Procedural Matters (Open Session) Page 20195

1	Wednesday, 25 September 2024
2	[Open session]
3	[The Accused Selimi entered the courtroom]
4	[The accused appeared via videolink]
5	Upon commencing at 9.00 a.m.
6	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Court Officer, please call the case.
7	THE COURT OFFICER: Good morning, Your Honours. This is the
8	file number KSC-BC-2020-06, The Specialist Prosecutor versus
9	Hashim Thaci, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi, and Jakup Krasniqi. Thank
10	you, Your Honours.
11	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.
12	I note that Mr. Thaci, Mr. Veseli, and Mr. Krasniqi have waived
13	their right to be present in the courtroom and are following the
14	hearing via videolink. Mr. Selimi is present in court today.
15	Before we start the evidence of Prosecution Witness 4422, who
16	will be appearing by videolink, the Panel would like to hear oral
17	submissions from the Defence and the Registry regarding the
18	Prosecution request for video-conference testimony for W04590.
19	We'll start with the Defence.
20	MR. MISETIC: [Microphone not activated].
21	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Yes.
22	MS. ROWAN: Yeah, I'll deal with it.
23	[Trial Panel and Court Officer confers]
24	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Go ahead.
25	MS. ROWAN: Your Honour, perhaps I can assist on behalf of the

Procedural Matters (Closed Session)

Defence.

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2	Yesterday afternoon at 12.02, we informed CMU of a joint Defence
3	position in relation to this application, in short, outlining that we
4	would agree to videolink for this witness, but noting that we do not
5	accept that the reasons outlined in the underlying application are
6	sufficient to meet the rules.
7	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. We will proceed with the
8	videolink then with no objection.
9	Madam Court Officer, please bring us into closed session to
10	protect the identity of the witness.
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KSC-BC-2020-06

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20202

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20204

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20205

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20207

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20208

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session) Page 20209

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Examination by Ms. Iodice

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session) Page 20225
Questioned by Victims' Counsel

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Questioned by  ${\tt Victims'}$  Counsel

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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12	[Open session]
13	THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we are in public session.
14	Thank you.
15	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you.
16	Time remaining, Mr. Misetic?
17	MR. MISETIC: 20 minutes, 25 minutes.
18	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: All right. We are adjourned until
19	11.30.
20	Recess taken at 11.02 a.m.
21	On resuming at 11.30 a.m.
22	PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Before we started this morning, we made
23	a brief statement concerning the video-conference testimony for
24	W04590, and I will make the following oral order to clarify it.
25	The Panel will now issue an oral order with the reasons for the

Procedural Matters (Open Session)

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video-conference testimony for W04590, filing F02590.

I refer to today's provisional transcript page 2, lines 6 to 7.

The SPO submitted that granting the request for video-conference testimony would be beneficial for the witness, would ensure expeditious proceedings, and would not be prejudicial to the accused as the Defence will be able to cross-examine the witness.

The Defence responded that while it does not accept that the

ruling made earlier today granting the Prosecution request for

reasons outlined in the request are sufficient under the rules or that videolink is necessary for the protection of the witness, it did not oppose the Prosecution's request. That is in correspondence 599.

The Registry confirmed the feasibility to facilitate the testimony of W04590 via video conference. The Trial Panel recalls that while video-conference testimony should not be considered an only -- should not be considered only on an exceptional basis, the presence in the courtroom of a witness during testimony remains the preferred option.

The Panel notes that the request for Witness 4590 to testify by video conference arose following an unexpected gap created in the sitting schedule by the unavailability of another witness. The Panel also considered the witness's advanced age, his family situation, and the fact that the Defence does not oppose the request for video-conference testimony.

The Panel is satisfied that allowing Witness 4590 to testify via video conference will not result in undue prejudice to the accused as

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

1	the Defence will remain fully able to cross-examine the witness.
2	The Panel is satisfied that the witness's personal situation
3	warrants his testimony via video-conference.
4	The Panel is also satisfied that receiving Witness 4590's
5	testimony via video conference will contribute to the expeditious
6	conduct of the proceedings.
7	These are the reasons why the Panel authorised Witness 4590's
8	testimony to take place via video conference in accordance with
9	Rule 144, and this concludes the Panel's order.
10	Please take us into closed session.
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Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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1 [Closed session text removed]

Cross-examination by Mr. Misetic

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session) Page 20256 Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session) Page 20259 Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Cross-examination by Ms. Rowan

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Cross-examination by Mr. Baiesu

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Cross-examination by Mr. Baiesu

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Procedural Matters

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session)

Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Re-examination by Ms. Iodice

[Closed session text removed] 1 [Open session] 2 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. Thank you. PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: We're adjourned until 2.30. 5 --- Luncheon recess taken at 12.56 p.m. 6 --- On resuming at 2.30 p.m. 7 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Into private session, Mr. Court Officer. 8 Or, I'm sorry, into closed session, not private. 9 [Closed session] 10 [Closed session text removed] 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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Kosovo Specialist Chambers - Basic Court

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Witness: W04422 (Closed Session)

Questioned by the Trial Panel

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Procedural Matters (Closed Session)

25

[Closed session text removed] 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 [Open session] 11 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we're in public session. 12 Thank you. 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SMITH: Thank you very much. 14 I'd like to thank the translators for sticking with us here 15 today so we can finish this witness. I know it was a long and tiring 16 day, and we appreciate it. 17 We're adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9.00 a.m. 18 --- Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 4.42 p.m. 19 20 21 22 23 24