



Update

Welcome to the weekly press briefing of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, where we aim to provide you with a short update on proceedings and a chance to ask questions.

Last Thursday, the second prosecution witness in the trial of Salih Mustafa began his testimony. The witness testified under in-court protective measures, including face and voice distortion, and the use of a pseudonym.

The witness's testimony continued throughout Friday and Monday with questioning by the prosecutor, the judges, the lawyer representing the nine participating victims, and by the Defence Counsel of the accused.

The trial is scheduled to continue next Monday, 4 October with the testimony of the third witness. This hearing is scheduled from 9:30 – 16:00.

Last Thursday, the trial panel issued a decision to extend Mr. Mustafa's detention based on their finding that no condition would sufficiently mitigate the risk of obstructing the progress of proceedings.

The decision as well as the submission made by the defence and the prosecution on this topic can be found on the KSC website.

Based on the Law, the Judges have to review every two months whether the reasons for detention of an accused still exist and render a decision thereon. Such reasons can be the risk of flight, the risk of obstructing the proceedings, or the risk of committing additional crimes.

In the case of the Specialist Prosecutor versus Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj, the trial is scheduled to start next Thursday, 7 October.





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The Presiding Judge will open the trial, and ask the Specialist Prosecutor's Office to read out the indictment. The Accused will be asked whether they have understood the charges against them. The Presiding Judge will also inform them of some of their rights and obligations during trial. The trial will then proceed with the opening statement of the prosecution.

The first of three prosecution witnesses is expected to start her testimony on 18th October in the Gucati and Haradinaj case.

The target date for the prosecution to finish presenting its case is 9 November.

Thank you.

