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- 1 International Criminal Court
- 2 Trial Chamber VI
- 3 Situation: Central African Republic II
- 4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Mahamat Said Abdel Kani ICC-01/14-01/21
- 5 Presiding Judge Miatta Maria Samba, Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera and
- 6 Judge Sergio Gerardo Ugalde Godínez
- 7 Trial Hearing Courtroom 2
- 8 Monday, 29 January 2024
- 9 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.34 a.m.)
- 10 THE COURT USHER: [9:34:47] All rise.
- 11 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
- 12 Please be seated.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:35:30] Good morning, everyone.
- 14 Could the court officer please call out the case.
- 15 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:35:38] Good morning, Madam President, your Honours.
- 16 The situation in the Central African Republic, in the case The Prosecutor versus
- 17 Mahamat Said Abdel Kani, case reference ICC-01/14-01/21.
- 18 And we are in open session.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:35:53] Thank you very much, Madam Court
- 20 Officer.
- 21 Can I ask the parties to introduce themselves, please, starting with the Prosecution.
- 22 MS MAKWAIA: [9:36:01] Thank you, Madam President. Good morning, your
- 23 Honours. For the Office of the Prosecutor this morning, myself, Holo Makwaia,
- 24 senior trial lawyer. Also in court today new members of the team,
- 25 Mr Kamran Choudhry and Ms Marie-Jeanne Sardachti, trial lawyers. And, of course,

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- 1 Ms Brunhild Le Bailly, associate trial lawyer. Thank you, Madam President, your
- 2 Honours.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:36:26] Thank you very much.
- 4 Ms Pellet, your team, please.
- 5 MS PELLET: [9:36:30](Interpretation) * Good morning, Madam President, your
- 6 Honours. The victims are represented by Tars Van Litsenborgh, Caroline Walter
- 7 and myself, Sarah Pellet, Counsel within the Office of Public Counsel
- 8 for Victims.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:36:49] Thank you very much, Ms Pellet.
- 10 Ms Naouri, for the Defence, please.
- 11 MS NAOURI: [9:36:56](Interpretation) Thank you, Presiding Judge. On my right,
- 12 Léa Allix; on my left, Dov Jacobs; and we have Elina Legat behind me; and I am the
- lead counsel for Mr Said, Jennifer Naouri.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:37:12] Thank you very much, Ms Naouri.
- 15 And for the record, I note that Mr Said is in court.
- 16 Good morning, Mr Said.
- 17 MR SAID: [9:37:26] (Interpretation) Good morning, your Honour.
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:37:34] Thank you very much.
- 19 On behalf of the Chamber, I would like to welcome everybody back into the
- 20 courtroom, including the interpreters and the court reporters, and I hope that you all
- 21 have had a good start of the year.
- 22 As we are all aware, we have been adjourned for nearly a year due to an unfortunate
- 23 and unforeseen situation, but we are thankful that we are able to resume evidentiary
- 24 hearings today.
- 25 The Chamber is glad to see Mr Said back in court.

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1 As noted in decision number 672, the Chamber is currently sitting reduced hours, as

- 2 recommended by the medical officer. In light of this, the Chamber wishes to issue a
- 3 direction to the parties and participants.
- 4 The Chamber is mindful that the proceedings have been adjourned for a significant
- 5 period of time and that it has an obligation to ensure the expeditiousness of these
- 6 proceedings. In this respect, the Chamber expects the parties and participants to
- 7 ensure that their cases are as streamlined as possible and that their examination of
- 8 witnesses is focussed on relevant issues. The Chamber will be vigilant in this regard
- 9 and parties should be expected to explain the relevance of particular lines of
- 10 questioning, if required.
- On this point, we urge parties to focus questions on relevant issues. Questions
- 12 relating to the witness's personal and educational background, for example, must be
- relevant to the offences charged in the DCC or the credibility of witnesses. The
- 14 Chamber will not allow extensive lines of questioning on irrelevant issues.
- 15 With this in mind, let us turn to the Prosecution's next witness. The Prosecution is
- calling P-2241 as its 17th witness. At the outset, I wish to note the following for the
- 17 parties:
- 18 It is the Chamber's understanding that this witness will be testifying in Sango via
- 19 video link. I would therefore remind everyone of the importance of the need to
- 20 speak slowly and to observe the five-second rule between questions and answers.
- 21 Prior to calling the witness, the Chamber has an oral decision to issue on the
- 22 Prosecution's request to introduce the annex of P-2241, her preparation log under
- Rule 68(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence as per filing 673, for the record.
- Now, the Chamber received the Prosecution's request on 22 January. The Defence
- 25 submitted a written response to the Prosecution's request on 25 January. And for the

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- 1 record, the response is filing 676.
- 2 The annex contains one correction to P-2241's prior recorded testimony, whose
- 3 introduction via Rule 68(3) the Chamber already granted. The annex also contains
- 4 additional information in that the witness was asked to comment on documents and
- 5 photographs shown to her during the witness preparation session.
- 6 The Prosecution submits that the annex bears sufficient indicia of reliability, is
- 7 relevant and probative and that its introduction would expedite the proceedings.
- 8 In its response to the Prosecution's request, the Defence objects to the introduction of
- 9 the annex pursuant to Rule 68(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.
- 10 First, the Defence submits that the existence of corrections and addition cast doubt on
- the reliability of the prior recorded testimony and means that the only way of
- 12 proceeding is to discuss these with the witness in the hearing. In this regard, the
- 13 Defence notes that there is no control over the manner in which the annex is prepared,
- and there is no verbatim transcript, so there is no way one would know what
- 15 questions were asked and the manner in which such questions were asked.
- 16 Furthermore, the Defence notes that the use of Rule 68(3) reduces the level of judicial
- 17 control over the process and that it is for the Prosecution to clarify contradictions
- 18 between a previous statement and the preparation log so that the Defence can
- 19 respond in full knowledge of the facts presented.
- 20 Last, the Defence avers that the fact that the witness will be available for
- 21 cross-examination cannot be used to justify the introduction of the annex because it
- 22 would transform Rule 68(3) into the automatic introduction of all witness preparation
- 23 logs, which is not the intention of the drafters of Rule 68(3).
- 24 At the outset, the Chamber takes into account the content of the annex and does not
- 25 find that the Defence would suffer prejudice if the annex were to be introduced

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- 1 pursuant to Rule 68(3). In this regard, the Chamber notes that the annex contains
- 2 only one correction. In any event, the Chamber recalls that the Defence will be
- 3 afforded reasonable time to raise relevant issues during its questioning of P-2241.
- 4 Accordingly, the Chamber finds that the introduction of the annex of P-2241's
- 5 preparation log does not infringe upon the rights of the accused and does not
- 6 prejudice the Defence. The Chamber therefore authorises its introduction under
- 7 Rule 68(3) of the Rules.
- 8 This concludes the Chamber's oral decision.
- 9 Now, turning to the next matter, the Chamber has been reviewing the witness
- 10 preparation process and finds that the process can be further streamlined. At the
- outset, the Chamber notes that the preparation logs have been much more concise
- 12 compared with previous witnesses and commends the Prosecution for this. The
- 13 Chamber expects the Prosecution to continue in this vein.
- 14 That notwithstanding, the Chamber wishes to give further directions in respect of
- witness preparation protocol -- in respect of the witness preparation protocol, which
- is contained in filing 251, annex A.
- 17 First, the Chamber notes that the purpose of witness preparation is to help ensure that
- 18 the witness gives relevant, accurate and structured testimony and for the calling party
- 19 to assess and clarify the witness's evidence in order to facilitate the focussed, efficient
- and effective questioning of the witness during the proceedings.
- 21 With this in mind, the Chamber stresses that witness preparation should be focussed
- 22 on checking whether there are any corrections or clarifications to the witness's prior
- 23 recorded testimony and not to be conducted for the purpose of seeking new evidence
- or continuing the calling party's investigations. The calling party is expected to be
- 25 vigilant in this respect and if, during the course of checking or clarifying the witness's

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- 1 evidence, the witness starts to give substantive new information, then the calling
- 2 party should seize the line of questioning and conduct any necessary examination in
- 3 the courtroom.
- 4 In connection with the foregoing, if the calling party wishes to show or discuss new
- 5 exhibits to the witness which the witness has not seen before, then the Chamber
- 6 encourages the calling party to do so in the courtroom during the questioning of the
- 7 witness.
- 8 Lastly, the Chamber notes that the Prosecution has completed witness preparation for
- 9 the first three witnesses. Those are P-2241, P-1289, and P-0662.
- 10 At this point can I ask the Prosecution whether any other witnesses have commenced
- 11 witness preparation?
- 12 MS MAKWAIA: [9:47:05] Thank you, Madam President. We intend to prep
- another witness this afternoon and possibly another one during the course of the
- 14 week.
- 15 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:47:18] It is therefore my understanding that aside
- 16 P-2241, P-1289 and P-0662, you have not commenced preparation for any other
- 17 witness, correct?
- 18 MS MAKWAIA: [9:47:32] That's correct, Madam President.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:47:37] Thank you very much, Madam Prosecutor.
- 20 So the Chamber notes that these directions only take effect from now in respect of any
- 21 witnesses that have not yet commenced witness preparation.
- 22 That concludes the Chamber's direction.
- 23 Last, the Chamber also notes that the Common Legal Representative of the Victims
- 24 made a request to examine P-2241 for 30 minutes in relation to the following topics:
- 25 The harm she allegedly suffered as a result of the events falling within the scope of

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- 1 the witness's expected testimony, and reparations.
- 2 The parties did not object to the Common Legal Representative's request, so the
- 3 Chamber agrees that the proposed topic relates to P-2241's interest and accordingly
- 4 authorises the Common Legal Representative to question the witness for no more
- 5 than 30 minutes.
- 6 Now, before commencing, the Chamber notes briefly that protective measures are
- 7 confirmed for this witness by virtue of decision 481 and that the Witness and Victims
- 8 Unit recommend certain special measures, including the manner in which questions
- 9 are put. The Chamber approves the special measures recommended by the VWU
- and expects the parties and participants to follow them and adapt their questioning of
- 11 the witness accordingly.
- Now, before I ask the court officer to connect us to the witness, I'd want to encourage
- 13 Mr Said to inform the Chamber if at any time during these proceedings you need a
- 14 break. If you feel you need a break, please just do that by a show of hand, Mr Said,
- and we shall do the necessary.
- 16 Can I ask the court officer, please, to connect us to the witness.
- 17 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:50:08] Your Honour, the witness is being brought into the
- 18 transmission room as we speak. Thank you.
- 19 (The witness enters the video-link room)
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:50:38] Thank you very much.
- 21 Good morning, Madam Witness. Can you see and hear me?
- 22 WITNESS: CAR-OTP-P-2241
- 23 (The witness speaks Sango)
- 24 (The witness gives evidence via video link)
- 25 THE WITNESS: [9:50:47](Interpretation) Thank you. Good morning, your Honour.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:50:54] Can you hear me? Can you see me?
- 2 THE WITNESS: [9:51:07](Interpretation) I am listening to you and I am looking at
- 3 you.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:51:12] Thank you very much.
- 5 So, Madam Witness, you are going to testify before the International Criminal Court.
- 6 On behalf of the Chamber, I'd like to welcome you to the courtroom.
- 7 THE WITNESS: [9:51:34](Interpretation) Thank you.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:51:36] You should have in front of you, Madam
- 9 Witness, the solemn undertaking to tell the truth that every witness who testifies
- 10 before this Court must agree to. I'm going to read it out to you now.
- 11 I solemnly declare that I will speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
- 12 truth.
- 13 Madam Witness, do you understand what I just read out?
- 14 THE WITNESS: [9:52:32](Interpretation) Yes, I understood.
- 15 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:52:39] And do you agree to what I just read out to
- 16 you?
- 17 THE WITNESS: [9:52:51](Interpretation) Yes, I agree.
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:52:54] Good. We will continue.
- 19 So, Madam Witness, let me now explain to you the protective measures that the
- 20 Chamber has put in place for your testimony.
- 21 The following measures are put in place to protect you: Voice and face distortion
- 22 has been put in place for the duration of your testimony. Now, this means that no
- one outside the courtroom can see your face or hear your real voice during the
- 24 testimony.
- 25 There will also be the use of pseudonym. So in accordance with that, we'll all refer

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- to you only as "Madam Witness" to make sure that the public does not know your
- 2 name.
- When you answer questions that will not give away who you are, we will do so in
- 4 open session, which means that the public can hear what is being said in the
- 5 courtroom.
- 6 When you are asked to describe anything that relates specifically to you or you are
- 7 asked to mention facts that might reveal your identity, we will do so in private
- 8 session.
- 9 Do you understand that, Madam Witness?
- 10 THE WITNESS: [9:54:49](Interpretation) Yes, I understand.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:54:52] Thank you.
- 12 And lastly, I have also a few practical matters you should have in mind when giving
- 13 your testimony. Everything we say here in the courtroom is written down and
- 14 interpreted. It is therefore important to speak clearly and at a slow pace. Speak
- into the microphone, please, and only start speaking when the person asking you the
- 16 question has finished. To allow for the interpretation, everyone has to wait a few
- 17 seconds before starting to speak.
- 18 If you have any questions yourself, or if you need a break, raise your hand so that we
- 19 know that you wish to say something.
- We hope that there are no issues with the video link. However, if there are any
- 21 issues with the technology, be rest assured, Madam Witness, we will make sure that
- things are sorted out as quickly as possible.
- 23 Do you understand all that I have said, Madam Witness?
- 24 THE WITNESS: [9:56:26](Interpretation) Yes, I understand.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:56:28] Thank you very much.

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- 1 We will then start your testimony.
- 2 Madam Prosecutor, your witness.
- 3 MS MAKWAIA: [9:56:39] Thank you, Madam Witness, your Honours.
- 4 QUESTIONED BY MS MAKWAIA:
- 5 Q. [9:56:45] Good morning, Madam Witness.
- 6 A. [9:56:54] Thank you.
- 7 MS MAKWAIA: [9:56:58] Anyway, your Honours, if we could go into a brief private
- 8 session so I can establish the identity of the witness?
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:57:08] Thank you very much.
- 10 Madam Court Officer, can we go briefly into private session, please. Thank you.
- 11 (Private session at 9.57 a.m.)
- 12 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:57:28] We are now in private session, Madam President.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:57:34] Thank you very much.
- 14 Madam Prosecutor, carry on, please.
- 15 MS MAKWAIA: [9:57:38] Thank you, your Honour.
- 16 Can the witness have placed before her, found at tab 1, CAR-OTP-2092-3851-R03, and
- it's a confidential document.
- I'm not sure if it's placed before her, but I can still put the questions.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:58:28] Please go ahead.
- 20 MS MAKWAIA: [9:58:29]
- 21 Q. [9:58:31] Madam Witness, can you please tell the Court, what are your names.
- 22 A. [9:58:44] My name is (Redacted).
- 23 Q. [9:58:52] And can you tell the Court your date of birth.
- 24 A. [9:58:58] I was born (Redacted).
- 25 Q. [9:59:18] Thank you, Madam Witness.

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- 1 Do you remember having been interviewed by investigators of the Office of the
- 2 Prosecutor?
- 3 A. [9:59:38] Yes, I remember.
- 4 Q. [9:59:42] And after this interview, do you recall if a statement was taken from
- 5 you?
- 6 A. [10:00:04] Yes, I recall.
- 7 Q. [10:00:06] And do you recall if this statement was then read back to you?
- 8 A. [10:00:22] Yes, I recall.
- 9 Q. [10:00:25] After it was read back to you, Madam Witness, did you sign this
- 10 statement?
- 11 A. [10:00:42] Yes, I signed it.
- 12 Q. [10:00:46] And during the course of giving this statement, do you recall having
- 13 been showed a series of photographs?
- 14 A. [10:01:10] Yes, I recall.
- 15 Q. [10:01:13] And do you recall having identified some of the photographs that
- 16 were shown to you?
- 17 A. [10:01:36] Yes, I recall identifying them.
- 18 Q. [10:01:40] Now, since you have this document before you, Madam Witness,
- 19 CAR-OTP- I just read it, your Honours, initially 2092-3851, can I please draw your
- attention to the first page of this document.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:02:21] Madam Witness, do you have the document
- 22 before you?
- 23 THE WITNESS: [10:02:36](Interpretation) Yes, I have it before me.
- 24 MS MAKWAIA: [10:02:39]
- 25 Q. [10:02:40] Now, do you see your name on this document?

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- 1 A. [10:02:54] Yes, I see my name.
- 2 Q. [10:02:57] Do you see at the bottom of the page, can you see two signatures?
- 3 A. [10:03:17] Yes, I can see two signatures.
- 4 Q. [10:03:22] Do you recognise any of those two signatures?
- 5 A. [10:03:39] Yes, I recognise both.
- 6 Q. [10:03:43] Is any of the signatures yours?
- 7 A. [10:04:02] Yes, one of those are mine -- or is mine.
- 8 Q. [10:04:08] Which one is it? Is it the first one or the second one?
- 9 A. [10:04:23] The first.
- 10 MS MAKWAIA: [10:04:28] I understand we have challenges in terms of the witness
- 11 pointing, so I won't have her annotating, Madam President. I think she has
- 12 sufficiently identified her signature.
- 13 Q. [10:04:41] Now, Madam Witness --
- 14 MS MAKWAIA: [10:04:47] And, your Honours, I think we can now move into an
- 15 open session.
- 16 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:04:54] Thank you.
- 17 Madam Court Officer, can we go back into open session, please.
- 18 MS MAKWAIA: [10:05:03] Apologies, Madam President, I should do a final
- 19 signature.
- 20 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:05:11] We are still in private session.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:05:13] Thank you very much, Madam Court
- 22 Officer.
- 23 Madam Prosecutor, please.
- 24 MS MAKWAIA: [10:05:19] I'm obliged, your Honours.
- 25 Can the witness be assisted to turn to page 23 of the document at

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- 1 CAR-OTP-2092-3873.
- 2 Q. [10:05:56] Madam Witness, can you please look at the page I'm referring to.
- 3 Can you see your signature on this page?
- 4 A. [10:06:20] Yes, I can see it.
- 5 Q. [10:06:23] And where would that be?
- 6 A. [10:06:36] It's towards the top.
- 7 Q. [10:06:45] Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 8 MS MAKWAIA: [10:06:48] Your Honours, we can now revert to a public session.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:06:52] Thank you very much.
- 10 Madam Court Officer, can we go back into public session, please. Thank you.
- 11 (Open session at 10.07 a.m.)
- 12 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:07:07] We are back to open session, Madam President.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:07:13] Thank you.
- 14 Madam Prosecutor, please.
- 15 MS MAKWAIA: [10:07:17]
- 16 Q. [10:07:18] Madam Witness, do you recall meeting me and Ms Brunhild Le Bailly
- a few days ago during the course of your witness preparatory session?
- 18 A. [10:07:49] Yes, I recall.
- 19 Q. [10:07:52] And during that witness preparation session were you afforded the
- 20 opportunity to have read back to you your witness statement that you gave to
- 21 investigators of the Office of the Prosecutor?
- 22 A. [10:08:18] Yes, I had that opportunity.
- 23 Q. [10:08:31] And during the course of this witness preparation session, Madam
- 24 Witness, were you afforded the opportunity to make clarifications or explanations?

25 A. [10:08:56] Yes.

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- 1 Q. [10:09:00] And after you made the clarification or explanation, were you shown
- 2 a series of photographs?
- 3 A. [10:09:22] Yes, a series of photographs were shown to me.
- 4 Q. [10:09:28] And were you afforded the opportunity to comment or identify some
- 5 of the photographs that you were shown?
- 6 A. [10:09:38] Yes.
- 7 Q. [10:09:54] Were these clarifications, explanations and identification of some of
- 8 the photographs then typed and read back to you, Madam Witness?
- 9 Madam Witness?
- 10 A. [10:10:27] I'm listening.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:10:49] Can you put the question again, Madam
- 12 Prosecutor.
- 13 MS MAKWAIA: [10:10:53] Yes, Madam President.
- 14 Q. [10:10:55] Madam Witness, after you identified some of the photographs and
- 15 you made a correction or explanation, were these clarifications and the identification
- of some of the photographs written and read back to you?
- 17 A. [10:11:28] Yes.
- 18 Q. [10:11:31] And did you then sign this document that reflected the identification
- 19 and clarification you made?
- 20 A. [10:11:51] Yes, I signed that document.
- 21 MS MAKWAIA: [10:11:55] Your Honours, can the witness be shown, at tab 15, the
- 22 witness prep log. I would like shown to her Annex A. That would be
- 23 CAR-OTP-00025608-0001. It's at tab 15 of the bundle. It's also confidential.
- 24 Is it before the witness?
- 25 Q. [10:13:04] Now, Madam Witness --

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- 1 A. [10:13:07](Interpretation) Yes, the document is in front of me.
- 2 Q. [10:13:11] Thank you. Madam Witness, I would like for you to look at this
- 3 document and see if you can see any signature on it.
- 4 A. [10:13:34] Yes, there's a signature.
- 5 Q. [10:13:37] Do you recognise this signature?
- 6 A. [10:13:50] Yes, I recognise it. It is indeed my signature.
- 7 Q. [10:13:56] And where is it found in this document?
- 8 A. [10:14:07] It's at the bottom of the document.
- 9 Q. [10:14:13] Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 10 Now, Madam Witness, do you consent to the introduction of your witness statement,
- including its annexes and the witness prep log to be considered as evidence by the
- 12 Chamber?
- 13 A. [10:15:07] Yes, I consent.
- 14 MS MAKWAIA: [10:15:11] Madam President, your Honours, it's our submission
- that all the conditions of Rule 68(3)(a) have been fulfilled, short of an opposite
- 16 instruction from your Honours.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:15:29] Thank you very much, Madam Prosecutor.
- 18 The conditions of 68(3) having been fulfilled, the witness having consented to us
- 19 having a look at her statement and the preparation log sheet, it is our ruling that
- 20 you've complied with Rule 68(3). Thank you.
- 21 MS MAKWAIA: [10:15:57] I'm obliged, Madam President.
- 22 That concludes our examination of the witness.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:16:02] Thank you very much.
- 24 Ms Pellet? The witness, please.
- 25 MS PELLET: [10:16:27](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour. Your Honour, I

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- 1 maintain my request of 24 July, which you upheld -- which you granted, I should say,
- 2 allowing me to question this witness. *In order to comply with your decision on the
- 3 conduct of proceedings. Given that the requirements of 68(3) have been met, I shall
- 4 limit my questions to the harm suffered by the witness and on the impact of the
- 5 events described by the witness, impact on her and on her family.
- 6 Therefore, your Honour, I believe that I will not need all 30 minutes allotted to me by
- 7 you. I think I shall be shorter.
- 8 QUESTIONED BY MS PELLET: (Interpretation)
- 9 Q. [10:17:30] Good morning, Witness. A. [10:17:32] Good morning.
- 10 Q. [10:17:35] We know each other, but for the record, I will state that I am your
- 11 legal representative *since you were authorised to participate in the proceedings on
- 12 27 May 2022 and again on 8 November last year on the basis of a form that we
- completed together on 21 March 2022. Do you remember filling in the form?
- 14 A. [10:18:06] Yes, I recall.
- 15 Q. [10:18:12] You were in the office of Dibert-Bekoy --
- 16 MS NAOURI: [10:18:21](Interpretation) We have said nothing about -- we have an
- objection. We have said nothing about the form. We trust our colleague that the
- form was filled in together, but a number of questions are about to be put and these
- 19 are leading questions. We would ask that open questions be put.
- 20 MS PELLET: [10:18:42](Interpretation) Your Honour, I haven't started putting my
- 21 questions. I'm simply setting out the basis of the relationship that I have with my
- 22 client.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:18:53] Carry on, Ms Pellet. Thank you.
- 24 MS PELLET: [10:18:57](Interpretation) Thank you. Thank you, your Honour. In

25 any case, I would refer you to our filing ICC-01/14-01/21-518-Red.

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- 1 Q. [10:19:28] Witness, do you still think back of -- to the events of which you were a
- 2 victim in 2013?
- 3 A. [10:19:52] Yes, I still think of them.
- 4 Q. [10:19:56] And what do you feel when you think of those events?
- 5 A. [10:20:07] I feel very, very uncomfortable, deeply uncomfortable. When I think
- 6 about it, I become ill and my head is not right.
- 7 Q. [10:20:24] Could you describe in more detail the reactions that you have when
- 8 you think back over these events?
- 9 A. [10:20:41] When I think back, I feel very, very uncomfortable.
- 10 Q. [10:20:50] And what images come to mind?
- 11 A. [10:21:04] I recall being detained, locked up at the OCRB.
- 12 Q. [10:21:14] Thank you, Witness.
- 13 Have you received psychological care since you were released from the OCRB?
- 14 A. [10:21:28] No, absolutely not.
- 15 Q. [10:21:34] And do you think you might need psychological care?
- 16 A. [10:21:46] Yes, I think I do.
- 17 Q. [10:21:52] You explained that you feel very uncomfortable when you think
- about being locked up at the OCRB. What has your detention -- what effect has the
- 19 detention at the OCRB had on your health?
- 20 A. [10:22:26] I feel very poorly, very uncomfortable.
- 21 Q. [10:22:36] Witness, I understand and I'm sorry that I have to ask you to relive
- 22 these events, but if you agree, I have a few questions and then we will -- I will come to
- 23 an end.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:22:58] Madam Witness, you must have some
- 25 water by your side on your table. You can have some water, please. And if you

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- think you need a break, you can let us know by show of hand. Please have a sip of
- 2 water so that we can carry on, if that's okay with you. Thank you.
- 3 Can we continue, Madam Witness? Do you want us to carry on?
- 4 THE WITNESS: [10:23:54](Interpretation) Yes, we can continue.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:23:57] Thank you very much.
- 6 Ms Pellet, please be mindful of the VWU's recommendations in respect of this witness
- 7 as to her emotions. Thank you.
- 8 MS PELLET: [10:24:17](Interpretation) Yes, yes, thank you, your Honour.
- 9 Q. [10:24:24] Witness, once again, I am sorry that I have to put these questions to
- 10 you, but it is important for this trial.
- 11 So I was asking whether your detention at the OCRB had had an impact on your
- 12 health and, if so, what impact?
- 13 A. [10:25:03] * When I was detained at the OCRB, there was an attempted rape by
- 14 the Séléka and when I think about that, this upsets me greatly.
- 15 Q. [10:25:37] I understand, Witness.
- Now, as regards your health, did your detention at the OCRB have an impact on your
- 17 health?
- 18 A. [10:25:59] Yes. That detention did impact upon my health. I'm asthmatic and
- 19 I was hospitalised after my release.
- 20 Q. [10:26:15] Thank you, Witness.
- 21 And what consequences did your arrest and your detention have on you and on your
- 22 family?
- 23 A. [10:26:47] Although there were consequences on my family, my mother at the
- 24 time was traumatised. Currently things are much better.
- 25 Q. [10:27:09] Witness, would you like to continue on or would you prefer to take a

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- 1 break?
- 2 A. [10:27:19] We can continue.
- 3 Q. [10:27:24] Thank you, Witness.
- 4 Why was your mother so upset during your detention and after your release from the
- 5 OCRB?
- 6 A. [10:27:50] Because back then in Bangui, *everybody was familiar with the Seleka
- 7 reprisals, everybody knew that very few people would get away from them safely if
- 8 they had been arrested by the Seleka. On top of that, my mother spent a lot of money.
- 9 Q. [10:28:17] And why did your mother spend a lot of money?
- 10 A. [10:28:23] Well, it's because I had been locked up and Mahamat Said asked that
- a sum of money be given to him in order for me to be released.
- 12 Q. [10:28:42] And did your mother have such a sum of money available to her?
- 13 A. [10:28:53] My mother didn't have that sum of money. She had to request aid
- 14 from her brothers and sisters and they gathered together the money that had been
- 15 requested.
- 16 Q. [10:29:09] Thank you, Witness.
- 17 Did you have a trade back then, when you were arrested and detained?
- 18 A. [10:29:35] I was -- I was a trader selling food. I was a soup vendor on
- 19 Saturdays and Sundays.
- 20 Q. [10:29:53] And were you able to take up that work again after your release?
- 21 A. [10:30:05] No, I wasn't able to.
- 22 Q. [10:30:10] And why, Witness?
- 23 A. [10:30:17] Because the little money that I had had been used by my mother,
- 24 together with what her brothers and sisters had given her. She'd used it to pay for

25 my release.

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- 1 Q. [10:30:40] Thank you, Witness.
- 2 Madam Witness, how do you see your future?
- 3 A. [10:31:11] My future isn't very clear because in the past I was a seller, but now I
- 4 have nothing to do, no activity I can do.
- 5 Q. [10:31:32] Madam Witness, what do you expect from this trial of Mr Said?
- 6 A. [10:31:50] This is a trial and I have many expectations as an outcome of this trial.
- 7 Q. [10:32:02] Can you explain this, what you expect as an example?
- 8 A. [10:32:17] After this trial, I hope that all the money that was spent by my mother
- 9 to buy my release be given back to her.
- 10 Q. [10:32:34] Thank you very much, Madam Witness.
- 11 MS PELLET: [10:32:38](Interpretation) Presiding Judge, this concludes my line of
- 12 questioning. Thank you.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:32:44] Thank you very much, Ms Pellet.
- 14 For the Defence, Ms Naouri, if you allow me to just ask the witness whether or not
- she wants us to continue. We have like about 28 minutes more before recess for a
- 16 few minutes.
- 17 Would you want for us to continue with the Defence's questions to you,
- 18 Madam Witness?
- 19 THE WITNESS: [10:33:20](Interpretation) Yes, you can continue.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:33:27] Thank you.
- 21 And Mr Said, can we continue, your counsel put questions to the witness? Are you
- 22 okay?
- 23 Okay, thank you very much.
- 24 Ms Naouri, your witness, please. Thank you.
- 25 QUESTIONED BY MS NAOURI: (Interpretation)

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- 1 Q. [10:34:22] * Good morning, Madam Witness. My name is Jennifer Naouri and
- 2 I'm going to be asking you a few questions. A. [10:34:26] Good morning.
- 3 Q. [10:34:31] And as I explained, I will be asking you questions for the -- questions
- 4 for the Defence today.
- 5 So please don't worry, as soon as we'll bring up issues that might -- questions that
- 6 might identify you, I will immediately ask to go into private session.
- 7 I will just, for the time being, pick up on the questions that were asked by your
- 8 representative concerning your job. So I will quote from what you have told us.
- 9 * You told us that you were and I'm on page 22, line 8 that you were a trader in
- 10 2013 at a time where the Seleka were active. For how long had you been doing this
- job at that time in 2013? For how long were you -- for how long had you been
- working on weekends, on Saturday and Sunday, selling things?
- 13 A. [10:36:10] I had started selling at home and I'd spent several years doing this
- 14 before this event.
- 15 Q. [10:36:28] So you used to go to people's homes, you didn't have your own kiosk;
- is that correct?
- 17 A. [10:36:41] I told you that I had a kiosk or a booth and I used to sell at home in
- 18 my family home.
- 19 Q. [10:36:57] All right. Can you tell us what you were selling, Madam Witness?
- 20 A. [10:37:08] I used to sell soup, and in the kiosk, which was situated at the
- 21 entrance to the property, I sold hair extensions.
- 22 Q. [10:37:28] Thank you. Okay. And how much money were you earning at that
- 23 time per week, for example?
- 24 A. [10:37:52] Sometimes we would lose money, sometimes we made a profit. So

25 we made losses and profits.

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- 1 Q. [10:38:14] All right. Thank you for clarifying this. Now, you had just told
- 2 us -- and I'm looking for the reference. So still on page 22 of the transcript, of the
- 3 real-time transcript, you stated that "My future is not very clear because before, I was
- 4 a seller, but now I have nothing I can do as an activity."
- 5 And so, Madam Witness, I'd like to ask you a question. In your previous statement,
- 6 the written statement that you presented to the Office of the Prosecutor, you stated at
- 7 the time when your statement was taken that you did have an activity at that time, or
- 8 a job.
- 9 So in 2018, and I'll find the page for you, so it's on the first page, so page 2127-9409,
- and when it says "employment" it says "street vendor". So in this document that was
- included in the file, you stated in 2018 that you were a street vendor. So could you
- tell me whether this is correct?
- 13 A. [10:40:02] No, I was not selling in the street. I was selling at my family home
- and the stall was at the edge of the street, the street that passes in front of my family
- 15 home.
- 16 Q. [10:40:21] All right. So just to clarify things, I understand that in 2013 you
- used to go to people's homes and that in front of your family home there was a stall
- 18 in 2013.
- 19 Now, in 2018, when you met the investigators of the Prosecutor's office, did you still
- 20 have this job?
- 21 A. [10:40:50] When I met the investigators of the Prosecutor's office, I no longer had
- 22 this job or activity, meaning that I was no longer selling soup, but I was a vendor in
- 23 the kiosk that was situated at the family home. So when the question was put to me,
- 24 I answered that I sold hair extensions, but I was not the owner of this business. I did

25 this for my sister who was in (Redacted).

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- 1 Q. [10:41:29] Okay. So in 2018, you did have a professional activity, you were
- 2 selling hair extensions for your sister in Bangui; is that correct?
- 3 A. [10:41:41] That is correct.
- 4 Q. [10:41:46] Thank you, Madam Witness. And presently, do you still have a
- 5 professional activity or not?
- 6 A. [10:41:57] Presently I do not have a professional activity.
- 7 Q. [10:42:15] So, Madam Witness, I will check the exact date, but in your request to
- 8 the victims counsel, this is CAR-OTP-2135-3895 on page 3901, this is tab 16 of our list,
- 9 and so -- or 14, rather. It is stated, "Please specify your profession" and you stated,
- 10 "I am a vendor of hair extensions in a kiosk." And this was in March 2022.
- 11 So is it correct that in March 2022 you were selling hair extensions in a kiosk?
- 12 A. [10:43:13] This is correct.
- 13 Q. [10:43:20] Thank you. And how much time -- I see maybe you want a glass of
- 14 water. You're making a sign.
- 15 A. [10:43:32] Yes, I wanted a glass of water, but I got one and we can continue.
- 16 Q. [10:43:40] All right. So my last question on this topic would be how
- much -- how long did you continue selling hair extensions after 2022?
- 18 A. [10:43:56] * I continued selling for her.
- 19 Unfortunately, there were lots of bad sales and she came herself and shared the
- 20 extensions and that's when the activity stopped.
- 21 Q. [10:44:27] When was this? This was last year, 2023?
- 22 A. [10:44:44] * We were selling these hair extensions for a period of five months.
- 23 There were a lot of bad sales and so she called me, she came herself and she shared
- 24 what remained of the hair extensions and left. And that is when this activity came to

an end.

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- 1 Q. [10:45:09] All right. Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 2 And so today do you have another professional activity or not?
- 3 A. [10:45:23] I have none.
- 4 Q. [10:45:30] Okay. Are there people that you are responsible for, people you
- 5 have to take care of?
- 6 A. [10:45:40] I have two children and I live at home with my brothers and sisters.
- 7 Q. [10:45:58] All right. So just to clarify, in your request to participate at
- 8 point 11, which is on page 3901, it is stated the total number of people in your care,
- 9 "4 (the three children of my older sister and my little brother)". Is this correct,
- 10 Madam Witness?
- 11 A. [10:46:28] This is correct.
- 12 Q. [10:46:35] And so how do you manage to meet the needs of these three children
- of your older sister and your little brother?
- 14 A. [10:47:00] My children, I have two children, and in my care there is also my little
- brother, or sister, and a child who is the child of my aunt.
- 16 Q. [10:47:23] Okay. So you have two biological children, if I've understood you
- 17 correctly; is that correct?
- 18 A. [10:47:31] That is correct.
- 19 Q. [10:47:34] Okay. So just to wrap up on this topic, so if I understood correctly,
- 20 you live in your family home. Is your mother still helping you to pay for food, for
- 21 housing, for clothing, and so on and so forth?
- 22 A. [10:48:00] * Yes. If she has the means to do so, she does that. Otherwise, the
- children's father sends what is required in order to feed the children.
- 24 Q. [10:48:25] All right. Thank you, Madam Witness. I have a few extra questions,

25 but I'll ask if we can go into private session to avoid all risks of identification.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:48:38] Madam Court Officer, can we go into
- 2 private session, please.
- 3 (Private session at 10.49 a.m.)
- 4 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:49:00] We are in private session, Madam President.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:49:05] Thank you very much.
- 6 Ms Naouri, please continue.
- 7 MS NAOURI: [10:49:09](Interpretation) Thank you very much.
- 8 Q. [10:49:12] Madam Witness, I have a few small questions to ask you for
- 9 clarification based on your previous statement. The first is, you have stated in your
- statement in paragraph 13, you stated that you were -- that you were born in Bangui.
- 11 Have you lived in Bangui your entire life?
- 12 Madam Witness, I don't know if you heard me correctly, but in doubt, I ask you again.
- 13 Have you lived in Bangui your entire life?
- 14 A. [10:49:58] I can hear you well.
- 15 Q. [10:50:02] Perfect. So can you answer the question, please.
- 16 A. [10:50:10] I was born in Bangui. I have lived in Bangui for practically all my
- 17 life, but I have also spent time in (Redacted) at my sister's place. I spent about
- 18 two months there.
- 19 Q. [10:50:32] Okay. And so when you were living in Bangui, which part of town,
- 20 in which neighbourhood were you living, Madam Witness?
- 21 A. [10:50:43] I lived in the (Redacted) neighbourhood.
- 22 Q. [10:50:52] All right. So in 2013 when the Seleka were in Bangui, were you
- 23 living in (Redacted)?
- 24 A. [10:51:04] Yes, I was still living in (Redacted).
- 25 Q. [10:51:07] And who were you living with at that time, Madam Witness?

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- 1 A. [10:51:22] I was living with my brothers and sisters, and at that time my mother
- 2 came to seek refuge with us in our home.
- 3 Q. [10:51:48] Okay. Were there also aunts and uncles with you?
- 4 A. [10:51:54] At that time there were indeed several people whom we welcomed at
- 5 home, including some of my uncles.
- 6 Q. [10:52:13] Can you tell us which uncles, Madam Witness?
- 7 A. [10:52:23] There was one of my uncles, his name is (Redacted).
- 8 Q. [10:52:36] So what about your Uncle (Redacted), for example? Where was he in
- 9 2013, do you know?
- 10 A. [10:52:54] (Redacted) lives in (Redacted), but nearer to (Redacted); whereas, we
- lived further to the south of this neighbourhood.
- 12 Q. [10:53:10] Thank you for this clarification.
- 13 And what about your uncle (Redacted), does he also live in that area, and more
- specifically where, if you have this information?
- 15 A. [10:53:26] Which uncle are you referring to, please?
- 16 Q. [10:53:29] I'll repeat the question: (Redacted).
- 17 A. [10:53:39] He was at the (Redacted).
- 18 Q. [10:53:50] Okay. So at this time when you were living with your brothers and
- 19 sisters, your mother and (Redacted), did you already have children, Madam Witness?
- 20 A. [10:54:06] At that time I had a child, one child.
- 21 Q. [10:54:09] And how old was your child, more or less?
- 22 A. [10:54:15] At that time my child was three years old.
- 23 Q. [10:54:27] Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 24 Last little question about your life path. You stated in your previous statement in
- 25 paragraph 13 that you took French language courses at the Alliance Française; is this

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- 1 correct?
- 2 A. [10:54:59] This is correct.
- 3 Q. [10:55:03] Can you tell us where the Alliance Française is situated in Bangui,
- 4 Madam Witness?
- 5 A. [10:55:18] Yes, of course.
- 6 Q. [10:55:19] I'm listening. Tell us.
- 7 A. [10:55:24] So from (Redacted), I would take a taxi, which takes me to in front of
- 8 ENERCA, and then I'd go down a street that goes along the ENERCA and go to the
- 9 Alliance Française.
- 10 Q. [10:55:54] Thank you very much. So the Alliance Française is near ENERCA, if
- 11 I've understood correctly; is that correct?
- 12 A. [10:56:07] That is correct, except that the ENERCA is on the avenue, whereas the
- 13 Alliance Française is slightly to the south of it.
- 14 Q. [10:56:23] Okay. So -- and in which years did you follow -- did you take classes
- at the Alliance Française, if you can recall?
- 16 A. [10:56:38] I cannot recall.
- 17 Q. [10:56:40] Well, how old were you? Do you remember more or less how old
- 18 you were at the time?
- 19 A. [10:57:03] I took classes at the Alliance Française when I was in 7th grade, or
- 20 *cinquième* in French.
- 21 Q. [10:57:11] Very well, Madam Witness. I no longer have any questions on this
- 22 section.
- 23 MS NAOURI: [10:57:13] I see we only have three minutes left before the break so it
- 24 might be a good moment to take a break before following with my line of questioning.

25 But I submit the question to you, Madam President.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:57:30] Thank you very much, Ms Naouri.
- 2 Madam Witness and Mr Said, we're going to go out for some 30 minutes for a short
- 3 break and we'll come back into this courtroom at 11:30 to continue with your
- 4 cross-examination by the Defence counsel.
- 5 So I rise the Court, please.
- 6 THE COURT USHER: [10:57:48] All rise.
- 7 (Recess taken at 10.57 a.m.)
- 8 (Upon resuming in open session at 11.31 a.m.)
- 9 THE COURT USHER: [11:31:00] All rise.
- 10 Please be seated.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:31:29] Good morning, again, everyone.
- 12 Just for us to be reminded, Ms Naouri, we are in open session, so you could continue
- with your questions to this witness. Thank you.
- 14 MS NAOURI: [11:31:49](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 15 Madam President, I will ask that we go into a private session because some of
- 16 the questions may be identifying. Thank you.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:32:15] Okay. Thank you very much.
- 18 Madam Court Officer, can we go into private session, please.
- 19 (Private session at 11.32 a.m.)
- 20 THE COURT OFFICER: [11:32:30] We're in private session, your Honours.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:32:33] Thank you very much.
- 22 Ms Naouri, your witness, please.
- 23 MS NAOURI: [11:32:40](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 24 Q. [11:32:43] Good morning, Madam Witness, we will continue. And now I
- 25 would like us to broach a topic, which is the beginning of the day that you spent

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- 1 before, before your arrest. And I would like to ask you, were you working on that
- 2 day. The day of your arrest, in the morning, were you working?
- 3 A. [11:33:17] I was not working on that day.
- 4 Q. [11:33:25] Okay. How were you feeling? Were you in good shape? Explain
- 5 to us how your morning unfolded the day of your arrest.
- 6 A. [11:33:42] On that day I did not feel very well. I was not selling on that day.
- 7 At about 6 p.m. I had gone out to buy some bread on the side of the road and I met
- 8 my client (Redacted) bar, and he asked
- 9 me why was not or I had not been selling that day, and I answered that I had a fever,
- 10 because I work alone.
- 11 (Redacted) asked me could I not hire an assistant. And I said, "There is no one, no
- 12 one to help me. I work alone."
- 13 (Redacted) said to me that I had to go, we would go to the (Redacted) bar to have
- 14 a juice. We went in and that's where the events took place.
- 15 Q. [11:34:44] Okay, thank you for that clarification. A very useful one. Now,
- prior to 6 p.m., and before you went out to get bread, you said you were not feeling
- 17 very well on that day. What were your symptoms, Madam Witness?
- 18 A. [11:35:10] I was working by the fire and the heat was making me feel very tired.
- 19 I had a fever.
- 20 Q. [11:35:15] Okay. Did you already have problems with asthma at that point?
- 21 Did you have a hard time breathing when you were working close to the fire?
- 22 A. [11:35:31] I was born with asthma, I have had it throughout my childhood. I've
- 23 been asthmatic.
- 24 Q. [11:35:47] Okay. Thank you for that clarification.
- 25 You said that you went out to get some bread. Where did you go to buy bread?

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- 1 A. [11:35:58] I went to get bread at the bakery on the side of the road.
- 2 Q. [11:36:05] Okay. So we can understand this, can you explain to us what is
- 3 the route you took from your place to get to the bakery?
- 4 A. [11:36:22] I leave my house. There is a street that passes in front of my house.
- 5 I take this route. I go straight, right up until the bakery.
- 6 Q. [11:36:46] Okay, if I understand well, there is a route that goes directly from
- 7 your place to the bakery and this route is where the (Redacted) bar is also located; is
- 8 that right?
- 9 A. [11:37:05] The (Redacted) bar is located at the entrance to go toward our place.
- When you leave the main road to go toward my place, the bar is just at the entrance of
- 11 that route, at the beginning of that route.
- 12 Q. [11:37:27] I will ask the question differently. How long does it take to get on
- 13 foot from your place to the (Redacted) bar?
- 14 A. [11:37:47] The (Redacted) bar is some distance from my place. The (Redacted)
- bar is, let's say, a bit further from my place, by the road, and it's on the same road as
- 16 my street.
- 17 Q. [11:38:05] Okay. So on foot, how long would it take to get there, 10, 15, 20 or
- 18 30 minutes, on foot? How much time would it take you to get there?
- 19 A. [11:38:21] I do not walk very quickly, so it takes me 10 minutes, because I walk
- 20 slowly. I'm not in a habit of walking fast.
- 21 Q. [11:38:38] Very well, that is clear.
- 22 Do you know if you went to (Redacted) or (Redacted)?
- 23 A. [11:38:59] We were arrested at (Redacted).
- 24 Q. [11:39:05] Okay, thank you, Madam Witness.
- 25 And could you describe (Redacted), that is the inside and the outside, if you can

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- 1 explain it to us. But start with the inside of (Redacted).
- 2 A. [11:39:29] The inside of (Redacted). When you go into the bar, the (Redacted)
- 3 bar, there are chairs behind the bar and on this side there are chairs and on this side
- 4 there is the DJ.
- 5 That's the way it was at the time.
- 6 Q. [11:39:53] Thank you. You say "at the time", so today it's different?
- 7 A. [11:40:09] It has been improved. Everything has changed. It has changed
- 8 a lot.
- 9 Q. [11:40:16] Okay. Is the owner still the same?
- 10 A. [11:40:32] The owner is still the same. It is (Redacted) who is the owner of this bar.
- 11 Q. [11:40:47] Do you often go to the (Redacted) bar prior to your arrest,
- 12 Madam Witness?
- 13 A. [11:40:58] I often went there.
- 14 Q. [11:41:05] Okay. And, on average, in the evening during the week, such as the
- one when you went to have a drink with (Redacted), how many people were there?
- 16 A. [11:41:24] (Redacted) and I don't have the habit of having a drink together.
- 17 That was the first time. He called me to have a juice. I don't usually have a drink
- 18 with (Redacted).
- 19 Q. [11:41:42] Okay. We will come back to this, but thank you for that clarification.
- 20 But my question was to know in general, when you go there, in general when you go
- 21 to the (Redacted) bar, how many people are there, about 10, 20, 30, approximately?
- 22 A. [11:42:08] (Redacted) bar is a (Redacted) bar in our neighbourhood. Often,
- 23 there are many customers. I cannot give you the number of customers. There are
- 24 often many people.
- 25 Q. [11:42:21] Okay, no problem. But what you are telling us is that this place

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- 1 which is (Redacted) is most of the time quite full; is that it?
- 2 A. [11:42:35] Yes, that's correct.
- 3 Q. [11:42:41] Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 4 You had said that there was a DJ. Could we say, then, that it is a place where people
- 5 party, where there is loud music? Could we say that?
- 6 A. [11:42:58] Yes, it is a (Redacted) bar, so there has to be a DJ and where a DJ can
- 7 work. You know, DJs work in this bar.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:43:14] Do you want us to still remain in private session?
- 9 MS NAOURI: [11:43:23](Interpretation) * You're right, your Honour. I am hesitating
- 10 because I don't ever know precisely what the witness will say that could potentially
- identify them on the day of their arrest. So, I shall stay in private session a little while
- longer and as soon as I feel that there is no danger, I will ask you if we can return to
- open session, if you agree.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:43:42] That's okay. Carry on, please.
- 15 MS NAOURI: [11:43:50](Interpretation)
- 16 Q. [11:43:50] So, Madam Witness, you had just said indeed that DJs worked in that
- 17 bar. Is it a place where there is a lot of light or does it have dimmer light to party?
- 18 Could you explain how bright in 2013 the light was in the (Redacted) bar, in 2013
- 19 specifically.
- 20 A. [11:44:23] At the (Redacted) bar, starting at 6 p.m. the lights are turned on in
- 21 the bar, that is starting at 6 p.m.
- 22 Q. [11:44:40] Okay. And the day of your arrest, was there a lot of light? You
- 23 made a gesture with your hands like projectors, spotlights, like a discotheque. On
- 24 the day of your arrest, how bright was the lighting? How many lights were there on

25 that day? Because you arrived there when night was falling, if I understood

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- 1 correctly.
- 2 A. [11:45:12] When I say "after 6 p.m., after night had fallen", all the lights had been
- 3 turned on. When somebody enters the bar, everyone can see each other.
- 4 Q. [11:45:30] Okay. Very well. And what were you talking about with
- 5 (Redacted) on that day? You said that you don't often speak to him, so what were
- 6 you chatting about with him?
- 7 A. [11:45:59] I met up with him by the (Redacted) bar. He noticed me. I did not
- 8 notice him. And I said that -- he asked if I had sold anything, and I said no. I said
- 9 that I was tired and I felt that I had a fever. And (Redacted) asked me why I did not
- 10 have any help and I said I don't have the means to help somebody that is, to pay
- someone who would help me and that's when he offered that we go in to have this
- 12 drink there. And so we went into the bar to share a drink.
- 13 Q. [11:46:38] Okay. So what is (Redacted) bar?
- 14 A. [11:46:50] I do not exactly know what his role is at the bar. I know that
- 15 (Redacted) is part of my clientele. What I do know is that (Redacted) the bar, but I
- 16 do not know what his role is.
- 17 Q. [11:47:15] And if I understand correctly, despite the fact that you did not feel
- well, you agreed to go and have a drink with (Redacted); is that it?
- 19 A. [11:47:32] Precisely. When I went out to go get bread, I informed (Redacted) of
- 20 the situation and he offered for us to go and have a juice, and I said that I could get
- some juice, put it into a plastic bottle, get my bread and go back home.
- Q. [11:48:03] Okay. But, ultimately, you took a seat in the bar or did you just take
- 23 a plastic bottle and leave? Just to clarify what you have just stated.
- 24 A. [11:48:20] I said that -- I informed (Redacted) of my health, telling him that I
- could not sit and drink juice there. He brought the juice to me in a plastic bottle and

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- 1 I was going to take it and leave. * When he got to the counter there were a lot of
- 2 people in front of the salesperson. He told me to have a seat while I would wait for
- 3 (Redacted) to come back.
- 4 Q. [11:48:55] Thank you for that clarification, Madam Witness.
- 5 And so when you took a seat waiting for (Redacted) to come back, from where you
- 6 were seated, could you see the entrance to the bar?
- 7 A. [11:49:18] From my vantage point, I could see the entrance and I could see
- 8 the movement of the people entering the bar. I was sitting there.
- 9 Q. [11:49:36] Okay. So you could see people coming in and out. Could you see
- 10 outside? Could you see what was outside the bar from where you were sitting?
- 11 A. [11:49:53] I was seated. If I had been looking to the right I could have looked
- outside. But I was on the left side, so I could only see people who were heading
- 13 toward the bar.
- 14 Q. [11:50:16] Okay. Okay. Okay. Thank you. And how long did you wait for
- 15 (Redacted), for him to come and bring you the juice, according to your recollection?
- 16 A. [11:50:34] When I arrived in the bar, I was standing up, waiting for him. Then
- 17 he came back to me and said that there were many people in line. So then I took
- a seat and he went to get the juice.
- 19 Q. [11:50:57] Okay. And you, Madam Witness, did on that day you see
- 20 (Redacted), the owner of the bar?
- 21 A. [11:51:13] (Redacted) lives in the same neighbourhood as we do.
- 22 Q. [11:51:20] Okay. But was he at the (Redacted) bar on that day? Perhaps you
- 23 saw him, or perhaps you did not see him. Tell us.
- 24 A. [11:51:35] The bar was packed with people. I could not know whether

25 (Redacted) was there or not.

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- 1 Q. [11:51:50] Okay, thank you, Madam Witness.
- 2 Did you see (Redacted) after that day, after the day you were arrested?
- 3 A. [11:52:10] When I was locked up at the OCRB I saw (Redacted) when he came to
- 4 visit his brother at the OCRB.
- 5 Q. [11:52:23] Okay. After your release from the OCRB, after the entire story with
- 6 the OCRB was over, did you see him again?
- 7 A. [11:52:40] He lives in our neighbourhood. I often see him when he passes by
- 8 our house, for instance.
- 9 Q. [11:52:54] Okay. Did you talk to him? For example, did you talk to him about
- 10 the day of the arrest?
- 11 A. [11:53:07] After my release, long before my arrest I had never had any
- 12 interaction with (Redacted). After my release, I did not have the opportunity to
- 13 speak with (Redacted), no.
- 14 Q. [11:53:26] But you had his phone numbers; is that correct, Madam Witness?
- 15 A. [11:53:43] It's true that I have his number in my phone. I called this number to
- order drinks, and after I deleted it. I don't have it in mind.
- 17 Q. [11:54:01] Okay. You have one or two phone numbers for (Redacted)?
- 18 A. [11:54:10] Only one number.
- 19 Q. [11:54:18] And when you would order drinks, who would give you the drinks,
- or would you go pick up the drinks once you had ordered them?
- 21 A. [11:54:40] There were delivery people who would deliver my order.
- 22 Q. [11:54:50] Okay. And you always ordered from (Redacted)? You ordered
- 23 your drinks from (Redacted)?
- 24 A. [11:55:06] (Redacted) sold at a drink depot or warehouse. I would -- I would
- 25 buy the drinks from this depot where he was selling them. It was just beside the bar

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- 1 where we were.
- 2 Q. [11:55:28] Okay. But the phone number, (Redacted)'s number that you had, is
- 3 that the number that you used to make your orders, did I understand that correctly?
- 4 A. [11:55:48] When we would arrive and the door of the depot was not open, we
- 5 would be given a number so we could call that number and could come and give us
- 6 the drinks, or have the drinks delivered. And they would wait for the delivery
- 7 person to be paid and then the delivery could be given to the customer.
- 8 Q. [11:56:16] Okay, thank you for that clarification.
- 9 Now I would like to come back to the day of your arrest very quickly. Once you
- were in the bar and you were waiting for your juice, how much time later did
- 11 the people whom you call the Seleka arrive, five, 10 minutes later, a quarter of an
- 12 hour, or longer? Approximately.
- 13 A. [11:56:56] It was about 10 minutes.
- 14 Q. [11:56:59] Okay. Do you recall how many vehicles there were that day, that is
- 15 vehicles that were attributed to the Seleka?
- 16 A. [11:57:16] When the Seleka arrived, I was already inside. It was when they
- arrested us they made us go outside the bar and that's where we saw the vehicles.
- 18 Being frustrated and devastated, we had no time to count the number of vehicles
- 19 there.
- 20 Q. [11:57:39] Okay, so you don't remember how many vehicles there were. So, do
- 21 you remember the route that you took to go to Camp de Roux?
- 22 A. [11:58:00] Once outside the (Redacted) bar, we were ordered into the vehicles.
- 23 They took the major road to go straight to Camp de Roux.
- Q. [11:58:18] And how long did this trip take? Ten minutes, 20 minutes,

25 30 minutes, approximately?

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- 1 A. [11:58:32] As I was seated in the vehicle, and as I was devastated, traumatised, I
- 2 did not have the time to time this trip.
- 3 Q. [11:58:48] Okay, no problem. Thank you very much, Madam Witness.
- 4 Now I would like quickly to come back to when you were at Camp de Roux and I'd
- 5 like to concentrate on how people were dressed. Do you remember the uniforms
- 6 people were wearing at Camp de Roux?
- 7 A. [11:59:15] The Seleka were all dressed in green. They were all wearing green
- 8 clothing.
- 9 Q. [11:59:32] And were there people also wearing civilian clothes?
- 10 A. [11:59:41] They were all in military attire, in uniform.
- 11 Q. [11:59:56] At paragraph 36 of your previous statement you said that you saw
- 12 (Redacted) at Camp de Roux, how was he dressed that day?
- 13 A. [12:00:15] Well, when we arrived at Camp de Roux, we alighted from the vehicle
- 14 and I was sitting on the ground. (Redacted) was taken somewhere to be beaten up
- and somebody who seemed to be ranked, a member of the Seleka, was seated on
- a chair and I saw (Redacted) arrive in a khaki uniform.
- 17 Q. [12:00:46] Thank you. And how ask you recognise (Redacted)?
- 18 A. [12:00:50] Well, I know (Redacted).
- 19 Q. [12:01:03] * And can you specify which uncle, because I've understood that you
- 20 have several uncles and perhaps -- or perhaps (Redacted) knows several of your
- 21 uncles. Could you specify. When we say (Redacted), we mean (Redacted).
- 22 * A. [12:01:17] (Redacted).
- 23 Q. [12:01:23] Your uncle (Redacted), if I've understood correctly. And to your
- 24 knowledge did he know (Redacted)?
- 25 A. [12:01:42] (Redacted) was a member of the military. Yes, (Redacted) and

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- 1 (Redacted) knew each other.
- 2 Q. [12:01:50] Thank you. And, to your knowledge, did (Redacted) know (Redacted)?
- 3 A. [12:02:01] (Redacted) is also a military man, so he undoubtedly knows (Redacted).
- 4 Q. [12:02:14] Very well. And, Madam Witness, do you recall what vehicle you
- 5 were in when you were transferred from Camp de Roux to the OCRB?
- 6 A. [12:02:35] We were transferred in a pickup that took us to the OCRB.
- 7 Q. [12:02:41] Do you recall the colour of that pickup truck?
- 8 A. [12:02:52] I didn't pay attention to the colour of the vehicle. We were ordered
- 9 to board the vehicle and then we were made alight at the OCRB.
- 10 Q. [12:03:03] Okay. And who was with you in the vehicle for that transfer?
- 11 A. [12:03:14] I was in the vehicle with (Redacted) and a friend of (Redacted)'s who
- 12 had also been arrested. So there were four of us in the vehicle, together with
- the Seleka who were by our side, around us in the vehicle.
- 14 Q. [12:03:39] How many Seleka, Madam Witness?
- 15 A. [12:03:45] We were in the vehicle and they were at the rear of the vehicle.
- 16 I didn't count them. We were in the cab part, in the front.
- 17 Q. [12:04:01] Okay. Was anybody wearing civilian clothing in that vehicle?
- 18 A. [12:04:18] There was a person who was in civilian clothing when I was taken to
- 19 the prosecutor's office to discuss my case. And he said that he had also been in
- 20 the vehicle and that he was a prosecutor, but I don't know his name. He was in
- 21 the vehicle and he is the one who was wearing civilian clothing.
- 22 Q. [12:04:42] Okay, thank you for that additional information, Madam Witness.
- 23 Your Honour, we're now moving on to a topic that could be dealt with in public, so I
- 24 would ask that we move into open session, please.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:04:54] Okay. Thank you very much.

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- 1 Madam Court Officer, can you get us into open session, please.
- 2 (Open session at 12.05 p.m.)
- 3 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:05:12] We are in open session, your Honours.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:05:14] Thank you very much.
- 5 Ms Naouri, you may continue, please.
- 6 MS NAOURI: [12:05:21](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 7 Q. [12:05:24] Well, Madam Witness, I would like now to return with you to
- 8 the matter of the OCRB building. So we're going to talk about the building.
- 9 So I'm going to show you some photos of this building and I'm going to put some
- 10 questions to you. And we'll start off with the exterior of the building. I'm going to
- 11 show you first a photo.
- 12 This is document CAR-OTP-2033-7718. So this is at number 30 of our list of material.
- 13 And I believe that this document may be displayed publicly.
- 14 Do you see the photo, Witness?
- 15 A. [12:07:03] Yes, I see it.
- 16 Q. [12:07:05] Now, this is a photo taken at the OCRB. Do you recognise this
- 17 place?
- 18 A. [12:07:10] This is the entrance of the OCRB.
- 19 Q. [12:07:16] Very well. And is there a difference between this entrance as you see
- it now on this photo and the way it looked when you were there in 2013?
- 21 A. [12:07:32] Well, this is the entrance.
- 22 Q. [12:07:38] Okay. So you don't see any difference?
- 23 A. [12:07:48] Yes, it's the entrance that I saw when I was arrested. And this is
- 24 the entrance to the OCRB that I knew.
- 25 Q. [12:08:04] Thank you, Witness.

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- 1 Now I'm going to show you another photo, which is CAR-OTP-2033-6828. That is at
- 2 tab 31.
- 3 And it may be displayed in public.
- 4 Do you see the photo, Madam Witness?
- 5 A. [12:08:42] Yes, I see it.
- 6 Q. [12:08:53] In paragraph 62 to 63 of your statement you refer to a room or an
- 7 office where you were held during the day. Now, can you see that office on this
- 8 facade? For instance, is one of these windows the window of the office where you
- 9 were held during the daytime?
- 10 A. [12:09:10] (No interpretation)
- 11 Q. [12:09:15] Please just wait a moment, we need to leave five seconds for
- 12 the interpreters to do their work.
- Okay, go ahead now, Madam Witness. What did you want to say?
- 14 A. [12:09:35] Well, at the entrance -- at the entrance of the OCRB, that is
- 15 the entrance of the OCRB.
- 16 Q. [12:09:50] Okay. We note that you're saying that this is the entrance to
- 17 the OCRB. Now, is the room where you were during the day when you were at the
- OCRB, is that room to the left or to the right? You referred to such a room in your
- 19 statement at paragraph 62, for instance. So my question is whether you can see that
- 20 room on this photo? Perhaps you can see the window of that room on this photo?
- 21 A. [12:10:36] The window on that side, in the corner?
- Q. [12:10:47] No, when you say "on that side", I'd like to check that with you. Do
- 23 you see there's police van, it's marked "police", that's on one side. Do you mean on
- 24 that side?
- 25 A. [12:11:05] It's on the side where we see the BJ75 vehicle, the one labelled

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- 1 "police".
- 2 Q. [12:11:13] Okay. That's great. That helps us to identify the place.
- 3 Now, is it the window which is closer to the courtyard or the one in the middle or
- 4 the one closer to the entrance? Which of those windows?
- 5 A. [12:11:35] It's the window over there and you could see out.
- 6 Q. [12:11:45] Okay, I've noted that it's one of these windows. You said that "It's
- 7 the window over there" and that "you could see out."
- 8 Now, I'd like to know which of the windows it is, if you know, of course.
- 9 MS MAKWAIA: [12:12:02] Excuse me for interrupting, Counsel.
- 10 THE WITNESS: [12:12:04](No interpretation)
- 11 MS MAKWAIA: [12:12:10] I was interrupting because it wasn't very clear. Counsel
- 12 had referred to a number of windows. Which windows exactly are we talking
- 13 about?
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:12:20] No, I think the question is clear, Madam
- 15 Prosecutor. The witness referred to windows that are on the same spot as the vehicle
- 16 marked "police". So we see three windows there, if I'm right. So she's trying to get
- 17 the witness to say which of those windows she is talking about.
- 18 Am I correct, Ms Naouri?
- 19 MS NAOURI: [12:12:55](Interpretation) I was just listening to the end of
- 20 the interruption.
- 21 Yes, your Honour, that's exactly correct. My question is which of those three
- 22 windows might be in question.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:13:14] Thank you very much.
- 24 Madam Witness, can you answer the question which of those windows that you
- 25 identify, those three windows, which one are you talking about? Best you could, of

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- 1 course.
- 2 THE WITNESS: [12:13:41](Interpretation) We were put in a room at the third
- 3 window. First, second, third window. And from there we could see out.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:13:58] Okay. Third window.
- 5 Now look at the photo again before you, do you mean the window close to the tree or
- 6 the window on the other side close to the wall? The window close to the tree seems
- 7 to be locked. Is that the window you are talking about? Or the one on the extreme
- 8 on that same side?
- 9 THE WITNESS: [12:14:35](Interpretation) I'm talking about the window which is
- 10 close to the mango trees.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:14:42] Thank you very much, Madam Witness.
- 12 Ms Naouri, please.
- 13 MS NAOURI: [12:14:50](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 14 Q. [12:14:55] So, now I have another question regarding this photo,
- 15 Madam Witness. Could you tell us where the room is where you slept. So not
- 16 the room where you spent the day, that you mention at paragraph 58, but, rather,
- 17 the room where you slept.
- 18 A. [12:15:33] We were asked to stay there during the day. That's the room where
- 19 the window looks out, out.
- Now, when the evening came, before going to the rooms I wanted to go to
- 21 the bathroom. One of the Seleka accompanied me to the toilets. Now, he spoke
- 22 Arab and French. And I went there and then returned. {ICR: (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted).
- Q. [12:16:17] Now we are in open session. We want to avoid saying anything
- 25 that's actually confidential. So please be careful to only answer my question.

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- 1 Now, you provided a lot of information in your statement, but the question I now
- 2 have is about something quite specific. It's about the room where you would sleep.
- Now, we're going to make a request that the transcript be redacted.
- 4 Witness, please just wait a moment. Do allow me to finish and allow the interpreters
- 5 to finish.
- 6 So, we were looking at this photo and you have said this: on this photo you can see
- 7 the room where you slept. And my question is, it's very simple now, whether you
- 8 can see on the same photo the room where you slept? If you say yes, that is the case,
- 9 we'll have a look at the photo together.
- 10 So my first question is: can you see on this photo the room where you slept?
- 11 And please be careful about what you say, because we would like to maintain
- 12 confidentiality on some matters, to protect you as best possible and to be able to have
- as much of these proceedings in public.
- 14 A. [12:17:47] The place where I spent the night is different to the place where I
- 15 spent the day. * We stayed in the living room. It was in the living room where the
- 16 Seleka tried to rape me. Later I went to a different room with the Muslim girls.
- 17 There was also a Muslim man who worked under the authority of the Seleka.
- 18 So we spent the day in the room I showed you.
- 19 Q. [12:18:19] Witness, I'm going to ask you the question one more time. On
- 20 the photograph in front of you, can you see the photo where you slept, the room you
- 21 were just talking about? Can you see it, or not?
- 22 A. [12:18:44] I can't. I can't point it out.
- 23 Q. [12:18:50] No problem. Thank you very much for your answer.
- I am now going to show you a different photo.
- 25 This is document CAR-OTP-2033-6838, which is at tab 6 of our list. And it may be

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- 1 displayed in public.
- 2 Now, when you were showed this photograph during the preparation session you
- 3 said this is the -- you said that this was the OCRB building.
- 4 And it's tab 15, CAR-OTP-00025608.
- 5 Now, my question is on this photo can you see the room where you slept?
- 6 A. [12:20:14] The place -- I can't see the place where we spent the night.
- 7 Q. [12:20:22] So you can't see that room here? You can't see the room where you
- 8 slept on this photograph?
- 9 Okay, that's clear. Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 10 We move on to another photo, if you agree.
- 11 This is CAR-OTP-2033-6847, which is at tab 32. And this photograph may be
- 12 displayed in public.
- 13 Do you see the photo, Witness?
- 14 A. [12:21:19] Yes, I can see it well.
- 15 Q. [12:21:25] Thank you. Now, perhaps this photograph refreshes your memory.
- 16 Do you see the place where you would spend the night on this photo?
- 17 A. [12:21:57] The door opposite the mango tree, not towards the vehicle but
- 18 towards the car -- the wall. So the door opposite the mango tree, by the wall. Oh,
- 19 no, no, that's not right.
- 20 Q. [12:22:20] It's very good. You've had a good look and you're now saying that
- 21 in fact you do not see the room where you slept on this photo; is that correct?
- 22 A. [12:22:31] Yes, that's right.
- 23 Q. [12:22:37] Very well. Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 24 I'm now going to show you a last photograph on this topic.
- 25 And this is CAR-OTP-2033-6864, which is tab 3.

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- 1 Oh, I'm told actually it's not tab 3. It's actually at tab 33. My mistake.
- 2 And this photograph may be displayed in public.
- 3 Now, on this final photograph of the outside of the OCRB, does this photo refresh
- 4 your memory and do you see the room where you spent the night with the Muslim
- 5 man?
- 6 A. [12:23:47] No, I don't. I can't recognise the room where I spent the night.
- 7 Q. [12:23:53] No problem, Witness. It's -- you can answer as you please.
- 8 Now, we have been looking at the outside of the OCRB and that was the last photo of
- 9 the outside of the OCRB. Now I'm going to show you some photographs of inside
- 10 the OCRB.
- So we're going to show you three photographs per room, one after another, so I'm
- 12 going to give the reference numbers to the court officer and then we're going to show
- 13 you the three photographs. You have a good look at them and then you can tell us
- 14 whether you recognise the room or not. And I'm -- we'll then put some follow-up
- 15 questions.
- 16 The first photo is at CAR-OTP-2033-7161, that's tab 34. And that can be displayed to
- 17 the public and it shall be followed by the next photograph. And I'll take each
- 18 photograph one by one. I think that would be easier for everybody.
- 19 So, Witness, do you see this photo, this first photo?
- 20 Just tell us if you can see the photograph and then I will give you some time to have a
- 21 look this photograph before I announce the next photograph, okay?
- 22 A. [12:25:33] Yes, I can see it.
- 23 Q. [12:25:42] Great. Now I'm going to show you another photograph of the same
- 24 room.
- 25 CAR-OTP-2033-7170, that's tab 35. This photograph may also be displayed in public.

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- 1 Do you see this photo?
- 2 A. [12:26:05] Yes, I can see it.
- 3 Q. [12:26:12] Very good. And now I shall show you a last photo.
- 4 It's CAR-OTP-2033-7175, which is tab 10.
- 5 So that's the last photograph of that room. Can you see it, Madam Witness?
- 6 A. [12:26:48] Yes, I can see it fine.
- 7 Q. [12:26:51] Good. Now, is this the room where you spent your days or the room
- 8 where you spent the night? Is it one of those two or is it neither of those two?
- 9 A. [12:27:17] We spent the night in a room. It was one of the offices in
- 10 the building. It's not this.
- 11 Q. [12:27:27] Okay. We note that this is -- this is not the room you slept in. Was
- it or was it not the room in which you spent your days, just for the record?
- 13 A. [12:27:47] During the day, we didn't go outside the building. We stayed where
- 14 I told you where that window is, the window that looked out. When we were taken
- 15 back to -- taken out to eat, that's when we were taken out of the building to have our
- 16 meal.
- 17 Q. [12:28:08] That's very clear. That's -- that's why we're showing
- 18 the photographs, to see if you recognise any of the rooms. We looked at the exterior
- and now we're looking at the interior.
- We're now going to look at another -- a different room. I'm going to show you three
- 21 photos of them.
- 22 The first one is CAR-OTP -- sorry, CAR-OTP-2033-7201. And this photo may be
- 23 shown in public.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:28:44] Which tab please, Ms Naouri?
- 25 * MS NAOURI: [12:28:51] Tab 36. 36, sorry if that wasn't clear.

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- 1 Q. [12:28:59](Interpretation) Madam Witness, can you see the photograph -- oh,
- 2 probably not yet. I see it's not yet on the screen. I think I went too fast there.
- 3 A. [12:29:11] Yes, I can see it.
- 4 Q. [12:29:13] Very good. I'm now going to show you another photo.
- 5 This is CAR-OTP-2033-7194. And this is at tab 37 and it may be shown in public.
- 6 That was 2033-7194.
- 7 Can you see the photo?
- 8 A. [12:29:37] Yes, I see it.
- 9 Q. [12:29:40] Okay, good. I will leave you a bit of time so you can look at it and I
- 10 will announce the next.
- * CAR-OTP-2033-7205, tab 11. This can be shown to the public.
- 12 So, Madam Witness, now that you've looked at the photo, is this the room where you
- spent the day, the night, or none of the above?
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:30:51] Ms Naouri, are you talking about tabs 36
- and 37 or did you refer to another tab, an additional tab?
- 16 MS NAOURI: [12:31:08](Interpretation) Indeed, to speak of this I spoke of 36, 37 and
- tab 11 as well. So there are three. These are different angles of the same room.
- 18 Your Honour, I had not realised, but since 25 -- since 12.25 we have had no French
- 19 transcript. It was not working. So I'm in your hands. I can perhaps continue, but
- 20 that's a bit risky, because if we do not have all the ERNs in the French transcript we'll
- 21 have to complete this. But I remain in your hands, of course.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:32:18] Just a moment, let me hear what
- 23 the court officer has to say.
- 24 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:32:51] Madam President, your Honours, the Registry is
- 25 currently working on the issue. The text has been caught by the court reporters

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- anyway, so there is no gap, there will be no gap. However, at the moment, indeed, it
- 2 is not displaying on the screen, so it's going to take maybe several minutes. I'm still
- 3 waiting for feedback. So I am in the Chamber's hands to decide whether you would
- 4 like to adjourn briefly, or if we can continue. Thank you.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:33:15] Ms Naouri, will there be any problem if we
- 6 carry on with the English version, for now, or do you want us to take a short
- 7 adjournment and maybe come back?
- 8 MS NAOURI: [12:33:31](Interpretation) Your Honour, if it's a matter of a few
- 9 minutes, I can continue, because we can perhaps make up for that. We can work on
- the transcripts for a few minutes and then we'll see where we're at. That would
- 11 perhaps be the best way to go about it.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:33:49] I think so, yes.
- 13 Is five minutes, good? Five, seven minutes, maybe.
- 14 All right, so let's go on, thank you.
- 15 MS NAOURI: [12:33:59](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 16 Q. [12:34:01] So, Madam Witness, I'll come back to the three photos about this room.
- 17 Does this refresh your memory?
- 18 Is either the room -- Madam Witness, as you were closing your eyes, I was afraid that
- 19 perhaps you had lost concentration with all the technical issues. Is this the room
- 20 where you slept, is it the room where you spent the day, or neither of the two?
- 21 A. [12:34:41] I said earlier that this room leading to the outside is where we would
- 22 spend our days. That's not where we slept. We slept in the living room.
- 23 Q. [12:34:57] Yes, Madam Witness. We're using photos to see if you recognise
- 24 the room. It will help us to know whether you recognise it. If you do not, then just
- 25 tell us that you do not. There is no problem. So if I understand from your answer,

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- and you stop me if I'm wrong, this room which we have just seen, these three photos
- 2 don't ring a bell; is that correct?
- 3 A. [12:35:33] Here, where I would spend the night, I cannot identify it.
- 4 Q. [12:35:42] Okay. No problem, Madam Witness. We will go on to another
- 5 room and we will see if this refreshes your memory at all.
- 6 And for this room there's only one photo and that's CAR-OTP-2033-7215. And this is
- 7 tab 12 and this is something that can be shown publicly.
- 8 Can you see the photograph, Madam Witness?
- 9 A. [12:36:23] Yes, I see it.
- 10 Q. [12:36:27] Very well. Then, does it ring a bell? Do you recognise something in
- 11 this photo, or not?
- 12 A. [12:36:42] No, I do not know anything in this room.
- 13 Q. [12:36:46] No problem. Thank you very much, Madam Witness.
- 14 We'll go on to another room and there will be three photos of it.
- 15 The first is CAR-OTP-2033-7270. I made a mistake. It's 7270 and it is tab 38. This
- is the first photo that can be shown publicly.
- 17 So this is the first photo. Can you see it, Witness? Can you see it?
- 18 A. [12:37:37] Yes, I see it.
- 19 Q. [12:37:45] CAR-OTP-2033-7287, that is tab 39, which can be shown publicly.
- 20 Madam Witness --
- 21 A. [12:38:10] Yes, I see the photo.
- 22 Q. [12:38:13] Very well.
- The last photo is CAR-OTP-2033-7274.
- 24 This is tab 40. And it can be shown publicly.
- 25 Can you see the photograph, Witness?

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- 1 A. [12:38:46] Yes, I see it.
- 2 Q. [12:38:48] So the room that we have just seen on these three different photos, it's
- 3 the same room, does this refresh your memory? Is this the room where you slept or
- 4 where you spent your days, or simply it does not ring a bell at all?
- 5 A. [12:39:18] I do not know anything about this place. I had said the place where I
- 6 spent the night, I cannot seem to identify it.
- 7 Q. [12:39:28] I understand, Madam Witness, but perhaps one of the exhibits will
- 8 refresh your memory. So we are showing you what we have as the inside of
- 9 the OCRB. As you can see, there are many exhibits. Perhaps when we see it -- one
- of them, it will refresh your memory. It is important for us to ask this question. So
- I will go on to the next exhibit and if you do not recall, simply say "I do not recall", no
- 12 problem. You just have to say it.
- 13 So the next exhibit is two photos, CAR-OTP-2033, and that is at tab 41, which is 7295.
- 14 And it can be shown in public.
- 15 Do you see the photograph, Witness?
- 16 A. [12:40:36] Yes, I see the photo.
- 17 Q. [12:40:39] We will show you the next photo.
- 18 * CAR-OTP-20- -- it's tab 42, CAR-OTP-2033-7298.
- 19 So do you see this photo?
- 20 A. [12:41:08] Yes, I see the photo.
- 21 Q. [12:41:11] So you have seen the two photos. Does this room ring a bell, or not
- 22 at all?
- 23 A. [12:41:25] I remember that when I arrived I was in the living room and this room
- is where we would spend the night.
- 25 Q. [12:41:35] Okay. So the room we see is the one where you would spend

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- 1 the night; is that right?
- 2 A. [12:41:46] Yes, that's it. The night where we would spend our nights beside
- 3 the boss who was *kotazo*.
- 4 Q. [12:42:02] Okay, so I will -- we had been interested in these two rooms, so we
- 5 don't have to look at other exhibits.
- 6 Thank you, Witness. We can then withdraw this last photo and we no longer need
- 7 to look at the photos.
- 8 Now we are going to go on to another topic, Witness, which is your meeting with
- 9 the representatives of the Office of the Prosecutor, okay.
- 10 Oh, sorry, my mistake, I forgot, I forgot one topic. And we will have to go into
- 11 closed session.
- 12 Your Honour, could we go into closed session, due to a risk of identification.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:42:58] Madam Court Officer, could we please go
- 14 into closed session for a moment.
- 15 (Private session at 12.43 p.m.)
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:43:09] We are in private session, Madam President.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:43:14] Thank you very much.
- 18 Ms Naouri, continue your questioning, please.
- 19 MS NAOURI: [12:43:21](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 20 Q. [12:43:23] Witness, you had said earlier that you had talked about this on
- 21 page 90 of your statement you went to see the general prosecutor of the Republic
- 22 during your detention at the OCRB. Could you tell us who was present in the room
- 23 with you and the prosecutor general of the Republic on that day?
- 24 A. [12:43:58] We were taken. There were men among us. We were brought into
- 25 the office. I was taken into a vehicle and we went to the office of the prosecutor.

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- 1 Q. [12:44:19] Very well. In the office of the prosecutor, who was there with you
- 2 when you were there?
- 3 A. [12:44:29] When I entered the office of the prosecutor, we only met with
- 4 the prosecutor, we did not see anyone else. He was alone in his office.
- 5 Q. [12:44:43] So you were alone with the prosecutor; is that clear -- is that what
- 6 I understand? Am I correct in my understanding?
- 7 A. [12:44:54] No, I was not alone. There were other men with me. There were
- 8 prisoners who were with me there. There were three men, plus me, that means four
- 9 people.
- 10 Q. [12:45:09] Okay. So there were four people plus the prosecutor and no one else;
- 11 is that it?
- 12 A. [12:45:31] There was only us, the detainees, and the person who had
- accompanied us to the prosecutor's office.
- 14 Q. [12:45:42] Okay. And who had accompanied you?
- 15 A. [12:45:55] It was the person who was there who accompanied us.
- 16 Q. [12:46:08] Witness, I think I know who it is you're talking about, but you have to
- be specific and tell us here who you are referring to.
- 18 A. [12:46:25] The person who accompanied us to the office of the prosecutor was
- 19 indeed Mahamat Said.
- 20 Q. [12:46:36] Okay, thank you. And if I understood correctly, you are all in
- 21 the same room at the same time and the prosecutor of the Republic is questioning
- 22 everyone in the presence of everyone there in the room; is that it?
- A. [12:47:00] When we arrived, all four of us, he asked questions of each of us
- 24 individually.
- 25 Q. [12:47:10] Okay. Do you recall why the other people were there? What did

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- 1 the other -- these three other men, what did they say to the prosecutor on that day?
- 2 A. [12:47:33] These men answered the prosecutor's questions with regard to their
- 3 arrest. I was not paying attention to what they were saying. I limited myself to
- 4 answering the questions about my arrest.
- 5 Q. [12:47:59] Okay. How long did this meeting with everyone there present last?
- 6 A. [12:48:16] I could not time everything that was happening. I was answering
- 7 the questions. I did not have the time to see how long all these events lasted.
- 8 Q. [12:48:36] But perhaps you could give us an estimate, 10 minutes, 20 minutes,
- 9 half an hour? Just an estimate.
- 10 A. [12:48:53] When we arrived we were four. The prosecutor began with me. He
- 11 was asking me questions and I answered them. Then he asked other people
- 12 questions and then I asked questions, and he answered, and he asked that I be
- 13 released.
- 14 Q. [12:49:21] Okay, Madam Witness. So now we will go on to another topic.
- 15 That is your release.
- 16 You say in your written witness statement, paragraph 95: (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 Q. [12:51:05] Okay, so when you arrived at the hospital, what then happened?

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- 1 Describe what happened to you. Did a medical doctor come to see you? How were
- 2 you greeted at the hospital and what care were you given?
- 3 A. [12:51:27] Once I -- we had arrived at the hospital, I continued to shiver. I was
- 4 suffering from malaria, I was consulted by a doctor. I got some injections. Then
- 5 I was transferred to a room.
- 6 Q. [12:51:48] Okay. Was your family informed of your hospitalisation?
- 7 A. [12:52:03] I did not understand the question clearly.
- 8 Q. [12:52:07] I will repeat the question.
- 9 So you arrived at the hospital, you were admitted to hospital, you were put into
- 10 a room. Your -- well, who informed your family of your hospitalisation?
- 11 A. [12:52:29] * When my mother came to visit me, she spent the whole day,
- 12 returning home at 5pm. So when I was sick, my family was by my side.
- 13 Q. [12:52:44] Okay. How did they know that you were sick and no longer at the
- 14 OCRB? How did they know and who told them?
- 15 A. [12:53:00] I had asked for a phone so that I could call my mother so that she
- 16 could bring me some pharmaceutical products, because it was on that day I asked for
- a phone to inform my mother of my situation.
- 18 Q. [12:53:20] Okay. And who gave you the telephone, Madam Witness?
- 19 A. [12:53:32] Some military service people.
- 20 Q. [12:53:41] Okay. And you remained alone in your hospital room?
- 21 A. [12:53:53] I was not alone. There were two other people who had been
- 22 hospitalised long before my arrival there.
- 23 Q. [12:54:05] Okay. How long did you remain in that hospital room with the two
- 24 other people who had already been hospitalised?
- 25 A. [12:54:21] I spent five days hospitalised.

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- 1 Q. [12:54:29] Okay. So for these five days of hospitalisation, you always spent
- 2 those five days hospitalised with those two same people in that room; is that right?
- 3 A. [12:54:46] When I arrived, one had already left. There were only two people
- 4 left in the room.
- 5 Q. [12:54:56] So what care were you given, what treatment were you given?
- 6 A. [12:55:12] I was given injections. Then I was put on IV and some medication to
- 7 treat my asthma.
- 8 Q. [12:55:26] Okay. Do you remember the name of the medication that you
- 9 received, Witness?
- 10 A. [12:55:39] I had no prescription. The doctor asked and the care was
- administered to me. I did not have an opportunity to read any prescriptions.
- 12 Q. [12:55:54] Okay. You spoke of your asthma. But were you treated
- 13 for malaria?
- 14 A. [12:56:14] Well, when I talked about malaria and asthma and the fact that I was
- sleeping on the floor, the cold, the cold triggered the malaria and the asthma. It's
- 16 because I was on some thin cover sleeping on the floor.
- 17 Q. [12:56:35] Okay. * Once you were discharged from the hospital after five days
- of hospitalisation, were you given a medical file, Madam Witness?
- 19 A. [12:56:58] Yes. All the documents were transferred to the person who was
- 20 there.
- 21 Q. [12:57:06] Okay. So you had a copy of your medical file?
- 22 A. [12:57:21] I repeat that I did not receive any documents. I -- the prescriptions,
- 23 the results were given -- they are given to the person who is with you, that is not to
- 24 my mother or any members of my family, it was the person who was with you there

at the time.

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- 1 Q. [12:57:44] * Very well, thank you Madam Witness.
- 2 Just to conclude, in your form as a participating victim and that's
- 3 CAR-OTP-2135-3895, tab 16 in our list of evidence at page 3904, you say, "I have no
- 4 copy of my medical file, which is with my mother."
- 5 So I'm trying to understand, does your mother have a copy of your medical file,
- 6 Witness?
- 7 Tab 16.
- 8 A. [12:58:35] I had said that my medical documents had been kept by my mother,
- 9 but my mother then gave all the documents to the person who was there with me.
- 10 So I did not remain in possession of these documents.
- 11 Q. [12:58:55] Okay. Thank you, Madam Witness.
- 12 Your Honour, I see the time. I have a totally different topic, so perhaps this is
- the time to stop, but I remain in your hands.
- 14 MS MAKWAIA: [12:59:10] Madam President.
- 15 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:59:11] Yes, Ms --
- 16 MS MAKWAIA: [12:59:13] Is it possible to get an indication of how long
- 17 the cross-examination might be so we are able to time our next witness to be
- 18 available?
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [12:59:21] Particularly so that we will not be meeting
- on Wednesday.
- 21 I think that's a fair question, Ms Naouri. How much more time would you want
- 22 with this witness, please?
- 23 MS NAOURI: [12:59:38](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 24 I estimate about a half hour, but I will say 45 minutes, to remain on the safe side. So
- 25 45 minutes. And I will, of course, try to keep it as brief as possible. I have two

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- 1 topics which I think I can deal with pretty quickly. There you go.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [13:00:03] Thank you very much, Ms Naouri.
- 3 So you heard that now, Madam Prosecutor.
- 4 Madam Witness, we are going to stop today's session at this point, but we'll meet
- 5 again tomorrow at 9.30. Now, all that we've said here, you should not discuss with
- 6 any other person. You still remain on oath till we meet again tomorrow at 9.30. Do
- 7 you understand that?
- 8 THE WITNESS: [13:00:42](Interpretation) Yes, I understand. I have always
- 9 remained silent and not communicated with anyone. I have understood and I will
- 10 not talk to anyone about this.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [13:00:56] Thank you very much.
- 12 Are we in open session, Madam Court Officer?
- Okay. So I will rise the Court and ask that we meet again tomorrow at 9.30 in
- 14 the morning.
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 THE COURT USHER: [13:01:10] All rise.
- 17 (The hearing ends in private session at 1.01 p.m.)