



## Coalition for the International Criminal Court

[www.iccnw.org](http://www.iccnw.org)

MEDIA ADVISORY  
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### ICC ANNOUNCES SECOND ARREST IN DRC SITUATION

*FRPI leader Germain Katanga transferred to The Hague for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity*

**WHAT:** On Thursday, 18 October at approximately 11 a.m. in The Hague, the International Criminal Court (ICC) announced the surrender and transfer of Mr Germain Katanga, alleged commander of the Force de résistance patriotique en Ituri (FRPI) to the ICC. This marks the ICC's second case in the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The ICC's first case against Thomas Lubanga Dyilo will result in the Court's first trial, which is expected to commence in early 2008.

Upon an application of the ICC Prosecutor on 25 June 2007, the ICC Pre-trial Chamber I had issued a sealed warrant of arrest for Katanga on 2 July 2007. The arrest warrant was unsealed on 18 October 2007, following the surrender and transfer of the suspect on the previous day. The arrest warrant focuses on the period between January and March 2003 and in particular on the attack of the village of Bogoro on 24 February 2003, listing three crimes against humanity and six war crimes in Ituri, a territory in eastern DRC. The alleged acts include murder, inhumane acts, inhuman or cruel treatment, the use of child soldiers, sexual slavery, willful killing, intentional attacks against the civilian population and pillage.

"The opening of this second DRC case represents yet another turning point for the ICC," said CICC Convenor William Pace. "In this instance, the Court was able to secure the cooperation necessary to arrest and then transfer the suspect to The Hague in a timely manner."

Christian Hemedi, coordinator of the DRC national coalition, added "The conflict in the DRC is one of the most brutal of this century, but it has consistently fallen off the radar screen of the international community. The message the Court sends today, however, is loud and clear: an end to impunity for the grave crimes committed in DRC is near."

**WHO:** Germain Katanga, also known as "Simba", is a national of the DRC and the alleged leader of Force de résistance patriotique en Ituri. According to CICC member Human Rights Watch, "Germain Katanga helped lead one of the largest massacres in Ituri, that at Nyakunde Hospital in September 2002...he also led FRPI combatants at other massacres, including those in Bunia, Komanda and Bogoro in 2002 and 2003." Mr. Katanga had been previously detained in the DRC. Germaine Katanga is the second person transferred to the ICC Scheveningen detention center. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo was surrendered and transferred to The Hague in March 2006.

**COMMENT AND BACKGROUND:** Experts from DRC human rights organizations and international NGOs are listed on the following pages for comment and background on this arrest.

***Important notice:** The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), an independent NGO movement, is dedicated to the establishment of the International Criminal Court as a fair, effective, and independent international organization. The Coalition as a whole, and its secretariat, does not endorse or promote specific investigations or prosecutions or take a position on situations before the ICC. However, individual CICC members may endorse referrals, provide legal and other support on investigations, or develop partnerships with local and other organizations in the course of their efforts.*

### **NGOs in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**

*Alphabetical by last name*

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