In: KSC-BC-2023-10

Specialist Prosecutor v. Sabit Januzi and Ismet Bahtijari

Before: Pre-Trial Judge

Judge Nicolas Guillou

**Registrar:** Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filing Participant: Specialist Prosecutor's Office

Date: 10 November 2023

Language: English

**Classification**: Public

Prosecution request for leave to amend the Indictment

with strictly confidential Annex 1 and public Annex 2

**Specialist Prosecutor's Office** 

Kimberly P. West

**Duty Counsel for Sabit Januzi** 

Jonathan Elystan Rees

**Duty Counsel for Ismet Bahtijari** 

Hendrik Sytema

- 1. Pursuant to Article 39(8) of the Law¹ and Rule 90(1)(b) of the Rules,² the Specialist Prosecutor's Office ('SPO') requests leave to amend the Indictment³ to reflect revisions to a transcript relied upon in the Indictment supporting materials ('Requested Amendments'). In addition to the Requested Amendments, the annexed version of the Indictment⁴ also includes the correct spelling of Ismet BAHTIJARI's name.⁵
- 2. The Requested Amendments are not prejudicial to or inconsistent with the rights of the Accused. Rather, they provide greater accuracy, are being made in a timely manner, and will ultimately facilitate fair and expeditious proceedings.<sup>6</sup>
- 3. The Requested Amendments, which arise from revisions to one of Witness 1's interview transcripts,<sup>7</sup> are necessary to provide an accurate depiction of the evidence. In the context of this case, and consistent with the Indictment,<sup>8</sup> Rule 86(3)(b) outline,<sup>9</sup> and Confirmation Decision,<sup>10</sup> what exactly Witness 1 told JANUZI during the 'second approach'<sup>11</sup> is one of many evidentiary details relevant to material facts underpinning

KSC-BC-2023-10 1 10 November 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Law No.05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office, 3 August 2015 ('Law').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rules of Procedure and Evidence Before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, KSC-BD0-3/Rev3/2020, 2 June 2020 ('Rules').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Annex 1 to Submission of confirmed Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00010/A01, 4 October 2023, Strictly Confidential ('Indictment'). *See also* Annex 1 to Submission of public redacted version of confirmed Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00016/A01, 6 October 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Annexes 1 (strictly confidential) and 2 (public redacted).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Transcript (Status Conference), 3 November 2023, pp.74-75. In the interest of efficiency and to avoid filing (potentially unnecessary) multiple versions of the Indictment, the SPO has combined the name corrections with the Requested Amendments pending a decision on this request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Specialist Prosecutor v. Thaçi et al., Public Redacted Version of Decision Concerning Submission of Corrected Indictment and Request to Amend Pursuant to Rule 90(1)(b), KSC-BC-2020-06/F00635/RED, 23 December 2021 ('Thaçi Amendment Decision'), para.32 (finding that relevant factors to be considered for any amendments include: (i) whether the amended indictment improves the clarity and precision of the case to be met; (ii) the diligence of the prosecution in making the amendment; and (iii) any delay or prejudice to the Defence).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Both the original and revised versions of the transcript have been disclosed to the Defence. *See* Disclosure Packages 2-3 containing 112906-TR-AT Part 1 Revised 1-ET-RED, 112906-TR-ET Part 1-RED. <sup>8</sup> Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00010/A01, *inter alia*, paras 7-17, 22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Rule 86(3)(b) Outline, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00002/A02.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Confidential Redacted Version of the Decision on the Confirmation of the Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00008/CONF/RED, 2 October 2023, Confidential ('Confirmation Decision'), paras 72-88, 92-94.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Compare Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-10/F00010/A01, para.15 with Annex 1, para.15.

PUBLIC 10/11/2023 16:58:00

the charges.<sup>12</sup> As such, the Requested Amendments fall within and do not impact the scope of the existing, confirmed Indictment, and do not add new or more serious charges.<sup>13</sup>

- 4. For the foregoing reasons, the Requested Amendments should be granted.
- 5. Annex 1 is strictly confidential pursuant to Rule 82(4).

Word count: 545

Kimberly P. West

**Specialist Prosecutor** 

Friday, 10 November 2023

At The Hague, the Netherlands.

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Specialist Prosecutor v. Thaçi et al., Public Redacted Version of Decision on Defence Appeals Against Decision on Motion Alleging Defects in the Form of the Indictment, KSC-BC-2020-06/IA012/F00015/RED, 22 August 2022, para.20 (finding that 'a distinction should be drawn between what constitutes a material fact to be pleaded in an indictment and additional details that can be provided through subsequent disclosure of evidentiary materials').

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  Pursuant to Rule 90(2), Rule 86(3)-(4) do not apply. See also Thaçi Amendment Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F00635/RED, para.23.