- 1 International Criminal Court
- 2 Pre-Trial Chamber I
- 3 Situation: Republic of Mali
- 4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag
- 5 Mahmoud ICC-01/12-01/18
- 6 Presiding Judge Péter Kovács, Judge Marc Perrin de Brichambaut and
- 7 Judge Reine Adélaïde Sophie Alapini-Gansou
- 8 Confirmation of Charges Hearing Courtroom 1
- 9 Tuesday, 9 July 2019
- 10 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.31 a.m.)
- 11 THE COURT USHER: [9:32:01] All rise.
- 12 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
- 13 Please be seated.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:32:23] (Interpretation) Good morning. Welcome.
- 15 Court officer, could you please call the case.
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:32:37] (Interpretation) Good morning, Mr President,
- 17 your Honours.
- 18 The situation in Mali, The Prosecutor versus Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag
- 19 Mohamed Ag Mahmoud, ICC-01/12-01/18.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:32:58] (Interpretation) Thank you.
- 21 According to our schedule we will now continue hearing submissions from the
- 22 Prosecution.
- 23 But first of all, I would like to ask whether there are any
- 24 changes to the teams. Any changes?
- 25 MR DUTERTRE: [9:33:19] (Interpretation) Good morning, your Honours. Indeed

- ICC-01/12-01/18
- 1 there have been a few team changes. Today with me is our case manager,
- 2 Sanja Bokulic; to my left, another speaker, Hesham Mourad; Matt Cross;
- 3 Sarah Coquillaud; and Marie-Jeanne Sardachti.
- 4 Now we will be turning our attention to the role of Mr Al Hassan and we will speak
- 5 to telephone information before we move on to the irregularly constituted tribunal.
- PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:34:04](Interpretation) Thank you. 6
- 7 Now, Defence, any changes to your team?
- 8 MS TAYLOR: [9:34:11] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours.
- 9 Our team remains the same, except for the fact that Ms Dolly Chahla and
- 10 Ms Marie-Noëlle Delisle are not in the courtroom today.
- 11 Thank you very much.
- PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:34:25] (Interpretation) Thank you very much. 12
- 13 Legal Representatives of Victims.
- 14 MR DOUMBIA: [9:34:34] (Interpretation) No change within our team.
- 15 THE INTERPRETER: [9:34:37] Could parties and participants please observe the
- 16 five-second rule. Many thanks.
- 17 MR DUTERTRE: [9:34:42] (Interpretation) Before we begin, I would like to put
- 18 a question to the Defence for clarification, and this is subsequent to the observations
- 19 made by the Defence yesterday concerning Judge Alapini. Does the Defence intend
- 20 to raise the issue with the plenary of Judges? Thank you.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:35:06](Interpretation) Thank you very much.
- 22 Would the Defence care to respond to the question just put by the Prosecutor?
- 23 MS TAYLOR: [9:35:16] Thank you very much, Mr President.
- 24 We are not quite aware of the proprietary of having this *inter partes* disclosure
- 25 happening in the courtroom. I think we have made our position clear for the record

- 1 and we will act accordingly. Thank you.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:35:33] (Interpretation) Thank you very much.
- 3 Duly noted.
- 4 We will now allow the Prosecutor to address the Court.
- 5 MR MUNEESAMY: [9:35:43] Your Honour, at the outset of my presentation, I
- 6 would like to inform the Court that all the broadcasting should be in public unless I
- 7 indicate otherwise, unless of course we move into private session, your Honours.
- 8 May I proceed, your Honours?
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:35:59] (Interpretation) Very well.
- 10 MR MUNEESAMY: [9:36:02] Mr President, your Honours, in Timbuktu, Al Hassan
- 11 was not just a member of the armed groups, he was also a member of the Islamic
- 12 police, and within this police, Al Hassan was the commissaire. As commissaire,
- 13 Al Hassan was involved in every aspect of the work of the police.
- 14 Your Honours, the Document Containing the Charges covers all aspects of
- 15 Al Hassan's role in detail. For this presentation we will only focus on some of the
- 16 key aspects of his role.
- 17 Your Honours, we will look at how Al Hassan made sure that the new rules of the
- 18 armed groups were imposed on the population of Timbuktu. He was involved in
- 19 patrols, he took part in arrests, he investigated into the breaches of the new rules, he
- 20 was also involved in tortures, he referred cases to the Islamic tribunal, and he
- 21 punished those who breached the new rules of the armed groups.
- We will also look at how Al Hassan dealt with the population directly, noting the
- 23 complaints and mediating over disputes. We will look at how Al Hassan issued
- 24 permits and carried out various administrative tasks. And finally, your Honours, we
- 25 will look at how Al Hassan was the one to speak to the media on behalf of the Islamic

- 1 police.
- 2 Your Honours, in Timbuktu between 2012 and 2013, when the armed groups were in
- 3 control, the men of the Islamic police were everywhere. It would be hard not to see
- 4 them. They carried weapons, they wore distinctive outfits, they wore blue vests
- 5 with Islamic police written on them. They patrolled the streets on foot or in vehicles.
- 6 They watched everyone. They were alert, ready to take action against anyone
- 7 caught breaching the newly imposed rules of the armed groups.
- 8 Al Hassan placed these men there. As commissaire, he organised the daily work of
- 9 the Islamic police. He told police officers what tasks to carry out, when to carry out
- 10 the task, and where to carry out the task.
- 11 He designated police officers, told them when to patrol and where to patrol. At
- 12 times, your Honours, Al Hassan himself decided what task to allocate. At other
- 13 times he relayed the orders he obtained from his hierarchy to the members of the
- police, in other words, from the top of the ladder to the bottom. He also relayed
- 15 requests from the bottom of the ladder to the top. In other words, from members of
- 16 the police to the top of the hierarchy.
- 17 Members of the police were given food, money, or clothes. If a member of the police
- 18 needed anything, he went to Al Hassan. Al Hassan then conveyed the request to the
- 19 director of the police.
- 20 When it came to patrols, your Honours, Al Hassan made sure that they knew how to
- 21 react when they detected a breach of the new rules. In these instances, police officers
- 22 had to know how to interact with the population. Al Hassan made sure of that.
- 23 According to P-150, your Honours, Al Hassan could also discipline and reprimand
- 24 police officers. This is referred to at paragraph 284 of the Document Containing the

25 Charges, your Honours.

- 1 Police officers on patrols were provided with walkie-talkies. According to P-582 at
- 2 paragraph 19 of his evidence, if the patrols encountered any problems, they could
- 3 contact Al Hassan on his walkie-talkie.
- 4 I would like to show your Honours a picture. You can see on your screens,
- 5 your Honours, Al Hassan behind his desk at the police station. The screenshot,
- 6 your Honours, is referred to at paragraph 154 of the DCC. We will come back to this
- 7 picture later on in the presentation, but for now, I want to show your Honours the
- 8 walkie-talkie on the desk of Al Hassan.
- 9 He could easily be contacted through the walkie-talkie in case the patrols encountered
- 10 problems. All this, your Honours, was key to the proper functioning of the Islamic
- 11 police.
- 12 In Timbuktu, those caught breaching the rules of the armed groups were arrested,
- detained, subjected to an investigation, referred to the tribunal and then punished.
- 14 Al Hassan took part in these arrests and detentions. For instance, he arrested
- 15 Dédéou Maiga who had allegedly committed a theft. Dédéou Maiga was arrested
- and taken to the Islamic police where he was detained.
- 17 Al Hassan carried out investigations. He investigated breaches of the new rules of
- the armed groups; he investigated cases involving the sale or consumption of alcohol,
- 19 the sale or consumption of cigarettes, the use of amulets or the practice of magic; he
- 20 investigated cases of adultery; and he investigated cases of theft.
- 21 During these investigations, Al Hassan also interrogated the suspects. Let me now
- 22 show your Honours a report. This is a report dated 23 May 2012. It's a report of the
- 23 Islamic police. Your Honours will find this report at paragraph 292 of the DCC.
- 24 This report, your Honours, concerns a case of theft. It contains the testimony of the
- 25 suspect in that case. It is drafted and signed by Al Hassan.

- 1 Your Honours, we know that it is Al Hassan's signature because he admitted that he
- 2 wrote and signed this report. Additionally, a handwriting expert also confirmed
- 3 that the signature was that of Al Hassan.
- 4 Your Honours, Al Hassan signed the report as an investigator. Your Honours can
- 5 see that this is the title he used in the report that he signed.
- 6 Upon completing an investigation, your Honours, Al Hassan prepared the report and
- 7 referred the case to the tribunal. Your Honours, the Prosecution has collected
- 8 numerous such reports. They are all listed at paragraph 300 of the DCC. It is
- 9 interesting to note that all of the signed reports that the Prosecution recovered bore
- 10 the signature of Al Hassan. All of them.
- 11 During the investigations carried out by Al Hassan torture was used. If a suspect
- did not confess, he would be threatened. If he still did not confess, he would then be
- 13 tortured. In Timbuktu this was Al Hassan's method of conducting investigations.
- 14 Let's look at another report. This is the inquiry report against a man who allegedly
- sold and consumed alcohol and was in company of a woman who was not his wife
- and not his sister. These were crimes under the new rules of the armed groups.
- 17 The report can be found at paragraph 307 of the DCC, your Honours.
- 18 Al Hassan signed this inquiry report. In it, Al Hassan wrote that the suspect was
- 19 interrogated and tortured, but to no avail.
- 20 Your Honours, we will look at the precise acts of torture when my colleague,
- 21 Mr Raymond Sandoval will take the floor. But for now let me move on.
- 22 As I mentioned earlier, your Honours, once Al Hassan completed an investigation, he
- 23 referred the case to the Islamic tribunal. It is important to highlight that when
- 24 referring cases to the tribunal, Al Hassan also made recommendations. In a report,
- 25 he urged members of the court to be harsher because the suspect took money from

- 1 a lot of people.
- 2 Al Hassan was also involved in the punishment of those who disobeyed the new
- 3 rules of the armed groups. As a member of the police, Al Hassan could apply
- 4 discretionary punishments. He could flog or imprison people for what the armed
- 5 groups considered to be minor crimes, such as consuming alcoholic beverages or
- 6 smoking. Al Hassan would be present when these discretionary punishments
- 7 would be applied.
- 8 More serious crime, such as adultery or theft, were referred to the tribunal.
- 9 Al Hassan was present and executed the punishments imposed by the tribunal.
- 10 Your Honours, may we now move into private session for approximately two
- 11 minutes.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:46:33] (Interpretation) Private session, please.
- 13 (Private session at 9.46 a.m.)
- 14 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:46:43] (Interpretation) We are now in private session,
- 15 your Honour.
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Open session at 9.48 a.m.)
- 8 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:48:28] (Interpretation) We are now in open session.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:48:35] (Interpretation) Please continue.
- 10 MR MUNEESAMY: [9:48:37] As your Honours saw, Al Hassan was involved in the
- 11 imposition of the new rules of the armed groups, be it in the arrests, detentions,
- 12 investigations, tortures, referrals to the tribunal, or the punishments.
- 13 In Timbuktu women were sexually violated by members of the armed groups.
- 14 During the presentation of my colleague, Mrs Nelly Corbin, your Honours will hear
- 15 the extent of the sexual and gender-based crimes committed on the women of
- 16 Timbuktu, but for now allow me to mention the following:
- 17 Sexual and gender-based crimes were committed through a system of forced
- 18 marriages. Al Hassan acted as an intermediary in these so-called marriages.
- 19 Members of the Islamic police who wished to marry went to him. He then requested
- 20 money to facilitate the forced marriages.
- 21 My colleagues will tell you more about these crimes in her presentation to
- 22 your Honours.
- 23 Mr President, your Honours, Al Hassan was also involved in other aspects of the
- 24 work of the Islamic police and that, throughout the period of control of Timbuktu by
- 25 the armed groups, which began in April 2012 and ended in January 2013.

- 1 In Timbuktu, if you had to deal with the police, Al Hassan was the first person you
- 2 would call.
- 3 Let us look at a photograph. This picture is referred to at paragraph 155 of the DCC,
- 4 your Honours. It shows the facade of the police station. Your Honours can see the
- 5 big sign on the photograph. The big sign reads "Police Islamique".
- 6 Under these words your Honours will see phone numbers. The first one, 792 62 392,
- 7 is the number of Al Hassan.
- 8 My colleague, Ms Sarah Coquillaud, will take the floor just after me, will tell you
- 9 more about this phone number and the significance of the call data records,
- 10 your Honours.
- 11 From his seat at the police station, Al Hassan interacted directly with the population.
- 12 From the police station, Al Hassan dealt with all sorts of complaints. As he himself
- 13 puts it, and I quote:
- 14 "There were crowds of inhabitants in front of the police station every day. There
- were debt-related issues, social issues and so forth, and all sorts of issues every day."
- 16 End quote.
- 17 This quote can be found at MLI-OTP-0067-1896, at page 1899, at lines 60 to 61.
- 18 Let me now show your Honours an example of a complaint.
- 19 The complaint was captured in a report dated 16 July 2012. The report is referred to
- 20 at paragraph 288 of the DCC, your Honours. The complaint concerns a man who
- 21 wants his wife to return to him. The report was drafted and signed by Al Hassan.
- 22 You can see his signature at the bottom of the report.
- 23 Your Honours, Al Hassan also mediated over disputes.
- We saw the screenshot earlier, your Honours, let me now explain the context.
- 25 Al Hassan is in his office at the Islamic police station. As your Honours can see in

- 1 the screenshot, there are two other persons in the office. Your Honours can also see
- 2 two machine guns visible on the table between these two persons.
- 3 One of these persons made a complaint against the other for not paying for the
- 4 weapons he sold. Your Honours, this is an example of Al Hassan mediating over
- 5 a case.
- 6 Al Hassan could even conduct enquiries in case of a problem between a police officer
- 7 and a member of the population. He could even conduct enquiries when there are
- 8 complaints against persons at the top of the hierarchy of the armed groups. For
- 9 instance, he looked into a complaint against Adama, the director of the Islamic police.
- 10 Adama had allowed the police to enter the house of a man at midnight without the
- 11 man's permission.
- 12 In the discharge of his duties, Al Hassan could also summon people.
- On your screen, your Honours, you can now see a summons issued by Al Hassan.
- 14 This photograph is referred to at paragraph 298 of the DCC, your Honours.
- 15 In Timbuktu, under the control of Ansar Dine and AQIM, if a person wanted to dig
- a well, he had to ask permission. Al Hassan had the authority to give permission.
- 17 Your Honours can now see on your screens an example of a permit. On your screen
- is a permit allowing someone to dig a well. It is dated 17 June 2012. This permit is
- 19 referred to at paragraph 152 of the DCC.
- 20 Your Honours can see the signature of Al Hassan at the bottom of the permit.
- 21 Your Honours can also see that Al Hassan signed as the emir of the Islamic police.
- Now before proceeding further, your Honour, may I request that the next photograph
- 23 not be broadcasted to the public. I would like to show the next evidence on the
- 24 courtroom screens only.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:55:31] (Interpretation) Courtroom officer, if you

- 1 could, please.
- 2 MR MUNEESAMY: [9:55:43] Yes. Your Honours, you can now see a different kind
- 3 of permit on your screens. This permit is for allowing someone to carry out
- 4 a different kind of activity in Timbuktu. Al Hassan signed this permit.
- 5 Let me move on.
- 6 Al Hassan also dealt in administrative matters. He compiled information on
- 7 localities, processed applications from people who wanted to join the armed groups,
- 8 and kept copies of the decisions of the tribunal. Al Hassan also kept a register of the
- 9 membership of the Islamic police.
- 10 Your Honours, Al Hassan was inextricably linked to the Islamic police and the
- imposition of the new rules of the armed groups. Because of this, journalists wanted
- 12 to talk to him. Witness P-623, your Honours, was one of these journalist. At
- paragraph 32 of her statement she said, and I quote:
- 14 "I was interested in Al Hassan, because lots of people who fled to Bamako spoke
- about Al Hassan and the Islamic police arresting people, and forcing women to cover
- 16 up, more than they spoke about Sanda and the ruling of the armed groups. This was
- 17 probably around August or September 2012 that I understood that he was the one
- 18 executing such punishments." End quote.
- 19 Your Honours, before proceeding further may we move into private session for
- another two minutes.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:57:27] (Interpretation) Courtroom officer, if we
- 22 could go into private session, please.
- 23 (Private session at 9.57 a.m.)
- 24 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:57:38] (Interpretation) We are in private session,
- 25 your Honour.

- 1 (Redacted)2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Open session at 9.59 a.m.)
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:59:52] (Interpretation) We are in open session,
- 24 your Honour.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [9:59:59] (Interpretation) Thank you.

- 1 MR MUNEESAMY: [10:00:01] Your Honours, Al Hassan was involved in every
- 2 aspect of the work of the police. He was involved in the patrols, the arrests, the
- 3 investigations, the torture, the referrals to the tribunals and the punishments. He
- 4 issued permits and dealt with the administration of the police.
- 5 He was the person to go to when it came to the police. Mr President, your Honours,
- 6 I will conclude by quoting witness P-582, a member of the Islamic police. At
- 7 paragraph 20 of his evidence he says, and I will quote in French, your Honours:
- 8 (Interpretation)
- 9 "The police there, the person in charge is the commissioner, everything that is done
- within the police, the commissioner is the one responsible." End of quote.
- 11 (Speaks English) Your Honour, this brings my presentation to the end. I will now
- 12 give the floor to my colleague, Ms Coquillaud.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [10:01:10] (Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 14 Mr Prosecutor, and I now give the floor to Madam.
- 15 MR DUTERTRE: [10:01:20] (Interpretation) Mr President, just one moment for us to
- 16 make the arrangements for the next speaker. Thank you.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [10:02:09] Madam, you have the floor.
- 18 MS COQUILLAUD: [10:02:13] (Interpretation) Thank you. Mr President,
- 19 your Honours, my presentation will focus on the call data records.
- 20 The Prosecutor obtained call data records thanks to co-operation from the
- 21 government of Mali and Orange Mali.
- 22 This data touches the call data available at the time in Timbuktu on the various
- 23 telephone lines, as well as in regard to the various subscribers of telephones in
- 24 Timbuktu. The data was reviewed and analysed by OTP and by a group of experts.
- 25 There were more than 2 million such records. From these records it was possible to

- 1 establish more than 700,000 records covering the relevant period under review.
- 2 There might be some limitations as to what can be obtained through call records,
- 3 given that antenna might malfunction or fail, as the case may be in any city across the
- 4 word.
- 5 Antennae generally cover a certain perimeter and do not make it possible to establish
- 6 to the very dot the position of an individual. However, it makes it possible to
- 7 determine the general area in which an individual may have been located.
- 8 Brutes data or gross data might make it possible to identify any measures of errors,
- 9 and such corrections can be done by computers.
- 10 I have raised these problems to point that they might not apply in the current case
- because the data we have received does demonstrate that although the antenna may
- 12 have failed from time to time, they did not fail during the period under review, that is,
- around or on the day on which the crimes were committed.
- 14 Then, when it comes to errors and other issues that might arise from the collection of
- data, the problem was reviewed by the expert group that reviewed the data and did
- 16 not identify such errors.
- 17 Why is data call analysis relevant? Well, it is because to begin with, generally
- speaking, the data makes it possible to establish the level of participation and
- 19 co-ordination between members of the common plan. Then it also makes it possible
- 20 to determine the movements of an individual such as Mr Al Hassan and his presence
- 21 at the crime scene as the case may be.
- 22 To be more specific, the evidence shows that members of Ansar Dine such as
- 23 Al Hassan usually used mobile telephones in their communications.
- 24 Evidence also points to the fact that torture was used as a coercive measure to obtain
- 25 information from suspects and was sometimes done over the phone. It is the suspect

- 1 himself who confirms this information.
- 2 Let me now proceed to the assignment or attribution of numbers which will enable us
- 3 to determine that such-and-such a number does belong to Mr Al Hassan. And I'm
- 4 going to focus on two numbers both starting with 223, which is the country code for
- 5 Mali. One ends with 7799 and the other with 2392. Both numbers were assigned to
- 6 Mr Al Hassan and they are telephone numbers from Mali.
- 7 Now let me address the first number ending in 7799. The key indicator here that this
- 8 number was assigned to Mr Al Hassan is himself, he himself said that for the
- 9 purposes of the relevant period under review, he was assigned this number.
- 10 I will not spend any more time in this presentation on this particular number because
- it was not much used. Only in April 2012 and for about a month in 2012, between
- 12 June and July.
- 13 Then I will focus on the second number which ends in 2392 and this number was
- 14 assigned to Mr Al Hassan.
- 15 How can we state with certainty that this number belonged to Mr Al Hassan? We
- rely on the number of pieces of evidence for this purpose. First, a handwritten note
- 17 found at BMS indicating that this number belonged to him. And this was identified
- 18 by Witness P-7 in 2013. You can see that on your screen, the original to the left and
- 19 the translation to the right. And you see clearly that it bears Mr Al Hassan's name as
- 20 being the owner of that number which I'm referring to, that is the number ending
- 21 in 2392.
- 22 Other evidence for that purpose arises from witness statements, particularly
- 23 Witness P-4 who stated that whenever he wanted to contact Mr Al Hassan, he would
- 24 use that number. Secondly, Mr Al Hassan himself agreed that the number belonged
- 25 to him when asked whether he had a telephone number at the time, and in his answer

- 1 he said yes and provided that very number.
- 2 Furthermore, the call data records themselves establish that the individual who used
- 3 that number on a daily basis called the following persons: Al Hassan's father,
- 4 Al Hassan's wife, and Al Hassan's brother who, by the way, was himself a member of
- 5 the same armed group in Timbuktu.
- 6 Furthermore, it's interesting to note that this number was the first number used by
- 7 anyone who wanted to contact the Islamic police, which was then found at the BMS
- 8 and Al Hassan was its *de facto* commissioner. So you see on the picture the facade of
- 9 the BMS and the flag of the police Islamic. And as you saw from my colleague's
- 10 presentation yesterday, members of the Islamic police were well armed and they all
- bore weapons such as Kalashnikovs and went about in pickups and on motorbikes
- 12 and some of their pickups had heavy weapons mounted on them.
- 13 Now returning to our telephone data, as my colleague said previously, you can see
- 14 right upfront, the first number being the number of Mr Al Hassan, and the next
- 15 number, the second number, is the number belonging to Adama, the first emir of the
- 16 Islamic police.
- 17 As I said before, call data records make it possible to establish contacts between the
- 18 members of the common plan. What do these data point to?
- 19 First, contact was extremely frequent. Al Hassan was in regular contact with
- 20 members of the common plan before, during and after the commission of the crimes.
- 21 The contacts were permanent and ongoing. Al Hassan was in contact with the
- 22 members throughout the entire relevant period and there is always some ongoing
- 23 activity.
- Now when it comes to the types of communications, more than 3,000 SMSs were
- exchanged between Al Hassan and others between 1 May 2012 and 15 January 2013.

- 1 And some 15,000 calls or more were either received or made by Mr Al Hassan during
- 2 the same period. As you can see on the graph before you it is eligible, so to speak,
- 3 but what you are looking at is a condensation of some 15,000 calls or so made by or
- 4 received by Mr Al Hassan.
- 5 What matters, it must be said, is that these contacts were frequent, intense, and that
- 6 there was no lull or no time of inactivity in those contacts. The question then is, who
- 7 was Mr Al Hassan was talking with? These are his main interlocutors as you can see
- 8 on this graph, and I will introduce you to them clockwise.
- 9 Right at the top the Houka Houka, the judge of the Islamic tribunal. Then to his left,
- 10 your right, is Youssef, a member who was involved in the destruction of the sites.
- 11 Sanda Ould Boumama, spokesperson of Ansar Dine and close collaborator of
- 12 Abou Zeid and Yahia Abou Al Hammam. Abdallah Al Chinguetti, he was
- 13 a preacher of the AQMI, member of the presidency and member of the Islamic
- 14 tribunal. Ahmed Al Faqi Al Mahdi, chief of the Hisbah from April to September
- 15 2012 and member of the Islamic tribunal. You can also see that Mr Al Mahdi
- appears twice on this photograph because he too had two phone numbers which he
- 17 used at the time.
- 18 Abou Thar, a combatant involved in providing security and destruction of various
- 19 sites under Mr Al Hassan's hierarchical command. Abou Tahla, member of AQMI in
- 20 charge of security and who took over from Abdallah Al Chinguetti at the head of
- 21 katiba Al-Furqan. Oumar Ould Hamaha, historic member of the AQMI. Adama,
- 22 first emir Islamic police. Mohamed Moussa, he took over from Al Mahdi as chief of
- 23 the Hisbah from September 2012 to January 2013 and member of the Islamic tribunal,
- 24 otherwise known as the hangman of the women. This is his nickname to the
- 25 population. Then there was Yahia Abou Al Hammam, a member of AQMI for the

- 1 Sahel. And then finally Abou Tahla, whom I mentioned a short while ago,
- 2 a member of AQMI, who, like Mr Al Hassan and Mr Al Mahdi, also had two
- 3 telephone numbers.
- 4 You can see on this slide the various communications with members of the armed
- 5 groups. Quite frequently Mr Al Hassan talked with the people listed most
- 6 frequently, Houka Houka, Islamic tribunal, Youssef, Sanda Ould Boumama,
- 7 Abdallah and others.
- 8 Now you can see the contacts between judges of the Islamic tribunal during the
- 9 relevant period under review. What matters here is that Houka Houka was in
- 10 contact with Iyad Ag Ghaly, the supreme leader of Ansar Dine; Ahmad Al Faqi
- Al Mahdi on both telephones of that individual more than 300 contacts;
- 12 Abdallah Al Chinguetti, who was part of the AQMI presidency; Mohamed Moussa of
- 13 Hisbah; and his most privileged contact in relation to other members of the common
- 14 plan was Mr Al Hassan. Houka Houka also was in contact with
- 15 Sanda Ould Boumama, the spokesperson of Ansar Dine.
- Now let me take another example, the call records of Mr Adama, first emir of the
- 17 Islamic police and his contacts with other members of the common plan.
- 18 Here you can see that he had frequent contacts with Sanda Ould Boumama, the
- 19 Ansar Dine spokesperson; contacts with Houka Houka, with Yahia Abou
- 20 Al Hamman of the AQMI presidency; and finally, the most significant contacts were
- 21 with Mr Al Hassan.
- 22 Here, I have surrounded or I have circled these contacts with Houka Houka and you
- 23 can see that what we want to highlight is that the most frequent contacts were indeed
- 24 between Houka Houka, the judge of the Islamic tribunal, and Mr Al Hassan,
- 25 commissioner, the *de facto* and effective commissioner of the Islamic police.

- 1 These contacts therefore were not in terms of co-ordination between organs, but
- 2 rather, contacts between two individuals, namely, Mr Houka Houka and
- 3 Mr Al Hassan.
- 4 Another example of such contacts was the contact between Mr Al Hassan and
- 5 Sanda Ould Boumama. What we want to focus on here is the dates on which these
- 6 contacts took place. There were more than 40 contacts before the first destructions
- 7 occurred, at which time the groups were still conducting intelligence in the area and
- 8 trying to convince the people not to go to the sites of the mausoleums. Ten times
- 9 after the flogging of 1 May 2012 and then also after the first wave of destructions on
- 10 9 June, as well as 16 of July 2012.
- 11 Why are we interested in these contacts? Because Sanda Ould Boumama played an
- 12 essential role during the occupation of Timbuktu. In addition to being Ansar Dine's
- 13 spokesperson, he was also one of the leaders of Ansar Dine. He was involved in the
- 14 governing of the city, he promoted the activities of the groups and encouraged the
- destruction of the mausoleums and the floggings and the implementation of all
- sanctions as was also testified to by international media.
- 17 You can see here Mr Sanda Ould Boumama's statements, and they do fall within the
- 18 time frames that I have mentioned. For example, 30 June, the day of the destruction
- and he's saying, for example, that (overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) "Today
- 20 Ansar Dine will destroy all the mausoleums in town. All the mausoleums without
- 21 exception ... God is unique. All that is haram. We are Muslims. What is
- 22 UNESCO?" (Interpretation) End of quote.
- 23 He also is the one who, on that very day, said that 90 per cent of the mausoleums had
- 24 already been destroyed and that the group would continue. He also, and in
- 25 reference to the dates which I mentioned above, who made the statement on the

- destructions of the various sites on 4 and 13 July 2012.
- 2 Now, what do Al Hassan's communications demonstrate in terms of crimes and the
- 3 common plan?
- 4 First, his presence on or around the areas where the various crimes were committed,
- 5 either the floggings or amputations. It also points to his involvement during and
- 6 after the execution of sentences, and it points to his direct and close links with
- 7 Houka Houka, with whom he had a *de facto* communication of police reports and
- 8 co-ordinated the execution of sentences. It finally speaks to his contact with
- 9 Al Faqi Al Mahdi, who was chief of the Hisbah during the period of destruction.
- When it comes to his presence at a crime scene, you can see here an example. It
- shows Al Hassan present at a public flogging of 20 June 2012. He is making or
- 12 placing a phone call at the time when this victim is being flogged. We can see him
- 13 clearly on the picture in the appropriate attire. The telephone data, therefore, points
- 14 to his effective presence at that crime scene on that day.
- 15 I also made reference to his close ties with Houka Houka, president of the Islamic
- 16 tribunal. They were in permanent contact and sometimes several times during the
- 17 same day.
- 18 What do the call records also establish? They establish that there was co-operation
- 19 between the organs the Islamic tribunal and the Islamic police. They established that
- 20 there was co-ordination in the implementation of public sentences.
- 21 And then they also point to the contacts I have already mentioned, particularly with a
- view to obtaining authorisation for torture and forced confessions.
- 23 Let us now look at the relevant stats when it comes to contacts between the two
- 24 persons.
- 25 They call each other not less than ten times when the gates of Sidi Yahya are being

- 1 pulled down and the three mausolea in the three saints are being reduced to rubble.
- 2 They call each other 16 times on the date of the flogging, on 8 July.
- 3 They call each other four times on 2 September when the flogging occurred.
- 4 They call each other not less than 18 times on 16 December 2012, on the day of the
- 5 amputation.
- 6 Another key figure of the common plan with whom Mr Al Hassan had contact was
- 7 Mr Al Faqi Al Mahdi, chief of the Hisbah, who was in charge of the destruction of the
- 8 mausoleums in Timbuktu. The two men were in contact throughout the relevant
- 9 period, but mostly so during the times of the destruction.
- 10 We must recall here that the Islamic police provided information that contributed or
- 11 helped in the destruction of the mausoleums. We also see them involved in the
- destruction proper. We see on this sketch that they had contact with each other on
- 13 the day before, on 20 June; and then the next day -- or on 29 June, rather; and then on
- 14 the next day on 30 June. And at that time, by 1 p.m., members of the groups were at
- 15 the various sites and in the cemeteries conducting the destructions. And then finally,
- after the destruction, they called each other on 9 and 15 July 2012.
- 17 It must be stated clearly that the calls may appear to be short because they last only
- a few seconds. But a lot can be said in 30 seconds and a lot more can be said when
- 19 people talk to each other for more than one minute.
- Now let us look at the role of antenna in the analysis of the movements of suspects.
- 21 What do telephone antenna do? Through them it is possible to determine how
- 22 people move about. They also make it possible to determine the proximity of an
- 23 individual to such-and-such a location going by the position of such an antenna,
- 24 whether it is close to a mosque or cemetery or market or the governor's office and so
- on and so forth.

- 1 So when there is an antenna, it simply serves for the purpose of receiving signals and
- 2 sending signals to a telephone. How then can we establish the scope or geographic
- 3 extent of Mr Al Hassan's contacts?
- 4 There were so many of them in Timbuktu and its surrounding neighbourhoods and I
- 5 would like to demonstrate this by showing you a map.
- 6 Let us indicate that the focus is on the omnipresence of Mr Al Hassan in the city. He
- 7 was not only sitting in his office at the police precinct, he was also present at
- 8 a number of crime sites and his activities covered the entire city of Timbuktu. And
- 9 he travelled to various locations within the city, such as, the Islamic tribunal, the
- 10 gouvernorat, the small market and the cemetery and to various locations of protected
- 11 mausoleums.
- 12 And as I said before, he covered the entire city. He didn't simply dispatch patrols
- out. He himself went out on patrol. You can see on the map before you, the city of
- 14 Timbuktu and you can see the various telephone antenna that I have been referring to
- 15 on this map.
- 16 This shot shows you the Islamic tribunal, BMS, the governor's office, the telecentre,
- 17 the BDM and BDNA banks. On this map, you can see the positions of the various
- 18 antennae. The antenna at *cimetière* and the antenna at *bibliothèque* as well as the
- 19 antenna at petit marché, and the antenna at la place Timi. You can also see the
- 20 positions of those antennae in relation to the areas of interest.
- 21 Let me now show you examples of the suspect's movements at or around crime
- 22 scenes.
- 23 Let me start by the flogging of 20 June 2012. You can see a simplified map of
- 24 Timbuktu, and you can see red circles that point to Mr Al Hassan's travels on that

25 day.

- 1 On that day, Mr Al Hassan was around the *petit marché* and the signal was received in
- 2 that area when the flogging was taking place at the Sankoré square nearby.
- 3 I refer you back to the map, which I showed a short while ago confirming the
- 4 information that Mr Al Hassan was present at the flogging of 20 June, and on this
- 5 sketch you see that he made a phone call.
- 6 Another example is the flogging of 8 July 2012. Once again, Mr Al Hassan's signal is
- 7 picked up by the antenna near the *petit marché* during the time of the flogging at the
- 8 petit marché.
- 9 Let me recall that on the day of that flogging or flagellation, the police had arrested
- 10 two men who were accused of being drunk. It's Al Hassan and other members of
- the Islamic police who took them to Youboutao at the *petit marché* and it's Al Hassan
- who had the handcuffs and they both flogged the two men on that day in public.
- 13 Another example is in relation to 16 September 2012 amputation. Telephone data
- 14 relating to that date point that Mr Al Hassan's signal was received at the antenna of
- 15 the *petit marché*, which is closed to the location where the flogging took place and this
- 16 happened at the field.
- 17 Al Hassan himself arrested the victim. He saw the judgment ordering an
- amputation and he had various discussions with Houka Houka pursuant to these
- 19 telephone communications prior to the implementation of the amputation. And as I
- 20 have just indicated, his telephone signal was received on the nearby antenna.
- 21 The last example, the flogging of 29 November 2012. Once again, we see here that
- 22 Mr Al Hassan, his signal was received by the *petit marché* antenna, which is close to
- 23 the location at which the sentence and the flogging were executed.
- 24 On that day, Al Hassan was present along with other members of the Islamic police,
- 25 Abou Dhar and Abdallah Bourkinabi. They participated in the flogging of six

- ICC-01/12-01/18
- 1 victims and he also took part in the flogging of one of the six victims.
- 2 To conclude, the telephone data and the antenna make it possible to establish the
- 3 active participation of Mr Al Hassan in the common plan with key members of the
- 4 common plan and also his links with the key members of the common plan and their
- 5 various organs, especially, Houka Houka, Sanda Boumama and others. And finally
- 6 to establish his presence in the vicinity of the scenes of the crime. And the data can
- 7 be corroborated by other evidence, such as audio and video calls.
- 8 I thank you now, and I will hand over the floor to my colleague, Mr Mourad.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [10:31:43] (Interpretation) Mr Mourad, please.
- 10 MR DUTERTRE: [10:31:50] (Interpretation) Thank you, Mr President. While my
- 11 colleagues change places, the Defence wanted the presentation of Ms Coquillaud. I
- 12 will ask that it be tendered into the file with an MFI marking so that everyone can
- 13 have access.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [10:32:15] (Interpretation) Thank you very much.
- 15 That is noted.
- 16 Madam Taylor.
- 17 MS TAYLOR: Thank you very much, Mr President. I apologise for disturbing, but
- we would also be very grateful, if it would be possible to have the doc IDs of any of
- 19 the items of evidence referred to during the presentations.
- 20 For example, several maps were referred to and it's very difficult for us to follow
- 21 without the actual evidence references.
- 22 Thank you very much.
- 23 MR DUTERTRE: [10:32:50] (Interpretation) Yes, absolutely, Mr President.
- 24 The essential thing is the expert report on the telephone data, which was disclosed to
- 25 the Defence. We have some of the information on the slides, but we will ensure that

- 1 they appear fully.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [10:33:11] (Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 3 that is fine.
- 4 Mr Prosecutor, you can begin now.
- 5 MR MOURAD: [10:33:32] Mr President, your Honours, my name is
- 6 Hesham Mourad, trial lawyer with the OTP.
- 7 I will address in this submission the crime of passing of sentences under
- 8 Article 8(2)(c)(iv) of the statute.
- 9 We have addressed this crime in sufficient details in the document containing the
- 10 charges, in particular, in paragraphs 421 to 527.
- In order to avoid unnecessary repetition, as instructed by the Chamber, I will only
- 12 focus on specific issues in two parts.
- 13 THE COURT USHER: [10:34:07] For the record, the presentation is in public, right?
- 14 MR MOURAD: [10:34:11] It is in public.
- 15 THE COURT USHER: [10:34:12] Thank you.
- 16 MR MOURAD: [10:34:13] In the first part, I will give an overview of the alternative
- 17 forms of the actus reus of this crime and highlight Mr Al Hassan's role and
- involvement in the commission of the crime. In doing so, I will address some of the
- 19 questions included in the Chamber's questions list. This should take about 30
- 20 minutes. I'm afraid it might spill over to after the break. In this part I would like to
- 21 keep the slides shown only within the courtroom and not to the public.
- 22 In a second part, I will elaborate in further details on the interpretation of the notion
- of regularly constituted court which we briefly addressed in paragraphs 486 to 488 in
- 24 the DCC. This may take also about 30 minutes.
- 25 This part of our submission will be rather technical because it addresses important

- legal issues which have not yet been considered in detail by international courts and
- 2 tribunals and I would respond to a legal argument presented by the Defence in their
- 3 submissions filed last Thursday.
- 4 The slides in this part can be shown to the public, but when I get there I will make
- 5 another reminder.
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

26

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

ICC-01/12-01/18

> Page 30 09.07.2019

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

4 5

13 Page redacted - Redaction order

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session) ICC-01/12-01/18

Page redacted - Redaction order

09.07.2019

Page 34

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Recess taken at 11.03 a.m.)
- 20 (Upon resuming in open session at 11.34 a.m.)
- 21 THE COURT USHER: [11:34:45] All rise.
- 22 Please be seated.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [11:35:22](Interpretation) Good morning once again.
- 24 Before I give the floor to the Prosecution, I do need to indicate that I forgot to mention
- 25 something very important.

26

- ICC-01/12-01/18
- 1 I would like to remind parties and participants not to speak too quickly so that the
- 2 interpreters can do their work properly in good conditions.
- 3 And now, Mr Prosecutor, you have the floor and you can continue with your
- 4 presentation.
- 5 Mr Dutertre.
- 6 MR DUTERTRE: [11:35:56](Interpretation) Thank you, Mr President.
- 7 I would like to say for the transcript that my colleague, Nelly Corbin, has joined us for
- 8 this second sitting this morning.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [11:36:11](Interpretation) Thank you very much for
- 10 that clarification, Mr Prosecutor.
- 11 MR MOURAD: [11:36:17] Mr President, your Honours, first I would like to
- 12 apologise, before the break I was speeding up to finish before the break the first part,
- but I will try to pace myself in this session.
- 14 Your Honours, I addressed in the first part, question 11 and 12 of your Honours'
- 15 questions. I was planning to address as well the remaining question concerning this
- crime, but with your leave, given the time allocated to me and in order to cover the
- 17 legal part within the time allocated to me, I would seek your leave to respond in
- 18 writing about these questions.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [11:37:05](Interpretation) Very well.
- 20 MR MOURAD: [11:37:08] Thank you very much, your Honour.
- 21 Mr President, your Honours, after this overview of the three alternative forms of this
- 22 crime's actus reus element, which we discussed before the break, I would like to
- 23 highlight briefly here Mr Al Hassan's main contributions to the commission of this
- 24 crime.
- 25 For the full discussion of his modes of liability I refer your Honours to paragraphs 502

- to 527 in the DCC and the submissions of my colleague, Ms Dianne Luping, which
- 2 will discuss tomorrow in more details Mr Hassan's modes of liability.
- 3 And for the record, your Honours, this part of my submission can be public and the
- 4 slides can be shown to the gallery, with the exception of one slide, which I will
- 5 indicate in due course.
- 6 As we heard from Mr Muneesamy before the break, Mr Hassan's role can be
- 7 summarised as follows:
- 8 He organised the work and functioning of the police and participated in its activities.
- 9 And I refer your Honours to section 7.2.3 of the DCC. He distributed tasks for
- 10 members of the police; he dispatched police patrols; he issued and passed instructions
- 11 to members of the police to ensure the enforcement of the rules of the group.
- 12 Mr Hassan himself participated in police patrols and in the arrest and detention of
- members of the civilian population, who were suspected of violating the new rules.
- 14 Mr Al Hassan played an essential role in the coordinated work between the police
- 15 and the tribunal. He received complaints. He investigated the alleged violation of
- the new rules. He drafted the police reports. He referred the cases to the tribunal.
- 17 He received the judgments of the tribunal and organised with other organs the
- implementation of the sentences passed by the tribunal.
- 19 Your Honours, the following slide should not be shown to the public.
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session) ICC-01/12-01/18

Page 39 09.07.2019

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

Confirmation of Charges

(Open Session)

ICC-01/12-01/18

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 II, and why the Statute and elements reflect both these provisions.
- 6 Second, if common article 3 and Additional Protocol II are read together, which
- 7 Element 4 in the Elements of Crimes suggests they must be, the definition of regularly
- 8 constituted court must be a functional definition rather than a formal one.
- 9 Third, the content of the functional definition includes a requirement for courts to
- apply the pre-existing law in force in the state in which they operate. This follows
- from; one, the most basic principles of the law of non-international armed conflict;
- 12 two, the treaty provision which inspired article 6 of Additional Protocol II; three, the
- interest in consistency with similar principles in the law of international armed
- 14 conflict, and principles of international human rights law.
- 15 And while this requirement for courts to apply pre-existing state law has two
- qualifications, these qualifications are narrowly confined and do not arise in this case.
- 17 Turning to our first point: We say that interplay between two protected values is
- crucial to understanding and interpreting Article 8(2)(c)(iv), and that both these
- 19 values must be given effect.
- 20 The first of these values is the ability of all parties to an armed conflict, including an
- 21 non-international armed conflict, to uphold the law, including international criminal
- 22 law, in order to protect the civilian population. This value comes from common
- 23 article 3 itself, which establishes minimum guarantees for all persons not taking active
- 24 part in hostilities and provisions such as Article 28 of the Statute, which impose
- 25 positive obligations to prevent and punish crimes. Recognising this value means

- 1 recognising that non-state organised armed groups may sometimes need access to
- 2 a judicial system, even if they are not the established government of a state.
- 3 The second of these values seeks to ensure that people are protected and not exploited
- 4 by the law or by judicial systems or by people who claim to act in the name of the
- 5 judicial system. In other words, to ensure a basic set of minimum guarantees,
- 6 including not only that they are dealt with fairly, but that the law itself is not used as
- 7 a tool of oppression.
- 8 This value follows naturally from the requirement in common article 3 that courts are
- 9 regularly constituted in the first place, and it follows from similar protections for
- 10 protected persons under the third and fourth Geneva Conventions and under the first
- and second additional protocols.
- Now, these values are important to understand, because they help to explain why
- common article 3 could not be the last word on the question of regularly constituted
- 14 courts. This explains the relationship between Article 8(2)(c)(iv) of the Statute and
- 15 Element 4 of the relevant Elements of Crimes, which brings me to our second point.
- 16 As your Honours can see on the screen, common article 3, which dates back to 1949,
- 17 provides without further explanation that a court must be regularly constituted.
- 18 However, while common article 3 clearly promoted the protective value, doubts arose
- 19 whether it adequately protected the equality value. If "regularly constituted" were
- 20 understood to mean a formal requirement, that a court must itself be an organ of the
- 21 state, then non-state armed groups could never avail themselves of any kind of justice
- 22 mechanism.
- 23 Your Honours can see in support of this reference A3 in our reference list.
- 24 The solution to this problem was the formulation in Additional Protocol II which
- 25 replaced the term "regularly constituted court" with a functional definition and thus

- 1 implicitly rejected the application of a formal definition.
- 2 On this basis, provided that a court offers essential guarantees of independence and
- 3 impartiality, the language of Additional Protocol II that your Honours can see on the
- 4 screen, it may be said to be regularly constituted in the language of common article 3.
- 5 This did not mean eliminating altogether the requirement for courts to be regularly
- 6 constituted, which would weaken the second value that I mentioned, ensuring the
- 7 protective function of the law. This is illustrated, for example, by Article 75(4) of
- 8 first additional protocol, which was adopted at the same time as the second protocol.
- 9 As your Honours can see, this continues to require, in the context of international
- armed conflict, courts, first, to be regularly constituted and, second, to respect the
- 11 generally recognised principles of regular judicial procedure.
- 12 The Statute of this Court also makes clear that drafters intended to retain the
- 13 requirements for courts to be regularly constituted. As shown now on the screen,
- the drafters opted to model Article 8(2)(c)(iv) exactly on the terms of common article 3.
- 15 If they did not think this language was appropriate or necessary, they wouldn't have
- 16 included it.
- But, then again, in the Elements of Crimes, your Honours can see the drafters'
- adoption of the functional definition from Article 6(2) of the second additional
- 19 protocol. Element 4 of the Elements of Crimes reproduces the relevant language
- 20 word for word. And it makes clear that this is meant to define the meaning of
- 21 a regularly constituted court by saying "that it".
- 22 For all these reasons we say the concept of a regularly constituted court has
- 23 a functional definition, not a formal one. And this brings me to our third point,
- 24 which is that the functional definition contains a requirement to apply the
- 25 pre-existing law of the state.

- 1 Now we fully acknowledge that this is not spelled out Article 6(2) of Additional
- 2 Protocol II. However, while it's true that this provision lists some of the relevant
- 3 considerations, these are not exhaustive. This is illustrated, for example, by use of
- 4 the term "in particular" in the *chapeau* of Article 6(2). This point is confirmed in
- 5 reference A4 in our reference list and is consistent with the approach of the ICRC in
- 6 its customary law study at reference A5. It is also significant that the examples in
- 7 Article 6(2) were not included in Element 4 at all. Rather, this Court was trusted to
- 8 assess for itself the natural meaning of independence and impartiality.
- 9 In this context, your Honours, we submit that the application of the pre-existing
- 10 national law is an essential quality of independence and impartiality. It's implicit in
- 11 those basic concepts. If a court merely executes the policy of the group which
- 12 created it and does not neutrally consider the content or the effect of the national law
- in force, or applicable international law, then how can it be said to be independent or
- 14 impartial?
- 15 This understanding is confirmed by the clear position in international law that
- 16 non-state armed groups do not have a general power to enact new law and must
- 17 refrain from doing so, except in limited circumstances. We say this for four reasons,
- 18 which are:
- 19 The principle of state sovereignty in the law of non-international armed conflict.
- 20 Second, the context of article 84 of the Third Geneva Convention, which was the
- 21 inspiration for Article 6(2) of the second protocol.
- 22 Third, the context also provided by relevant principles in the law of international
- 23 armed conflicts in the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- 24 And finally, the context provided by internationally recognised human rights under
- 25 Article 21(1)(b) and 21(3) of the Statute.

(Open Session)

ICC-01/12-01/18

- I will briefly explain each of these points, beginning with state sovereignty. This

 concern is one of the core reasons why the law of international and non-international
- 3 armed conflict is different. From the perspective of a state party to
- 4 a non-international armed conflict, the whole reason for the conflict is to maintain the
- 5 sovereign control of the constitutional government over the state's territory and core
- 6 functions. This includes the enactment of law on behalf of the people.
- 7 Consequently, the discussion of judicial activities by non-state armed groups was
- 8 very sensitive in negotiating the second protocol, as noted at reference A6 in our
- 9 reference list.
- 10 While states may have been content to recognise in Additional Protocol II that
- 11 non-state armed groups might enforce the law, at least to protect the civilian
- 12 population, this is very different from allowing that they may change the law, unless
- and until they become the new government of the state in question. Article 6(2)(c) of
- 14 Additional Protocol II also contains a further clue that states were sensitive to these
- 15 issues. In English, this provision which deals with the principle of legality, another
- 16 guarantee of the essential guarantees, simply refers to the law in force at the material
- 17 time.
- But in French, however, this is rendered, as and I quote in French (Interpretation)
- 19 "The natural or international law" (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) which is a
- 20 more faithful reflection of Article 15(1) of the ICCPR from which this text was taken.
- 21 Now while it may just be possible to argue that the term "national law" could be wide
- 22 enough to include rules created by a non-state group, as in reference A7 in our
- reference list, this would create considerable ambiguities. That is in reference A8.
- 24 It's simpler and more convincing to understand that the reference to national law
- 25 means just what it is, what it says, the law enacted by the state, which then leaves no

- 1 ambiguity at all.
- 2 Zegveld seems to agree, at reference A9 and on the screen, when she stresses the
- 3 continued applicability of national legislation as a basic premise for both of common
- 4 article 3 and Additional Protocol II.
- 5 The understanding that the law applied by a regularly constituted court would be the
- 6 law of the state is also implicit in the text on which Article 6(2) of Additional Protocol
- 7 II was based.
- 8 As noted in the commentary on the screen from page 1398, the drafters borrowed the
- 9 text of Article 84 of the Third Geneva Convention for this purpose.
- 10 As your Honours can see, while this provision permits military courts of the
- detaining power to try cases against prisoners of war, such courts must offer the
- 12 essential guarantees of independence and impartiality. But if we look at the rest of
- 13 the third convention as context to these guarantees, we can also see the clear
- understanding that such courts can only apply the duly enacted law of the state, or
- international law, and not rules or policy emanating from any other non-state source.
- 16 This follows from Articles 82, 87-88, 102, 106 and 108, and especially Article 99, which
- is shown on screen.
- 18 It's true, of course, that the legal protection of prisoners of war under the third
- 19 convention is different in nature from the legal protection of the civilian population
- 20 under the fourth convention. In particular, prisoners of war are already under
- 21 military discipline and civilians are not.
- 22 For this reason, it was not considered inappropriate for prisoners of war to be subject
- 23 to the law of the detaining power rather than their own law. That's reference A10.
- 24 By contrast, this approach is inappropriate for civilians, as illustrated in the Fourth
- 25 Convention.

- But what is common to both regimes is that the concept of a regularly constituted
- 2 court is inherently linked to the state's monopoly on law making, according to its own
- 3 lawful procedure. That principle is consistent across all the references to regularly
- 4 constituted or properly constituted courts, which have the same meaning reference
- 5 A11 in our reference list whether in the Third Convention or the Fourth Convention
- 6 or common article 3.
- 7 The requirement that regularly constituted courts under common article 3 must only
- 8 apply pre-existing law of the state is also suggested by the law of occupation under
- 9 the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- 10 Again, this presumes the continuity of the state law already in force in the occupied
- 11 territory. And it is well-established that the principles and rules of international
- 12 armed conflict may be relevant to interpreting common article 3. That is
- 13 reference A12.
- 14 And if I may say in this context, the Defence submission is inaccurate when saying
- at paragraphs 118 to 121 and paragraph 132, that we seek to apply the laws of
- 16 occupation directly to this situation.
- 17 Rather, we merely refer to the laws of occupation to help illustrate the content of
- 18 a distinct legal regime which applies in non-international armed conflict.
- 19 So while the Fourth Geneva Convention does allow the occupying power a limited
- 20 capacity to legislate, it stills preserves the independent sovereignty of the occupied
- 21 territory. This is why, for example, occupation is different from annexation,
- 22 which is --
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:08:56] I am sorry for interrupting, we have a request for
- 24 redaction and we need an urgent answer from the OTP bench. Thank you very

25 much.

- 1 (Pause in proceedings)
- 2 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:09:13] We just received the answer. Thank you very
- 3 much.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:09:22](Interpretation) Please proceed.
- 5 MR MOURAD: [12:09:25] I will resume, your Honours.
- 6 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:09:28](Interpretation) Please proceed.
- 7 MR MOURAD: [12:09:30] That's why, for example, occupation is different from
- 8 annexation, which is not only unlawful, but which under Article 47 has no effect on
- 9 the rights or persons under the Fourth Convention. That's reference A13 in our
- 10 reference list.
- 11 For this reason, the extent to which an occupying power can enact new law is strictly
- 12 controlled. The default principle remains that the pre-existing law in force in the
- occupied territory continues to be the only law of the land.
- 14 As your Honours can see on the screen, this follows, for example, from article 64 of
- 15 the Fourth Geneva Convention, which specifically provides that the penal laws of the
- occupied territory shall remain in force, unless they constitute a threat to the security
- of the occupying power or an obstacle to the application of the Fourth Geneva
- 18 Convention itself.
- 19 While article 64 expressly refers to penal law, which has the greatest potential for
- 20 misuse against the civilian population, it actually applies to all laws in force in the
- 21 occupied territory. And this can be supported in reference A14.
- 22 This is also consistent with article 43 of the Hague Regulations, which obliges the
- 23 occupying power to respect the laws in force in the occupied territory. And in
- 24 particular, as Pictet says in his commentary at page 336, they cannot abrogate or
- 25 suspend the existing law "... merely to make it accord with their own legal

- 1 conceptions." End of quote.
- 2 Coming to our last reason for interpreting common Article 3 to require the continuity
- 3 of pre-existing law, this is also consistent with international human rights law, which
- 4 may continue to apply during times of armed conflict as *lex generalis*. To the extent
- 5 that human rights obligations are primarily addressed to states, even if not
- 6 exclusively so reference A15 it would be wholly inconsistent to suggest that
- 7 international law recognises that non-state groups may change state law to the
- 8 detriment of individual rights.
- 9 Indeed, as we noted in our DCC at footnote 1191, human rights bodies typically
- approach the judicial activities of non-state groups with great caution.
- Now coming to my final point, I have said that the common article 3 requirement for
- 12 courts to apply pre-existing state law has two limited qualifications. This is also set
- out in our DCC at footnote 1190.
- 14 We mention this for the sake of clarity, but we see neither of these qualifications as
- 15 relevant in this case. These qualifications exist to the extent that it may sometimes be
- 16 necessary for non-state armed groups to modify state law in order to give effect to the
- 17 international law obligations of the state in question, either under international
- 18 humanitarian or international human rights law. This remains consistent with the
- 19 principle of state sovereignty because such international obligations were consented
- 20 to by the state in question.
- 21 We reach this conclusion for three reasons:
- 22 First, as we have already discussed, the plain terms of Additional Protocol II refers to
- 23 courts applying international law. This means that a court may still be regularly
- 24 constituted if it convicts a person of a crime under international law, even if it is not
- 25 a crime under national law. And this is confirmed in the commentary to this

- 1 protocol at reference A16.
- 2 Second, common article 3 requires the same conclusion, because it imposes minimum
- 3 standards of humane treatment. Reference A17. To any extent that the national
- 4 law of a state does not give effect to the minimum standards in common article 3, then
- 5 a non-state armed group must necessarily be able to enforce the terms of common
- 6 article 3 itself. Otherwise, the whole purpose would be defeated.
- 7 Conversely, if a group purported to enact rules which are inconsistent with common
- 8 article 3, then such law would be invalid and could not be enforced by a regularly
- 9 constituted court.
- 10 In this context, inhuman treatment specifically includes the prohibition of corporal
- and collective punishment and requires respect for the religious convictions and
- 12 practices of civilians. That is reference A18.
- 13 Third, and lastly, article 64 of the Fourth Geneva Convention reflects similar
- principles in the context of international armed conflict in that it recognises capacity
- of the occupying power to legislate only under conditions recognised by international
- law. The first of those conditions, as provided in article 64 itself, is where necessary
- 17 for its own security. And the second is to give effect to the provisions and objectives
- 18 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- 19 As Pictet's commentary has explained, at page 336 and 337, this limited permission
- 20 means that the occupying power can take measures to hold the imposition of
- 21 pre-existing inhumane or discriminatory laws, but that its powers must not under any
- 22 circumstances serve as a means of oppressing the population.
- 23 Consequently, international armed conflict only permits departing from pre-existing
- 24 national law in order to enhance the protections afforded to the civilian population by
- 25 that state's obligation under international law, or as strictly necessary for the security

- 1 of the occupying power.
- 2 So this brings me to our conclusion, your Honours.
- 3 For the reasons I have explained, we do not say that the creation of a court by
- 4 a non-state organised armed group itself creates liability under Article 8(2)(c)(iv)
- 5 of the Statute. But we submit that liability does arise where such a court does not
- 6 confine itself to applying the pre-existing law in force in the territory, as modified, if
- 7 necessary, by international law.
- 8 This means that if the court of a non-state organised armed group systematically
- 9 passes sentences on conduct which was not prohibited by the pre-existing national
- 10 law in force and not expressly permitted or required by international law, then it does
- 11 not exhibit the essential guarantees of independence and impartiality and therefore is
- 12 not regularly constituted.
- 13 The same is true if such a court imposes punishments which are not allowed by
- 14 national law. And this approach is simply the correct interpretation of Article
- 15 8(2)(c)(iv) and Element 4 in light of the development of customary international law
- as reflected in the Geneva Conventions and additional protocols. It is the only
- interpretation which allows these provisions to be read in harmony.
- And while this legal issue is a novel one, it is not entirely unprecedented. As we
- 19 noted in the DCC, courts in Sweden, both at first instance and on appeal, have already
- 20 reached very similar conclusions. Thus, as shown on the screen, the Stockholm
- 21 District Court in 2017 concluded that:
- 22 A non-state actor can establish courts provided that the court applies the law that was
- 23 in effect before the start of the conflict or which at least does not deviate significantly
- in a more stringent direction from the legislation that applied.
- 25 For all these reasons, we submit that there are substantial grounds to believe that

- 1 Mr Al Hassan is criminally responsible for the offence in Article 8(2)(c)(iv)
- 2 of the Statute, under each of the alternative forums of the *actus reus*.
- 3 While Ansar Dine and AQIM controlled Timbuktu, and as part of their policy and
- 4 common plan, members of the civilian populations were subjected to summary and
- 5 arbitrary punishment without any kind of process whatsoever.
- 6 Others were brought before the tribunal, but this tribunal was not regularly
- 7 constituted because it did not apply the pre-existing law of Mali or give effect to
- 8 international law, but instead simply applied the policy and the rules of Ansar Dine
- 9 and AQIM. Nor did it afford other essential guarantees of independence and
- 10 impartiality.
- 11 Furthermore, proceedings before the tribunal were manifestly unfair, insofar as they
- 12 relied on evidence obtained by criminal conduct without adequate facilities to
- prepare a defence and without the necessary judicial safeguards.
- 14 That concludes my submission, your Honours. Thank you very much.
- 15 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:21:03](Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 16 Mr Prosecutor.
- 17 Ms Taylor.
- 18 MS TAYLOR: [12:21:08] I apologise for interrupting, Mr President, I didn't want to
- 19 disrupt my colleague's presentation. But at the very beginning, my colleague
- 20 intimated that or actually asked for permission to respond to the Judges' questions
- 21 through writing, and I note that in the order for the calendar of these proceeding, the
- 22 parties were enjoined to respond to the questions during the hearing.
- Now the Prosecution didn't yesterday raise any concerns about that calendar and we
- 24 would respectfully submit that the introduction of written arguments at the end of
- 25 these proceedings would be contrary to Article 61, which clearly sets out in

- subsection 4, that it is for the Prosecution to present its evidence and allegations
- 2 during the hearing and it is then for the Defence to respond.
- 3 We can't respond, Mr President, your Honours, if we don't have the entire
- 4 Prosecution case on these issues. So we would respectfully submit that it is
- 5 incumbent on the Prosecution, given how much time they have to present their case,
- 6 to fully elucidate their position on these issues during their component of the
- 7 hearings, so we can then exercise our right to respond. And the prejudice is
- 8 particularly attenuated in this case, given that when they file their final written
- 9 observations we will only have effectively four working days to prepare ours.
- 10 So that does result in a significant prejudice concerning our ability to participate in
- these hearings and to have an effective right to respond.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:22:58](Interpretation) Mr Dutertre.
- 14 MR DUTERTRE: [12:23:02](Interpretation) Yes, your Honour. A few points in
- answer. We received 43 questions Friday evening at 7 p.m. and we need time to be
- able to answer the questions and calibrate them into our oral submissions for which
- we have already been given a limited amount of time.
- 18 Yesterday I pointed out that our intention was to provide partial answers orally and
- 19 partial in writing, and so there is no surprise for the Defence. We were -- we
- 20 indicated this since yesterday.
- 21 Our intention is to make written submissions by tomorrow evening at the latest so
- 22 that this is available to the Defence as well, and so that Defence may have time to take
- 23 those into consideration in their response in the days and time allotted to them in the
- 24 days ahead.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:24:07](Interpretation) Thank you, Mr Dutertre.

- 1 I think some of the questions were already addressed by the Prosecutor, your
- 2 colleague.
- 3 MR DUTERTRE: [12:24:19](Interpretation) Yes, questions 11 and 12 were dealt with,
- 4 and of course we will not be making written submissions on all the questions, but I
- 5 think there are issues of sourcing that are also to be dealt with and it's very difficult to
- 6 outline ERNs during oral submissions. And that is why we felt that it would be
- 7 probably best to provide written submissions in answer to these questions in order to
- 8 provide as full information as possible.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:24:52](Interpretation) Ms Taylor.
- 10 MS TAYLOR: [12:24:55] Thank you very much, Mr President.
- 11 I note that we're currently scheduled to commence our submissions on Thursday
- morning. If we receive the Prosecution's written observations on Wednesday at
- 13 some undefined time, obviously that makes it very difficult for us to respond
- 14 effectively.
- 15 We would therefore invite the Chamber to allow us to commence on Friday, or at
- least have greater clarity as to what the Prosecution will respond to on Wednesday, so
- 17 we can prepare accordingly.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:25:28](Interpretation) Prosecutor, do you want
- 20 the floor again?
- 21 MR DUTERTRE: [12:25:34](Interpretation) The Prosecutor has no objection for
- 22 a little time being granted to the Defence. Maybe enough time for the written
- 23 submissions to be made without, in any way, upsetting the scheduling.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:25:55](Interpretation) We have taken note of
- 25 your proposal and the Chamber will deliberate on this matter right away.

- 1 THE COURT USHER: [12:26:10] All rise.
- 2 (Recess taken at 12.26 p.m.)
- 3 (Upon resuming in open session at 12.51 p.m.)
- 4 THE COURT USHER: [12:51:18] All rise.
- 5 Please be seated.
- 6 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:51:47](Interpretation) Good afternoon, ladies and
- 7 gentlemen.
- 8 With relation to the decision of the Chamber, with regard to the Defence request, the
- 9 decision is as follows:
- 10 The schedule of the hearing shall not be amended.
- In accordance with the order of Monday, 8 July, the parties and participants must, to
- 12 the extent possible, answer the questions of the Chamber during the hearing.
- 13 The application of the Prosecutor to file additional written submissions is rejected.
- 14 In this regard, the Chamber recalls that the parties and participants, in accordance
- with the amended schedule, can provide additional answers to the Chamber in their
- written submissions and they can request additional pages.
- 17 Before returning the floor to the Prosecutor to continue with the merits of the case, I
- 18 would like to request you to maintain the confidentiality of the documents
- 19 mentioned.
- 20 Now I give the floor to the Prosecutor.
- 21 MR DUTERTRE: [12:53:22](Interpretation) Yes. And thank you, Mr President.
- 22 Mr President, your Honours, my colleague Mr Sandoval will make the next
- 23 presentation.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:53:35](Interpretation) Very well.
- 25 Continue, please.

- 1 MR SANDOVAL: [12:53:38] (Overlapping speakers)
- 2 As I have not entered my appearance for this session, allow me to introduce myself.
- 3 I am Raymond Sandoval, trial lawyer in the Office of the Prosecutor.
- 4 Your Honours, I intend to remain in public session throughout most of my
- 5 presentation. I will, however, request that we enter into private session when
- 6 discussing and displaying evidence which cannot be broadcast to the public.
- 7 And, your Honours, I am conscious of the limited time remaining that we have
- 8 remaining for this section, so I will attempt to discuss the introductory part of my
- 9 presentation and I may have to request for a few additional minutes in order to
- 10 complete the introduction, with your leave, your Honours.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [12:54:21](Interpretation) Very well. Continue,
- 12 please.
- 13 MR SANDOVAL: [12:55:00] My apologies for the delay, your Honours.
- 14 Your Honours, I will be discussing this afternoon the charges against Al Hassan of
- 15 torture and serious ill-treatment. These are discussed in detail in sections 8.2 and 8.3
- of the Document Containing the Charges or the DCC.
- 17 Your Honours, violent acts amounting to torture and serious ill-treatment arose in
- a particular context in the occupation of Timbuktu by the armed groups.
- 19 As my colleagues Claudine Umurungi and Jagganaden Muneesamy have discussed
- 20 at length, members of Ansar Dine and Al-Qaïda au Maghreb Islamique or AQMI, the
- 21 two armed groups which occupied and controlled Timbuktu from April 2012 to
- 22 January 2013, implemented a common plan to establish their power and control over
- 23 Timbuktu and to impose their own ideological and religious vision upon the civilian
- 24 population by any means.
- 25 This vision entailed the imposition of new rules requiring, among others, women to

- 1 be sufficiently covered, forbidding men and women to be seen together unless they
- 2 were married or related, banning alcohol and tobacco, among other numerous
- 3 restrictions upon the Timbuktu residents' way of life.
- 4 And the implementation of these new rules led to, in the ordinary course of events,
- 5 violent means of enforcement, giving rise to the commission of torture and serious
- 6 ill-treatment.
- 7 And these violent means of enforcement arose in three principle situations:
- 8 The first, extrajudicial beatings and floggings carried out by the Islamic police and
- 9 other organs when they came across violations of their newly imposed rules during
- 10 their patrols of the city.
- 11 Second, beatings as an accepted method of interrogation to extract confessions and
- 12 information.
- 13 And third, floggings and one amputation as sanctions imposed by the irregularly
- 14 constituted Islamic tribunal.
- 15 So this case, your Honours, reflects the major role that these violent means of
- 16 enforcement played in the armed groups' implementation of their common plan in
- 17 Timbuktu.
- 18 We charge 15 incidents as torture and/or serious ill-treatment.
- 19 As will be discussed in greater detail by my colleagues Yayoi Yamaguchi and
- 20 Sandra Schoeters, the present case involves both a widespread and systematic attack
- 21 upon the civilian population of Timbuktu, such that crimes against humanity arise;
- 22 and also involves the existence of a non-international armed conflict, such that war
- 23 crimes come into play.
- 24 So in relation to torture, we charge both crimes against humanity and the war crime
- 25 of torture, along with the war crime of cruel treatment. And we also charge serious

- 1 ill-treatment comprised of the crime against humanity, of other inhuman acts and the
- 2 war crime of outrages upon personal dignity.
- 3 Of the 15 incidents in this case relevant to these crimes, 12 are charged with all five of
- 4 these crimes. Two incidents are charged only as the crime against humanity of other
- 5 inhumane acts and the war crime of outrages upon personal dignity, and one incident
- 6 is charged solely as the war crime of outrages upon personal dignity.
- 7 For purposes of my presentation this afternoon, your Honours, I will focus on the
- 8 most egregious incidents which are charged as all five of these crimes.
- 9 Before I proceed to discussing the factual matters relevant to the charges, allow me to
- 10 briefly review the key elements of these crimes. This will allow all those following
- 11 the proceedings to have the proper legal framework in mind when I subsequently
- discuss the specific incidents. At the same time, however, in the interest of time, I
- will focus only on the key elements of each crime.
- 14 So first, in relation to torture, and I will be discussing torture broadly as both a war
- 15 crime and as a crime against humanity. The first key element is the infliction of
- severe physical or mental pain or suffering.
- 17 The incidents subject to these charges, your Honour, mostly involve floggings and
- 18 beatings, with one case of amputation.
- 19 Second, is the custody or control requirement specific to torture as a crime against
- 20 humanity. The victims of the relevant incidents were in the custody or control of the
- 21 armed groups, usually the Islamic police.
- 22 Third, is the prohibited purpose requirement of the war crime of torture.
- 23 The relevant incidents, subject of these charges, also entail the infliction of pain and
- 24 suffering for the prohibited purposes of punishment or to obtain information or

25 a confession.

- And as your Honours are well aware, the norm prohibiting torture is *jus cogens*, and
- 2 sanctions such as floggings and amputations which amount to torture, cannot be
- 3 considered as lawful under any circumstances.
- 4 And allow me to also briefly refer to the war crime of cruel treatment, which has the
- 5 same elements as the war crime of torture, without the prohibited purpose
- 6 requirement.
- 7 Moving on to the crimes comprising serious ill-treatment. First, the crime against
- 8 humanity of other inhumane acts. The key element of this crime, your Honours, is
- 9 the infliction of great suffering or serious injury to body or to mental or physical
- 10 health by means of an inhumane act, and such act was of a character similar to other
- 11 crimes against humanity.
- 12 And secondly, the war crime of outrages upon personal dignity. The key element of
- 13 this war crime is the humiliation, degradation or other violation of the dignity of one
- or more persons and the severity of the humiliation, degradation or other violation
- 15 was of such degree as to be generally recognised as an outrage upon personal dignity.
- 16 Your Honour, I am looking at the time. If I may have an additional five minutes just
- 17 to wrap up another point in the introductory portion of my presentation?
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [13:02:56](Interpretation) Yes, I will grant you the
- 19 five minutes.
- 20 MR SANDOVAL: [13:03:01] With the legal elements of torture and serious
- 21 ill-treatment in mind, allow me to proceed to discussing the facts of the case
- 22 underpinning these charges.
- 23 So moving on to Al Hassan's role in the commission of torture and serious
- 24 ill-treatment.
- 25 As my colleague Jagganaden Muneesamy has discussed, along with

- 1 Claudine Umurungi, throughout much of the occupation of Timbuktu by the armed
- 2 groups, Al Hassan was the *de facto* commissaire of the Islamic police. The Islamic
- 3 police was one of the principle organs established by the armed groups to control
- 4 Timbuktu and apply their ideological and religious vision.
- 5 The Islamic police worked in close cooperation with the armed groups' other organs,
- 6 particularly the Hisbah and the irregularly constituted Islamic tribunal.
- 7 Al Hassan as the *de facto* commissaire of the Islamic police played an essential role in
- 8 all three of the situations discussed earlier, wherein violent means were used to
- 9 enforce the newly imposed rules of the armed groups implementing their common
- 10 plan.
- 11 While my colleague Dianne Luping will discuss at length the modes of liability with
- which Al Hassan is alleged to have committed the crimes with which he is charged,
- allow me to state at this juncture that Al Hassan is charged with committing torture
- and serious ill-treatment as a direct perpetrator under Article 25(3)(a) of the ICC
- 15 statute in two of the 15 relevant incidents. Al Hassan himself flogged three men in
- 16 these two incidents.
- 17 Al Hassan is also charged as a direct co-perpetrator or, alternatively, as an indirect
- 18 co-perpetrator under Article 25(3)(a) of the ICC statute in 10 of the 15 relevant
- 19 incidents.
- 20 And he is also charged under the other modes of liability, namely, soliciting and/or
- 21 inducing the commission of a crime under Article 25(3)(b), assisting in the
- 22 commission of these crimes under Article 25(3)(c) and contributing to their
- commission under Article 25(3)(d)(i) and (ii).
- 24 Your Honours, at this point I intend to proceed to discuss the incidents giving rise to
- 25 these charges. So I believe this is an opportune moment for us to take a break,

- 1 your Honours.
- 2 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [13:05:50](Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 3 Mr Prosecutor.
- 4 This session of the Prosecutor's presentations has come to an end.
- 5 We will break now and resume at 2.30 p.m.
- 6 THE COURT USHER: [13:06:08] All rise.
- 7 (Recess taken at 1.06 p.m.)
- 8 (Upon resuming in open session at 2.31 p.m.)
- 9 THE COURT USHER: [14:31:16] All rise.
- 10 Please be seated.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [14:31:48](Interpretation) Good afternoon.
- 12 Now before I allow the Prosecution to address the Court again, I wish to make an
- 13 announcement.
- 14 Given that sensitive information may be disclosed when the OTP presentations are
- 15 broadcast outside the courtroom, the Chamber orders the Registry to treat materials
- 16 as confidential by default.
- 17 If it is thought that materials can be shown in public, we will do so, and then the
- 18 Registry will rebroadcast information outside the courtroom.
- 19 I will now give the floor back to the Prosecution so that the Prosecution may resume
- 20 their presentation.
- 21 Mr Prosecutor.
- 22 MR SANDOVAL: [14:32:45] Good afternoon, Mr President. Good afternoon,
- 23 your Honours.
- 24 As I had mentioned at the beginning of my presentation, I do intend to conduct my
- 25 presentation in public session, but I will request that we enter into private session

- when discussing certain individuals and certain pieces of evidence which cannot be
- 2 broadcast to the public.
- 3 Before the break, your Honours, I discussed the context in which torture and serious
- 4 ill-treatment were committed in the context of the armed groups' occupation of
- 5 Timbuktu.
- 6 I went on to discuss the central role that Al Hassan played in the commission of
- 7 torture and serious ill-treatment as the *de facto* commissaire of the Islamic police.
- 8 I would like to continue, your Honours, by showing one notable document which
- 9 illustrates Al Hassan's central role.
- 10 As you will notice, your Honours, the document shown on the screen has the details
- 11 blurred out. And this is intentional, your Honours, in order to maximise the public
- 12 portion of my presentation. The evidence registration numbers, or ERNs, of the
- documents that I am currently showing and will subsequently show are visible, and
- 14 these have been disclosed to the Defence. Your Honours, you will see on your
- screens the original Arabic document containing an Islamic police report dated
- 16 19 June 2012, and its ERN number MLI-OTP-0001-7546.
- 17 I am now showing a blurred out English translation of this document with ERN
- number MLI-OTP-0054-0014, and I'd like to highlight one paragraph in this document
- 19 wherein Al Hassan urges the members of the Islamic tribunal to be harsher with the
- 20 individual subject of this police report, because he had taken a lot of money from a lot
- 21 of people.
- 22 And I refer in this regard, your Honours, to paragraph 308 of the DCC.
- 23 Your Honours, moving on to the first situation involving the violent enforcement of
- rules implementing the armed groups' common plan.
- 25 As I had mentioned at the beginning of my presentation, the first situation entails

- 1 extrajudicial beatings and floggings carried out by the Islamic police and other organs
- 2 when they came across violations of their newly imposed rules during their patrols of
- 3 the city.
- 4 The Islamic police disseminated leaflets containing the new rules imposed by the
- 5 armed groups and escorted preachers proclaiming the new regulations throughout
- 6 the town.
- 7 The Islamic police conducted patrols throughout the town and carried out inspections
- 8 on the streets, in markets, stores, and even inside people's homes, to ensure that the
- 9 new rules were being followed.
- 10 Al Hassan described these patrols as aimed at, and I quote:
- "... correcting objectionable acts: Any type of reprehensible act which has been
- 12 forbidden we correct, such as drinking alcohol, smoking, and a woman adorning
- 13 herself, and other such acts." End quote.
- And this is taken from ERN MLI-OTP-0067-1896, on page 1898, lines 26 to 28.
- 15 Al Hassan noted that the Islamic police possessed the discretion to flog people for
- minor religions infractions. And this is found in MLI-OTP-0051-1184, page 1205,
- 17 lines 686 to 705.
- 18 Many of these patrols were conducted jointly with members of the Hisbah. And
- 19 your Honours will note that, as members of the Hisbah were not uniformly armed, it
- 20 was important that the Islamic police escort them and conduct joint patrols with them
- 21 because the Islamic police, on the other hand, were consistently armed with
- 22 Kalashnikovs.
- 23 And floggings were carried out with various kinds of whips made of leather, tree
- 24 branches or water pipes. And I refer to MLI-OTP-0062-1218, pages 1227 to 1228,
- 25 lines 292 to 308.

- 1 Abou Zeid, who was appointed the governor of Timbuktu by the armed group
- 2 Ansar Dine and he was a member of the common plan, issued instructions
- 3 authorising the Islamic police to resort to extrajudicial punishment of violations of the
- 4 armed groups' newly imposed rules.
- 5 So this document is entitled the "Compulsory Instructions of Abou Zeid", which was
- 6 issued in August 2012 to the Islamic police, members of the Hisbah and security
- 7 battalions. And this is discussed in greater detail in paragraph 366 of the DCC.
- 8 So you will see on your screens, your Honours, two documents; the original Arabic
- 9 document on the left with ERN MLI-OTP-0001-7193, and the English translation on
- the right with ERN MLI-OTP-0034-0037.
- And, among others, these instructions authorised the Islamic police to impose a
- 12 discretionary penalty for misdemeanours such as the sale or the use of tobacco. And
- 13 you will see the relevant paragraph highlighted on your screens.
- 14 The Islamic police were also granted the discretion to punish women who were not
- 15 properly dressed. And you will now see the relevant paragraph highlighted
- referring to women who are unveiled in public.
- 17 Al Hassan acknowledged the Islamic police were guided by these instructions. And
- 18 I direct your Honours' attention to MLI-OTP-0051-1184, page 1206, lines 706 to 722.
- 19 Your Honours, I will now proceed to discuss three incidents which exemplify how
- 20 flogging was imposed and carried out as an extrajudicial punishment for violations of
- 21 the armed groups' newly imposed rules, and I will remain in public session for the
- 22 first incident.
- 23 So the first incident concerns P-580, whose being subjected to serious and
- 24 ill-treatment took place between June 2012 and January 2013. And I refer your
- 25 Honours to paragraphs 563 to 569 of the DCC.

- 1 P-580 was a man caught selling tobacco in Timbuktu by a member of the Hisbah.
- 2 Al Hassan and other members of the Islamic police arrested P-580 and confiscated
- 3 cigarette cartons and electronics from his shop. He was flogged to punish his
- 4 possession and sale of cigarettes, as well as to compel him to reveal the source of the
- 5 cigarettes, and to punish him for discouraging his younger brother and other youths
- 6 from joining the armed groups.
- 7 He was detained throughout most of a six-month period, and much of this detention
- 8 took place at the Banque Malienne de Solidarité, BMS, which was at various points in
- 9 time the headquarters of the Islamic police.
- 10 So he was detained for much of the six-month period, with a few intervening periods
- when he was released or hospitalised following floggings. And notably among these
- 12 periods of detention is a 15-day continuous period of detention where he was not
- 13 provided any food.
- 14 Al Hassan gave Mohamed Moussa, who was the second head of the Hisbah and a
- 15 fellow member of the common plan, the keys to the chest where a whip was stored,
- and this whip was used to inflict 100 lashes upon P-580 in front of the Banque Malienne
- 17 de Solidarité.
- But throughout this six-month period, P-580 received 400 lashes, your Honours.
- 19 Moreover, he was threatened with drowning. Members of the Islamic police made
- 20 him wear a sack to restrict the movement of his arms, his feet were bound and he was
- 21 made to stand in a fountain with water up to his shoulders.
- 22 And he was threatened to be killed several times.
- 23 Your Honours, before I proceed to discuss the second incident -- or, the two
- 24 remaining incidents, may we move into private session? And I expect that we will
- 25 remain in private session for approximately eight minutes.

- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [14:44:11] (Interpretation) Madam court officer, if we
- 2 could go into private session.
- 3 (Private session at 2.44 p.m.)
- 4 THE COURT OFFICER: [14:44:25] (Interpretation) We are in private session, your
- 5 Honour.
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

Confirmation of Charges

(Private Session)

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	Page redacted – Private session
	O
13	
13	
13 14	
13 14 15	
13 14 15 16	
13 14 15 16 17	
13 14 15 16 17 18	
13 14 15 16 17 18	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	

(Private Session)

Confirmation of Charges

25

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Open session at 2.53 p.m.)
- 3 THE COURT OFFICER: [14:53:18] (Interpretation) We are now in open session.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [14:53:24] (Interpretation) Thank you. Please
- 5 proceed.
- 6 MR SANDOVAL: [14:53:26] So moving on to the second situation wherein violent
- 7 means of enforcement were used in implementation of the newly imposed rules of the
- 8 armed groups, that of beatings as an accepted method of interrogation to extract
- 9 confessions and obtain information. And I refer, your Honours, to paragraphs 582 to
- 10 585 of the DCC.
- In the course of its work, the Islamic police arrested and detained individuals who
- they considered to have violated the armed groups' rules.
- 13 The Islamic police often interrogated these individuals in order to obtain confessions
- 14 from them, which would then serve as basis for judgments by the irregularly
- 15 constituted Islamic tribunal convicting them and sentencing them to be flogged or,
- 16 one case, amputated.
- 17 These were also conducted to obtain information from the individuals.
- 18 In instances where people were caught smoking or drinking alcohol, for example,
- 19 these individuals were interrogated in order to determine the source of their tobacco
- and alcohol.
- 21 Al Hassan explained that when it came to cases involving people's property or money,
- 22 it was necessary to determine the truth so these could be recovered and returned to
- 23 their rightful owners.
- 24 And I refer to MLI-OTP-0060-1662, pages 1670 to 1671, lines 275 to 283 and lines 296

25 to 297.

- 1 Al Hassan explained if the suspect did not confess after being advised to do so, the
- 2 suspect would be threatened. And I refer to MLI-OTP-0060-1662, page 1671,
- 3 lines 303 to 312.
- 4 And if this did not work, the Islamic police resorted to torture. And again I refer to
- 5 MLI-OTP-0060-1662, page 1672, line 314.
- 6 The irregularly constituted Islamic tribunal authorised the Islamic police to use
- 7 torture as an interrogation method, and this authorisation could even be granted
- 8 verbally over the phone. And I refer to MLI-OTP-0060-1662, page 1674, line 388 and
- 9 lines 395 to 404.
- 10 And Al Hassan specified that the chief of the Islamic police, or the emir, himself told
- 11 Al Hassan that the Islamic police resorted to the following acts of torture. And I
- 12 quote in French: (Interpretation)
- 13 "They torture by beating the person up. For the most part, the form of torture is
- 14 hitting the person." End of quote. (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English)
- 15 MLI-OTP-0060-1662, page 1672, lines 338 to 355.
- 16 Your Honours, I will now be presenting two documents which demonstrate that
- 17 torture was utilised during interrogations in order to extract confessions and
- 18 information. So, as with the Islamic police report that I showed earlier, most details
- 19 will be blurred out so as to remain in public session.
- 20 The first document that I'd like to show is an Islamic police report dated 16 July 2012.
- 21 So you will see the original Arabic document on the left with ERN
- 22 MLI-OTP-0001-7514, and the English translation on the right with ERN
- 23 MLI-OTP-0034-0169.
- 24 And I'd like to highlight one paragraph in this report which refers to how the subject
- of this report was interrogated and tortured, but to no avail. And this report was

- signed by Al Hassan, and you will see his signature highlighted in the original Arabic
- 2 document, and Al Hassan confirmed having written this report. And I refer to
- 3 MLI-OTP-0060-1662, pages 1676 to 1680, lines 478 to 595.
- 4 The second document that I'd like to show which establishes how torture was used in
- 5 interrogations is that of an Islamic tribunal judgment. Again, you'll see the original
- 6 Arabic document on the left with ERN MLI-OTP-0055-0229, and the English
- 7 translation on the right with ERN MLI-OTP-0054-0331.
- 8 And in one paragraph of the judgment the tribunal decided that the accused subject
- 9 of the judgment shall be kept in detention at a location pending the investigation,
- while authorising the police to use any possible pressuring means within the limits
- 11 what is humanly tolerable.
- 12 And, your Honours, the reference to any possible pressuring means would constitute,
- 13 at the very least, serious ill-treatment.
- 14 And I refer your Honours to paragraph 532 of the DCC in relation to the Islamic
- tribunal judgment, and to paragraph 562 of the DCC in relation to the Islamic police
- 16 report shown earlier. Your Honours, I failed to mention that these slides can be
- 17 shown publicly.
- 18 Your Honours, I will now proceed to discussing the third of the three situations
- involving violent means of enforcement of the rules implementing the armed groups'
- 20 common plan. And this third situation is that of floggings and amputation as
- 21 sanctions imposed by the irregularly constituted Islamic tribunal.
- 22 The Islamic police itself executed the sentences imposed by the tribunal or played an
- 23 essential role in their execution, in coordination with the other organs of the armed
- 24 groups such as a Hisbah.
- 25 For instance, the Islamic police would transfer the convicted person from the tribunal

- or the prison to the public site where the sentence would be carried out.
- 2 Along with the security battalions and the Hisbah, the Islamic police would ensure
- 3 that population summoned to witness the sentence would keep a safe distance and
- 4 not interfere with the proceedings.
- 5 So in this regard, your Honours, in relation to the 15 incidents relevant to the crimes
- 6 of torture and serious ill-treatment, there are 11 case of individuals flogged and one
- 7 amputation. But for purposes of my presentation this afternoon, your Honours,
- 8 I would like to focus on four cases of flogging in chronological order, and I will end
- 9 with a lone case of amputation.
- 10 Your Honours, I will proceed to the first incident of flogging imposed as a sanction by
- the Islamic tribunal, and I will remain in public session for this incident and my slides
- 12 can continue to be broadcast.
- 13 So the first incident involves a couple, P-557, who was the man, and P-565, the
- 14 woman, they were flogged on or around 20 June 2012. And this incident was
- discussed in detail in the DCC, principally in paragraphs 536 to 564.
- 16 So this flogging took place at Place Sankoré in Timbuktu and the couple were arrested
- 17 for having a child out of wedlock.
- 18 P-557, the man, was arrested by Adama, who was the first chief of the Islamic police,
- 19 and Demba Demba. Both Adama and Demba Demba were members of the Islamic
- 20 police.
- 21 P-557 was imprisoned for three days in a windowless cell of 2 square metres, lacking
- ventilation, without food, and provided only limited drink. A pot was placed in his
- 23 cell as his toilet. He was brought before Houka Houka at the Islamic tribunal and
- 24 sentenced to 100 lashes.
- 25 Houka Houka was the *de facto* president of the Islamic tribunal and a fellow member

- 1 of the common plan.
- 2 He was ordered, P-557 was ordered by Houka Houka to marry P-565, and if either of
- 3 them refused they would be imprisoned for two years.
- 4 As regards P-565, the woman, she was detained during the day for three days,
- 5 detained for up to 12 hours in the prison of the Banque Malienne de Solidarité, which
- 6 was the Islamic police headquarters at the time, and was brought home in the evening.
- 7 She was given nothing to eat or drink while she was in the cell, although she was able
- 8 to bring some water with her.
- 9 Her cell, like P-577 -- sorry, P-557, had no windows. And unlike P-557, who had
- 10 been given at least a pot to relieve himself, P-565 had to relieve herself directly on the
- 11 floor.
- 12 So I will now be showing an excerpt of a documentary feature on this couple, which
- includes clips of the actual flogging. And in one scene, while P-565, the woman, is
- 14 being flogged Al Hassan can be seen in the background speaking on his mobile
- 15 phone.
- And I will present a screenshot of this particular scene afterwards for your reference.
- 17 This video has ERN MLI-OTP-0009-1749.
- 18 THE COURT OFFICER: [15:05:58] Just for the record, the video is to be shown
- 19 publicly.
- 20 MR SANDOVAL: [15:06:03] Yes, thank you. And the video excerpt begins at
- 21 timestamp 00:04:28.00.
- 22 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 23 MR SANDOVAL: [15:07:47] So as you saw in the video, Al Mahdi, who is referred
- 24 to as Abou Tourab, announced the couple's sentence and participated in the couple's

25 flogging.

- 1 So Al Mahdi was the first head of the Hisbah and a member of the common plan.
- 2 Al Hassan was present, along with other members of the common plan,
- 3 Houka Houka, Sanda Ould Boumama and Radwan.
- 4 And as mentioned earlier, Al Hassan is visible in the background speaking on his
- 5 mobile phone as P-565 is being flogged.
- 6 And my colleague Sarah Coquillaud discussed earlier the call detail records which
- 7 help establish that Al Hassan was in fact in the vicinity of Place Sankoré in Timbuktu
- 8 at the time of this flogging.
- 9 So I would like to show this screenshot now, and this is taken from that same video
- that you had just watched, MLI-OTP-0009-1749 at timestamp 00.05.32.02, and you will
- see that Al Hassan is visible in the background speaking on his phone.
- 12 And Al Hassan acknowledged that this was in fact him. And I refer to
- 13 MLI-OTP-0051-0970, pages 973 to 974, lines 208 to 212.
- 14 So I'd just like to discuss the experience of this couple more specifically in relation to
- 15 the severe physical and mental pain and suffering that they underwent.
- 16 So in relation to P-557, he related that he suffered bleeding wounds on his back and
- 17 on the back of his thighs.
- On the day after his flogging he could not even get up and he coughed blood twice.
- 19 And his left side felt completely numb.
- 20 P-565, the woman, could not lie on her back and recalled that there were marks all
- over her body immediately after the flogging, including red marks on, and
- 22 haematoma under her skin. As for the severe mental pain and suffering that they
- 23 underwent, P-557 explained that he felt so much shame after the flogging, that people
- 24 blamed him for what he did, that friends distanced themselves, and he felt inferior to
- 25 those who had not been punished.

- 1 And as for P-565, she explained, and I quote in French: (Interpretation) "When all
- 2 those people who were there were seen on that day when I received those beatings, I
- 3 felt so small and I felt that I would never be able to speak in front of all these
- 4 persons." (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) MLI-OTP-0046-8881, page 8890,
- 5 paragraph 60.
- 6 P-565 added that friends had stopped speaking to her, and again I quote in French:
- 7 (Interpretation)
- 8 "Some of them told me that I could not speak and that we let ourselves to be taken."
- 9 (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) same ERN mentioned earlier, and the same
- 10 paragraph, MLI-OTP-0046-8881, page 8890, paragraph 60.
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 17 MR SANDOVAL: [15:13:12] Mr President, before I move on to the second incident,
- 18 I'd like to move into private session. And I expect to remain in private session for
- 19 approximately 10 minutes.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:13:25] (Interpretation) Thank you. Court officer,
- 21 can we proceed accordingly. Thank you.
- 22 (Private session at 3.13 p.m.)
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: [15:13:42] (Interpretation) Mr President, we are in private
- 24 session.
- 25 (Redacted)

Confirmation of Charges

(Private Session)

ICC-01/12-01/18

Confirmation of Charges

(Private Session)

(Private Session)

Confirmation of Charges

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Open session at 3.37 p.m.)
- 7 THE COURT OFFICER: [15:37:11] (Interpretation) We are in open session,
- 8 Mr President.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:37:15] (Interpretation) Thank you very much --
- 10 MR SANDOVAL: [15:37:15] (Overlapping speakers) Thank you, Mr President, and
- 11 Mr President --
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:37:15] (Interpretation) -- please proceed.
- 13 MR SANDOVAL: [15:37:18] (Overlapping speakers) broadcast in public.
- 14 So I'd like to proceed, your Honours, to having discussed the four cases of flogging
- imposed as sanctions by the irregularly constituted Islamic tribunal, I'd like to
- 16 conclude with the lone case of amputation; that of Dédéou Maiga, whose right hand
- was amputated on or around 16 September 2012 for theft. And this amputation is
- discussed in the DCC, principally in paragraphs 547 to 549.
- 19 The amputation took place at Place Azalai in Timbuktu. Dédéou Maiga was arrested
- 20 by Al Hassan himself, and Adama, the first chief of the Islamic police and a fellow
- 21 member of the common plan, for stealing 20 sacks of rice.
- 22 And you will see the Islamic tribunal judgment on your screens, the original Arabic
- 23 judgment on the left with ERN MLI-OTP-0001-7474; and the English translation on
- 24 the right, with ERN MLI-OTP-0039-0894.
- 25 And this judgment is signed by Houka Houka, de facto Islamic tribunal president and

- 1 fellow member of the common plan.
- 2 Your Honours, Iyad Ag Ghaly himself, the leader of Ansar Dine and fellow member
- 3 of the common plan, believed that amputation was an obligatory punishment for theft.
- 4 He was quoted as saying, and I quote in French:
- 5 (Interpretation) "Islam is a whole. You cannot practice partial Islam. For example,
- 6 if you surprise a thief, you have to chop of his hand -- "
- 7 (Overlapping speakers)
- 8 MR SANDOVAL: And this is found at MLI-OTP --
- 9 THE INTERPRETER: (Interpretation continuing) -- "It is written in the Koran."
- 10 MR SANDOVAL: [15:39:25] (Overlapping speakers) -- 0040-0459. Iyad Ag Ghaly
- 11 even overruled the objections of Houka Houka to the amputation. And I cite
- 12 MLI-OTP-0025-0127, page 0152 as the basis for this.
- 13 The amputation was carried out by a member of the armed groups and Al Hassan
- 14 himself explained that the implementation of sanctions, including the amputation, led
- to a significant decline in thefts and other crimes.
- 16 And I refer your Honours to MLI-OTP-0067-1896, pages 1898 to 1899, lines 31 to 40.
- 17 And Al Hassan considered that this particular judgment of amputation was
- important. And the basis of this is MLI-OTP-0051-0658, page 0676, lines 607 to 611.
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Private session at 3.43 p.m.)
- 11 THE COURT OFFICER: [15:43:35] (Interpretation) We're in private session,
- 12 Mr President.
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted)

- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Open session at 3.45 p.m.)
- 5 THE COURT OFFICER: [15:45:39] (Interpretation) We are back in open session.
- 6 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:45:43] (Interpretation) Please --
- 7 MR SANDOVAL: [15:45:46] Thank you, Mr President --
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:45:46] (Interpretation) -- continue.
- 9 MR SANDOVAL: [15:45:46] -- and I confirm that my slides can be broadcast to the
- 10 public.
- 11 So the physical pain and suffering that Dédéou Maiga suffered as a result of this
- 12 amputation is self-evident. As for his mental pain and suffering, a witness who
- 13 knew Dédéou Maiga had this observation after the amputation, and I quote in French:
- 14 (Interpretation) "My understanding is that for him since his hand has been
- 15 amputated -- "
- 16 MR SANDOVAL: (Overlapping speakers) And I direct your Honours' attention --
- 17 THE INTERPRETER: (Interpretation continuing) -- "his life had ended."
- 18 MR SANDOVAL: (Overlapping speakers) -- to MLI-OTP-0058-0196, page 0206,
- 19 paragraph 59.
- 20 Dédéou Maiga, your Honours, was a plumber and it was his dominant right hand
- 21 that had been amputated. So clearly, it was no longer an option for him to continue
- 22 his profession.
- 23 And according to the Prosecution's expert witness, a medical legal expert, P-598, his
- 24 opinion was that, and I quote in French:
- 25 (Interpretation) "At the socio-professional level, particularly with someone working

- 2 continue his profession" (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) MLI-OTP-0060-9465,

with his hand in plumbing, such an amputation did not make it possible for him to

3 page 9468.

1

- 4 Your Honours, I would like to complete my discussion of this amputation case with
- 5 an excerpt of a documentary depicting Dédéou Maiga's life after the amputation and
- 6 before he died in December 2017.
- 7 And this video has ERN MLI-OTP-0042-0157. And this can be played in public.
- 8 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 9 MR SANDOVAL: [15:51:16] So to summarise, your Honours, the armed groups
- 10 systematically resorted to torture and serious ill treatment in enforcing their newly
- imposed rules implementing their religious and ideological vision upon the civilian
- 12 population of Timbuktu. Al Hassan was the *de facto* commissaire of the Islamic
- police, one of the key organs established by the armed groups to implement their
- 14 common plan to control Timbuktu and impose this vision. Al Hassan played a
- 15 central role in the violent enforcement of these rules, giving rise to his personal
- criminal responsibility for the crime against humanity and war crime of torture, war
- 17 crime of cruel treatment, crimes against humanity of other inhumane acts and the war
- 18 crime of outrages upon personal dignity. As direct perpetrator and direct or indirect
- 19 co-perpetrator under Article 25(3)(a) of the Statute in addition to other modes of
- 20 liability under Articles 25(3)(b), (c) and (d)(i) and (ii) of the Statute.
- 21 Mr President, your Honours, thank you for your attention.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:52:29] (Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 23 Mr Prosecutor.
- 24 Mr Dutertre, please.
- 25 MR DUTERTRE: [15:52:39] (Interpretation) Thank you, Mr President. We had

- 1 planned to begin a presentation of 30 minutes, but in order to best profit from the
- 2 remaining time, we can go to a presentation that would last just about 15 minutes.
- 3 We will need a few minutes of overtime to complete that, after which I will make a
- 4 few observations.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:53:11] (Interpretation) Thank you very much.
- 6 You will have that additional time.
- 7 MR DUTERTRE: [15:53:17] (Interpretation) Thank you, Mr President.
- 8 It will be presented by my colleague Paola Sacchi on the destruction of mausoleums.
- 9 We have cut out all the legal issues so as to shorten the presentation and we will
- 10 include some more observations in our written submissions.
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [15:53:55] (Interpretation) Yes, well understood.
- 12 You have the floor, Madam Prosecutor.
- 13 MS SACCHI: [15:54:08] Good afternoon, your Honours. Unless otherwise
- indicated, my presentation can be publicly broadcast.
- 15 In my presentation of approximately 12 minutes I will address the attack against
- 16 historical monuments and buildings dedicated to religion.
- 17 Between April and December 2012 a number of historical monuments and buildings
- dedicated to religion were either damaged or razed to the ground in Timbuktu. The
- 19 attacks occurred in three waves of violence: The first between April and May 2012;
- 20 the second between June and July 2012; and the third between November and
- 21 December 2012.
- 22 All the attacks made by up part of a common plan aimed at taking control over the
- 23 city of Timbuktu and imposing on the population of ideological and religious views
- of the attackers. In the present case Al Hassan is charged under Article 25(3)(a) and
- 25 (d) of the Rome Statute with the destruction of nine mausoleums and the damaging of

- one mosque occurred between 30 June and 11 July 2012. All these monuments but
- 2 one have the status of monuments protected by UNESCO.
- 3 During my presentation I will first give a brief overview of the attacks. Second, I
- 4 will show a selection of the evidence concerning the destruction of two mausoleums
- 5 occurred on 30 June 2012. Finally, I will illustrate Al Hassan's involvement in the
- 6 common plan resulting in the destruction of the mausoleums.
- 7 Due to time constraints I will not go through the entirety of the evidence which is
- 8 detailed in the Document Containing the Charges. The aim of this presentation to
- 9 mainly to assist your Honours and the public in verbalising the scale of the
- destruction, the modalities according to which it was carried out and the perpetrators.
- 11 Turning now to the overview of the destruction. Between 30 June and 11 July 2012
- 12 the attackers moved from the north to the south of Timbuktu in destroying the
- mausoleums. On 30 June 2012 and for the record this is 0024-2747 the group first
- 14 attacked the cemetery of Sidi Mahamoud and destroyed two mausoleums therein, the
- 15 Sidi Mahmoud Ben Omar Mohamed Aquit, the Cheick Mohamed Mahmoud
- 16 Al Arawani.
- 17 Later the same day the attackers moved to the cemetery of Sidi El Moktar and
- demolished the mausoleum named after the cemetery.
- 19 In the early afternoon of 30 June the group attacked the Alpha Moya cemetery and
- 20 tore down the mausoleum of Alpha Moya.
- 21 Later, the cemetery of the Three Saints was attacked. Three mausoleums were
- 22 destroyed: The Cheick Mahmoud El Micky, the Cheick Abdoul Kassim Attouaty,
- 23 the Cheick Sidi Ahmed Ben Amar Arragadi.
- 24 Around 2 July the attack continued and the group targeted the door of the mosque
- 25 Sidi Yahia. One last attack occurred on 11 July. The Bahaber Babadié and the

- 1 Ahamed Fulan mausoleums annexed to the Djingareyber mosque were razed to the
- 2 ground.
- 3 I will now turn to the evidence concerning the destruction of the first mausoleum
- 4 attacked in the early morning of 30 June 2012, the Sidi Mahmoud Ben Omar
- 5 Mohamed Aquit.
- 6 This is how the mausoleum looked like before the attack, and for the record this is
- 7 0009-1517, and after the attack. This second picture being taken from a different
- 8 angle, this is 0025-0006.
- 9 I will now play two excerpts from a public video from France2 channel, 0001-6926,
- 10 timestamps 14:15 -- 51, I beg your pardon, to 25:04 and 53:21 to 01:03:03.
- 11 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 12 MS SACCHI: [15:59:53] As Your Honours have seen, members of the Islamic police,
- wearing the blue vest with the logo of the police, are visible at different timestamps
- taking active part in the destruction of the mausoleum. Timestamps 19:06 and 54:02.
- 15 Another public video, 0001-6925, shows the attack to the Alpha Moya, the fourth
- 16 mausoleum destroyed on 30 June 2012. As your Honours will see, members of the
- 17 Islamic police were involved in the destruction of this mausoleum too.
- 18 (Viewing of the video excerpt)
- 19 MS SACCHI: [16:00:52] For the record these were timestamps 22:044 to 36:052.
- 20 The buildings appearing in these two videos have been geolocated by our expert
- 21 P-193 in his report 0030-0629.
- 22 For further details concerning the attacks of these two mausoleums and the others I
- refer to section 8.4.1 of the Document Containing the Charges.
- 24 I'm now turning to the role of Al Hassan and of the other members of the common
- 25 plan in the destruction of the mausoleums.

- 1 First and foremost when speaking of Al Hassan's overall contribution to the
- 2 destruction of the mausoleums P-50 stated that Al Hassan blessed the campaign of
- 3 destruction and supported it. He added that whether Al Hassan stayed in the
- 4 station or went with the group, it would make no difference since he was with them
- 5 in any event. For the record, this is 0064-1231 at 1235, lines 106 to 108 and 125 to 126.
- 6 Whilst P-150 is vague about Al Hassan's presence at the destruction sites, another
- 7 witness saw Al Hassan in one of the vehicles heading to the Alpha Moya mausoleum
- 8 just before it was destroyed. The witness stated in 0025-0127, paragraph 50 that
- 9 Adama was driving another vehicle.
- 10 As your Honours will recall, the Alpha Moya mausoleum is the second video with
- 11 members of the Islamic police taking active part in the destruction. The evidence
- shows that as their subordinates were destroying the Alpha Moya mausoleum, their
- 13 de facto commissaire Al Hassan, and Adama, the first emir of the Islamic police and
- member of the common plan, were present at the destruction sight.
- 15 In the interview with the OTP investigators, 0060-1327 at 1338, lines 354-364,
- 16 Al Hassan himself acknowledged that the Islamic police took part in the destruction
- of the mausoleums. He stated that the destruction necessitated everybody's help,
- specifically, and I quote from French.
- 19 (Interpretation) "It's a job that needs an effort."
- 20 (Overlapping speakers) (Speaks English) The destruction of the mausoleums was
- 21 indeed the result of an effort, a common effort as the evidence before your Honour
- 22 shows. For more in-depth details concerning the common plan, I refer to section
- 23 8.4.3 of the Document Containing the Charges.
- 24 With your Honour's permission I will now need to go briefly into private session.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [16:04:32] (Interpretation) Court officer, could we

- 1 please go into private session.
- 2 (Private session at 4.04 p.m.)
- 3 THE COURT OFFICER: [16:04:47] (Interpretation) We are in private session.
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted)
- 10 (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted)
- 13 (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 (Redacted)
- 21 (Redacted)
- 22 (Open session at 4.06 p.m.)
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: [16:06:54] (Interpretation) We are back in open session.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [16:06:59] (Interpretation) Thank you.
- 25 MS SACCHI: [16:07:01] In this slide at timestamp 00:21:15 taken from the France2

- 1 video we've seen earlier your Honours can see Abou Al Baraa, member of the
- 2 common plan and preacher of AQIM, taking active part in the destruction of the
- 3 Sidi Mahamoud mausoleum.
- 4 In the next slide, timestamp 19:11 from the same video, another member of the
- 5 common plan, Abou Baccar, employed in the Hisbah, is visible equally taking part in
- 6 the destruction.
- 7 Finally, my colleague Sarah Coquillaud showed that in the days preceding the attacks
- 8 of the first mausoleum, during the attacks of all mausoleums and after Al Hassan had
- 9 several contacts with other members of the common plan such as Al Mahdi of the
- 10 Hisbah, Sanda Ould Boumama of the media commission, and Houka Houka of the
- 11 Islamic tribunal.
- 12 Your Honours have heard now how indicative the frequency of calls within telephone
- 13 numbers is.
- In conclusion, the evidence as a whole shows how the members of the common plan
- 15 acted in conjunction with each other. They planned ahead of time, coordinated,
- supervised and took active part in the destruction of the mausoleums.
- 17 Al Hassan knew about the existence of the common plan to destroy the mausoleums,
- 18 he was a member of the common plan and give his essential contribution to it.
- 19 This concludes my presentation, your Honours.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [16:09:08] (Interpretation) Thank you very much,
- 21 Madam Prosecutor.
- 22 Mr Dutertre.
- 23 MR DUTERTRE: [16:09:13] (Interpretation) Thank you, Mr President. Very briefly
- in the earlier presentation on the last piece of video footage the arrow is pointing to
- 25 two people, there is one tall person and then a smaller person. I have two

- submissions to make very briefly. The first one, I sent to all parties, the presentation
- 2 by Ms Coquillaud regarding the telephone call data, and I would like a hearing
- 3 reference number be allocated to that item for the case file.
- 4 And my second observation is this: The Office of the Prosecution has nine hours and
- 5 it's quite normal of course, to have short breaks and interruptions, not directly linked
- 6 to the presentation of our various presentations, but these short breaks have nibbled
- 7 away at our total time. We certainly don't want to depart from the schedule and we
- 8 realise that the Defence does wish to begin as per the schedule.
- 9 I have two possible solutions that I could put before the Chamber so we can enjoy our
- 10 full nine hours.
- 11 So first of all, the Registry will have to exactly calculate exactly the time we have
- 12 spent so far on our presentations, and then secondly we could try to extend each
- session tomorrow by 5 or 10 minutes so that the OTP will have its full nine hours.
- 14 The second possibility, after chatting with the Legal Representatives of Victims,
- apparently they will not be using all of the afternoon session tomorrow, so it might be
- possible for the OTP to take some time during that session. We don't intend to go
- beyond our nine hours, but to use our nine hours fully and to comply with the
- schedule, we wish to make these suggestions. And of course we are in the hands of
- 19 the Chamber and we do hope that we can enjoy this flexibility.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [16:12:01] (Interpretation) Thank you. I will confer
- 21 with my colleagues.
- 22 (Pre-Trial Chamber confers)
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE KOVÁCS: [16:12:59] (Interpretation) Mr Prosecutor, after
- 24 consulting my colleagues, the Chamber agrees to your proposal and will show
- 25 flexibility, and thus the Registry will calculate the time used and we will allow for an

- 1 additional 15 minutes here or 20 minutes there. This is not a problem. So the
- 2 Registry will make the necessary calculations for those minutes. Agreed?
- 3 I thank you, Mr Prosecutor.
- 4 I'd like to thank everyone and we have come to the end of today's hearing. We will
- 5 now suspend and resume tomorrow at 9.30.
- 6 Now, before we actually conclude for the day, I'd like to thank the court reporters and
- 7 the interpreters in particular for their work, I forgot to thank them yesterday, and I
- 8 thank the Registry for their efforts.
- 9 Thank you to everyone.
- 10 The Court stands adjourned.
- 11 THE COURT USHER: [16:14:15] All rise.
- 12 (The hearing ends in open session at 4.14 p.m.)