[2000] Australian International Law Journal

CASE CONCERNING AHMADOU SADIO DIALLO (Republic of Guinea v Democratic Republic of the Congo)

This case is still pending.¹

Guinea has yet to frame and present its claims in its Memorial in this case. On 4 September 2000, Guinea requested the Court to extend the time-limit for the filing of its Memorial by nine months. The Congo objected to this and indicated instead that if the time-limit was extended, it should not exceed three months. This should also be considered to be an "absolute time-limit". Further, if the time-limit was extended, the Congo understood that it would receive a similar extension for the filing of its Counter-Memorial.

As a result, on 8 September 2000, the Court made an Order that extended the time-limit for the filing of the Memorial by Guinea to 23 March 2001, and for the filing of the Counter-Memorial by the Congo to 4 October 2002.

GUINEA'S CLAIM

In its Application, Guinea based its claims on the diplomatic protection of one of its nationals, Diallo. Guinea alleged that the Congo had unlawfully imprisoned Diallo for more than two months. Diallo had been a resident and businessman of the Congo for 32 years.

During his imprisonment, Diallo was divested of important investments, companies, bank accounts, and movable and immovable properties. When he attempted to recover sums owed to him by the Congo as a result of commercial dealings with his businesses, he was expelled from the Congo.

¹ For background information on this case, refer [1999] Australian International Law Journal 310.