In:	KSC-BC-2020-06
	Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi
Before:	Pre-Trial Judge
	Judge Nicolas Guillou
Registrar:	Dr Fidelma Donlon
Filing Participant:	Counsel for Kadri Veseli
Date:	8 October 2021
Language :	English
Classification :	Public

## Veseli Defence Request for a Deadline for SPO Pre-Trial Brief

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## I. SUBMISSIONS

- The Defence for Mr Kadri Veseli ("Defence") files this request seeking the Pre-Trial Judge to issue an order pursuant to rule 95(3)(a) for the SPO to file its Pre-Trial Brief.
- 2. At the last Status conference, held on 14 September 2021, the Pre-Trial Judge confirmed his intention to set a deadline for the SPO's Pre-Trial Brief <u>at the latest</u> in the next Status conference.<sup>1</sup> The Pre-Trial Judge reminded the SPO that almost one year of pre-trial had elapsed, and the Defence could not wait any longer.<sup>2</sup>
- 3. As Counsel submitted at the status conference, it was the SPO that had indicated its readiness at the previous Status conference in July to file by mid-October, and nothing had happened since that indication was given to justify an extension.<sup>3</sup> This remains the case at the time of filing.
- 4. A minor extension, is all that could justifiably be ordered under the circumstances set out above.
- 5. The next Status conference is scheduled on 29 October 2021.<sup>4</sup> It is important that all parties are provided with as much advance notice of the date on which to expect the SPO's Pre-Trial Brief.
- 6. In view of the fast approaching date, the Defence respectfully requests that the Pre-Trial Judge issue an order as soon as possible, for the SPO to file its Pre-Trial Brief by 31 October 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Transcript, 14 September 2021, pp. 620-23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Transcript, 14 September 2021, pp. 611-612.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Transcript, 14 September 2021, pp. 612.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Transcript, 14 September 2021, pp. 620-23.

## II. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Defence respectfully requests that the Pre-Trial Judge orders the SPO's Pre-Trial Brief setting the deadline as **31 October 2021**.

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