Case No.: UNDT/NBI/2023/017

Order No.: 21 (NBI/2024)
Date: 15 February 2024

Original: English

Before: Judge Sean Wallace

Registry: Nairobi

Registrar: Eric Muli, Officer-in-Charge

ASLAM

v.

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ORDER ON CASE MANAGEMENT

Counsel for the Applicant:

Manuel Calzada

Counsel for the Respondent:

Nicole Wynn, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat Fatuma Mninde-Silungwe, AS/ALD/OHR, UN Secretariat

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Introduction

1. The Applicant was the Chief Procurement Officer with the African Union/United

Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur ("UNAMID"). He held a continuing appointment

at the P-5 level and was based in El-Fasher, Sudan. He contests the Respondent's

decision to deny his claim for Appendix D benefits.

Procedural History

2. On 22 February 2023, the Applicant filed a motion for extension of time to file

an application before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in respect of the decision by

the United Nations Advisory Board on Compensation Claims ("ABCC") dated 15

August 2022 to deny his claim for illness and injuries to his right knee.

3. By Order No. 054 (NBI/2023) dated 24 February 2023, the Tribunal granted the

Applicant's motion.

4. On 24 April 2023, the Applicant filed his application challenging the decision of

the Controller to endorse the recommendation of the ABCC to deny his claim for

compensation.

5. The Respondent filed his reply to the application on 12 June 2023. The

Respondent moved the Court to dismiss the application on ground that the Applicant

has failed to provide the evidence necessary to support his claim.

6. The Tribunal held a case management discussion ("CMD") on 20 December

2023 to discuss the issues and further evidence necessary for proper adjudication of

this case.

7. On 21 December 2023, the Tribunal issued Order No. 176 (NBI/2023) directing

the parties to provide the Court with "all medical documents in his custody, care, or

control that relate to treatments undertaken and/or his physical condition from 1996 to

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present" by 1 March 2024. The parties were also strongly encouraged to consider engaging in settlement discussions to resolve this matter *inter partes*.

8. On 30 January 2024, the Registry wrote to the parties. On the direction of the Presiding Judge, the Registry wrote:

The Tribunal **strongly** encourages the parties to deploy the necessary effort towards having this matter resolved *inter partes* or with the assistance of the United Nations Office of the Ombudsman and Mediation Services (UNOMS).

The gathering of documents for submission to the Tribunal by 1 March 2024 should proceed apace, while alternative dispute resolution is being explored.

9. On 14 February 2024, the Applicant filed submissions indicating that the Respondent is not open to "pursuing a negotiated settlement" because the ABCC now wishes to review the Applicant's case afresh.

Case management

- 10. The Tribunal has considered the Applicant's submissions and makes the following orders:
 - a. The Respondent is directed to respond to the Applicant's submissions dated13 February 2024 by 22 February 2024; and
 - b. The parties will attend a CMD on 4 March 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Nairobi time).

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(Signed)

Judge Sean Wallace

Dated this 15th day of February 2024

Entered in the Register on this 15^{th} day of February 2024

(Signed) Eric Muli, Officer-in-Charge, Nairobi