UNITED N

Judgment No.: UNDT/2020/162

The Application and Procedural History

1. The Applicant served as an Administrative Assistant at the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic ("MINUSCA"), on a fixed-term appointment at the FS5 level and was based in Bangui.

2. On 20 March 2019, the Applicant filed an application at the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Nairobi to challenge the Respondent's decision to not renew her appointment with the Mission beyond 31 December 2018.

3. The Registry received the Respondent's reply to the application on 23 April 2019.

Facts

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review exercise.

8. In the review of the two staff members encumbering the two Administrative Assistant posts, the Applicant scored fewer points than her colleague.

- 9. On 25 May 2018, the Department of Field Support ("DFS") endorsed the results of the CRP.
- 10. On 29 May 2018, the CHRO informed the Applicant that she would be separated from service of the Organization as of 30 June 2018.
- 11. On 21 June 2018, the Applicant asked the CHRO to consider extending her appointment to 31 December 2018 so that she attains the retirement age of 62, and therefore maximises her pension benefits and other entitlements as applicable.

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24. It is noted that the Applicant's appointment was for a fixed term and there was

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was ordered to permit her to contest that decision.

31. The Applicant argued that she could not have been genuinely evaluated for the

period 2017 to 2018 since she was not in Bambari at that time. The Applicant was also

on sick leave for about a month.

32. The Respondent separated his response into two parts dealing with two

decisions.

33. The Respondent argues that the first decision was the non-extension of the

Applicant's appointment. In the Respondent's view, the Applicant's contract had

already been extended by the time the application was filed, to 31 December 2018. The

application was therefore moot on this issue. This was because the parties embarked

upon informal communications between MEU and the Counsel for both sides and the

request for management evaluation was withdrawn. There was therefore no

management evaluation because of the settlement.

34. The Applicant had been informed of the decision not to renew her appointment

beyond 31 December 2018 in July 2018. The Applicant did not request management

evaluation of the decision not to renew her appointment beyond 31 December 2018.

35. The application based on the letter dated 4 December 2018 is not in response

to an administrative decision but a human resource notification of the separation

formalities that needed to be complied with prior to 31 December 2018.

36. The 60-day period for appealing the original decision of July 2018 had already

passed and an agreed extension had been granted.

37. The application is therefore not receivable *ratione materiae*.

38. The factual background is that the Applicant was appointed to the position of

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Administrative Assistant FS4 on 1 May 2014.

39. The administration decided to abolish 223 posts for the budget year of 2018.

The proposal was to abolish 3 FS level Administrative Assistant positions in

MINUSCA in 2018.

40. After informing the Applicant that her appointment would not be renewed,

discussions took place between the officers of MINUSCA HR and the Applicant on

the Applicant's request to have her appointment extended to allow her to retire at the

age of 62. The request was granted on an exceptional basis.

41. The Respondent explained that the post against which the Applicant had been

placed was temporarily vacant due to a temporary assignment of the incumbent of the

post outside the mission.

42. As a result of this agreement between the Respondent and the Applicant, the

management evaluation request was deemed closed and the Applicant was placed

against a temporarily vacant post from 1 August to 31 December 2018. Consequently,

the present application is not receivable.

43. An application is only receivable if it is filed within 90 calendar days of

management's response to her proposal or within 90 calendar days of the expiry of the

relevant response period for a management evaluation if no response to the request was

provided.

44. Even if the Applicant had not been transferred from Bambari to Bangui, the

Applicant would have been included in the CRP because the process was conducted

across all duty stations of MINUSCA.

45. The Applicant's application filed on 20 March 2019 appealing the decision of

July 2018 made to extend the date of retrenchment would therefore be time barred,

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since the Applicant was first notified of this decision in July 2018.

46. The Applicant also challe 682 738.48 207.05 17.52 reW*nBT/F2 9.96 Tf1 0 0 1 440.95 743.64 Tm0