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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

1	Monday, 16 September 2024
2	[Open session]
3	[The accused entered the courtroom]
4	[The Accused Thaci appeared via videolink]
5	Upon commencing at 9.32 a.m.
6	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Court Officer, please call the
7	case.
8	THE COURT OFFICER: Good morning, Your Honours. This is
9	KSC-BC-2020-06, The Specialist Prosecutor versus Hashim Thaci,
10	Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi, and Jakup Krasniqi.
11	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: I note that Mr. Thaci is appearing by
12	videolink at this time. The other accused are all present in court.
13	Mr. Thaci, we understand that you [REDACTED] Pursuant to In Court Redaction Order F2578RED.
14	that oh, I'm sorry.
15	We should be in private session, please.
16	[Private session]
17	[Private session text removed]
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Procedural Matters (Private Session) Page 19640

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Procedural Matters (Private Session) Page 19641

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6	[Open session]
7	THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session.
8	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right.
9	Now, Court Usher, please bring Prosecution Witness W04737 into
10	the courtroom.
11	[The witness entered court]
12	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please stand, Witness.
13	Good morning, Witness. Can you hear me all right?
14	THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Good morning. Yes, I can.
15	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: The Court Usher will provide you with
16	the text of the solemn declaration which you are asked to take
17	pursuant to our Rule 141(2). You can take a look at it and then read
18	it aloud.
19	THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Conscious of the significance of
20	my testimony and my legal responsibility, I solemnly declare that I
21	will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and
22	that I shall not withhold anything which has come to my knowledge.
23	WITNESS: W04737
24	[The witness answered through interpreter]
25	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you, Witness. You can be seated.

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Witness: W04737 (Open Session)

Procedural Matters

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- Witness, today we will start your testimony, which is expected
- to last approximately one to two days. As you may know, the
- 3 Prosecution will ask you questions first, and then the Defence has
- the right to ask questions of you, and members of the Panel might
- 5 also have questions for you.
- The Prosecution estimate for your examination is two to three
- 7 hours. The Defence estimates that it will need close to six and a
- 8 half hours. As regards each estimate, we hope that counsel will be
- 9 judicious in the use of their time. The Panel may allow redirect
- 10 examination if conditions for it are met.
- Witness, please try to answer the questions clearly with short
- sentences. If you don't understand a question, feel free to ask
- counsel to repeat the question or tell them you don't understand and
- they will clarify. Also, please try to indicate the basis of your
- knowledge of the facts and circumstances that you will be asked
- 16 about.
- In the event you are asked by the SPO to attest to some
- corrections made regarding your statement, you are reminded to
- confirm on the record that the written statement, as corrected by the
- list of corrections, accurately reflects your declaration.
- 21 Please also speak into the microphone and wait five seconds
- before answering a question, and then speak at a slow pace for the
- interpreters to catch up.
- During the next days while you are giving evidence in this
- Court, you are not allowed to discuss with anyone the content of your

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19643

Examination by Mr. Halling

- testimony outside of this courtroom. If any person asks you
- questions outside the court about your testimony, please let us know
- 3 immediately.
- 4 Please stop talking if I ask you to do so and also stop talking
- if you see me raise my hand. These indications mean that I need to
- 6 give you an instruction.
- If you feel the need to take breaks, please make an indication
- 8 and an accommodation will be made.
- 9 We begin now with the questions by the Prosecution, by the SPO,
- who are seated to your left. Please give them your attention.
- Mr. Halling, you have floor the floor.
- MR. HALLING: Thank you, Your Honour.
- Examination by Mr. Halling:
- Q. Good morning, Witness. We've met before, but I'm Matt Halling
- from the SPO and I'll be asking you questions today.
- 16 MR. HALLING: For my initial questions, Your Honour, and to
- protect the identity of the witness, we'd ask to move into private
- 18 session.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Into private session, please,
- 20 Madam Court Officer.
- [Private session]
- [Private session text removed]

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19644

Examination by Mr. Halling

[Private session text removed] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 [Open session] 12 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. 14 Go ahead. 15 MR. HALLING: 16 So, Witness, we're now in public session. Have you been 17 previously interviewed by the SPO? 18 Α. Yes. 19 MR. HALLING: We'd ask if the Court Officer can please pull up 20 on the screen 083519-TR-AT Part 1 Revised RED2, and just the first 21 page on the whole screen. 22

document's put on the screen, I'll ask my next question.

And, Witness, if you'll just wait one moment. When the

MR. HALLING: The ERN I can repeat on the record, if that's the

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Witness: W04737 (Open Session)

- question. So 083519-TR-AT Part 1 Revised RED2, page 1. And just the 1
- first page. And it can actually take the whole screen. Thank you, 2
- Madam Court Officer. 3
- So, Witness, the page that you see on the screen now, is this 4
- your SPO interview? 5
- Α. Yes. 6
- Have you recently had an opportunity to refamiliarise yourself 7 Q.
- with the contents of this interview? 8
- 9 Α. Yes.
- In your preparation session, you indicated some changes and 10
- clarifications to this interview; is that right? 11
- Α. That's right. 12
- And were these changes reflected in a note that was read back to 13
- 14 you?
- Α. Yes. 15
- And do you confirm that what was read back in that note reflects 16
- your changes fully and accurately? 17
- Α. Yes. 18
- Subject to the changes provided in that note, does this 19
- interview accurately reflect what you said and what you would say if 20
- asked again in court today? 21
- Α. Yes. 22
- 23 Q. Thank you.
- MR. HALLING: Your Honour, having fulfilled the Rule 154 24
- criteria, and in accordance with decision F02571, the SPO hereby 25

Witness: W04737 (Open Session) Page 19646

- tenders all of 083519-TR in English and Albanian along with 1
- Preparation Note 1, which is 122722 to 122728. This tender also 2
- includes the associated exhibits identified in footnote 115 of the 3
- Rule 154 decision with the exception of item U000-4854 to U000-4854. 4
- In terms of the numbering for the record, we don't know what 5
- Your Honours' preference is. We do want to just note that several of 6
- these associated exhibits were recently admitted with redacted 7
- versions. I don't know if it's possible to relate those admitted 8
- versions to these items, but we at least wanted to put that on the 9
- 10 record and defer to the discretion of Your Honours and the
- Court Officer. 11
- [Trial Panel and Court Officer confers] 12
- PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: 083 -- I'm sorry, any objection? 13
- MS. TAVAKOLI: No objection. 14
- PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: No objection from anyone. 15
- 083519-TR, in Albanian and English, is admitted. 16
- THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, this interview or statements 17
- 18 have eight parts, and all those eight parts will be assigned
- Exhibit P01605.1 for Part 1, .2 for Part 2, .3 for Part 3, .4 for 19
- Part 4, .5 for Part 5, .6 for Part 6, .7 for Part 7, and .8 for 20
- Part 8. 21
- PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. 22
- The Prep Note 1 which is 122722 to 122728 is admitted. 23
- THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, that will be assigned 24
- Exhibit P1606. 25

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19647

- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. And then the associated
- 2 exhibits --
- 3 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, the --
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: -- with the exception of the item read
- out by the Prosecution will be admitted.
- THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, if allowed, I can share the
- 7 numbers for those later. But as counsel mentioned that some of them
- 8 are already admitted, perhaps counsel can share the numbers with me
- 9 at the break and then I can try and advise on relating them.
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Fine. We'll do that and we'll look for
- that to be completed after the break, then.
- Go ahead, Mr. Halling.
- MR. HALLING: Thank you, Your Honours.
- 14 Thank you, Madam Court Officer.
- For -- there is a summary for this witness. It's short. I can
- 16 read it into the record now.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Yes. We're in public session. You may
- 18 read the summary.
- MR. HALLING: W04737 is a former KLA member from the Pashtrik
- operational zone. He will provide evidence on his activities during
- the war and the command structure of his brigade.
- Your Honours, at this point we would ask to go into private
- session to continue the direct examination.
- PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Into private session, please.
- 25 [Private session]

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Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19649

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19651

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19652

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19653

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19654

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19655

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19656

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19657

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19658

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19661

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19662 Examination by Mr. Halling [Private session text removed]

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19663

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19664

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19665

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19666

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19670

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19671

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19672

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19673

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19675

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19676

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Examination by Mr. Halling

[Private session text removed] [Open session] THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: [Microphone not activated]. --- Recess taken at 11.04 a.m.

KSC-BC-2020-06 16 September 2024

--- On resuming at 11.31 a.m.

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

25

Examination by Mr. Halling PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Ms. Rowan, to answer your query about 1 the document -- the decision to be made should be -- it will be filed yet this week. 3 MS. ROWAN: I'm grateful. Thank you. 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. [Microphone not activated]. 6 Please bring the witness in. 7 [The witness takes the stand] 8 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Are you all set, Witness? 9 10 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Yes, Your Honour. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. We continue now with the 11 questions from the Prosecution. 12 Go ahead, Mr. Halling. 13 MR. HALLING: Thank you, Your Honour. To continue our 14 questioning, we would ask to move into private session. 15 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Into private session, please. 16 [Private session] 17 18 [Private session text removed] 19 20 21 22 23 24

KSC-BC-2020-06 16 September 2024

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19679

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Examination by Mr. Halling

Page 19680

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19681

Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19682

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19684

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19685

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19686

Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19687

Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19688

Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19689

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19690

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19691

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19692

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19693

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19694

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19695

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19696

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19697

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19698

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19699

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19700

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19701

Examination by Mr. Halling

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19702

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19703

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19704

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19706

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19707

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19708

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19709

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19710

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19711

Examination by Mr. Halling

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19712

Examination by Mr. Halling

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Go ahead.

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Procedural Matters [Private session text removed] 3 6 [Open session] 7 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 8 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. Now we're adjourned. 9 10 --- Luncheon recess taken at 12.59 p.m. --- On resuming at 2.30 p.m. 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Please bring the witness in. 12 MS. TAVAKOLI: Sorry, before the witness --13 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Just a second. 14 MS. TAVAKOLI: Oh. Before the witness comes in, I just wanted 15 to say that there's no objection to the proposed witness for next 16 week to come before Mike Jackson. 17 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you for the update. [The witness takes the stand] 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Good afternoon, Witness. 20 THE WITNESS: [Interpretation] Good afternoon. 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We start now with cross-examination. 22 Ms. Tavakoli, representing the Thaci Defence, will be first. 23

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Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli:

Witness: W04737 (Private Session) Page 19714 Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli

1	Q.	Good	afternoon,	sir.	My	name	is	Nina	Tavakoli	, and I	represent

- 2 Hashim Thaci and I'll be asking you questions on his behalf this
- 3 afternoon.
- 4 A. Good afternoon.
- 5 Q. Now, I just want to start with when you joined the KLA --
- 6 MR. HALLING: Yes, and just apologies to counsel, is it intended
- 7 for open session, these questions, or private session?
- MS. TAVAKOLI: Sorry, we can into private session, please.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Into private session, please,
- 10 Madam Court Officer.
- 11 [Private session]
- 12 [Private session text removed]

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)
Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli [Private session text removed]

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli

KSC-BC-2020-06 16 September 2024

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli [Private session text removed]

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Tavakoli

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                           [Open session]
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           THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session.
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           PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.
           We're adjourned for ten minutes.
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                          --- Break taken at 3.32 p.m.
22
                          --- On resuming at 3.43 p.m.
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           PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Madam Usher, please bring the witness
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25
      in.
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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Procedural Matters

Page 19740

MS. TAVAKOLI: Hi, sorry. I've just been informed by a member 1 of my team that the document that we -- you admitted that I thought 2 might be confidential because of the provider is apparently a public 3 document, so I wonder if it needs to be, in fact, confidential. 4 MR. HALLING: There is so little connection between that 5 document and this witness it can be public. 6 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: That was called an editorial comment. 7 MS. TAVAKOLI: I was going to say in my jurisdiction they aren't 8 allowed. 9 10 [The witness takes the stand] PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: They aren't in mine either. 11 It will be considered public. 12 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, just for the record, 13 14 Exhibit 1D188 will be reclassified to public as instructed. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. 15 Please take us into private session. 16 [Private session] 17 18 [Private session text removed] 19 20 21 22 23 24

KSC-BC-2020-06 16 September 2024

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. O'Reilly [Private session text removed]

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. O'Reilly [Private session text removed]

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Cross-examination by Ms. O'Reilly [Private session text removed]

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. O'Reilly [Private session text removed]

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Witness: W04737 (Private Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. O'Reilly

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Procedural Matters (Private Session) Page 19760

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Procedural Matters (Private Session)

[Private session text removed] [Open session] THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We are adjourned. --- Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.32 p.m.