9 May 2019

Dear Ms. Pinter,

I refer to your letter dated 29 April 2019 regarding Ms. Florence Hartmann's comments in a recent publication relating to the death of Mr. Slobodan Praljak.

I fully appreciate your position. It is most unfortunate that Ms. Hartmann has made such allegations in the media, in particular because the statements do not accurately portray the findings of the criminal investigation undertaken by Dutch authorities or the independent review conducted by Justice Hassan Jallow for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. I recall that Justice Jallow concluded that "[i]t is not possible to conclusively state when and how the poison came into Mr. Praljak's possession."

In your letter, you suggest that the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals ("Mechanism") has a responsibility to investigate and address the comments. However, the Mechanism has no available procedure or remedy to sanction such conduct, distasteful as it may be, particularly as Ms. Hartmann is currently not a staff member of the ICTY or the Mechanism and her statements relate to events which occurred long after she has ceased to be a staff member. I hope that you understand the inability of the Mechanism to pursue this matter further.

I thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

Olufemi Elias
Registrar

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