered the fact that there was no actual evidence that the complainant had registered as a candidate for the elections and noted the letter the Political Party official wrote to that effect. It however also noted the presence of the complainant's name on the ballot box appeared to contradict those statements. It further stated that whilst the social media postings could have been fabricated, there were other documents and evidence showing the complainant's behaviour over a period of time prior to the elections from which his future intentions were easily discernible. It dispelled the complainant's assertion that he had taken appropriate action to respond to what he alleged were cybercrimes and manipulation of his images on social media, which led to the conclusion that he knew what was happening and did not object to it. The Committee thereupon concluded that his claims and submissions were without merit, including his submissions on the three other related charges. It is notable that the Committee placed no reliance on the evidence taken from the complainant's social media accounts, as it found that the other available evidence was sufficient to conclude that the charges were proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

17. In the impugned decision, the Director-General accepted the Committee's unanimous findings, including that the other charges proffered against the complainant had been proved beyond a reasonable doubt, and rejected the complainant's arguments to the contrary. The Director-General however noted that the Committee made no finding concerning the social media accounts from which evidence was taken and the complainant's assertion that they had been created by third persons without his approval or consent. Whilst the Director-General accepted the Committee's conclusion, he did not accept the complainant's assertion was credible, stating, in particular, that various bases for the assertion were inconsistent with the evidence in the record. More particularly, the Director-General noted the inconsistencies related to contents of the brothers' letters; the complainant's statement

that he had filed an Annual Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire with the Ethics Office concerning his charitable activities and his statement that he had taken steps to distance himself from the campaign. The Tribunal is satisfied that the Director-General's conclusion that the charges against the complainant had been proved beyond a reasonable doubt was one that was open to him on the evidence and that there was no manifest error in that conclusion. The complainant's submissions to the contrary are therefore unfounded.

- 18. Regarding the disciplinary measure imposed on complainant, the general principle in the Tribunal's case law is that the severity of the sanction that is imposed on a staff member of an international organization whose misconduct has been established is in the discretion of the decision-making authority, who must however exercise it in observance of the rule of law, particularly the principle of proportionality (see, for example, Judgments 3953, consideration 14, and 3640, consideration 29). Notably, HR Manual Section VIII.1.5.1(a) states that the disciplinary measures which an Authorized Officer may impose, depending on the nature and gravity of the misconduct, are the following (as also outlined in Staff Rule 303.0.1): (i) Written censure; (ii) Suspension without pay; (iii) Demotion; (vi) Dismissal, with notice or compensation in lieu of notice, and with or without termination indemnity; and (v) Summary dismissal for serious misconduct. Manual Section VIII.1.5.1(e) relevantly states, in effect, that dismissal, which is a termination of appointment, is imposed for misconduct that has jeopardized, or would in the future be likely to jeopardize, the reputation of the WFP and its staff.
- 19. In his internal appeal, the complainant submitted that the measure of dismissal was harsh and disproportionate, primarily because in imposing it, WFP did not take into consideration his "long and distinguished service" with it. He also submitted that the measure had been imposed on an improper evidentiary basis, which he repeats before the Tribunal. The Appeals Committee concluded that the measure of dismissal was proportionate to the nature of the misconduct the complainant committed, with which conclusion the Director-General

concurred in the impugned decision, noting that in imposing that measure, he had taken into account the complainant's service but had decided that the imposition of a less severe measure was not warranted having regard to the totality of the circumstances, including the public nature of the complainant's actions and his position. The Tribunal is satisfied that this determination was open to the Director-General in the circumstances of the case and discerns no manifest error in that determination. It therefore rejects the complainant's claim that the disciplinary measure of dismissal was not proportionate.

20. Based on the foregoing findings, the complaint is unfounded and will be dismissed.

DECISION

For the above reasons,

The complaint is dismissed.

In witness of this judgment, adopted on 1 May 2024, Mr Michael F. Moore, Vice-President of the Tribunal, Sir Hugh A. Rawlins, Judge, and Ms Hongyu Shen, Judge, sign below, as do I, Mirka Dreger, Registrar.

Delivered on 8 July 2024 by video recording posted on the Tribunal's Internet page.

MICHAEL F. MOORE

HUGH A. RAWLINS

HONGYU SHEN

MIRKA DREGER