

#### PRESS RELEASE JUDGMENT SUMMARY

# ALFRED AGBESI WOYOME v. REPUBLIC OF GHANA

## **APPLICATION FOR REVIEW NO. 001/2020**

### JUDGMENT ON REVIEW

#### 26 JUNE 2020

# A DECISION OF THE AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS Date of Press Release: 26 June 2020

Arusha, 26 June 2020: The African Court delivered its Judgment on the Application for Review in Alfred Agbesi Woyome v. Republic of Ghana.

On 4 March 2020, a Ghanaian businessman, Mr. Alfred Agbesi Woyome (the Applicant), filed an Application for Review of the African Court's Judgment of 28 June 2019 in the matter of *Alfred Agbesi Woyome v Republic of Ghana*.

In his original Application registered with the Court as No. 001/2017, filed on 16 January 2017, the Applicant alleged that he was denied justice in the Supreme Court of the Republic of Ghana (the Respondent State) in violation of his rights to a fair trial and to non-discrimination protected under Articles 2, 3 and 7 of the Charter. In its judgment delivered on 28 June 2019 (initial Judgment), the Court found that the Respondent State had not violated the Applicant's rights as alleged.

In his Application for Review of the initial Judgment of 28 June 2019, the Applicant claimed that, "on or about 9 January 2020", he discovered "information" that was not in his knowledge at the time of the delivery of the initial Judgment which would prove that his rights were violated as initially alleged. This information was submitted in the form of a supporting document, that is, an agreement between the Respondent State and a Shanghai Construction Group for the construction of two stadia at Tamale and Sekondi for the African Cup of Nations tournament (CAN) 2008. The Application for Review also contained a request for Provisional Measures to stay the auction and sale of the Applicant's properties pending the determination of the Application for Review.



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The Court resolved to consider the Application for Review and the request for Provisional Measures in the same decision.

As regards jurisdiction, the Court held that it had jurisdiction to determine the Application. This is because, the Application was filed for the purpose of review of the initial Judgment in light of the alleged new evidence discovered by the Applicant.

As regards admissibility of the Application, the Court considered whether the two requirements stipulated in Article 28(3) of the Protocol had been fulfilled; that is, the requirement that the Application be filed upon discovery of new evidence and within six (6) months of such discovery. The Court held that the supporting document alleged to be new evidence having been allegedly discovered on 9 January 2020, that is, one (1) month and twenty-four (24) days before its filing, was filed within the time limit.

On the second requirement, that is, whether the Applicant adduced new evidence which was not within his knowledge at the time of delivery of the initial Judgment, the Court held that, the supporting document submitted by the Applicant as new evidence had no correlation with its initial Judgment which was the subject of the Review sought. Thus, the Court held that the Application for Review was inadmissible.

Having determined that the Application for Review is inadmissible the Court decided that consequently, the request for provisional measures is moot.

The Court also ordered each party to bear its own costs.

#### **Further Information**

Further information about this case, including the full text of the decision of the African Court, may be found on the website at: <u>https://www.african-court.org/en/index.php/56-pending-cases-details/1056-app-no-001-</u>2017-alfred-agbes-woyome-v-republic-of-ghana-details

For any other queries, please contact the Registry by email <u>registrar@african-court.org</u>.

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights is a continental court established by African Union Member States to ensure the protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa. The Court has jurisdiction over all cases and disputes submitted to it concerning the interpretation and application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and any other relevant human rights instrument ratified by the States concerned. For further information, please consult our website at <u>www.african-court.org</u>.