In the matter of an arbitration under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes

Case No. ARB/14/22
ICC Hearing Centre
112, avenue Kléber
Paris, 75016
France

Day 2
Tuesday, 27th March 2018
Hearing on Forensic Expert Evidence

## Before:

PROFESSOR GABRIELLE KAUFMANN-KOHLER PROFESSOR ALBERT JAN VAN DEN BERG

PROFESSOR PIERRE MAYER
(1) BSG RESOURCES LIMITED
(2) BSG RESOURCES (GUINEA) LIMITED
(3) BSG RESOURCES (GUINEA) SÀRL

Claimants

- V-

THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
Respondent

JAMES LIBSON, KAREL DAELE, KATY COLTON, JENNY HINDLEY and MOHAMMED NAZEER, of Mishcon de Reya LLP, and DAVID BARNETT, of Barnea \& Co, appeared on behalf of the Claimants.

MICHAEL OSTROVE, SCOTT HORTON and THÉOBALD NAUD, Of DLA Piper, and LAURENT JAEGER, YANN SCHNELLER and AGNES BIZARD, of Orrick, appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

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Secretary to the Tribunal: BENJAMIN GAREL
Assistant to the Tribunal: MAGNUS JESKO LANGER
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Transcript produced by Trevor McGowan Georgina Vaughn and Lisa Gulland www.thecourtreporter.eu

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            Tuesday, 27th March 2018
(9.03 am)
THE PRESIDENT: Good morning to everyone. I hope you had at
    least some rest, and you still have some energy for
    Day 2 that we are starting now. We will hear now
    Mr Radley.
        Is there anything that we should raise in between?
    We have received a number of documents from the
    Claimants now. I understand these are the documents
    that Mr Radley will use for his presentation; is that
    right?
MR LIBSON:That's right, madam.
THE PRESIDENT: Also the Secretary has circulated the
    PowerPoint slides that were retained yesterday, and
    I understand that the Respondent has provided a new
    version that includes the old numbers from yesterday, so
    we can refer to the same numbers and don't get confused
    as to the numbers used yesterday in the transcript. Is
    that correct?
MR OSTROVE: (In English) That's correct with respect to
    Mr Welch's slides, but we have not done that with
    respect to Mr LaPorte's slides.
MR GAREL: I've done that with Mr LaPorte, and the printed
    version you have has the numbers as well.
THE PRESIDENT:Thank you very much. Good. If there's
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09:06
MR RADLEY: Just to explain, I will be doing the PowerPoint.
If there are references to the report, Mr Nazeer will have the report to hand, and hopefully that will -- I'm aware we are a bit short of time.
THE PRESIDENT: You are aware, Mr Radley, that you have 45 minutes, right, for your presentation?
MR RADLEY: Yes. (Pause)
MR OSTROVE: As a matter of housekeeping, I see a presentation is going up on the screen; is that correct?
MR RADLEY: Yes.
MR OSTROVE: We received this morning some addended versions
of the Tribunal experts' slides. Have we received a copy of the presentation that's being put up?
MR RADLEY: You should have, yes.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: In the back.
MR OSTROVE: These slides are, but the presentation that is going up there?
MR RADLEY: That is the presentation.
THE PRESIDENT: So are the next slides what we have here, or is this on the screen something different?
MR OSTROVE: Could you just flip through the pages of the presentation so we can see what's coming?
MR RADLEY: Right.
MR OSTROVE: Okay, so this is obviously not in conformity
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09:05 1 nothing further to be raised at the outset, we can start
with Mr Radley's examination.
( 9.05 am )
MR ROBERT RADLEY (called)
THE PRESIDENT: For the record, sir, you are Robert Radley?
MR RADLEY: I am.
THE PRESIDENT: Of Radley Forensic Document Laboratory Limited?
MR RADLEY: That's correct.
THE PRESIDENT: You have provided comments to the Tribunal experts' report on 12th March 2018?
MR RADLEY: Yes, I have.
THE PRESIDENT: You are heard now as an expert witness. As an expert witness, you are under a duty to make only such statements as are in accordance with your sincere belief. Could you please read the expert declaration that the Secretary will indicate you have.
MR RADLEY: I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that my statement will be in accordance with my sincere belief.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. So now we can proceed. Can the gentleman next to the expert identify himself?
MR NAZEER: I am Mohammed Nazeer from Mishcon. I will be assisting Mr Radley with presenting his presentation.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
with paragraph 20 of Procedural Order 17. So we would request either that we receive copies of this --
MR RADLEY: You should have. There were 15 copies made.
MR OSTROVE: We haven't received them.
THE PRESIDENT: Maybe the Claimants can check? It is helpful to us to have other paper copies so we can make our notes.
MR LIBSON: Yes. We did send it over this morning.
MR OSTROVE: I'm sorry, you provided hard copies this morning?
MR LIBSON: Yes.
MR OSTROVE: We received all the ...
THE PRESIDENT: We received this (indicating), which ... (Pause) Here they come. (Handed)

So now we are ready to start, Mr Radley.
MR OSTROVE: Except, Madam President, we have -- I don't know if it's a serious concern. I hope that we can address it very quickly. We'll do it in English to speed things up, if you like. I'll just make sure that's okay with my client. (Pause)

Thank you. I just wanted to get client clearance to raise this in English. Thank you, Mr Touré.

Respondents (sic) seem to be either operating under a double standard or there is just a great deal of confusion about the terms of PO17.

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09:11 1 THE PRESIDENT: Claimants.
2 MR OSTROVE: I'm sorry, we feel so much like Claimants in a corruption case here that we keep making that mistake. I'm very sorry about that.

BSGR made objections yesterday and the night before last to the submission of presentation slides by the Tribunal's experts, and argued that those slides, the presentation slides and their text, should not be included in the record. And in fact those were all excluded, other than slides which were directly mentioned by the Tribunal experts in response to questions, as the Tribunal will recall from its position.

What we see on the very first slides here are essentially precisely what the Tribunal experts were doing, which is indicating quotes from the Tribunal experts' reports with comments on them.

We actually would ordinarily not have any objection to this; we think this is perfectly in conformance with paragraph 20 of PO17. And we also think that the demonstrative exhibits that were handed out this morning, in which additional arrows and some indications have been made on images from the record, are in conformity with paragraph 19 of PO17.

But we find it troubling that Claimants should have

09:14 1
in the interest of efficiency, is that we proceed with these items, but that the Tribunal note our objection to the improper procedural positions taken by Claimants.
THE PRESIDENT: Let me give the floor to the Claimants. MR LIBSON: Two points only.

The first point is that there's a fundamental difference between the nature of the presentation that Mr Radley wants to make today and the nature of the content and material that was in the Tribunal experts' presentations. None of this material that is contained in this presentation is new material, in answer to what was outwith the material that was already on the record. This is already on the record and it is just a summary of the talking points that Mr Radley is going to talk to.

There was no prejudice suffered yesterday because actually, if there was any prejudice, it was prejudice to the Claimants yesterday, because Mr Ostrove had the script by which he could introduce all of the evidence that the Tribunal-appointed experts wanted to address and it was introduced. There was no prejudice whatsoever. There was prejudice in that new material was introduced yesterday that oughtn't to have been introduced, and Mr Radley now has to deal with it.

He's actually dealing with it by way of reference to
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09:13 1 been able, yesterday and the evening before, to raise an objection that attempted substantially to derail the procedure, and cost us all rather a bit of sleep, for the purposes of trying to prevent the Tribunal experts from making their presentations as they had prepared to do so, and yet today they come in with essentially the same procedure.

So we think the procedure is fine and in conformity with the Tribunal's orders, but we are stuck in a situation where the Tribunal's experts were not allowed to follow that procedure, based on the Claimants' objection.

So I'm just at a loss as to whether, for equality of arms, we should ask the Tribunal to reject these things and not let Mr Radley refer to them unless they come up in a question that is posed to him, or whether we should simply ask Claimants to withdraw their objections to the Tribunal experts' materials and let them all in the record. We can't unscramble the omelette. Yesterday the Tribunal experts had to redo their entire presentation, at some prejudice to their ability to communicate the points they wanted to make.

I'm sorry I'm not making a clear application, because it's a little bit difficult to undo the damage done yesterday. So I think that all we would suggest,

Page 6
material that's already on the record. It's a very short presentation, leading up to pictorial presentations that are already on the record, and there is no inequality of arms. And if there is an inequality of arms, it is just evening the playing ground over from what happened yesterday.
(The members of the Tribunal confer)
THE PRESIDENT: At this stage the Tribunal notes the objections or the alternatives of objections that the Respondent has raised, and it understands that it can proceed at this stage, but the objection is noted and the Claimants' position is noted as well.
MR OSTROVE: Thank you, Madam President. MR RADLEY: In fact I believe that there is very little in this presentation that is not already in my report, because I've had to revamp everything last night. As I say, a lot of the illustrations are from the report.
There is a volume of other information, two or three papers that we have concerning penmanship ability, in response to Mr Welch's comment about the inability of anybody to copy signatures of this nature. And the other points that I will be raising --
THE PRESIDENT: Sorry, I just have a practical thought.
Have we provided the Tribunal experts with these additional materials? Because they should be able to

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| 09:18 | 1 | follow what is being done. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2 | You have copies of the presentation and of these |
|  | 3 | additional materials? |
|  | 4 | MR WELCH: Not the additional material. (Handed) |
|  | 5 | THE PRESIDENT: So now the Tribunal-appointed experts do |
|  | 6 | receive copies of the additional materials and they also |
|  | 7 | have Mr Radley's presentation, and we can proceed now. |
|  | 8 | MR RADLEY: In fact, at the back of the paper exhibits there |
|  | 9 | are a number of the slides in fact that Mr Welch |
|  | 10 | presented yesterday. |
|  | 11 | (9.19 am) |
|  | 12 | Presentation by MR RADLEY |
|  | 13 | MR RADLEY: It will be noted that my report starts by saying |
|  | 14 | that what I thought was very significant in the report |
|  | 15 | of the Tribunal experts was the absence of certain |
|  | 16 | information. Throughout the report -- and we've already |
|  | 17 | heard quite a lot on this, so I'll skip through it as |
|  | 18 | quickly as possible -- there is the repeated phrase |
|  | 19 | "there is no evidence of fraudulent production", or |
|  | 20 | words to that effect. There are over 60 examples of |
|  | 21 | this within the report. There is no consideration of |
|  | 22 | possible alternatives stated in the report, and no |
|  | 23 | discussion of why the alternative is not preferred; no |
|  | 24 | mention of what the basis of the choice of wording is, |
|  | 25 | "no evidence of fraudulent production", or the |

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09:22 1
have been stated as such. Not to do so, to proceed on the basis of everything having "no evidence of fraudulent production", is not a balanced view. The very large number of instances -- and Mr LaPorte emphasised this -- the very large number of instances where this comes up, it seems to me that this could form a bias.
"Bias" in forensic terms is the buzzword at the moment, cognitive bias or contextual bias. Contextual bias is where you repeatedly see something, and that leads you in one particular direction. I would suggest in this case there is possibly a totally unconscious bias that it is moving into "no evidence of fraudulent production", and in my view that to the reader tends to suggest authenticity, whereas in fact, in my opinion, the evidence is indeterminate, inconclusive.

Mr [Welch] and Mr LaPorte undertook a huge amount of work, and I have no hesitation in saying they were absolutely correct in carrying out all the examinations detailed. However, the very large number of "no evidence" citations should not mislead the reader into considering that the vast accumulation of such phrases represents an accumulation of evidence indicating authenticity. It does not. And indeed Mr LaPorte indicated that he could not say they were genuine.

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alternative is "there is no evidence of authenticity".
We heard from Mr LaPorte at length on the points of alternatives, and Mr Riley (sic) also referred to the alternatives. Frankly, I could not follow -THE PRESIDENT: Mr Welch. Mr Riley is not here. MR RADLEY: I beg your pardon.

So there has been the use of, as I said in my earlier report, one side of the coin. Everything is directed to "no evidence of fraudulent production". As I say, I could not understand really the logic of the points that were being put forward by the experts as to why there was no statement within the report of a most obvious alternative. Mr LaPorte said there are various alternatives in certain situations, and I would agree with that. But the whole basis of their report is "no evidence of fraudulent production".

My query and my concern is: why was this adopted, as opposed to the opposite view, "there is no evidence to show authenticity" or "there is no evidence to show the dating of the documents is correct". That is a very simple point to put in a report of this nature, and to my mind it is very significant that we have this repeated phrase on so many occasions.

In my view the evidence is indeterminate or inconclusive, and in the report it should, in my view,

Certainly there is no evidence demonstrating authenticity from the findings given.

In this case there are no techniques available to show when a document was created or for what intention, and it goes back to the argument within my report that you may recall of looking for the elephant in the garden: your eyes are not capable of seeing the ants, and therefore it's not an appropriate phrase to say there is no evidence of ants in the garden unless you qualify it by putting the other side: but I cannot exclude the possibility that there are, but I just can't detect it.

My report also goes into quite a number of instances, and I won't make much reference to them, of the "equally likely genuine/forged" proposition. In other words, findings are equally likely to be found in both a genuine document and a fraudulently produced document.

Whilst the pursuance of points raised in the report are fully and properly undertaken by Mr Welch and Mr LaPorte, the observations expressed here are effectively irrelevant in these circumstances. For example, the similarities between the stamp impressions on pages 1 and 2 of R-25 are the same, they have the same features, but that is expected whether they are
a genuine or a fraudulently produced document.
Their instruction is perhaps slightly different to mine. The significance of many of these points pursued by the experts are, from my point and from the Claimants' point of view, not relevant, as I am instructed there has never been an issue as to whether the questioned documents are the result of alteration or page substitution. Their concern was: the documents are fabricated as a whole. (Pause)

We will now turn to signature evaluation. My report details ...
(Pause to resolve a technical problem)
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. We can continue, Mr Radley. MR RADLEY: Right. We will move on to signature evaluation.

Again, as detailed in my report, the basis of signature comparison, as far as I'm concerned, is one looks at all of the questioned, all of the comparison documents so as to establish the range of variation of each particular minute feature.

The range will show a particular feature from one extreme to the other. The range may represent a particular pen movement, such as the degree of curvature, whether it's a narrow, thin curve or whether it's a broad curve, or it may be a physical measurement: how long is this line? And you may have a range of

09:31 1
very broad in its range, that error may still be within the general range of variation. As such, it will not be identified as a difference.

So the wide range of variation tends to masks some errors of forgery. So when we look at a large body of comparison signatures, this is a very important consideration.

In my view, caution should be exercised when dismissing a difference as a mere variant not seen in the known writings presented. Indeed, I think it was Mr LaPorte who said that one has to be cautious when giving a firm opinion one way or the other. I would fully agree with that, not only from the document side of things but also from the handwriting point of view.

One has to assess, when you see a difference -- in other words, something that is outside the range of variation -- you have to assess: is that of importance? What is the basis for that decision?

If I can refer to page 245 , which should be within the photocopy bundle of documents. I think it's the very back page.

Differences, in my view, are generally more important than similarities. Similarities between known and questioned signatures are going to be present. If you have a simulation, almost by definition you're going

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variation of 25 millimetres down to 10 . In that case you have an absolutely fixed range of variation based on the documentation presented.

Anything inside the range is regarded as a similarity. Anything outside the range is a difference by definition. One then proceeds to identify the similarities and the differences between the questioned and comparison materials. One then assesses the same. One thing that always has to be borne in mind is: is there demonstrable or reasonable evidence to consider why a difference is not significant?

When assessing the points, there are several other considerations that I view. One looks at the nature of the similarity: is it a significant point because it is difficult to copy? Is it subtle? Is it likely to be copied by an individual? How easy is it to copy the signature? How wide is the range of variation of the comparison materials?
This is very important, because there could be errors in a copying process, a simulation process, which still fall inside the natural range of variation. In other words, if somebody is copying an average signature, whatever that might be, and they go wrong on this particular element, if that particular element is
to have a lot of similarities. The better the ability of the forger, the fewer dissimilarities you're going to have.

Consequently, one has to be very aware of both obvious differences and subtle differences. Subtle differences are very easily dispelled as, "Oh, it's just another variation not seen in the known writings". But one can look at it from the point of view that if, for instance, you have two individuals, or you have two descriptions of two individuals and you want to see if they're the same, they may both be 5 foot 10 tall, they may have black hair, they may have brown eyes, they may have a 40 -inch chest, they may have a scar on their cheek, which is quite significant, they both may walk with a limp in the right foot -- quite distinctive features -- but if one of those is from Japan and one is from the West Indies, they are different.

So this, to my mind, emphasises the caution that you have to exercise. It is the same in handwriting, especially if potentially dealing with skilled writers: that you don't merely dismiss differences as variants, variations not seen in the known writings.
Turning to page 245 -- in fact, we can turn back to the last couple of lines of 244 . In fact, I will read the previous paragraph:

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"Some of the old discussions of this subject of comparison of handwritings contain some curious arguments regarding what is described as 'similitude and dissimilitude', and it is dogmatically asserted that similarities have more force in proving genuineness than differences have in proving lack of genuineness, without any discussion of the quality or nature of the similarities or differences. It is easy to understand that this principle is not the basis for intelligent comparison.
"According to the principle stated, it could be contended that an individual is proved to be a certain person if numerous similarities are shown without regard to the presence of a few fundamental differences."

So that is the example I've just given.
"The argument is, of course, absurd. A handwriting is identified exactly as a person is identified, by a comparison of general characteristics that, in the case of a person, point to a general class or race, and in addition the identification must include that which is not general but distinctly individual and personal.
"In identifying a person, for example, scars, deformities, finger-prints or a series of accurate measurements, must be depended upon and finally, if the conclusion of identity is reached, either in a person or

09:40 1
undoubtedly a lot of very skilled penmen out there. And there are a lot of skilled penmen out there who can write fluently and copy fluently.

This is not something that you acquire by practice. One of the papers I would have liked to produce was a paper I did for the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, looking at how practice improves an individual's ability to copy a signature; and basically, it doesn't, not to a significant extent. A good forger is born, and not made through practice.
I do have a few examples that I haven't referred to in the report; everything up to now I think has been dealt with. But I would like to draw your attention to a couple of papers.
The first one is "Another Adept Penman" by Jim Buglio and Hans Gidion. This is the examination of a very talented guy. He's a Native Indian chief, Zug Standing Bear. And his task -- or the test was set up with ruled sheets of paper, eleven signatures per sheet, and one blank line. The blank line was random up to the person that was signing. He then has one attempt only at duplicating the signature style.
If we just thumb through these pages, we can see that a lot of these are very fluent. And if you look through them, even a trained document examiner has real

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a handwriting, there must not remain significant difference that cannot reasonably be explained. This ignoring of the differences, or the failure properly to account for them, is the cause of most errors in handwriting identification."

In other words, one has to be very cautious, and not just dismiss items on a gut feeling or a whim.

This is particularly true because there are skilled penmen out there. Mr Welch said that he thought that no penman could reproduce these signatures, and I very adamantly -- well, I do not see where the basis of that comes from at all. He has said that hesitation, lack of fluency, poor line quality, all the rest of it, they are typical of forgeries. Yes, I would absolutely agree. We have no doubt that is the case in most instances.

What we have in the normal course of my casework -and I think this is probably shared all over the world -- is that most forgery is, frankly, rubbish. You have silly, illiterate husbands trying to copy the scribbled signature of a wife, and this sort of thing.

However, in my experience, when dealing with the larger cases, where there may be more input by people producing documents -- as opposed to merely signing something on a whim, signing a document on behalf of your wife on the kitchen table or whatever -- there are
problems in picking out these "forgeries", if you can call them "forgeries".

He doesn't seem to have a problem in copying normal
forward-sloping writing, like figure 5, Edward
Frothingham; very fluent. And I would say the copies
I'm producing are in fact copies of copies scanned over
to me yesterday. Even so -- and the reproduction is not
brilliant because they are copies of copies -- I think
you can appreciate from, for instance, figure 5, Edward
Frothingham, forward leaning. Then we've got Eleonore
Gidion, very upright writing. Then we've got Hamby,
which is barely legible.
And going through all of these -- Roland Dolle --
you can see --
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Now you raise my curiosity to a high level. Which of the twelve is the fraudulent one? Or is that what we have to examine? You are going to examine us, whether we can figure it out?
MR RADLEY: It would be very interesting to see if you can. Some of these are very good.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Yes, but which of the twelve is the copied one?
MR RADLEY: I think there's 23 examples here; I can't
honestly recall. You have to take the test and send the result in before he will give you an answer.

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Page 20

BSG Resources Limited, BSG Resources (Guinea) Limited and BSG Resources (Guinea) SARL v Republic of Guinea

At the back of those various examples, you will see two sheets of paper. These were what gave rise to the study of this guy. This was in fact a meeting where he was effectively collecting attendees' signatures. And because he knew that Jim Buglio was a document examiner, he said, "Well, I can copy these".

So if we look at those two pages at the back, one of them is --
THE PRESIDENT: Figures 23 and 24 ; is that what it is?
MR RADLEY: I don't think the page is -- it's this page
(indicating).
THE PRESIDENT: It's just for the transcript. I'm trying to
make sure that we identify what we are speaking about.
MR RADLEY: Yes, sorry. It's figure 1 at the back and
figure 2 at the back. As I say, these are just what he
wrote at the time, just copying the register, and there
is a lovely level of fluency.
The next paper is "Excellence in Forgery" by dear
Jack McCarthy, John McCarthy. And again, just very
quickly going through so as not to waste too much
time...
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: May I test you on this figure? Can
you please go to figure 1 you just pointed us to.
Simply if you look to the right-hand column.
MR RADLEY: Yes.

09:48 1
line, the last "P"; not to mention the first "P".
MR RADLEY: Oh, yes. Yes. That might be relevant -- as I say, this is the most difficult task of all. He's done 44 signatures, one attempt only. The question would be -- you quite rightly point out that they are different, so he's made an error in the copying process -- looking at, say, 30 signatures of Philip, would that error still lie within that wide range of variation, or potentially wide range of variation? If it's a very narrow range of variation, it probably won't lie inside. If it's a very wide range, it may well do.

Just, as I say, very quickly -- I'm very acutely aware of time -- if we move on, there is an illustration in Jack McCarthy's paper of "Sharon F" -- it looks like "Rennaker"; I'm afraid the quality is not very good. But again, what we have here is a fluent signature. Somebody is copying in a fluent style.

If we go over the page, we have "Hardy M", it looks like "Snow" -- or something like that -- "Junior". Again, very reasonable copies; some differences, but again it's a one-off example.
THE PRESIDENT: Just so that we are sure again to identify
the proper page, now we are speaking about the paper that follows the previous one, and that is
John McCarthy, "Excellence in Forgeries", and you were

Page 23

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Then you go over the
see "Philip" and something; I don't know what the last
name is. Do you see that, "Philip"? Right hand column,
over the middle, you see "Philip". And the last name
I don't know, I can't read it. If I show it to you
(indicating).
THE PRESIDENT: Something like "Shark".
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Probably. Do you see that?
MR RADLEY: Oh, yes, yes.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Okay. Now you compare. You turn
the page, you go to figure 2 , and you see again
a "Philip". Now, having been versed in handwriting
analysis yesterday, it seems to me that this is not
a variation, but there is a difference, if you see the "Philip" here.
MR RADLEY: Oh, there will be differences. Don't forget,
these are executed outside a meeting, and he's having
one go at it. He's not practising, he's having one go
at it. So, yes, they're not going to be superimposable, that's for sure. The question is --
THE PRESIDENT: If I understand it correctly, figure 1 is
the page that was signed by all the attendees and
figure 2 is the copy by one forger.
MR RADLEY: Yes, that's correct.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: For example, the " P " is out of

Page 22
referring to the pages with signature at the end of the actual article.
MR RADLEY: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: And which page were you referring to?
MR RADLEY: That is the "Sharon F Rennaker".
THE PRESIDENT: The first one?
MR RADLEY: The first one.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
MR RADLEY: Again, as we just thumb through, we will see another page, another example: a single signature at the top of the page, trying to mimic the writing of the individual concerned.

And of course there are different standards -- well, not "standards"; there are different occasions on which one can do a forgery. The best situation for a forger is that he has a dozen sheets of paper and he can just do one, he can do the next, he can do the next, and then choose the best one. In this situation, with all the nerves involved as well, no doubt, they're having one bite at the cherry, as we say.

Again, without labouring the point, we can go on and see the signature of -- oh dear, I can't really read it.
It looks like "Gelison M. Gump", or something like that; a very fluent signature.

Again, I won't bother going through the further

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09:52 1
2
paper, which is by Dick Totty from the Birmingham laboratory. Again, he gives some examples that are very good.

So good, skilled penmen are out there. My daughter, who works alongside me, is a very accomplished forger, if you like, and I've had the privilege of working with a friend both of myself and Mr Welch and Mr LaPorte, Lloyd Cunningham, who is a master penman and also a document examiner, very interestingly, and his specialty is signing the signature as per I think it's the Declaration of Independence by John Hancock, which is an incredibly beautiful piece of work. There are these people out there.

What do we expect of a skilled forger? He's got to have good writing ability, obviously. Good observation to detail, that's a very important thing, attention to detail. The difficulty is in reproducing the same pen movements in the same way as a genuine writer. So you may be able to reproduce quite fluently certain points, but some of the more subtle detail might be more difficult to reproduce.

The presence of hooks and things can be reproduced. With regard to comments that have been made that, for instance, there's a nice little hook on the Struik signature in question at the beginning: yes, it is, it's

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a nice little hook. But it is very obvious, if you are studying a signature to reproduce it, that is the sort of thing that, frankly, you're not going to miss.

If differences are present, features falling outside that range of variation, obviously you have to consider whether they are accidentals -- and I accept that accidentals happen in everybody's writing from occasion to occasion: they are just the result of momentary loss of concentration, interruption, something of that nature. So are the differences likely to be accidentals or variants which are just not represented in the comparison material, or are they likely to be errors of forgery?

There is also an issue of: are there enough comparison materials to be representative of the writer's natural variation, the full range of that variation?

Taking into consideration the accumulation of any differences, one then has to ask how likely it is that many differences not seen in the comparison material should all appear in one questioned signature.

In my charts, on occasions, I have pointed out where there are what I refer to as "rarities". I've done this because when you have, say, 47 signatures of Lev Ran, you're going to have a wide range of variation, because
there are so many. My belief is that when you see a signature and it has a number of differences or it has a number of very rare features, and if you have a fairly large number of rare features, is that coincidence that all of those rarities and all of those differences appear in one signature going to be the result of natural variation, and therefore a very considerable coincidence, or is it likely to be the result of forgery? Where is the demonstrable evidence to show where the truth of the matter lies? And this is the difficulty, and in this case this is where Mr Welch and I see things differently.

Some of the features that I will mention, especially in the Struik signature -- that's the only one that I'm prepared to offer an opinion on -- we have offhand five differences, say, and a couple of rarities. And where is the evidence to say that they, in combination, are the result of a great coincidence of a lot of differences coming together, all in one signature, and independent features? One has to ask: what is the degree of uncertainty, if no demonstrable evidence is available, and it boils down to the interpretation of the expert, which is where Mr Welch and I are disagreeing.

What I would like to point out now is Osborn,
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page \(230 / 231\). This is the third sheet or so from the back of the paper handout. On page [230] it starts:
"One of the favourite defenses of forgery is the argument that numerous damaging divergences in a disputed signature, which in combination are highly significant as evidence that it is not genuine, can each be found separately in one signature out of a great number of genuine signatures, and that this proves that the disputed signature is genuine. Even if they could be found, this would not be proof of genuineness."

The following point I won't go into because I don't think Mr Welch is incompetent or insincere; I think we just have different interpretations. But Osborn goes on to say that, basically, is it likely that you're going to get all of these together? And that is the basis of my view on the Struik signature.

That I'll skip because ...
Now we come to Lev Ran's signature, and this is just a reproduction of what we have in my appendix C. So we have all the signatures of Lev Ran; the next lot; the next ones; the next ones.

Can I ask you to turn to ... (Pause)
There we have the signatures of Lev Ran.
In paragraph 237 of my report I start and point out some of the very big, very substantial ranges of writing

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10:02 1 variation. Consider the structure of C-271-287.1 and 281.43. Those, I think ... (Pause)

We can see C-271-287.1 at the bottom right-hand corner of that page. You can see that there is effectively an element missing: the terminal element is missing. There should be another up-and-down stroke that is missing for some reason. 287.2 again doesn't show that terminal stroke to be present, but it's present in pretty well all the others. So we have quite a considerable variation there.

If we look at points 2 and 4, these are the top spikes, if you like, up here -- no, sorry, they're the bottom two spikes, although as you're looking at me, they would probably be that way to you, yes.

Well, rather than go through selecting different ones, we can see that -- let me go over a page so we've got more -- we can see that in the second column, bottom row, one of the spikes is incredibly short; the signature above it is incredibly long. Without labouring the points, I'll just take any illustrations here. The top left-hand corner, the two top spikes, the right-hand-side one is taller than the left-hand side one.
MS COLTON: Sorry, can I just suggest you get out of the presentation view, so that you can use your -- it might

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10:07 1

10:05 1 be helpful if you use your mouse, so we can see --
2 I don't know whether that would be helpful -- so we can
see what you're looking at, if that's possible.
MR RADLEY: Oh, right. Okay. (Pause)
THE PRESIDENT: While you're figuring this out -- and Mr Nazeer maybe can help -- the Secretary draws my attention to the fact that you have already used 45 minutes.
MR RADLEY: Right.
THE PRESIDENT: So of course I will not cut you off abruptly, but I see there is still a good number of slides. So you should make sure that you get to a conclusion.
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) If I may, he has decided to spend approximately 23 minutes, according to my calculations, on the 1970 and 1977 conference papers. It's his choice to choose how he wants to use his 45 minutes. But I think granting him much longer now, obviously we don't wish to be too rigid, but it's his strategic decision, or that they have taken.
THE PRESIDENT: (Interpreted) Yes, I understand what you're saying, and we also have quite a heavy schedule for the day. So if we wish to finish at a more reasonable hour than we did yesterday ... It goes without saying that the same time will be granted to experts for the

Respondent.
(In English) Mr Radley, to be practical, can you close in 5 to 10 minutes?
MR RADLEY: Yes, I will go through very rapidly. So what we have is obviously quite a lot of variation. The bottom left-hand corner signature there is very unusual. You can see there are different lengths, there are different numbers of strokes, there are different angles between the various lines. These are all detailed in my report.

I think we've dealt with this. How does a large range of variation help a forger if he goes wrong? That's that.

I will very quickly just draw a sketch.
(The expert approaches the whiteboard)
THE PRESIDENT: The Tribunal experts could come forward so you see the sketch, and the Secretary will take a picture of the sketch, because otherwise it will not be recorded.
MR OSTROVE: (In English) I'm sorry, is this now -- I'm unsure, given yesterday's objections by Claimants, whether that was supposed to indicate the directions of the strokes, which were not in the initial report, or whether this is a new --
MR RADLEY: This is in the initial report, with respect.
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MR OSTROVE: I'll save my questions for cross.
THE PRESIDENT: Maybe, Mr Radley, you explain what you have just sketched.
MR RADLEY: Yes. I've done a sketch there which is very similar to R-24. That to my mind -- one, two, three, four, five, six (indicating) -- that, to my view, is not a complex signature, it is not difficult to copy. When you have a range of variation that is so huge -- I've gone wrong and made this line too curved, but I have little doubt I could find that in here. One line might be too long; I have no doubt I would find -- all those lines are so variable, that's going to fall fairly well inside the range of variation. The range of variation is masking the errors of forgery.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. We will identify this as Radley sketch 1.
MR RADLEY: We have that signature, and there was in fact a very interesting point in fact raised by the Tribunal with regard to the downstroke. We've got a downstroke that comes through here (indicating). The question that was in fact put was: what's the sequence of that? And in fact Mr Welch didn't reply on the questioned signature because he can't determine it. We know in the known writings he starts with that, but does it in the R-24/R-25?

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The other point that is of interest is the length of this stroke, and I've got that illustrated.
THE PRESIDENT: Can we do another picture, which will be Radley sketch 2.
MR RADLEY: The relative length of that stroke, I described it in the report as a star shape. It makes it look like a star, with bits sticking out. If we very rapidly ... if we very quickly look through those signatures, there's no star shape in the comparison material, in my view. They're all relatively short. Next one: they're all relatively short, they don't look like star shapes to me. These are again relatively short, they don't look like star shapes. These again, the second from the left has got a bit sticking out, but basically they don't look like the questioned one which is at slide 18 ; it doesn't look like R-25.

If I can refer you now to -- it's in fact --
THE PRESIDENT: Did you want to say R-25 or R-24?
MR RADLEY: Well, either of them, because they both have --R-25 has a much bigger star shape, if you like. R-24 certainly sticks out a fair bit.

If we go to slide 16 that Mr Welch produced yesterday, and this is very crude from my point of view. It's ... I'm sorry, if we go to 10 first.

In any signature comparison you can compare the
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the signature, or could this be a misconception by the forger of how long it should be? It's just the downstroke as far as many people would see it.

With regard to R-26, what we have here is a downstroke with a very distinct hook going into the next stroke. If I can just quickly demonstrate.
(The expert approaches the whiteboard)
What we have is in the questioned signature, but over a bit. So in other words, we've got a gentle flick. What we will now look at in the known writings is a very emphatic stop, occasionally a little tiny flick-off.

That is a fundamental difference in my mind. The emphatic downstroke -- and we can very quickly ... If we look there, we can see the downstroke stops, the pen stops; it doesn't come off gently. That is a fundamentally different pen movement. The fingers are doing something totally different in that questioned signature relative to these.
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) Madam, I note --
THE PRESIDENT: (Interpreted) Yes, time is going by, and I was going to tell Mr Radley.
(In English) Mr Radley, we have now exceeded the 5 to 10 minutes, the 10 minutes that I mentioned a while ago. Maybe we should close here, and you will be asked

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2 a questioned signature should show the same range. It should fall within the range of variation. This is Mr Welch -- this is the chart we're looking for.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, thank you.
MR RADLEY: You can look at the proportion of any signature and a genuine signature should fall inside that range of variation. What I am saying is: the length of that downstroke in R-25 compared with, say, the stroke that defines the width of the signature -- in other words, it's relative to I suppose the top right-hand point and the bottom left-hand point. So it's the length of the downstroke compared with the overall length here (indicating). In R-24 and R-25, the downstroke is less than three times the length of the diagonal. In the others, you will see this is hugely different. There is nothing that approaches this, when you look at the proportion of that to that length.

That is a significant difference in proportion. It's a significant difference of the same element in two different signatures, two different signatures signed months apart. Yet coincidentally R-24 has a very long downstroke and coincidentally R-25 has a very long downstroke. Now, is this coincidence of two unusual strokes demonstrably out of proportion to the rest of
questions as we go along. So there will be other opportunities for you to bring forward your opinions.

Good. Can I then turn to the Respondent for your questions to Mr Radley.
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) A question of procedure, to start with. Is the scope of the cross-examination supposed to be limited to the scope of the presentation itself? (In English) Is the scope of cross-examination limited to the direct? (Interpreted) Or am I entitled to ask questions on other elements? I think that everything is allowed, but I'm not sure.
THE PRESIDENT: (Interpreted) Let me check in Procedural
Order No. 1. I'm just looking for the answer to your question. I don't think there is any such limitation.
MR OSTROVE: I think this was discussed last May, if I remember rightly.
THE PRESIDENT: (In English) "The adverse Party may then cross-examine the witness. The scope of the cross-examination shall be limited to the contents of the witness's witness statement and the direct examination ..."

This is 18.15 .3 of PO1, which is applicable by analogy to experts, according to some provision in Article 19.
MR OSTROVE: (In English) If memory serves, this was

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HE PRESIDENT: Are we in agreement on this?
MR LIBSON: Yes, we are.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. Then why don't you proceed, please.
(10.22 am)

Cross-examination by MR OSTROVE
Q. Good morning, Mr Radley, again.
A. Good morning.
Q. I'm Michael Ostrove from DLA Piper, counsel to the Respondent.

Just a couple of background questions, before addressing some of the things that you just reviewed.

When were you first contacted about potentially assisting in this matter?
A. It was 8th January of this year.
Q. And who contacted you, please?
A. That would have been Katy Colton.
Q. Katy Colton from Mishcon de Reya?
A. Yes.
Q. And when were you first shown the preliminary report in
A. I'm afraid I don't. It was probably within the week.
Q. It was before submitting the comments on the preliminary report?
A. Oh, yes, yes.
Q. Was it your understanding that you were asked to replace them in order to prepare comments on the preliminary report?
A. I didn't -- I wasn't told specifically I was replacing them.
Q. I'm sorry, my question was: was it your understanding that you were replacing them?
A. Not at that stage, no.
Q. Is it your understanding today that you were asked to replace them?
A. Well, yes, they're not here.
Q. So your understanding is that originally they were the experts who would appear here, and you have replaced them and are appearing here?
A. No, my understanding was that they had attended the examination. They'd done the briefest of notes.
Q. So is it your understanding that they were never expected to prepare comments on the preliminary report?
A. That's beyond my knowledge.

THE PRESIDENT: Can I just ask one clarification question. These one and a half pages of notes by the previous

10:23 1 this matter?
A. I think that came over probably the 9 th or the 10 th.
Q. Were you informed, when you were contacted by Ms Colton, that there were other experts previously engaged?
A. Not at that point, no.
Q. You learned that shortly after?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you recall when?
A. Certainly within the week.
Q. You did come to understand at some point that they were originally engaged to prepare comments on that preliminary report?
A. I was told they attended the examination. They presumably made notes on the examination.
Q. I'm sorry, were you told at some point that those initial experts --
A. At a later stage, I believe I was told they made some notes and ... yes, I was given probably -- it wasn't even a page and a half of notes. It was just very random sentences.
Q. So you were given a page and a half or so of notes prepared by Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you recall approximately when you were given those notes?
experts, were these notes about the inspection or were these notes about the preliminary report, or about something else?
A. To tell you the truth, I don't recall. I did read them, and I thought -- I'm just trying to work out how to put this politely -- I didn't regard them as being very worthwhile.
MR OSTROVE: Do you still have a copy of those notes?
A. Not on me. Oh ... no, I'm afraid that's one of the six or seven bundles of documents I have not brought.
Q. But you still possess in London a copy of that?
A. In Reading, yes.
Q. In Reading, sorry.

You mentioned that you were engaged on 9th or 10th January by Mishcon?
A. Yes. Yes, after the initial enquiry on the 8 th.
Q. Before being engaged, did you have a chance to peruse the preliminary report?
A. No. Had I done so, because of the enormity of the case and the very short period of time, it would not be something that I would normally relish taking on.
Q. You indicated that you received a copy of the preliminary report shortly after 8th January?
A. Yes, I think it was about the 12 th or thereabouts.

I was somewhat horrified at the size of it.

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10:28 \(\quad 1 \quad\) Q. Is this an unusually long report in this type of case?
A. 1,100 documents, 200-page report, for a report to be prepared -- or notes to be prepared within two weeks was -- well, it just meant everything stopped, all my other casework. And it's not the sort of thing that I would want to take on normally.
Q. Sorry, my question was: given you indicated some surprise in the size of the report, normally, in a case like this, would you expect a report on this number of documents to go some 200 pages?

10:31 1
A. No, nowhere near.
Q. You have worked with Mishcon de Reya in the past, have you not?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. Do you recall in approximately how many cases?
A. Not very many, actually. My experience is they tend to instruct Audrey Giles; I'm quite often on the other side. I've probably done no more than three or four, bearing in mind that I've been engaged in over 13,000 in the last 42 years.
Q. Of those three or four, were any or all of them in the last few years?
A. I've been engaged, since I took this one on, on another case. Previously, I really can't say, I'm afraid.
Q. Do you recall the case of -- excuse my pronunciation --

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So an extension from the 18 th to the 25 th. So it was a busy 13 days?
A. It doesn't make a lot of difference. Yes, very busy.
Q. I believe we have a document bundle, but I'm going to refer to Annex \(L\) to the final report of the Tribunal experts, which is at tab 1 of the blue bundle that we've provided. Annex L, just there.
A. Yes.
Q. This is a letter dated 23rd January 2018 from Mishcon de Reya to the Tribunal in this case. Did you assist in the preparation of this letter?
A. I provided Mishcon with a lot of information. They were the writers of this, based on advice that I gave them. When I say "advice", that would be a letter of advice, giving at this stage a very basic rundown of what I'd been able to ascertain from the documents.
Q. Did you review these 65 questions or comments before they were submitted to the Tribunal?
A. Oh dear.
Q. Do you recall --
A. I don't recall seeing them before they were sent out.

This is not my work.
Q. I understand that this is not your drafting. I was just wondering whether, when these were submitted as comments to the Tribunal, you had had a chance to review these

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10:30 \(1 \quad\) Otkritie v Urumov, 2014 in the High Court?
A. Sorry, can you say that again?
Q. Otkritie v Urumov. I believe you were engaged to prepare a report for Mrs Urumov?
A. I'm not very good on names. If you show me the signature, I'd identify ...
Q. You would identify it or you would recognise it?
A. I would recognise it.
Q. So if you received a copy of the preliminary report only around 12th January, preparing your comments by 15th January was an impossibility, I suppose, the original date?
A. Yes.
Q. So did you ask Mishcon de Reya to seek an extension so that you would have sufficient time?
A. Yes.
Q. And they obtained a week's extension to 22nd January?
A. Yes.
Q. It was a busy week?
A. That's an understatement, yes!

MR LIBSON: Sorry to interrupt, but you haven't put the date correctly to Mr Radley. It wasn't the 15th, it was the 18th, the original date.
MR OSTROVE: The original date. Thank you for the correction.
comments before they were submitted to the Tribunal and the Tribunal experts.
A. I don't honestly recall. I'm sorry.
Q. Perhaps if we look at some specific questions, it might refresh your recollection.

If you could look at question 9 in the Mishcon de Reya letter on page 3.
A. Yes.
Q. "Please explain whether the Experts identified any evidence of security printing on the Disputed Documents, and if so, please comment on the findings in the final report."

Do you recall whether you reviewed that question before it was submitted?
A. I know when I did my advice, I raised the question. And at this stage I'm looking at only photographs. There is one enlarged photograph, which is either an inkjet printer which is depositing very discrete yellow dots alongside an enlarged outline, it's either an inkjet printer or it's a slightly out-of-focus laser printer. And this is a problem one always has when looking at photographs.

I merely raised the question with them that if it is a laser printer, then it could be CPS codes. The yellow dots are a code all over the front of the document, and

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that would give a dating indication.
Q. So my question was whether you reviewed question 9 before it was submitted to the Tribunal experts.
A. Well, no, as I say, I supplied them with the information on it; I don't think I reviewed the material before it went out. As I say, I really find it difficult to recall when I saw this.
Q. Have you subsequently reviewed these 65 questions?
A. Yes, yes, particularly when the answers came in obviously.
Q. And did you consider these to be legitimate questions properly posed to the Tribunal experts?
A. Yes.
Q. All of them?
A. If you're asking me to go through all 65 of them --
Q. Then let me rephrase the question. When you reviewed this letter subsequently, do you recall finding that any of these questions were, to your mind, inappropriate?
A. I don't recall thinking that at all.
Q. You don't recall either way, or you don't recall having a positive --
A. I don't remember thinking there was anything that was inappropriate.
Q. Thank you. If I could turn your attention to question 12. It

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why they were marked "Forged"?
A. Only very recently. But that's after everything has -all the reports and what have you have gone in.
Q. So at the time you were preparing your report --
A. I had better things to do.
Q. -- it was not of interest to you to know whether other forensic examinations had already been performed on those documents?
A. No, no interest at all.
Q. If we look at questions 35 to 37 regarding Mr Struik's signature on R-27. Question 35:
"As set out in paragraph 19 above, please explain in further detail what differences (if any) the Tribunal-appointed Experts identified between the signature of Marc Struik on R-27 and those in the comparator documents and the relevance of each point."

Had you, prior to the creation of these comments, already identified what you considered to be differences?
A. On a preliminary basis, yes.
Q. Had you indicated to Mishcon de Reya what preliminary basis differences you thought existed?
A. I probably gave a very -- without any diagrams or anything, I probably gave a very brief textual paragraph or two on it.

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"C-0112 is a different version of R-28, which was received by BSGR and subsequently marked 'Forged'. What differences do the Experts identify between the two documents? What weight (if any) do the Experts place on the differences which exist between C-0112 and R-28? If the Experts do not consider the differences (if any) to be relevant to their conclusions, please explain why."

Did that seem to you to be an appropriate question?
A. I have no idea. I was not instructed to look at C-0112, I didn't pull it out of the bundle at any time. This is something purely that Mishcon has put; no input at all from me.
Q. So when it refers to differences between the two documents, it's not that you had identified differences; this is --
A. No, I haven't -- until it went up today, in fact, I haven't really looked at that document -- not today: yesterday, when it was raised by the Tribunal.
Q. Could you confirm then that the same would hold true for questions 13 and 14, which relate to other documents marked "Forged"?
A. No, I haven't seen any of those, and I certainly wasn't instructed on them.
Q. Did you ever enquire, after learning of their existence,

10:41 \(1 \quad \mathrm{Q}\). In the procedure here, there is a preliminary report
2 from the experts; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And then there was an opportunity for comment; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And then the Tribunal experts were asked to prepare a final report; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you think it would have simplified matters if you had had time to indicate what you saw as purported differences to the experts for them to take into consideration for their final report?
A. I would not expect Mr Welch to take into consideration what I have to say when formulating his opinion. One does these things independently: you examine the document and you come to your own opinion on it. Or that is my practice. If there is another report involved in a case, usually one doesn't go into the detail of it.
Q. So even today, is it fair to say you are not surprised that Mr Welch hasn't changed his conclusions on the basis of your report?
A. Well, I mean, that's his honest belief, and I am sharing my honest belief, and I don't think either one of us can be swayed by the other, necessarily.

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10:45 1 Q. And you indicated that it could create some kind of unconscious bias. I just want to make sure, since there have been allegations of bias in this case, that the bias you're referring to is a bias by repeated statements, not a bias intentionally directed against a party?
A. Oh, it's not direction. This is the whole point of looking at things like opinions and how you take on a case. You don't want to be unconsciously biased. Had I seen the documents marked "Forged", it suggests that I might be biased, and somebody else has looked at it or stamped it as really not a genuine document, and so on. So that sort of thing can happen -- not in those circumstances -- if you're given a lot of information you shouldn't have been given.
Q. Going to that example, had you been given information that there had been previous reviews of these documents, and they had been determined forged by some examiner --
A. No.
Q. -- that could have created some kind of unconscious bias?
A. No, well, it wouldn't.
Q. But it could create in some people an unconscious bias?
A. In some people it could.
Q. You refer to the need to consider alternative scenarios

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10:43 \(1 \quad\) Q. So you don't think that there's any signs of animus or bias towards you that would cause him to reject out of hand your conclusions?
A. I would hope not. We are good professional colleagues.
Q. Do you have any reason to believe that there would be such animus or bias against you personally?
A. No, I have no reason to believe at all.
Q. Or against instructing counsel?
A. That, I have no idea.
Q. I believe -- and please correct me if I'm wrong -- that there's an overall agreement between you and the Tribunal-appointed experts here that the forensic examination, other than handwriting, the non-handwriting examinations performed are examinations that are designed to detect certain kind of fraud or alteration. Is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And the primary difference between you and them in the conclusions is that they've repeatedly stated there is no evidence of fraudulent modifications or fraud in the preparation of these documents, without saying equally there is no evidence that they are authentic; correct?
A. Yes. I think the phrase used is relatively meaningless, but when used in volume, as we have here in 65 examples, I think it can be misleading to the layman.
at all times; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Would you agree that there are a finite number of ways to create forged documents?
A. Well, not a -- yes, I suppose there are.
Q. So if you eliminate certain forgeries or certain frauds through testing, that reduces the world of possibilities that the document is fraudulent, does it not?
A. It reduces the -- yes, I mean, you either, as we say, get a hit or you don't.
Q. So if you got a hit, that would help the Tribunal: they would know the document was created fraudulently?
A. They would know the document was forged.
Q. And by excluding that possibility, they know that the document was not created fraudulently in that respect?
A. If you don't find something of significance, the evidence, as I say, is in my view wholly inconclusive.
Q. So in a case where you have authentic documents, this kind of searching for fraud will always lead to inconclusive results, unless you find a false positive?
A. Unless you find a positive, you can never prove a document genuine, produced on that day. I say "never"; there are some circumstances you can, but in general terms. In these documents, I would say: no, you're not going to ever prove them to be genuine.
Q. Just a methodological question regarding the handwriting review. I note that you took Mr Welch's slide 10. And if we could put up your version -- I don't know if that exists in a scanned version or if we only have paper copies for today? That's quite alright.

I'm taking a look, for the record, at the version of Mr Welch's slide 10 that you provided this morning.
A. Yes.
Q. I note that it's a reproduction of Mr Welch's slide 10 --
A. Yes.
Q. -- but it appears that there's an arrow drawn from the top-right corner down to the left. Did you insert that arrow?
A. Yes. It's not an arrow; that is just a line of reference.
Q. Okay.
A. So it's the left-hand side of the signature to the right.
Q. Very good. In your experience, is it typical in expert testimony to provide a marked-up document like this?
A. Yes, can be.
Q. Is this what you would consider a demonstrative exhibit?
A. Yes.
Q. Where you've taken an existing image from the record and

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10:53 1 A. Yes, that was already in my library. I followed on from my father, and he'd obtained that when he was at ASQDE.
Q. Okay. So that's again a non-published conference paper?
A. Yes, it's more an information for document examiners paper and, as much as anything, a warning.
Q. You used these examples of falsified signatures with the Tribunal this morning. Did you undertake any examinations of the original false signatures used in these papers?
A. I undertook an examination of first-generation copies.
Q. Did you have an opportunity to perform microscopic examinations of those first-generation copies?
A. Not microscopic from the point of view of high magnification, because they were only presented in colour-copy form.
Q. So ordinarily, if you were testing a signature for delicate traces and things like that, you would really want to look at the originals; correct?
A. Oh, in a casework situation, yes.
Q. To look for signs of natural writing, et cetera --
A. Yes --
Q. -- it would be very helpful to have the originals, wouldn't it?
A. Obviously one looks at the originals, because that's where the finer detail is reproduced. But the whole

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10:50 1 you've put something on it to demonstrate a point?
A. Yes, very crudely, because there was obviously no time. (Pause)
Q. You testified at some length this morning, Mr Radley, regarding the skills of certain master forgers?
A. Yes.
Q. And you provided the Tribunal with a few examples, with a paper called "Another Adept Penman" --
A. Yes.
Q. -- by Mr James Buglio and Mr Hans Gidion?
A. Yes.
Q. The version that you provided said it was presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners in San Francisco in August 1977.
A. Yes.
Q. To your knowledge, was this paper ever published anyplace?
A. No, no. It was resubmitted. It was resubmitted at the ASQDE meeting in 1987.
Q. Is that why you have this copy?
A. Yes.
Q. Does the same go for the 1970 conference paper that you also submitted this morning?
A. The 1970 ? The Jack McCarthy?
Q. Yes.
point of these signatures is it just goes to show that you can -- even from the copies that I examined way back, even from the copies examined, you can tell they are very rapidly and fluidly written. Indeed --
Q. But the finer points that are available from an original can't be tested with these copies; correct?
A. Some of them might not be able to, yes.
Q. You mentioned at one point in your report the fact that you should take into consideration the fact that there could be quite a lot of money at stake in this case; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Scientifically, that doesn't change anything in the document analysis, does it?
A. Only from the point of view that, as I said earlier, the vast majority of low-level crime in forgery is of a pretty awful nature, it's very ... well, a lot of it's unbelievably bad. For the last 20 years I've dealt with almost exclusively the very large cases, where there's far more at stake. And it is very obvious to my mind that in cases involving big frauds, you get a better quality of penman.
Q. Is that because you're often dealing with more sophisticated parties?
A. Absolutely.

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Q. Sophisticated parties who would know how to find master forgers and others?
A. Potentially, yes.
Q. So you took into account the amount of money involved in this case?
A. I have no idea how much money is involved in this case.
Q. But you indicated that it's a lot?
A. Well, it quite obviously is.
Q. That's just based on your deduction from the circumstances --
A. We're internationally tribuned in Paris.
Q. So you deduce from that that there's a large amount of money at stake?
A. I assume so, yes.
Q. So assuming that --
A. I have no background details of the case whatsoever.
Q. Okay. But you take that circumstance into account in considering the possible alternatives?
A. Well, no. I mean, you always take into consideration the evidence in front of you. What I'm saying is that the larger the case, as you said, the more care people generally take in constructing documents and fabricating them in a reasonable fashion, as opposed to the sort of husband and wife spat that you might have.
Q. So is it fair to say -- you just said you take into

10:59

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10:58 11 account the information available to you about the circumstances?
A. Well, there is obviously the aspect of: you look at any document from the point of view of what the evidence on the paper shows you.
Q. Sure. But in terms of considering what the alternative hypotheses are, I understood you to say you take into account the global circumstances in trying to determine what the likely alternatives are. Is that fair?
A. Yes, I think I'm possibly far more wary in this sort of case than I might be if it was a cheap mortgage fraud. Not to say that an individual on a low-level case may not be a very good penman. You base your opinion on the evidence in front of you.
Q. But when you're considering alternatives about whether one or many documents were created fraudulently, is it fair to say you should take into account the circumstances of that case?

Let me ask a more specific question. If there were contemporaneous evidence, separate from the document itself, that a document existed at a certain point of time, would you take that into account in analysing forensically the alternatives when a document is alleged to be fraudulent?

Let me break that down.

\footnotetext{
A. I'm sorry, I don't quite follow.
Q. Let me break that down. Imagine you have a document
from 2006 that's alleged to be fraudulent --
A. Yes.
Q. -- and you're trying to determine whether there are indications of fraud.
A. Yes.
Q. Does it matter to you if there is contemporaneous evidence that that document existed in 2006 ?
A. No.
Q. So if you felt that the scientific evidence showed you that the document was created in 2010, the fact that there's some other evidence that that document existed in 2006 would be irrelevant?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. That's because you focus only on the science?
A. Yes.
Q. And then it's for the --
A. I mean, we take great precautions about not receiving information that we shouldn't.
Q. Okay. And then it's for the Tribunal to take your evidence and to weigh it in light of all this other evidence; is that correct?
THE PRESIDENT: Mr Ostrove, I see you're probably coming now to another topic.
}

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MR OSTROVE: I was actually coming close to --
THE PRESIDENT: We have been going for two hours. Would that be a good time for a break, or a little later? It depends on your sequence of questions.
MR OSTROVE: I think I was actually coming to the end, so...
THE PRESIDENT: Oh, that's even better. Are you at the end or are you coming to the end?
MR OSTROVE: If you could give me 30 seconds, I'll tell you whether I'm at the end or ... (Pause)

For once I took less time than anticipated. It didn't require 30 seconds; in 15 seconds I'm able to tell you I have come to the end.

Thank you, Mr Radley. I don't have any further questions.
THE PRESIDENT: So then we would take a break now, a 15-minute break, and then we would continue with your re-direct questions and the Tribunal's questions.

Mr Radley, you were here yesterday, so you know what the rule is: no discussion of your evidence during breaks with anyone, please. Thank you.
(11.02 am)
(A short break)
(11.21 am)

THE PRESIDENT: Mr Libson, you have the floor for re-direct examination.

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MR LIBSON: Thank you. I've just got a couple of questions, three questions, I think. Thank you.
(11.22 am)

Re-direct examination by MR LIBSON
Q. At 10.41 this morning (page 48 , lines 15 to 18 ), Mr Radley, you were asked about -- sorry, I just want to quote the question. You were asked:
"If you had had more time, do you accept that it would have been useful if the Tribunal experts could have reviewed differences you subsequently identified in preparing their final report?"

This related to the questions in the letter we sent to the Tribunal-appointed experts and in relation to Mr Struik's signature.

Very, very briefly, what were the differences you subsequently identified, or could you just point in your report to where those differences were?
MR OSTROVE: Excuse me. I'm terribly sorry. With respect, I give credit to Mr Libson for his way of formulating the question. As he's aware, Article 18.15.4 of Procedural Order 1 states that -- I have it in French: (Interpreted) "The Party who has presented the witness may then re-examine the witness with respect to any matters arising out of the cross-examination ..."
(In English) The issue raised on cross-examination

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been previous reviews of these documents, and that they had been determined forged by some examiner --"

And you didn't quite answer that question, so can I ask it again to you.
Had you been given information that there had been previous reviews of these documents and they had been determined forged by some examiner?
A. No. No, sorry.
Q. Then going to the last questions you were asked by Mr Ostrove, at 10.59 (page 59, lines 8 to 9 ) he asked you in a hypothetical about whether it mattered to you that there was contemporaneous evidence of the existence of a document in 2006 in order for you to be able to date that document. So can I just ask you two questions following from that.
Is the date that is typed on the face of a document a factor in assessing its actual date of creation?
A. Not at all.
Q. Is a stamp placed on a document a factor?
A. It can be in some circumstances. The whole issue of stamps can be very complex, and well beyond what we're dealing with here. In some instances it can be of significance.
For instance, certain stamps -- well, no, I won't go on, because it doesn't apply in this case. But you can

Page 63 had a chance to discuss the differences and the conclusion that you reached with respect to Mr Struik, and I wanted to ask you questions later on on this.
So maybe you go to the next question, and we will come back to this.
MR LIBSON: I will leave it to the Tribunal, and take
Mr Ostrove's accusation of finesse as a major compliment!
Turning then to a question Mr Ostrove asked at 10.46 (page 51, lines 16 to 18 ) which I don't think you had a chance completely to answer. Mr Ostrove's question in relation to the documents that bear the forged stickers or stamps, and he asked you:
"... had you been given information that there had
get very good evidence from stamps on occasions, but not applicable in this case.
MR LIBSON: Thank you. Those are all my questions.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
Do my co-arbitrators have questions for Mr Radley? No.
(11.27 am)

Questions from THE TRIBUNAL
THE PRESIDENT: Mr Radley, in respect of Mr Struik's signature, you come to a different conclusion than with respect to the two other signatures?
A. Yes, I wasn't prepared to offer an opinion on the other two, but this one I feel the evidence is significant.
THE PRESIDENT: You have said this earlier on: this is the only one on which you are prepared to give an opinion. Can you just restate what the opinion is, and then tell us what is different, and what causes you to give an opinion here where you cannot give one for the other signatures.
A. Yes. In my opinion, there's weak to moderate evidence, which is a little over the balance of probability, if you like.
It must also be borne in mind that when we say "inconclusive", that's not \(50 \%\); it's substantially higher than that. "Inconclusive" to a document

Page 66 also pretty small, isn't it?
A. It's fairly small. If we go back to the questioned signature, you will see in fact that is much thinner.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Yes.
26/27 signatures. So we have only the one.
If we take this as fairly representative, you can see that the first loops are usually quite broad, and there are -- well, at the top there, K11.10, it's thin, but it's not as thin as the one on the questioned signature.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Sorry, what about K17.13? If you
look here, you're talking about this one here (indicating)?

11:33
A. It is a measurable difference

THE PRESIDENT: If you look at K3.1, for instance, that's similar to the questioned signature, is it not?
A. K3.1 is the example that I've given, and that is the closest. That's why it's a green arrow, because I have -- to present a balanced view, I acknowledge there is one out of 26 . But --
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: But then you enter into the range of variations and not differences?
A. It is just -- well, in fact, measurably the questioned signature is outside the range of variation, if you actually measure it, but it is marginally outside.
That K3.1, if we look at the others on that page, and if we go to the second page, there is quite a substantial difference. The pen movement is not quite a retrace, but it's really not very far off that.

The second point that I would point to is that if we look at the first very thin loop and the second very thin loop, so we've got a combined pen movement, if we look at all of the questioned signatures here, there's nothing -- if we look at the first page, there's nothing remotely like that. If we go to the second page, again we have a thin one at K12.1 and K12.17, but we don't have that combination of two extremely thin ones.

The next point relates to the way in which this

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middle element -- if we follow the loops, you get loop, loop, loop, and then it comes up where I've arrowed 4. That is where the pen starts to move down to the imaginary baseline, and back up at 5.

Now, I would like to refer to Mr Welch's example. If we can look at 31 in the paper bundle, which was the chart produced by Mr Welch showing what he says is a similar pen movement, what I would like to point out is that they are similar, but there is a significant difference in their execution. (Pause)
THE PRESIDENT: Sorry, we're not paying attention, we're just looking at the documents and asking ourselves some questions.
A. What I'd like to point out is, to my mind, a quite different pen movement here. If we look at K10.3 and K12, we have the pen coming down and looping back as in an oval type of shape.

Now, if I can ask you to hold the document up and look along that line, if we look at those two loops, yes, they look like loops. If we hold the document up to the eye and look at the questioned signature, you will see, if we look along the paper in this direction, what we see is a decidedly different type of pen movement, if I can briefly illustrate.
(The expert approaches the whiteboard)

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So looking along the paper, what we have with the two knowns is that the pen comes down, round and back; it sweeps around. If we look at this one, along there, what that does is it comes down, and it comes -- that's a gross exaggeration, a gross exaggeration. But if you hold it up to the eye, it's more than clear.

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: May I ask a question? It relates
to also Mr Struik's signature, and to the previous point about the first loop.
Can you be shown document R-182. It's not a disputed document, I understand. That is the letter signed by Mr Struik to Pentler Holdings dated 14th February 2006. Do you see that document?
It's a protected document, incidentally, so I don't know whether you have to push the red flag. (Pause)

Then you go down, and try to enlarge the signature.
I understand this signature is not disputed,
Mr Libson?
MR LIBSON: I need to check.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: R-182 is not a disputed document?
MR LIBSON: I don't think so, no.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: If you look at this here, he has
also a very -- at least according to this one -- I see
it is a copy of a copy or something -- it's a very
narrow ellipsis, isn't it, or whatever you call it?

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11:43 1

3 A. It is -- it's thin, I would agree. What I'm saying is
4 you've got something that is poorly reproduced. Now, 5 what you are seeing is obviously not a true reproduction 6 of the original document. What those dots represent --
this distance, and that's the farthest you can find, but still you have a fairly small -and this is always the question with a photocopy; this is particularly appalling. Whatever has happened to this signature may be distorting a number of features, including line widths. There may be other factors that you can't see on it. There may be a false start on it.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Yes, or it may be something -- the document is not disputed, so I don't want to complicate the case further than it already is.
A. No, no --

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: But if you look to the copy itself, it looks not a bad copy. If you go now --
A. Not a bad copy? No, I'm sorry, I --

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: No, not the signature; if you look at the rest of the document. You see here the signature apparently is copied -- or I don't know, but you can have an opinion on this.
A. I can't see --

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: But if you look at the rest, I can see this is a clear copy.

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11:44 1 A. The signature clearly -- you know, with respect, the signature clearly is not properly reproduced. I can't tell -- for instance, in a ballpoint pen you can have what we call striations, which are white un-inked lines through them. If you've got one on the outside, and you've got one on the outside of the other side of the loop, you may be able to see that on the original or better quality copy. If you copy a striation, it can distort the line: it can move them in or it can move them out.

Again, the size of the dots: what is the dot
representing? I appreciate your point, and you may be right, but I wouldn't like to --
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: I don't make a point, I only enquire.
A. Yes. It's --

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: That's my task.
A. No, to be fair, it is a good point. But on that quality copy document, let's say I wouldn't hang my hat on that.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Thank you.
A. It could be distorted.

THE PRESIDENT: You were answering why you have a different conclusion for Struik than for Lev Ran and Asher Avidan. Have you concluded this explanation?
A. No, I'm afraid not.

11:46 1 THE PRESIDENT: Because we were looking at the first loop and then the second loop, and you were looking at the document horizontally.
A. Yes. This is the point: there is a combination of points.

This bending this way (indicating) is totally wrong pen movement. If we then look at the arrow in point 5, we have a very narrow " \(U\) " shape. That is very different to the known writings. Mr Welch explained that there is a wide range of variation: you recall he did a slide showing variations. So instead of having a consistent feature with a variation, say -- I'm using my hands -a foot wide, in Struik's signature it's quite big: it might be 2 feet.

However, if we look at all of these signatures -and I've overwritten this joining stroke in red -- we go from there to something over here (indicating), a long way outside the range of variation. So we can see the red lines there.
If we go to the next slide --
MR OSTROVE: I'm sorry, where --
THE PRESIDENT: I am trying to identify what these images are.
A. Yes, the narrow " \(U\) ", in comparison with the much, much wider "U" shape in the known writings.

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top of the sections in the various comparative signatures in the slide that you produced.
A. This slide is taken from my report.

MR OSTROVE: Yes, but the red lines that have been emphasising a certain feature --
A. Oh, yes, sorry. Sorry, we're talking at cross-purposes.

Yes, yes, I've added those. Yes, I've just drawn in a few of the red lines to show the difference.

As I say, we have a wide range of variation of Struik's signatures, but this feature is miles outside of that range of variation.
We see from the arrow at point 6 at the bottom of the U, it goes into another vertical. Now, this vertical is then retraced. There's absolutely no indication of a loop.

If we look at all of these, the bit in the middle I see as a sort of "S" shape, if you like, and the loop afterwards in K11.8, wide loop, wide loop going across, a thinner loop going across, fat loop; down to K15.1, fat loop, fat loop; K17.13, thinner loop, and so on.

If we then go back to the previous slide, again we can see the retraced stroke in the questioned signature and just nothing like it, frankly, in the known writings. That is a measurable parameter. The width of those strokes varies from about 7 millimetres down to,

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THE PRESIDENT: Is this in your presentation?
A. Yes, it is.

THE PRESIDENT: And this is marked with --
A. It's marked number 5, I believe. It's the " \(U\) " shape marked at 5.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I understand that. I'm just trying to find the correct slide, and I've found it now.
MR OSTROVE: We're four slides from the end.
THE PRESIDENT: Is this in your report in this form, or have you added now the red lines?
A. No, I believe that's in my report.

THE PRESIDENT: That's in your report?
A. Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Fine, thank you.
MR OSTROVE: Excuse me. For the record, those are not, as far as I'm aware, in Mr Radley's initial report, those red lines that were added to this slide. The report doesn't include the red line.
A. Sorry, which red line are you referring to?

MR LIBSON: I think everyone is at cross-purposes. I think Mr Radley is still looking at the red line on R-27, on what's on the screen.
A. Oh, sorry, I'm looking at the screen.

MR OSTROVE: I think we're looking at your slide. Unless I'm mistaken, we're looking at the red-lining added on

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in the case of -- or the loop, I should say -- it varies from 7 millimetres down to 0 in the questioned one. The nearest we saw on the other slide is 2 or 3 millimetres.
So again, this is something that we have a range of variation that we can physically measure, and this stroke, the retrace stroke, is just not seen.

The next point is a point in green, and I've said this is a very unusual point, point 7. There are a couple of examples, Mr Welch has illustrated those, and I accept there are. There's two examples in R-26.

If we then go on to point 8 , what I'm trying to show there is that we've got this dome on the top; the pen then moves down, as per the red arrow pointing to number 8 , and then it makes a significant turn horizontally. So this is a very decided turn in the shape of the terminal. In other words, it's an interesting point, because again it is how the pen is being lifted from the paper.

If we look at the ends of all of these that we see here, with the exception possibly of K19.18, but not to the same extent, we're looking at a terminal flow where the writer is fairly clearly flying the pen off the paper. Again, if I may illustrate.
(The expert approaches the whiteboard)
So generally in the known writings it comes along,

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we come up and it's lifting. Sorry, I did the wrong
one. It can fly off there. It can come off there.
What I'm concerned about is the fact that in the questioned signature it's coming down and we are getting effectively that pen movement; it's not a flying off the paper. So for that type of bend, it has to be a manipulation of the pen in the fingers, and it's not just an emphatic flying stroke.

Let me just go back to the ...
THE PRESIDENT: This would be Radley sketch 5. Thank you.
A. The fact that it is a two-piece ending, as I say, to my mind the only one that is close is K 19.18 , where we have a much smoother curve, if you like. It's not so obviously a manipulation of the fingers.

So what we have is a very unusual point 1 , the combined -- oh, actually I haven't spoken of another one.

The blue rectangle is the extremities of the first six elements -- five elements; six if you call the middle one. The height-to-width ratio is an important factor in any signature comparison.

If we look, Mr Welch produced an example. This is Mr Welch's slide 37. This he redrew, but drew it somewhat differently to the point that I was making.

If we look at the top signature, I've redrawn the

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all of these, the boxes are quite significantly more square, as opposed to a tall rectangle.
Now, this is a measurable parameter. We can actually put this down to millimetres. So we have a range of variation in the known writings, the highest of which is 1.7 , the lowest of which is about 0.8 , I think. So that's a mathematical range of variation. What we have in this questioned signature is something that is beyond the upper limit of the range of variation.
I also point out, going back to -- well, I won't go back, we'll stay on this slide.

I also pointed out that the curvature -- if we look at these illustrations, the curvature at the bottom loops in the questioned signature -- if we look at the bottom loops of the questioned signature on slide 37 perhaps; it's a nice enlarged version -- they are relatively angular. If we go through the ones on the screen, you can see there is a considerable curvature.
To be totally balanced, that angularity is possibly a contributory factor to the squashed-in effect of those elements. But it is still a different pen movement, because we're not looking at the sweeping pen movement, we're looking at down and up, very exaggerated.
I just realised I missed a point as well.

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6 A. Yes, because I disagree with Mr Welch.
THE PRESIDENT: I understand that. Yes, I have it.
A. So we can look at this on a proportional basis, and in fact Mr Welch did actually say he assesses things like proportioning. If we measure the height to the width, we've got 53 millimetres and 28.5. In the top right-hand corner I've very crudely done a calculation: that equals 1.86. So that is a mathematical figure.

In the other one, where I've redrawn -- in fact I've redrawn just one line on K14.2 -- the vertical height is 51 , the width is 30 . If we calculate that, it works out at 1.7. So we have 1.86 , as opposed to the closest in all of the known writings of 1.7. So we can say the range of variation, we have a numerical value: we can say it's between 1.7 and -- I don't know, I can't recall it, but it's about 0.8 , I think.
If we go back, so we're looking at the box that you could put around that element. If we start in the top left-hand corner, obviously the box is in fact more elongated than vertical. And the same: if we go through

If we look at point 2 , this is the height of the little loop at the top of the first element relative to the overall height. So again we are back to proportions here. We call that "internal proportioning".
Again, I would refer you to Mr Welch's slide 30. What I was trying to indicate on this chart on the screen is that if we look at the overall height of that element, the top loop is very small, it's right up at the top. And we can measure that, as seen on slide 30, with 23 millimetres to the middle of the intersection point, and 26 millimetres to the baseline. This gives us a ratio of 0.88 .
If we look at the example Mr Welch gave, I have to say I disagree with where he has put his middle bar, and I've drawn it lower. My calculation on that is 25 and 16 ; and as you can see there, that's a ratio of 1.56.
Even if we take Mr Welch's dotted line, it still doesn't approach what we have in the questioned signature. So these are numerical values to establish the range of variation, and the questioned signature is outside that range of variation.

So those are the points that interest me. So I say point 2 isn't found in the 26/27 signatures; point 3 isn't; point \(4 / 5\) isn't; point 6 isn't, the retrace.
Point 7 appears a couple of times that I pointed out in

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2 point 8 I don't think we see to the same extent in any of them.
Now, assessing that, we obviously have to consider the nature of the differences, the significance of them, and the significance of the accumulation of them. If you have a questioned signature and you have one difference, yes, that could be an accidental. If it has two, it could be two accidentals. If it's got three, that's pretty unusual. If it's got four, yes, you might be very worried about it.

If you have six differences, and two of which are rarities, that combination of evidence -- and this is the important point: it is the combination of all those features coincidentally all appearing in one signature -- I think I've probably been very conservative in saying "weak to moderate", and I think some examiners would probably go a lot heavier on it, personally. But that number of features leads me to a positive opinion: weak to moderate evidence supporting the fact -- not the fact, I beg your pardon -supporting the proposition of it not being genuine.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
PROFESSOR MAYER: If the challenged signature was K19.18, the one which has a loop instead of a dome on the

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PROFESSOR MAYER: But it's more different from all the
others than the challenged signature is, on this aspect.
A. I'm afraid I disagree.
PROFESSOR MAYER: It goes further to the right, in the
direction of the dot. The hand has hardly lifted.
A. The line is further to the right.
PROFESSOR MAYER: Anyway, in fact I have a question,
a rather scientific one. Is this a difference or
a variation, supposing this is the challenged signature?
A. If that's the challenged signature, I don't see any
problem with it. The length of the stroke is comparable
with others. The fact that it's ending with a dot,
okay, there's a little line into the dot, but we see
that on a lot of the dots. I would say it is
a similarity.
PROFESSOR MAYER: Similarity. It's the intermediate notion
between variation and difference?
A. No, I would class that as a similarity. You have the
length, you have the direction, you have the dot.
PROFESSOR MAYER: Okay, thanks.
THE PRESIDENT:When you speak of "similarity", you consider
this to be within the range of variations; is that
right?

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A. This point we're just addressing?
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

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extreme right ...
A. K19.18, yes.

PROFESSOR MAYER: Wouldn't you say at least that's a difference compared with all the others, including the one which is actually challenged? Because it almost crosses the other line, while you showed earlier that normally it doesn't go right, it doesn't go in the direction of 3.
A. You're referring to the way the line is coming across, and there's a little dot?
PROFESSOR MAYER: Exactly.
A. Yes.

PROFESSOR MAYER: It seems to me that on some other aspects they're different from most others.
A. No, if I may say, some of these signatures have dots and some don't; it's just one of those things. Generally speaking, if we look at the top, K12.1, you can see the pen is coming off the paper and the dot is pretty well in line. And that's very typical of how people -- the pen flies off the paper and dots the paper at the end.

That feature in K19.18 I don't think is, from my point of view, particularly problematic. The length of that stroke is akin to 21.9. The dot is there, it's in line. It's quite a nice feature, as far as I'm concerned.
A. Yes.

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Is that -- because now I get also scientifically a bit confused. So you have differences, variations, and then you have similarities? Or similarities is a subset of variations? In my mind, my understanding of similarities was it's outside these two categories.
A. Similarities is if it's within the range of variation.

If we compare the questioned signature with the range of variation, if we've got signatures in here which correspond, that's a similarity. If the feature in the questioned signature is outside, it's a difference. But within the actual range of variation, those are the variations that we'll see from one extreme to the other, so the measurement of 23 to 10 . So that's the variation.
Where I'm disagreeing strongly with Mr Welch is: when you've got something which is measurable, you can put a figure on it, and it's outside the range of variation, I'm calling that a difference; Mr Welch is calling it a variation. But in that way, if you look at things outside the range of variations and say, "No, that's a variation", that will explain away any forgery. You can say that of any forger's error. You can say, "Well, he could do that on some occasion, it's not shown

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BSG Resources Limited, BSG Resources (Guinea) Limited and BSG Resources (Guinea) SARL v Republic of Guinea
within these 26 signatures but he could do it, therefore
it's variation". That, to my mind, is not a good
scientific appraisal.
THE PRESIDENT: So how do I define the range of variations?
A. Well, where we have something measurable, like the line
length, we just measure them all. So we say: yes, it's
20 millimetres away, and the shortest is --
THE PRESIDENT: We measure them all on the known signatures?
A. Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: So if I have 100, I have 100 measurements;
if I have 10 known signatures, I have 10 measurements?
A. Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Does this have the same value for your analysis?
A. Obviously the larger the number, possibly the more significant the difference. So if we've got a difference in the length of that line in Lev Ran's signature, we compare that with 46 , so there's 46 signatures that don't show that. If you look at -if you had 10 signatures of somebody, and it's outside the range of variation, obviously -- well, I mean, 10 is not a good sort of number to work from, frankly. You normally need more than that.

THE PRESIDENT: So how many do you need?
A. It very much depends on the nature of the signature.

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12:17
that which forms the opinion.
THE PRESIDENT: Does that not mean that your analysis is somewhat limited, because you're limited by the number of known signatures, and your conclusion is thereby limited in its overall value or validity?
A. You would normally be -- or I would normally be more cautious on a small sample. But usually you can get adequate -- I mean, as a matter of routine, as a laboratory, we ask for 15 to 20.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: And what about accidents?
A. Accidentals?

PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Yes, or "accidentals", you call that.
A. Yes. It goes back to the quote from Osborn which says: yes, you get accidentals, everybody does accidentals. But point 1 could be an accidental, so could point 2; then you've got point 3 is also an accidental and then point 4 is a further accidental, all coincidentally
happening in one signature, and then 5 and 6 and 7 and
8. This is why we look at the combination of all the points.

In this case, if it is what I think is a significant number -- I mean eight points, six of which are clear differences, and measurable, most of them, and two lots of rarities -- are those all going to happen in one

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12:16 \(1 \quad\) The more variable the writer, the more signatures you need, generally speaking. Mr Welch was saying he has a very consistent hand, and from that point of view you need a smaller sample. If somebody is very consistent, any forgery executing that signature style has got to be very precise.
THE PRESIDENT: So if you do not observe a specific feature within the known signatures, it will not be within the range of variations?
A. That's correct.

THE PRESIDENT: And because it is not within the range of variations, you will necessarily characterise it as a difference?
A. Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Is that the process?
A. Yes.

PROFESSOR MAYER: Even if it's similar, as in the example I gave?
A. If it's outside the range of variation, it's
a difference. We're talking about the samples we're looking at. To categorise it as anything other than a difference, you are speculating that somewhere in the next 100 signatures, you will see this feature. But what we have here is a block of known signatures, and from that we establish the range of variation, and it is

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signature that happens to be questioned? It would be a great coincidence.

I mean, I wouldn't like to -- one thing that a lot of people disagree with with Osborn is he quotes Professor Newcomb, who points out that the statistical probability of an event of 1 in 10,1 in 10,1 in 10 , the likelihood of that happening in one signature is 10 times 10 times 10 .

We don't put mathematical figures on that, so I'm not saying we've got 26 times 26 times 26 times 26, to one against. But you've got to look at it from the point of view that for eight points of difference or very rare features all to coincidentally appear in one signature, it has to be a big coincidence, if it is genuine.
THE PRESIDENT: No further questions on the part of the Tribunal. Thank you very much, Mr Radley. (Pause)

Any follow-up questions on the Tribunal's questions? I'm looking at my watch, and therefore I'm becoming impatient and proceeding further, but I should not cut off, yes. We have generally allowed, in the last hearing, follow-up questions on Tribunal questions, if there are any.

On the Claimants' side?
MR LIBSON: I have no questions.

12:21 1 THE PRESIDENT: On the Respondent's side?
MR OSTROVE: Just one moment, please.
THE PRESIDENT: Sure. (Pause) questions. In the interests of time, we'll keep it short.
( 12.22 pm )
Q. Mr Radley, you've referred to a text by Mr Osborn from the early part of the 20th century as stating the guiding principles for this; is that correct?
A. Yes, it must be the most quoted book in English.
Q. From memory, it's paragraph 225 of your report, but let me just double-check. (Pause) I'm sorry, it was paragraph 228 of your report. You've referred to and you say:
"'... if the conclusion of identity is reached, either in a person or a handwriting, there must not explained.'"
A. Yes.
Q. And in the next paragraph you reference the SWGDOC standard terminology?
A. Yes.

MR OSTROVE: Thank you, Madam President. Just one line of

Further cross-examination by MR OSTROVE "Albert S Osborn's Questioned Documents, 2nd edition", remain significant differences that cannot be reasonably

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THE PRESIDENT: Have there been no evolutions that make some of his statements obsolete?
A. The basic principles and the theories behind it are pretty well unchallenged, even now. Obviously with the advent of things like ballpoint pens, there's a lot more that we regularly refer to.

But although it's 1929 and it's 635 pages long, written by an absolute enthusiast, it is still -- with regard to the handwriting, I've only come across this one issue that I've heard people say, "Well, Osborn is wrong". I've never, ever [encountered] anybody saying, you know, "The basic principles of handwriting as he laid down, ooh, I don't agree with those".
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. So that now completes your examination, Mr Radley. Thank you for your assistance.
MR RADLEY: Thank you.
THE PRESIDENT: It is now 12.30. We had in mind to complete this morning the parties' experts, with the idea being that the break would then be at a convenient time for the Tribunal experts to work on their concluding remarks on the basis of the party experts' statements, and counsel to work on the closing arguments.

I don't know how you want to do it. Let me try and ask Claimants: do you have an estimate of your cross-examination time?

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    I was very surprised to see the longevity of his
    writings. In no other science or art would you
    regularly quote someone whose writings date back almost
    a century.
            Is he still regarded as an authority? Does that
    mean --
A. He is regarded as --

MR LIBSON: I know assurances of this nature have been given many times during these proceedings, but I don't think my cross-examination will take longer than we've been assigned. In fact, I will keep to the half-hour.
THE PRESIDENT: No longer than assigned. And you have indicated 30 minutes?
MR LIBSON: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes. And your re-direct will depend on the cross, but probably not over that time. (Pause)

How long is the Respondent's expert presentation?
MR OSTROVE: The experts have planned their presentation according to the 45 minutes allocated to them.
THE PRESIDENT: If we take 5 minutes now and then continue, would that be acceptable? So we will have a late lunch, but the longer break we will have at a time where it's better used?
MR OSTROVE: If the Tribunal, the court reporters and interpreters can handle it, we are certainly ready to proceed.
MR LIBSON: Us too.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. So I think we will survive until lunch, and I hope I speak on everyone's behalf, which is a little presumptuous. I see nodding, so I think we can proceed like this. Let's take 5 minutes now and resume with the Respondent's experts.

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12:32 \(1 \quad(12.29 \mathrm{pm})\)
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(A short break)
( 12.45 pm )
DR VALERY AGINSKY (called)
MR RICHARD PICCIOCHI (called)
THE PRESIDENT: For the record, can you please confirm that
you are Richard Picciochi?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes, I am
THE PRESIDENT: You are from Access Forensic Group?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes, I am. (Pause)
THE PRESIDENT: You are a forensic document examiner?
MR PICCIOCHI: That is correct.
THE PRESIDENT: Can you please for the record confirm that
you are Valery Aginsky, sir?
DR AGINSKY: Yes, Madam President.
THE PRESIDENT: You're from Aginsky Forensic Document Dating
Laboratory?
DR AGINSKY: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: You're a forensic chemist and an ink and
document dating specialist?
DR AGINSKY: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: You have together assisted the Respondent in
preparing its comments of 12th March 2018 on the
Tribunal experts' report; is that correct?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes.

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12:48

MR NAUD: Madam President, if I may, just as Mr Picciochi and Dr Aginsky are getting ready, since the time allocated is rather short, 45 minutes, and a lot of time has been spent over the past few days looking specifically at the signatures and the signature examinations, the scope of the presentation of the experts presented by the Republic of Guinea will concentrate on the signature examinations. So that will be essentially Mr Picciochi making that presentation.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine, thank you.
And maybe later on, while we're on this topic, when you respond to questions, we should try and have only one person giving the response, and you will allocate between the two of you, depending on the topic and your expertise.
DR AGINSKY: Yes.
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: You have the floor then.
( 12.49 pm )
Presentation by MR PICCIOCHI
MR PICCIOCHI: Thank you. I have prepared three sets of exhibits. These are demonstrative exhibits to help explain how I arrived at my opinion and what I have observed.

The first chart I will be looking at is the
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DR AGINSKY: I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that my statement will be in accordance with my sincere beliefs.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
So now we will proceed first with your presentation, and you have the floor for your presentation. I recall that we have allowed 45 minutes. It is true that we have allowed the experts of the Claimants to go a little beyond that, but if possible, if we can stick within the time limit, it's fine.

While you are getting ready, I should mention that we have received a number of documents. I understand these are the documents you will use for your presentation now?
MR PICCIOCHI: That is correct.
questioned Marc Struik signature, R-27. The chart is constructed in the same way, and each subsequent chart labelled by letters. In the bottom-right corner is letter A. So they will always have the questioned signature on top and a series of known signatures on the bottom [RDE-RP-1]. There are six known signatures selected for chart A.

Chart B will be the same thing, but will have a different feature. So I'm going to break down each feature that is a repetitive characteristic.

I chose six signatures to represent the range of variation in the known writings. However, for my analysis I used all the signatures available to reach my conclusion.

So the first feature I would like to point out is the hook introductory stroke in the questioned signature that is at the bottom left, and I'm kind of circling that right now. If you will notice, in the known writings, most of them also have a hook introductory stroke. I'm just going to circle them quickly, since we're running out of time.

But you will notice an arrow at K6.3. The reason why I did that, I wanted to demonstrate that it has no hook; kind of both sides of the coin, to represent all the known writings. So there's an arrow there. But in

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strokes; that is, they are troughs. So if you follow, there is one loop, two loops, three loops, and it has troughs. Some people make "M"s with an arcade stroke or arches on top. So this is an example of a garland-type "M" structure.
I tried to draw to the best of my ability lines for the top extremity, the bottom extremity, the left extremity and the right extremity. By doing this, I can measure approximately the distance across, or the width, and the distance down, the length.
If I take the ratio of those two measurements, that is the width over the length, and divide it, I come up [with] for R-27 approximately 0.43 . If you notice, the symbol before the zero is a squiggly line; it is not an "equals" sign. What that means is it's approximate.
When you take measurements and apply numbers to handwriting, you can only do that in a relative term, an absolute measurement is less meaningful to compare, because there's such variation in width and length of especially loops that are rapidly written like this. But if I do that ratio and draw it to the best of my ability for all the known signatures, you will notice, with the division of the width over the length, that it varies slightly. So for K12.1, it is 0.45 ; skipping down to K6.3, it's 0.42 ; K9.1 is 0.46 ; going up to K3.1,

12:55 1
it is 0.46 ; \(\mathrm{K} 8.5,0.46\); and \(\mathrm{K} 19.1,0.43\).
So the extremes are [0.42] to 0.46: that's four one-hundreths, not very much. So if you look at these numbers, is that a significant similarity? I believe they're similar. Just look at the boxes: the width is a little less than half the length. And that's all I'm going to use numbers for.
If we skip down to the next chart, D , I want to point out that there are red lines drawn through the first loop and the fourth loop, and I did that for all the known signatures. Take a moment and look at them.
It's obvious that the slant is a back slant for this person. Can someone else have back slant? Yes, it's not a unique identifying feature. But if you look at the relative slant of the first loop to the fourth loop, you will notice that the fourth loop has increased slope to the left. This is a subtle feature found in this person's writing that it's unlikely a forger would pick up on. If you look at every one of the known signatures, you will notice the distance on top is less than the distance on the bottom.
So this is what we call an individual characteristic, a subconscious characteristic. It is almost idiosyncratic. Even though it's a straight line and two loops, the person is consistent; not only in the

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six that I pointed out, but all the known signatures that are present. I attach much weight to this particular feature, and I don't believe anyone mentioned it, but this is a significant individual subconscious writing characteristic of the person.
Now just one more thing. If I took the measurement of the inclination to the perpendicular, that would come up with an absolute number or measurement, just like a height or a length or a width.
Does that really mean anything? To me, no, because if you look at the slope of the second red line, which is the fourth loop, you notice it varies. If you find two within the known, does that mean the absolute measurement and degrees is different, and therefore it is a different person? No. What's important is the relative slant of these loops, and that the fourth one is always more of a slope to the left.
Skip to the next one, chart E, please. You will notice that the fourth loop is always the shortest loop. Just take a look at the questioned, where the arrow is, and every one of the knowns. This is a repetitive characteristic in the known samples.
So I'm looking for patterns and combinations of repetitive characteristics. So, so far you've seen several repetitive characteristics that are found in the
the " K ", with the trough. I don't know, and I'm not going to guess. However, consistently you will see after the fifth vertical that there is a trough, and then almost like a compound curve that goes then into the ending stroke. And this again is repeated in the known signatures. Not identical every time: we are not machines, we don't write exactly alike each and every time. But the spirit of the movement is there all the time.
Let's move to H . Another obvious feature that maybe a forger can pick up is the baseline inclination or slope. That is fairly consistent: it moves from the left to right upward. So this is a habit of this person.
I'm looking for subconscious habits, things that repeat themselves that are done more or less the same way. So anything you do approximately the same way and without thought is called a habit. I simply look for habits in the writings, between two bodies of writing, the questioned writing and the known writings.
I should further state that when I do an examination, I look at each body independently, never start a comparison. So I want to look at the features of the known writing for the patterns of repetitive characteristics and range of writing variation, and then

13:02 1

I look at the questioned writing at a later date -because I have a short-term memory -- and look at the features there, and then I do a side-by-side comparison, so I don't bias myself, like I'm looking for something in one body or the other. So I do a side-by-side comparison, and look: do I find similarities? Do I find differences or dissimilarities? Do I find absent characteristics? Do I have any limitations to the analysis?

So in this particular case, in H , the slope inclines, varies a little bit. There is a large ending stroke or rubric, I'm not sure what it's supposed to represent, but it is present throughout all the samples. It's something that's easily recognisable.

But the way it is made, it is like a football -- but that would be an American football, okay? I'm sorry, we're in Europe -- and you can see that it is elliptical, and that both extremes, along the long axis, are a little bit angular. If you look again, the height and width vary a little bit, but you have to admit it's basically elliptical, and fairly large in comparison to the earlier loops. And as I stated, it also has some angularity in the left-hand side especially, and then it ends downward. So that's [chart] "J", so it's made in a clockwise motion.

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I'd also like to point out -- which is difficult in this chart -- but if you look at the high-resolution scans, you will notice that the terminal stroke of this counter-clockwise loop does not end abruptly: it flies off the paper and has a nice taper to it. So this means it's written with speed.
So even from a static image, I can get a feeling for speed and actually pressure variation. If you notice the loops of the " M ", they vary in thickness, so that is an indication of speed and naturalness that I'm looking for.
So I look for letter shapes, how the letters are formed, how the letters relate to each other; and most importantly, the movement qualities, how the pen moves. So that's called line quality, and that is one of the features that's very important that I'm looking for.

So the arrow points to the terminal stroke. And if we had this enlarged a lot more -- but look at the high resolution scans -- you will see that they taper.
The last thing I would like to point out on this chart is that if you draw a line from the terminal stroke to the dot that's present just after it, and I've circled those dots, every time -- you know, my red arrow might not be perfectly accurate -- if you put a straight edge at the extreme of the terminal stroke to the dot,

13:05 1
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a dot after that. And you can see the movement in the final dot in K19.1.

Let's see if I can blow this one up.
I want you to look very carefully that the dot is not round. And it might be a little hard to see, but there's a little introductory stroke here, a feathering. That means the pen, as it's coming in to the paper, lightly touches before it becomes firm; again, a natural movement.
THE PRESIDENT: Do you see the dot in all the known signatures?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes, yes. And in particular -- it might be difficult to see in R-27 -- I have prepared an infrared photograph to show that that dot is present, by dropping out or making disappear the rubber-stamping. So if that becomes an issue, it is certainly present in the questioned signature.
That concludes the presentation for Marc Struik. After carefully looking at all the known writings, it is my expert opinion that there is strong evidence to support that the questioned Marc Struik signature is consistent with or genuine when compared to the known signatures. Furthermore, there are no fundamental

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8 PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Of the other letters you showed to
us, where would you make a similar remark?
MR PICCIOCHI: Well, this is a very subtle and very good indicator of genuineness. The other ones vary. Some are macro, and you can kind of see it, the slant backwards. But it's the combination of all these features, trying to get them right in relationship to each other with natural movement, that counts, that allows me to give the opinion.

So I know I kind of circumvented your question.
Some of them have different weights. This has very
strong weight to me, this particular one. Others have less weight.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: But the master forger, could he or she do the others except [chart] D? Could they replicate this?
MR PICCIOCHI: To try to do it is very difficult. What
you're describing as a "master forger", I suppose people
differences that would indicate forgery.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: You said for [chart] D, where you
13:10 1
slans, the back slant and the relative slant,
there you made the observation: unlikely the forger will
be able to pick this up or to replicate this. Do you
remember that?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes.
exist that are very attuned to these things, but they
have to do it naturally, with speed. And I don't
believe an average person -- certainly this is something
very subtle that even a "master forger" might not pick
up on.
So when you're forging something, please keep in mind that you have to recognise what is a subtle, unconscious feature in the other person's writing, and incorporate it, and realise what your habitual action is, and not allow that to happen in the forgery. So there's almost a fight between the two people: the genuine signature, trying to forge it, and then the person actually doing it. So it's a very difficult thing.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: But is it also your opinion that a master forger is born as a master forger, or that you can acquire the skills?
MR PICCIOCHI: I think we're all born with different qualities that we can accentuate. But no, I don't think there's anything in our genotype that would say that you are a master forger or not.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Thank you.
MR NAUD: Sorry, Mr Picciochi, before you move on to the next set of signatures, could you address some of the differences which have been identified by Mr Radley with

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respect to this signature, and perhaps first the --
MR LIBSON: Madam President, I thought this was the presentation, rather than an examination-in-chief.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, we have opted for presentations, so maybe we'll leave the experts to make their
presentation. Obviously the Tribunal wants to hear
these experts on [Mr Radley's assessment of Mr Struik's
signature] that we heard earlier this morning.
Mr Picciochi, do you want to carry on?
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes, ma'am.
THE PRESIDENT: You can well now address your comments on
Mr Radley's assessment that you've heard this morning,
if that is what you have in mind doing.
MR PICCIOCHI: It was not.
THE PRESIDENT: Okay, fine.
MR PICCIOCHI: I can give a general opinion that what Mr Radley attributes to being significant fundamental differences, I do not see at all. I believe the questioned signature, in this particular case [R-27], is consistent and falls within the known writing variation. I see no fundamental differences.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. I will let you carry on with your presentation and we can come back to more specific questions in this respect.
MR PICCIOCHI: So the next series of charts, set up in more

13:12 1

13:14 1
or less the same way, will be the questioned on top and the knowns on the bottom. Again it's set up in the same way: six known signatures on the bottom; two questioned signatures, R-28 and R-29.
There are two distinct areas, and I've colourised them: on the top, the horizontal --
THE PRESIDENT: I'm sorry to interrupt you. I don't think we have said that we are discussing Asher Avidan's signature.
MR PICCIOCHI: Yes. I said it in my mind, but it didn't come out. Sorry. [RDE-RP-2]
Yes, we are on Asher Avidan, chart A. So if you look, I've colourised three portions: the orange on top, which is a series of horizontal loops; in yellow in the lower right is a " 9 "-like structure, I show that in the known writings; and then a series of vertical dashes or dots that are in green; and the "L"-shaped mark in the upper right. I think other experts have mentioned these particular features.
So I'm just going to show that all the known writings can be segregated mostly in that same manner, except for the series of dots. It is my understanding in Hebrew writing that this series of dots does not always have to be present in the writings.
So if you look, pictorially the two questioned

13:16 1
writing, and it is congruent in the questioned writings.
But if you look at the " 9 "-like structure in R-29, as other experts have said, it starts horizontally and goes in a counter-clockwise motion and ends downward. We know that because there are striations in the writing, and the striations go from the inside to the outside in a clockwise motion. So that is very easy to determine with a ballpoint pen that has striations.

The R-28 in the lower left-hand corner, believe it or not, that's a very similar motion. It's made in the same way, almost identical, except that the loop is small. So if you look at the known writings in K22.1, you'll see a very similar either " F " or backward "7"-type design, which is very similar to R-28. But I might be getting ahead of myself. So that's B, showing the motion.
There's been some comment about the upper-right tick mark, horizontal mark. In R-28, it is something of a right angle -- not a perfect 90-degree right angle, as I would expect not to find in handwriting -- and the similar mark in R-29 is diagonal, ending downward. And if you look throughout the known writings, you will see that there's some variation in this particular mark: some look like a tent, some are diagonal, some are "L"-shaped. So you see the questioned writing features

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signatures look very similar to each other. They are not identical of course, we know that; we're not machines. And then the known writings also look pretty similar, there is no feature that really stands out; although there is one that I'll address in K13, that there is certainly some variation in this compound "S"-curve. It looks like a hesitation or an uncertainty of movement. So this is something that we might refer to as an accidental feature here, because it's not slow, hesitating and drawn like here; it's just a variation in this person's writing.

Let's move along to B. I can enlarge this. But if you just follow the numbers, you can see in the questioned -- I'll do it with K13.4. If you start at 1 , there's a counter-clockwise motion to 2 ; the pen moves to the right, 3 ; then the pen moves to the left, to 4 ; then to 5 ; back to 6 ; and then back to the right, to I believe that's 7 ; and then 8 ; in a clockwise motion, diagonally down to 9 ; then off to 10 , actually to 11 ; and then counter-clockwise down to the finishing stroke, 12. Maybe I should have enlarged that even for myself.

But the general motion is very complex, if you look at it. This is not a simple movement, even though there's no Roman alphabet letters. This person repeats this in every particular signature: in the known
in both R-28 and R-29 of this particular mark are found within the known writing variation.
So let's move along to D. If you look at the two loops, the major loops, in R-28 you'll notice that they approximately line up vertically with each other to the right extreme. If you look at R-29 and compare them, you'll see the top loop is more to the left, the bottom loop is more to the right.

So what is predominantly found or what is found in the known signatures? In a lot of the known signatures you'll see if you draw a straight-edge line between the top and the bottom loop to the right extreme, you'll see that they're slanted or uneven, and you will see that throughout the known writings. But if you draw the same type of line with K13.2 and K22.1, they're mostly vertical or even. So the feature in R-28 is not a fundamental difference because it is found in the known writings.

I would like to address the terminal stroke of the last loop. It's very hard to see in the small one, but if we look at a blow-up -- and we can do that if you'd like -- R-28 ends downward vertically -- even though you see it predominantly going off to the left at an angle, it actually ends downward -- and in R-29 it ends to the right. No fundamental difference between these two

13:19 \(\quad 1 \quad\) signatures.
2 But if you look at the known writings, you will see some end downward, as in K19.18; some end to the left, which is K13.2, K13.3, K13.4, K22.1. But if you look at CSW10.5, K30.2, it obviously goes to the right in a terminal stroke, and that's much like R-29. So I find these particular features in the questioned writings, even though there's variation in the known writings.

So this concludes the presentation for the questioned Asher Avidan signature. It is my expert opinion that there is evidence to support that there are features that are consistent with the known writing and the questioned writing, so it is my expert opinion that they were written by the same person. So the proposition that they were written by the same person is there. And also I cannot support the proposition that there are fundamental differences between the questioned and known writings. Anything that may look dissimilar is attributed to natural variation.

If we can move along to the next one [RDE-RP-3].
So if you look at chart A for Avraham Lev Ran, we see that we have three questioned signatures on top and we have six known signatures on the bottom. Some people have pointed out, previous to me, that there's like a star-like structure and a predominantly vertical-like

13:24 1

2

Not all of them have it, but you will notice that there are different introductory strokes. So in R-24, you'll notice there's a tick on the right side before it comes down vertically and a tick to the left. You will notice that in R-25 there's an absence of tick marks. And then you'll notice, as we said before, in R-26 there's a tick or connecting curve to the right.

If we move to one of the known signatures, you'll see that it's basically formed in the same manner: we have 1 , which is to the left; it goes to 2 , upward to the right; retraces back down diagonally to number 3; diagonally up to the right to number 4; back down to number 5 to the left; and then up to number 6 at the top; and then the terminal stroke number 7. Again, you will see a light feathering of speed coming off the page. (Pause)

When I first learned about computers, they were the size of this room, and you had to talk to it with a key punch. So I'm dating myself: that was in the '70s. I have not kept up with computers.

So, okay, that was the sequence of strokes or the order of strokes, and that's very consistent between the questioned and the knowns.

If we move to [chart] C, I've kind of already alluded to the intro and terminal strokes of the

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13:22 11 structure, so I've colourised them for the first chart. It's a relatively simple formation: there's not many curves. But the speed, pressure variation, flying starts and stops are definitely present in the questioned writing, which is indicative of naturalness.

We move to chart B. So I've only marked it in R-24, and I've only marked the star-like element.

So if you look at number 1, you'll see that there's an introductory stroke: it moves upward to the right to number 2 ; back down to the left diagonally to number 3 ; then up to number 4 ; back down to the left to number 5 ; and then back up to number 6 ; and then back down again to the terminal stroke, number 7. You'll see that there is some feathering in number 7 and there's some feathering in number 1, meaning that they're flying starts and stops. There is also a predominantly vertical stroke, and it's hard to tell from the exhibits: some of them do not have drag strokes, but some of them do.

If we go over to R-26, you will notice that this vertical line hooks to the right, and it's a very light drag stroke to what would be point 1 . This tells me that it's more likely than not that the vertical stroke was formed first, and it goes into the number 1 point of this star-like structure.
vertical lines, that they can be ticks, tapers, even retraced -- remember when it started off, it went a little bit upward to the right and back downward to the left: that's a retrace -- or connected, the pen actually drags and connects. That's [chart] C.
[Chart] D, we're looking at the natural execution. The lines are not all the same weight or pressure involved; the pressure and speed vary, and you can see that by the [thick] and thin lines.

So we look at R-25 in particular. You'll see certain strokes, like the downstroke is heavy, the upstroke is light -- I'm just going to point it out in several places -- and sometimes it gets heavier again. So that just shows naturalness in the execution, that that's varying speed and pressure.

If we skip down to [C-0084.7], it's just that it's more obvious here. You can see very light lines showing speed; it slows down by the curve, and you can see it's a little bit heavier pressure; and certainly again the terminal stroke is very heavy, as is that near vertical stroke, being a short, heavy stroke.

You will find this feature throughout the known writings. So the movement qualities of the known writing are very similar and found in the questioned writings.

In [chart] E, I looked at the angularity of the points. So if you look at R-24, R-25 and R-26, they vary a little bit, they're not exactly the same, as I would expect from something rapidly written, a feature.

Again, if you look at C-0271-287.43 -- that's the upper-right known signature -- you can see it's very pointed and slightly retraced on the bottom left. Yet if you move over to the left, C-0271-287.19, you'll see it's a little bit rounder. So you'll certainly see some variation in this particular point here, and you will see that also in the questioned writings. So you have three questioned writings: they have some variation, but all that variation fits within the known writings.

I think that's the last slide for Avraham Lev Ran. So there is evidence to support the proposition that the questioned signature was made by the author of the known writings. There is no evidence to support fundamental differences, that these are simulations and not written by the same person.

Any further questions?
THE PRESIDENT: We may have questions, but maybe we'll keep them for afterwards, and give the floor now to the Claimants' counsel, and come back at the end if something is not covered.

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13:31 1 Q. I'll come on to that.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Sure.
Q. Did you form your opinion before 12th March 2018?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes.
Q. Did you see, before it was served on us, the comments of the Republic of Guinea? It's at tab [29]. (Pause) It's the same bundle as yesterday.
THE PRESIDENT: The comments of 12th March?
MR LIBSON: Yes. Tab 29, the comments of the Republic of Guinea on the final report of the Tribunal experts. Have you got that in front of you?
A. (Mr Picciochi) 29 ?
Q. Yes.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes.
Q. Have you seen it before?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I have, yes.
Q. Did you see it before it was served?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I did.
Q. Can you read paragraph 5? I will read it out actually: "Mr Picciochi and Dr Aginsky have both studied the Final Report in full and consider it to be thorough and comprehensive. Mr Picciochi and Dr Aginsky approve of the methodologies used by the Experts and agree with their conclusion, based on all the observations that have been made ..."

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ask these questions if you think you need to.
MR LIBSON: Yes. I think I will limit myself to the handwriting and see how I go. Thank you.
( 1.30 pm )
Cross-examination by MR LIBSON
Q. Thank you, Mr Picciochi. Can I ask you: what we heard today in your opinions, when did you arrive at those opinions?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Quite some time ago. I was asked to be a consulting expert in this matter, to advise retaining counsel. I have become a testifying expert. But because I can do a comparison, an analysis, early on, as soon as I received the preliminary report, I can get the data; that is, the raw pictures. So shortly after that -- I can't give you an exact date -- I did my own independent analysis, before I looked at the preliminary report, to see what my findings were.

As far as when the charts were made -- is that a different question?

And then there is the quote:
"... there is no evidence of page substitution, text alteration, text addition, or other irregularities to indicate that any of the Disputed Documents were fraudulently produced."

This paragraph -- and I will come on to the next paragraph as well -- represents the expression of your opinion, but doesn't refer to handwriting at all.
A. (Mr Picciochi) It does not appear to, no.
Q. Do you know why that is?
A. (Mr Picciochi) No. I did not prepare the document.
Q. Then if you turn over the page and read paragraph 6, it says:
"Consequently, it is Mr Picciochi and Dr Aginsky's expert opinion that there is every indication that the Disputed Documents are genuine."

You read and approved that as well?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I read that. In retrospect, I certainly wouldn't use "every". And in conveying information, "indications" is a weak opinion, because we're combining the document examination with the handwriting examination, and they're really not separate. So if you do one separately, there might be a different opinion. But because the handwriting resides on the documents, it is part of the document examination. And certainly the

13:34 1
scale is tipped towards genuineness, even though, when you look at just the document examination itself, it's basically neutral.
Q. So what does this sentence mean then?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It basically means that in the combined analyses of all the document examinations and handwriting examinations, that the indication is that the documents are genuine. There's no reason to believe that they are fraudulently prepared.
Q. Just tell me -- and we can turn it up if you need to, but I'm sure you're very familiar with it -- where in the SWGDOC definitions that phrase "every indication" is used.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Again, I did not prepare this document. So I don't even follow ASTM/SWGDOC for reporting opinions. There are many different opinions; they're just guidelines, it's not mandatory. As you can see, Mr Radley uses different terminology to express his opinions.
I inspect crime laboratories, and I find that the FBI, the US Army laboratory I just inspected and other laboratories do not use this nine-point ASTM/SWGDOC scale. They are moving away from that to more or less a five-[point] scale; that is, "evidence to support the proposition", or "strong evidence to support", or "weak"

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fundamental differences.
A. (Mr Picciochi) That's because there's no fundamental differences. How can I point out fundamental differences if they're just not there?
Q. Okay, thank you.

I think we established this yesterday: when you approach the exercise of giving expert evidence, it's important not to make any assumptions?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I'd go along with that, sure.
Q. Can you tell me on what basis you thought that the dot in Mr Avidan's signature related to Hebrew writing?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Part of our training is to look at foreign languages. So it is from that region. I believe, since it moves basically from the right to the left, and there are a series of dashes, what training I've had in other languages, I believe it to be Hebrew writing. I didn't say it's Hebrew writing definitely, but it appears to be to me.
Q. To you?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes.
Q. And if I said that it isn't Hebrew writing, and all the indications are that it's not Hebrew writing, what would you say to that?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It would not make a difference because even though these are not recognisable and you put

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Q. But this isn't a phrase that's on that scale either, is it?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It is not.
Q. So up until today, up until an hour ago, the only indication that this Tribunal and we had of your opinion was contained within that word "Consequently" in that sentence?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Unfortunately I don't see, just reading it very quickly, if there's anything about the handwriting. But we were looking in totality of the documents, not breaking it down, since we are two different experts and we did basically different aspects of the case: I did predominantly the handwriting and Dr Aginsky reviewed the document portion.
Q. But now in relation to the "totality", as you put it, all that we have on the record is your analysis of the similarities that we've seen today?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Well, the findings of similarities and the absence of fundamental differences, so that's both sides of the coin represented. So you have my testimony today; that is, my expert opinion that it is more likely to be genuine signatures.
Q. Yes, but the testimony today was focused on the similarities as between the signatures, rather than the

13:40 \(\quad 1 \quad\) it seems to be an optional feature.
Q. Did you go to the textbooks in this case?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, I have several books on international writings.
Q. I would be very, very interested if you could produce to the Tribunal that part of the textbook that said that there were dots in Hebrew signatures. It would be very interesting to us.
A. (Mr Picciochi) I'll get back to my office. I cannot do that electronically.
Q. Thank you.

Sorry, I don't know if you've still got it open, but I'd like to go back to tab 29.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, sir.
Q. The information that's in paragraph 7 that is expressed properly to be notes from the Republic of Guinea rather than you, those bullet points, the three bullet points that they say support the conclusions, were you aware of those bullet points when you expressed your opinion to the Republic of Guinea?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I did not sign this report. That part doesn't pertain to my handwriting examination. So if they want to present this, the attorneys, that's fine. That's information I'm not aware of.
Q. Yes, and I'm not -- you're not aware of now?

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13:44 1

I'm a document examiner and you've learnt a lot about document examination, but you've left out the movement qualities; you're just looking at the structural qualities. And I look at the movement and structural qualities.
Q. Where have you addressed the movement qualities in here?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I did that verbally. I explained that there are flying starts and stops, varying pen pressure and speed in these. So they appear to be naturally written: there's no evidence of tremor or unusual pen stops, patching and retouching of the signatures. They seem to be reflexively written.

I believe Mr Radley also commented that they seem to be naturally written, but I could be wrong about that. That's what I heard.
Q. Okay. So if you just turn to J of your charts.
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Just to explore one point. I can see, obviously, the arrows in relation to each of the loops at the end, the two arrows. But my education now in relation to the signature suggests that there should be a third arrow on the questioned signature because it changes direction. And you say that doesn't change direction?
A. (Mr Picciochi) First, I can't draw an arrow, with my ability with this particular program. The main point

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13:42 1 A. (Mr Picciochi) Anything to do with Mamadie Touré; is that what you mean?
Q. Any of the facts that are set out in there.
A. Give me a moment to read it, please. (Pause) This appears to be background information that has nothing to do with my analysis and I was unaware of it.
MR LIBSON: Okay, thank you. (Pause) I kept to my word. That's it. (Pause)

Sorry, I do have one further question. Sorry, I'm prompted by Mr Radley to put one further question to you.

So we've all had an education over the last 48 hours or so, and I'm looking at your slides that related to Marc Struik's signature.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Correct.
Q. The same applies, I think, to the other sets of slides, but perhaps more obvious in this one.

The similarities that you have identified in relation to each of these, the hook intro stroke, the five parallel loops, the ratio width/height for " M ", the back slant, et cetera -- not the relative slant; I might come back to that, if I may -- the fourth loop shorter, the small loop, the trough-like formation, are these not very obvious similarities on the documents?
A. (Mr Picciochi) They may be obvious to you and me, since
here is that it's elliptical and that it's curved. I don't see too much significance in the slight change in direction at the very end of the signature. And if you take a look at K19.1, it looks like there's two distinct movements to the curve. So I would say R-27 is very similar to K19.1.
Q. To the same angular bend in 19.1 ?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It's the same motion that there are two bends to it, however slight.
Q. Is it to the same extent?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I don't know what you mean by that.
Q. Does it turn to the same degree?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It turns twice. I'm not going to get hung up on measurements or how much the angle is that it's turning. It's turning; it's not significant.
Q. Okay. But someone may think it is significant?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Every person has a right to their opinions and the significance they attach to it. It's up to the trier of fact to determine how significant they actually are.
Q. Of course. And you would agree that in assessing both similarities and differences, it's the cumulative effect, in a sense -- sorry, it's not the cumulative effect, but it is legitimate to look at the cumulative effect?

BSG Resources Limited, BSG Resources (Guinea) Limited and BSG Resources (Guinea) SARL v Republic of Guinea

13:47 1 A. (Mr Picciochi) I didn't catch that last part, I'm sorry.
A little fast there.
Q. Sorry. In assessing similarities and differences, an aspect of the assessment is to look at the cumulative effect of what you've identified as similarities and differences, and/or differences?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, in totality, the cumulative effect of the questioned and known, and any other limitations or absent characteristics.
MR LIBSON: Thank you.
Thank you, now I am finished.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
Any questions in re-direct examination?
MR NAUD: Madam President, the adverse counsel's questions to Mr Picciochi as to whether he sees only similarities, and no differences, would normally lead us on re-direct to ask questions now as to those differences, which have been pointed out by Mr Radley. But to the extent we understand the Tribunal intends to ask questions --
THE PRESIDENT: No, you should go ahead, ask your questions. If there are any left, we will catch up there.
( 1.48 pm )
Re-direct examination by MR NAUD
Q. Mr Picciochi, if we could turn back to the signature of Mr Struik. I believe that was your first slide.

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13:51
A. (Mr Picciochi) I do not.

MR NAUD: We have no further questions on re-direct.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
Any questions by the Tribunal?
( 1.51 pm )
Questions from THE TRIBUNAL
THE PRESIDENT: Could we ask Mr Picciochi to look at slide 37 of Mr Welch, as marked by Mr Radley this morning. (Pause to locate the document)

Can someone show it on the screen? It will simplify. This was among the documents produced by Mr Radley with his cross-examination.
MR OSTROVE: I believe the problem was we only had paper copies of Mr Radley's markups of Mr Welch's slides; we don't actually have scanned versions.

THE PRESIDENT: We will have to get those in the course of the day. But for now, do you have them? Could you show them? Otherwise we will work with paper copies; that will work too. It's just it's usually easier, because then we are sure that everyone is on the same page.

It's not been scanned? Fine.
So can someone show this chart?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I have it.

THE PRESIDENT: You have it? It says in handwriting, at the bottom-right corner, "37"?

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13:48 1 A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes
Q. It's on the screen. Mr Radley has identified a number of what he sees as differences or rare occurrences, and I'd like to ask you a couple of questions as to some of those, the first one being the first loop, the initial loop, which he has identified as being very thin and outside the range of variations.

What is your reaction to that statement?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Well, these loops are rapidly written, just a basically up-and-down motion, and there are many loops that are very narrow, just like that particular first loop. They may not be in the first position, but they are certainly within the known writings. I do not consider that a fundamental difference.

13:53 1
Q. Thank you.

In reviewing the materials in preparation for the hearing, have you reviewed all the differences identified by Mr Radley with respect to this signature?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I have.
Q. And do you stand by your analysis that there are no significant differences?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, I do.
Q. With respect to the signatures of Mr Avidan and

Mr Lev Ran, are there any differences identified by Mr Radley which you think merit consideration?

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A. (Mr Picciochi) Correct.

THE PRESIDENT: Correct. You've heard this morning Mr Radley explain what he draws from this comparison.
Would you comment for us?
A. (Mr Picciochi) If someone can actually read it back to me, what he said, I'd appreciate that.
THE PRESIDENT: He commented on the numerical values, between 1.86 and 1.7. But I don't have the detail of his comments here.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Okay, I have enough information.

THE PRESIDENT: I have another question, but maybe you will first comment on the numerical values.
A. (Mr Picciochi) I alluded to not taking absolute measurements, only relative measurements. And numbers themselves, even though everyone likes numbers because it's tangible, it has no significance here. If you look at the boxes, they are basically rectangular with a certain proportion. Are they exactly the same? No. And would you expect them to be exactly the same in two signatures by the same person? You would not. So the significance of these numbers to me is not significant at all.
THE PRESIDENT: And the shape of the boxes, if you look at these two and then you compare with other known signatures of Marc Struik, the comment of Mr Radley was

13:55 1

Mr Radley's statement. And I see him nodding, so I am reassured.
A. (Mr Picciochi) There is so much variation in the height and width with such a simple signature -- simple loop motion, and combined with four or five loops. I personally did it with the first three loops, because that's the element of a particular letter. If Mr Radley wants to do that, that's fine. I don't see anything that is so different and out of the norm that I would say, "There's a problem here. We need more known writing".

\section*{THE PRESIDENT: Fine.}

I think you addressed angularity before. Let me just check slide 30, because I had a question on that too, and I'm not certain you have addressed it already. Do you have slide 30 there?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I do, Madam President, I do.

THE PRESIDENT: It may rather be a question for Mr Welch, but you may have some comments too. It's again a question of measurements. Do you see the relationship that is 0.88 in R-27, and in K 3 it's 1.56?

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not necessary, and therefore sometimes they appear and
sometimes they don't?
A. (Mr Picciochi) That is correct.
THE PRESIDENT: But if it is not Hebrew, then that
explanation of course does not work.
A. (Mr Picciochi) Well, my best approximation is that it is
Hebrew writing. Maybe if someone knows if he's Jewish
and from Israel, that could shed some light --
THE PRESIDENT:Looking -- yes.
A. (Mr Picciochi) -- instead of dancing around this.
THE PRESIDENT: I mean, I'm not giving evidence here. So we
can sort this out otherwise.
What difference does it make? Do you do handwriting
examinations in different characters or not?
A. (Mr Picciochi) I generally stay away from ideograms like
Chinese writing, because slight nuances will make
a difference, and I'm not familiar. I generally stay
within the Latin/Roman alphabet, even if it's a foreign
language. But since this was given to me, and I'm
looking for patterns, and there are strong patterns in
here, I don't mind giving an opinion, are the patterns
similar or not, even though I don't know what it says.
THE PRESIDENT: And your examination would be the same even
if the characters are from a different alphabet?

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A. (Mr Picciochi) The general principles of handwriting

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13:57 1 A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, I do see that.
THE PRESIDENT: Any comments that you have on this?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Yes, absolutely.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, please.
A. (Mr Picciochi) So it appears as if the two extremes are being measured, and where the loops criss-cross is the point that's being measured. It really depends where you start, and that's arbitrary. Some people with these red lines measured it from the bottom of the connecting loop to the right. But if you start with the hook stroke to the left on each of these, then the distance from the midpoint intersection to the beginning stroke, or the bottom of the beginning stroke, the bottom of the hook, now becomes much smaller. And I haven't done the math, but it approximates the proportions. So again, I don't put much weight on these numbers here.
THE PRESIDENT: I'm not entirely sure I understood your evidence with respect to Mr Avidan's signature, and specifically whether it's Hebrew letters or not.
A. (Mr Picciochi) I don't absolutely know for sure.

THE PRESIDENT: You don't state an opinion on this?
A. (Mr Picciochi) It looks like it to me. But I cannot say it is Hebrew writing. I did not state that it is Hebrew writing. It seems to be Hebrew writing.
THE PRESIDENT: That's why you said in Hebrew the dots are
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examination --
THE PRESIDENT: Subject to ideograms. But otherwise?
A. (Mr Picciochi) Being more familiar with certain nuances of languages with the Roman alphabet, I could look at what we call "class characteristics", as opposed to individual characteristics. We're mostly pointing out individual characteristics.

So with class characteristics, that's how a person learns to write, the copy book; and if you don't deviate from that, I would probably be out of business. But because we don't write exactly like the copy book form, we have the individual characteristics.

So it's important in the Roman alphabet to understand what is the class characteristic to attribute some weight to the significance of something that I find.
THE PRESIDENT: Can I ask a question to Dr Aginsky. You've been there very quiet.

I understand that the comments that the Respondent filed on 12th March have been reviewed by you as well before they were filed? Or how did this happen?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes, I did. Not very thoroughly because I was preparing to testify the next day in California. I testified on the 13th, and I was asked to review that on the 12 th, as far as I remember.

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14:03 1 THE PRESIDENT: The comments say that you agree with the

5 A. (Dr Aginsky) No, I just reviewed the reports.
THE PRESIDENT: The preliminary report, are you saying?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: You attended the inspection?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes. Not from the beginning, but for two days, I believe. And I have reviewed both reports prepared by the experts.
THE PRESIDENT: And how did you verify their conclusions?
A. (Dr Aginsky) I couldn't, obviously, verify their conclusions on handwriting, because I am not a handwriting expert.
THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't speak of handwriting now. I'd like to address the other part on documents.
A. (Dr Aginsky) As for the other parts of the documents, I agree with Mr Picciochi, who said earlier that it is a two-part examination. The first part resulted in basically an inconclusive result, which relates to everything but handwriting. But handwriting examination shows some evidence in favour of the document being authentic.

So as a team of experts, I just agreed with that.

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14:06 1
equally applicable to the competing hypothesis that there is no evidence that would show that the documents are not backdated fraud.

So in other words, it should have been done, and I would do the same approaches, I would apply them. But then my result would be that based on this set of methods that I used, I cannot come -- I would say my results equally support both competing hypotheses. So without handwriting, that would be my conclusion.
THE PRESIDENT: And you focus essentially on date when you look at the document itself, irrespective of the handwriting? Because you have insisted very much in your answer now to my questions on whether it was produced on the date on which it was dated.
A. (Dr Aginsky) Purported date. That's my typical assignment. I'm always asked whether this document was produced on the date indicated on the document or, if there is no date, on the purported date, or substantially later. It's not like two days later, three days; it's impossible to detect.

But if it's several years later, or several decades later -- there are also situations like that -- then, yes, I collect the evidence, everything that is relevant to collect or possible to collect in that particular case, and then I compare the results that I obtain: so

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    an expert, it doesn't help one way or the other to determine whether the documents are authentic in respect of their dates of preparation.
THE PRESIDENT: So do you agree with the Tribunal's experts, who say that there is no evidence of fraud on the documents?
A. (Dr Aginsky) That's correct. And in many of my reports I also include this particular sentence that I found no evidence that would show, that would indicate that the document was not prepared on the date indicated, on the date appearing on the document.

But then I typically explain that my conclusion should not be construed as the proof of the authenticity of the document with respect to the date of its preparation, because basically, like in this case, the evidence, if we consider two competing hypotheses -there are always two competing hypotheses: one is that the document is authentic with respect to the date of preparation; and the other is that, no, the document is backdated fraud.
So we are looking, depending on the nature of the document and the methods that we apply to the case -like in this case, all the results that show no evidence that the document was not produced on another date, it's
whether I have evidence that would support more hypothesis 1 , let's say, or defence hypothesis, the document is authentic; or whether my results would support more the opposite, the competing hypothesis that the document is a backdated fraud. We call it prosecution hypothesis. Prosecution versus defence.
THE PRESIDENT: Obviously conceptually you can have a document that was produced on the date that it says, and yet is a forgery? I can forge a document today and date it today, can I not, and it would still be a forged document?
A. (Dr Aginsky) If someone else produced it, yes.

But usually what I am asked to do is like, for example, there is a one-page document with a text printed on it, let's say a promissory note, and the signature under the text -- it's just one example -- and let's say dated ten years ago, but they say this document was first known to exist five years ago.

If it's five years ago, it means that it is outside the two-year period of time during which any ink, irrespective of the formulation, would stop ageing at a measurable rate. Therefore I cannot use the ink-ageing analysis, which I developed a couple of techniques for that. But what I could use is I could determine whether the ink that was used to sign the
was produced five years ago. experts on this seem to agree. for yourself.
A. (Dr Aginsky) I have read it. I understand this correctly?
A. (Dr Aginsky) That's exactly correct, yes. they do not support it either; is that correct?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes, that's correct.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
document was commercially available at the time that
corresponds to the date appearing on the document.
So if the ink was available, let's say, ten years ago, and it's still available, therefore it means that my result again is neutral. I determine that there is no evidence that the document was not prepared ten years ago, but also I cannot rule out the possibility that it

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I understand that, and I think the

So when I read paragraph 6 of the comments of the Respondent -- that was in tab 29, maybe you can show it again, on page 2. Paragraph 6, can you simply read it

THE PRESIDENT: So this is a statement that is largely based on Mr Picciochi's results, rather than on yours; do

THE PRESIDENT: Your results do not contradict that, but

I have no further questions. Any follow-up questions on the basis of the Tribunal's questions?

14:13

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Q. Page 110, paragraph 160. Do you want to read it through? Do you want to read the paragraph to yourself?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes, I've read it.
Q. It is in exactly the same form in relation to R-29 at paragraph 177. You don't need to read that; it's exactly the same. So you would have read that paragraph four times by the time you came to approve the document at R-29; that's right?
A. (Dr Aginsky) I apologise, what did you say?
Q. That paragraph appears twice in the final report and twice in the preliminary report --
A. (Dr Aginsky) Okay.
Q. -- and therefore you would have read it four times by the time you approved the Republic of Guinea's submissions to this Tribunal?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Yes, but I said that my approval is more like a team effort, not my approval based on the --
THE PRESIDENT: I'm sorry, I'm a little confused. Does it appear twice in the final report, but with respect to different documents?
MR LIBSON: Yes, I made that clear.
THE PRESIDENT: Because you referred to 160 .
MR LIBSON: And 177 is in identical form.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. So if Dr Aginsky wants to see this as well. So one is about R-28 and the other one is about

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14:11 1 MR LIBSON: I have one follow-up question on the basis of your questions.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, please.
( 2.11 pm )
Further cross-examination by MR LIBSON
Q. Dr Aginsky, Madam President asked you the question of what you had read at the time that the document in front of you was prepared, and I think you answered that you had just read the draft report as it had come? The preliminary report, sorry.
A. (Dr Aginsky) I don't remember whether the final report was ready for my review by that time.
Q. The final report, sorry. You've read the final report?
A. (Dr Aginsky) The final report is dated when? In January?
THE PRESIDENT: I think you said you read the preliminary report and the final report --
A. Yes, that's what I --

THE PRESIDENT: -- and these comments were made after the final report. Just so that you are not confused about the timing.
MR LIBSON: So can I just ask you to look at one paragraph in the final report, which is at tab 1 in that bundle in front of you. Paragraph 160. It's page 110.
A. (Dr Aginsky) Page, I'm sorry?

R-29; is that right? Yes.
MR LIBSON: You read it. Do you agree with that conclusion?
A. (Dr Aginsky) In these two paragraphs?
Q. Do you agree with the way in which the assumption is drawn in that paragraph?
A. (Dr Aginsky) Probably with my knowledge of English I would say it a little simpler. But as far as I understood this paragraph, or these two paragraphs, is that experts, they look at the printed date on the document and they create a typical situation: that the document is as old as it purports to be, based on the date appearing on the document. But what I would like to see also is the alternative hypothesis: that the document was produced substantially later. But I don't see any problem with that.
Q. If you turn back to tab 29, where we were before, and your conclusion, paragraph 6, Mr Picciochi agreed with me that there's no reference to handwriting analysis in this report -- in this document, sorry; it's not a report -- so we had always understood that it was a representation of your views rather than his, or at least a joint representation. And rather than saying that there should have been an alternative proposition, you actually inflate the proposition from "there is no evidence" to "there is every indication". That's a bit

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BSG Resources Limited, BSG Resources (Guinea) Limited and BSG Resources (Guinea) SARL v Republic of Guinea
misleading, isn't it?
A. (Dr Aginsky) It's not what I printed; that was printed by the law firm.
Q. But you approved it. We understood it represented your and Mr Picciochi's opinion.
A. (Dr Aginsky) Right, but I would put it in different words. As I say, I was preparing to testify, and was meeting with a lawyer, and next morning is my testimony. And I received it on my telephone, so I've read it, and I said: yes, basically I agree, because taking together the handwriting, which gives some result, and the other part of the examination, which in my opinion gives no result, so some plus zero gives us some result.

So of course I would not include the words "every indication"; I don't know what "every indication" means. But, yes, taking together handwriting plus the other examinations, they -- but I am not a handwriting expert, so I didn't object against what was written in this letter.
MR LIBSON: Thank you.
THE PRESIDENT: Any follow up on the Respondent's side? MR OSTROVE: No, Madam President.
THE PRESIDENT: Then I have good news: we can all have lunch. I'm sure you're all very hungry.

We will resume at 3.15 , or we will run a little late

15:09 1
\& Associates Forensic Laboratories, to serve in this matter.

As well, we would like to thank both parties, and their respective experts. I understand there have been some contentious issues, but we understand that this is part of litigation. But everyone has been professional, so over the past couple of days the questioning has been fine, and what I would expect from people that may or may not agree with what we've opined on.

Our main objective though was to conduct a thorough and comprehensive examination of the disputed documents, to provide the Tribunal and the parties with some resolution. So although some of these results and conclusions may have resulted in some contentious beliefs, we still hope that there are some results that will be helpful for everyone to help try and resolve your individual issues.

Ultimately though our duty, as we understand, or as we take great pride in, was to try and provide the Tribunal with as much scientific information as possible. We were going to provide you with that information regardless of whether it favoured the Respondent or the Claimants; we had no affiliation or association with any of the parties on both sides. So all we wanted to do was give you the truth, and that was

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14:19 1 compared -- we can start again at 3 o'clock? I'm
looking at the Tribunal experts, because they are the next ones who have to again take the stand to make your concluding remarks. Will you have sufficient time if we start at 3 o'clock?

Good, so let's start again at 3.00. Have a good
lunch, everyone.
( 2.19 pm )
(Adjourned until 3.00 pm )
( 3.08 pm )
THE PRESIDENT: So, Mr LaPorte, Mr Welch, you are on again. You have heard the views of the party experts commenting on your report, and we would be interested in having your concluding remarks. You will remember that you have, we said, 30 minutes.
MR LAPORTE: Thank you, Madam President. First of all, we apologise for being late. We were looking at our watches and we thought we had to be here at 3.15 .
THE PRESIDENT: But you're ready?
MR LAPORTE: But we're here and we're ready to go.
Hopefully we should take actually less than 30 minutes.
( 3.09 pm ) Concluding remarks of the Tribunal-appointed experts
MR LAPORTE: First of all, we would sincerely like to thank the Tribunal for selecting our firm Riley Welch LaPorte

15:10 1 it

So we've heard testimony over the past couple of days, and I just want to sort of bring up this morning. So the testimony this morning from Mr Radley was kind of eye-opening, for me at least. According to the transcript at 09:27:18 (page 13, lines 4 to 8 ), Mr Radley said the following:
"... as I am instructed, there has never been an issue as to whether the questioned documents are the result of alteration or page substitution. Their concern was: the documents are fabricated as a whole."

So I found that statement to be a little eye-opening for us. First of all, nobody ever told us that there was no dispute about the documents being -- whether they were altered or page substitution; that they were just altogether fabricated as a whole. But as I discussed yesterday, you know, this is the type of information that can really be biasing for an examiner, and it can make you start to sort of think very narrow and focus on a certain working assumption when somebody tells you that.

I once again have great respect for Mr Radley, so this is not any indictment on Mr Radley; I mean, this is the information that was provided to him. But I'm certainly glad that we were never given that

15:12 1
2
information. You know, we just proceeded and we conducted examinations in every aspect, because we were never told anything specific about the documents.

However, you know, what I do think -- this is just us the way we think -- is that this statement made to Mr Radley sort of answers the question of why he continued to discount all of the findings in our report: because he was told that there was no concern about alterations or any kind of page substitutions. So when he's reading our report and he's reading that, in his mind he's thinking, "Well, my client has already told me that this isn't in issue, so it's not important". I think that's sort of an unfortunate part that may have kind of fell into this whole thing. So that means that Mr Radley has received a lot of contextual information, and now he may have been so strongly focused on the proposition and the theory that all of the documents were altered as a whole.

But what's sort of more astonishing to all of this is that if Mr Radley was operating on the proposition that the documents were fabricated as a whole, then why did he not acknowledge and comment on the results from all of the ink and paper testing and the indentation results in our reports?

So I know that ink and paper chemistry are not

15:15 1
paragraph 199 of Mr Radley's report. This is exactly what we found. We found what Mr Radley says would have supported a genuine document production, if you will, as a whole.

Also the question arises about why Mr Radley would apply a positive conclusion in a case like this, where we're talking about multiple documents being fabricated all at once, but in other instances he would be inconclusive, regardless of negative findings, if you will.

Then Mr Radley goes on to admit, both in his testimony and in his report, that there is a considerable amount of money involved in this case. That's at pages 18 to 19, paragraph 2 of his report. Frankly, the amount of money involved in a case is irrelevant to our scientific analysis, and it should be for Mr Radley. Once again, Mr Radley may be focusing on this theory of a master forger now, and sort of stuck in that rut, because there is a considerable amount of money involved.

Money is relative. I don't know how much it costs to get a master forger, but I'm guessing if I had a case that was worth \(\$ 250,000\), maybe I could find a master forger for \(\$ 25,000\), and that would be an excellent return on investment, if you will. So this whole thing

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necessarily Mr Radley's expertise, but the results were pretty straightforward, and they're at table 1 of our report. They have not been disputed by either party; everybody has accepted the results.

That is, there are at least thirteen different writing inks, six different types of paper, three different toner types, one inkjet printed document. There were different signatures used for the legalisation stamps. There were rusty staple holes on some documents and not on others; that's an important thing. In some cases the paper used for the documents was significantly weathered. There was no evidence of multiple documents from different time periods being impressed into each other. But more importantly, we did not find a single instance of the writing from an earlier-dated document being impressed into a later-dated document. I mean, all of that information actually discounts the whole idea that the documents were fabricated all at once.

In fact, Mr Radley even stated in his report that if the documents were genuinely created on the dates indicated, it would be expected that they would have been produced on different occasions, under different circumstances, hence giving rise to the various printers, pens used, et cetera. That's at page 43,
is sort of relative speaking, right? If we're talking billions of dollars or millions of dollars, I'm betting that you don't have to pay \(\$ 1\) billion for a master forger, if that's what you were seeking.

So really the whole idea of there being a considerable amount of money, that should have no bearing on our scientific analysis.

Furthermore, under cross-examination this morning Mr Radley said that he did not provide more detailed comments to the PR regarding the differences he opined on in some of the signatures because -- and I quote from the record at 10:42:27 (page 49, lines 11 to 12 ):
"I would not expect Mr Welch to take into consideration what I have to say ..."

This is not and could not be further from the truth. We would have welcomed any substantive comments at that time, rather than the 65 open-ended questions that were not posed with sufficient background. Had Mr Radley provided some information about what he thought were differences and so forth, we would have acknowledged those, and we would have considered them as well too. I'm not saying that the opinion would have changed, but we would have welcomed that. I mean, we were the Tribunal-appointed experts; there was no affiliation to any of the parties. So that would have been extremely

15:19 1
helpful.
But more importantly, I think that would have been helpful for the Tribunal, because Mr Radley could have provided that information to us, what his beliefs were at the time, and then we could have addressed them, and we may have been able to cut down a significant amount of time on these discussions now because we could have addressed them in our final report.

I truly and genuinely mean that. Mr Welch and I have both been in situations before where people have provided some extra comments and we've changed our reports in some degree. We do this all the time when we go through technical reviews -- we both come from accredited laboratories -- when our peers review our work and then they start asking us questions, and you can make changes from that point forward.

In fact, some of the suggestions that Mr Radley provided, that were more substantive than those 65 questions that were posed to us, we actually did make some changes. So we were more than willing to make changes based on what we heard.

Mr Radley went on to state that it is his practice not to change his opinion once he issues a report. What this says to me, and what Mr Radley said to this Tribunal, is that once he states his opinion, then he's

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15:20 \(\quad 1\)
you see yellow dots and it's on a photograph, that that would be difficult to interpret. I totally understand that; he's absolutely right. But what he should have done is he should have looked at the digital images. And if he didn't look at the digital images, then he should have put that context in his report, or in those questions that were posed.

Instead the query came to us:
"Please explain whether the Experts identified any evidence of security printing on the Disputed Documents, and if so, please comment on the findings in the Final Report."
This was question 9 .
We responded by saying: we did not observe any CPS codes. But then Mr Radley goes on to state in his report that he issued, in paragraph 38 :
"I cannot assess certain other features which are not mentioned in the report but may be of significance e.g. security printing ... which appear to be present on some of the documents ..."
He has just told the Tribunal that there "appear to be" yellow dots that could be of significance that are CPS codes. This is a highly misleading statement. He didn't explain in his report that he only looked at photographs and that he was uncertain. This makes it

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not going to change it. That's what that says to me, regardless of any additional information that we receive.

As forensic scientists in general -- and I'm not talking about just forensic document examiners -- it's our duty to potentially change an opinion or a conclusion based on new information. In fact -I don't know what paragraph it is in our report, but I know it's right at the end of our report -- we specifically state that we will make changes based on new information that's provided to us.

One of the other things -- and there have been a couple of examples in Mr Radley's report that I think may have caused some confusion. Really what we did -so the purpose of our final report obviously was to address some of the questions that were posed by everyone. We considered all of those questions, and we have made the assertion that we believe that some of those 65 questions were misleading if they were read out of context and if they didn't have the proper background information.

So, for example, this morning Mr Radley testified in his testimony that he observed the yellow dots on an inkjet document, but only used the photograph and not the digital images. I agree with Mr Radley that when
no examination was conducted, he has no idea what was going on with those documents. I think that would have been helpful.

I just feel that some of these things, I think
Mr Radley could have curbed at least, in terms of speculation, once again, for laypeople that are reading the report but may get confused over these types of things.

With respect to the document authentication examination, I know the Tribunal has heard extensively our views, and specifically our rationalisation for concluding that there's no evidence of page substitution, text alteration, text addition or other irregularities to indicate that any of the disputed documents were fraudulently produced. So what I'm going to say, sort of in a very polite manner, is: welcome to our world. There's a lot of controversy over how to express conclusions about these types of things.

I chair a working group of 20 experts in forensic document examination, and we all have sort of different views on how to express opinions. There's a European way, there's an Asian way, there's the American way; and then there's multiple American ways, and then there's multiple European ways, and then there's Australian ways. So I've got people from all over the world on

15:26 1
fundamental things that have carried through over the past 100 years, and we're still there.

The Kelly and Lindblom book is actually a textbook from post-2000, I'll say, so it is a more recent textbook, but it is based on one of the older textbooks. But, you know, they specifically state in there that when the combined results of testing reveal no change, it can be stated that there is no evidence to support that this document was fraudulent. That's what they tell us in the book too.

I know Mr Radley has criticised our report for using "there is no evidence", and he says: because we've used it so many times. But what he's not acknowledging is that's we use it so many times because every time we do the test and we get a result, then we say that. So that should tell you how many times we do the test, and then how many times we get that result.

Now, I gave you some number numbers yesterday about: we did 10 exams on 12 or 13 documents, and that's 120 tests or so. Mr Welch and I talked about this last night. I actually forgot that they were multiple-page documents, so there were 22 pages of documents, and we actually carried out anywhere from 15 to 20 different tests. So we're talking about a lot of tests, and that's why the verbiage got repeated so many times.

15:24 \(1 \quad\) this working group, and we're trying to sort of resolve this issue so that everybody is sort of saying the same thing.
So, you know, I'll sort of apologise on behalf of the forensic document examiner community that we haven't come together and gelled in this way, so that when you hear a conclusion from me, Mr Radley and Dr Aginsky, you're hearing the same thing. I get the feeling that you've heard from the three of us on the document authentication part and you kind of all heard something a little different.
But I will go back to that the verbiage that we used in our report, that there's "no evidence to support", it's an accurate way to put it. So now how to draw that final conclusion, I understand that that can be a little contentious. But I think at least what we've communicated was -- and that's a truthful statement -there's just no evidence to indicate fraud or alteration. And this verbiage is consistent with some of the authoritative texts in the books: one of them by Ordway Hilton, and the other edited by Kelly and Lindblom.
Madam, this morning you brought up the idea, "You're still using these textbooks that are a century years old", and it's true that there are some basic,

But it certainly was not our intent to mislead you in any way, to say that the documents were truly genuine. You know, we've talked about how very difficult it is to prove genuineness in these types of documents.

So while Mr Radley and us are not likely to reach agreement on the use of the terminology, you know, I don't think we will get there, Mr Radley does state in his report (paragraph 202):
"On the evidence before me, whilst I appreciate there may be 'no evidence' of fraudulent production ..."

So he agrees with that part. Then he goes on to say:
"... it does not necessarily follow that the documents are genuine."

And we actually agree with that part of the statement: that it doesn't necessarily mean that they are genuine. What it does show, or at least what we're trying to convey that to you, is there is no evidence of fraud, and that you should use that when you're balancing other information that you should be privy to, whether that's eyewitness testimony or other testimony from individuals. You know, just keep that in mind. But I don't think our examination should just be perceived as kind of an equal balance, if you will.

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Without belabouring this point too much further, you know, I'd like to just take sort of one more opportunity to convey to the Tribunal how we evaluated our evidence.

If you think about hypothesis testing -- I think all of us are pretty well aware of hypothesis testing; it is commonly used in science. I'm a science fair judge, and the first thing I do when I go to a science fair is I make sure that the individual -- these are kids usually, 16 and under -- I make sure that they have a hypothesis. That's the first thing that I'm looking at as a judge. So I know all about hypothesis testing.

But if you were to make this some sort of congruent-type comparison, so if you were to try and create some sort of congruency in hypothesis testing to what we do, in this case we cannot prove the hypothesis that the disputed documents are fraudulent, so therefore we must accept that the disputed documents are genuine. So I think that's where some people go. But we're not saying that exactly.

However, if you actually change that hypothesis around -- and if you're familiar with hypothesis testing, you can switch it around to prove and disprove -- but if you change that hypothesis around to say that if the disputed documents cannot be proven to be genuine, then we must accept that the disputed

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and I don't have to follow that. So now I've flipped the signature around, and because I'm an artist, to me that's just a picture now; it's no longer writing when I flip it over". So our brains, when we see writing, we see that as writing. And I think Mr Picciochi had led to this, is that sometimes you'll get into your own habits.

Now, when a forger flips it around, they're just drawing it. But when he drew it, and we had examiners look at his writing, we could always tell all of the differences, because he was drawing it in a different way; and there were all kinds of things, like the pen lifts and the flying starts and finishes and all that stuff, that wouldn't exactly add up, because he was doing it sometimes in a different direction.

The idea of most forgers is to pictorially fool somebody. That's it: pictorially. Now, I'm not an expert in this area, but I'll turn over to Mr Welch to talk a little bit more about that.
MR WELCH: Thank you. Yes, I'd like to comment just a little bit on the master forger proposition.

In the paper that Mr Radley presented this morning, "Another Adept Penman" by Messrs Buglio and Gidion, Mr Brian Smith is, I would say, a very skilled simulator. I think it would be fair to say if I were on

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documents are genuine. So when you go to the hypothesis testing and you flip them round the other way, it's not an equal way to evaluate the evidence.

So, once again going back to my point, this is where we continue to have these conversations in the forensic document examiner community about coming together on our wording so that people understand it. But I can tell you, you know, with just \(100 \%\) certainty that we have never had any intent to mislead. We wanted to just be very open and transparent. And when we say there's no evidence, that's what we mean: that there's no evidence.

So I'm going to turn it over to Mr Welch. But before I do that, I just wanted to sort of tell you a brief story of someone that I used to work with who is extremely talented with forging signatures. I've watched him forge signatures many times over. He used to do work for us, and he'd forge all kinds of different documents, for people to go undercover and so forth. He's an excellent forger.

But what he used to do was he would have signatures, and then what he would do is he would turn them upside-down; and as soon as he turned them upside-down, he was a graphic artist. And he would tell us, "What that allows me to do, Gerry, is now I can just draw it,
the other side, the flipside of the coin, in a situation, and I needed a master forger, he would definitely be the gentleman that I would go to to conduct something of that sort.

That being said, earlier in my career I had the opportunity -- he was at one of our professional meetings, I believe it was an ASQDE meeting -- with Mr Lloyd Cunningham, who Mr Radley mentioned this morning, and I had a conversation with him about what he can't duplicate. And I asked him, I said, "Can you duplicate the fine and subtle detail that an individual -- how they write, with all pure naturalness, pure fluency, and also obtain the same type of pen pressure and pen pressure variation?" And he says, "Those are the things that I can't". He says, "I can make it look very good, but I can't duplicate the things that you're asking me about".

If you go to the material, the paper that my friend and colleague Mr Radley presented this morning, if you go to figure 25 -- it's after most of the signature examples, towards the end -- it's a photograph of Mr Smith, and this is very enlightening.

\section*{THE PRESIDENT: We have it.}

MR WELCH: Okay. If you look at pages 25 and 26, the reason why Mr Smith can't obtain the same fine and subtle

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characteristics, especially when it comes to pen pressure and pen pressure variation, is the manner in which he writes them. And if you look, he turns the page on its side and draws the signature downwards.
These are the things, when you look at simulations, even with a master forger, again, the fine and subtle details that I spoke about in my testimony -- and what our founding father, Albert S Osborn, even indicates throughout his book is: a forger can't duplicate the fine and subtle details.

In fact, Albert Osborn in his book, Questioned Documents, page 367, states:
"It is also reasonable to expect that an imitation will resemble in certain ways the writing imitated and conclusive evidence of genuine must always be more than this general appearance. When, however, the general appearance is correct and, as pointed out, there are incorporated various delicate qualities of an individual character and a freely written signature, and especially delicate, occasional or rare qualities, then the conclusion must be reached that the writing is genuine."

And that is what I concluded in this case, based upon many of the fine and subtle features that I illustrated to the Tribunal.
THE PRESIDENT: Can you please give us the page again?

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15:39 \(\quad 1 \quad\) could turn to that: it's the third page from the last in
2 the packet he handed out. It would be page 231 of 3 Questioned Documents. In the last paragraph it says:
"A forger who seeks to abandon his own writing personality, which is exceedingly difficult if not impossible, and at the same time assumes that of another, -- which is still more difficult, -- will almost certainly fall short of perfection by errors in both these particulars."
As the trier in fact in this particular matter, I hope it doesn't get lost in my colleague's testimony that it's the fine and subtle features -- it's the hooks, it's the feathers, it's the pen pressure variation, it's the pen drags, it's the flying starts, it's the flying finishes -- that separate a forgery by a master forger from a genuinely signed document or signature.

In fact, lastly, on page 364 of Albert Osborn's Questioned Documents, he states:
"Flying starts and flying finishes where the motion of the pen precedes the beginning of the stroke and continues beyond the end to a vanishing point, are found in free natural writing and, as a rule, are important indications of genuineness. Intermediate strokes also where the pen comes off the paper but is not stopped and

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15:38 1 MR WELCH: Page 367 of Questioned Documents, 2nd edition. THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
MR WELCH: You're welcome.
To the second point, regarding the master forger proposition, again my dear friend and colleague got up this morning to draw the Avraham Lev Ran signature, Radley 1. And if there was video watching him, or if there was video capturing him writing or drawing that particular signature, which he was expressing as a very simplistic signature, and not complex, you'll notice in the first or second upstroke there was a slight hesitation in his movement towards the top of the stroke. And then he went on to illustrate at the bottom, tried to draw a hook down at the bottom, and made a comment: I think he stated "Oops", and had to retouch it again.

Those fine and subtle drag strokes, and those details, and those flying starts and finishes are very difficult, once again, for a forger to duplicate. They're that fine and subtle detail that, as a forensic document examiner, we must spend time looking at with a microscope, with the right magnification, to determine the significance of those details for either genuineness or forgery.

Mr Radley provided a statement by Mr Osborn. If we

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shows continuity of motion are, as a rule, indications of unconsciousness of the details of the operation and point towards genuineness. This analysis requires ..."

And this is the most important thing:
"... close observation and accurate reasoning. One who ... cannot reason should not attempt to give an opinion on the subject."

Further, he states (page 367):
"If it is assumed that an imitation may produce every quality of a writing then, of course, no one could tell whether or not it is genuine. A perfect forgery cannot be detected by anyone. If those who attack a document argue that the manner of writing was perfectly simulated and all its various characteristics observed and incorporated, this is an admission that there is no evidence of forgery present and a conclusion of forgery from the writing alone is therefore illogical and unjustified. There are those who will persist in saying that a writing is a forgery even when no evidence of forgery can be pointed out."

Lastly, I'm going to leave the master forger proposition and move on to one final point, and that comes down to the mathematical --
THE PRESIDENT: Excuse me for interrupting you. The 30 minutes have just passed. But of course ...

15:42 1 MR WELCH: I'm on my last point.
THE PRESIDENT: Present your last point, but you're aware that you're off-limits.

\section*{MR WELCH: I'm sorry.}

Last point. I want to talk about briefly the mathematical calculations and the numerical values in forensic document examination, especially as it relates to handwriting.

Handwriting is a very, very dynamic process, and statisticians within our particular field and profession for years have been trying to place statistical and numerical values on handwriting, and they haven't been able to successfully do so. The problem is: how do you determine how many people write an " S " form in a certain way?

I gave the Tribunal an illustration within the Marc Struik signature of an "S"-shaped form, how much variation was in just that one character, and there were four different ways in which he wrote it.

Then you throw in, on top of that, the accidentals that we all have, and how statistically do we account for what that looks like? It's not possible. How does every person in the world sign a particular "S"? There's no way to account for that, especially when you throw accidentals into the mix.

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15:46
MR LAPORTE: Madam President, just 30 seconds and then that's it. I apologise.

There was one thing that I forgot to include. One thing that we haven't articulated thus far is that actually Mr Welch and I conducted many of our examinations independently. We had no idea what the results were. So while I worked on all of the ink and paper testing, he was working on the handwriting examinations; and I was working on the stamps and then he was doing the transfers. We had no idea what our results were. So we worked completely independently.

So when I was doing my ink-dating stuff, he had no idea what kind of results I was getting; when he was doing handwriting, I had no idea. I actually didn't see his handwriting results until actually pretty late in the report, and then he started inserting the statements into the report.

So with that -- and just one last sentence here. As the Tribunal-appointed experts, we had no expectations of results and conclusions, we weren't privy to any extraneous outside information about the disputed documents, and we just wanted to emphasise that again.

So, once again, thank you for putting your trust in us.
THE PRESIDENT: Do we have any additional questions for the
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So when Mr Radley said that he measures every line,
I had to kind of chuckle to myself. If we did that, I would still be in my office today just on this case, measuring every line as it relates to variation, to calculate the variation. These particular measurements and numbers can be very misleading to somebody who wants to see and place mathematical figures and assign it to the science of handwriting.

Stating this, I will go to the point and illustrate this last point here. If you take the undisputed signature, Professor, that you placed up on the screen, which is undisputed, it's a known signature, that particular signature fell outside the numerical value. Is it a forgery? No.
THE PRESIDENT: For the record, it was R-182, so we have the reference.
MR WELCH: Thank you. Yes, R-182.
We have to be very careful when we put statistical or numerical values on handwriting, and especially as it applies to variation. You can't put it in that box; it's very dangerous. You have to have the ability to properly reason all the individual identifiable unique handwriting characteristics throughout that signature.

So with that, I thank you for the time, my apologies for going over, and it was a pleasure serving you.

Tribunal-appointed experts?
( 3.47 pm )
Questions from THE TRIBUNAL
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: You were there this morning when
Mr Picciochi testified?
MR WELCH: Yes, we were.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: And you saw him going through these
various documents with the contested signature, and
comparing with the known signatures of the various
individuals involved?
MR WELCH: Yes.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Do you have any observation regarding that demonstration?
MR WELCH: No. I think we both came to the same conclusion.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: Thank you.
THE PRESIDENT: I have no question left, after two days.
I would like to thank both of you, on behalf of the
Tribunal, for your valuable assistance. Now you're
entitled to speak again and you're released, but of
course you can stay with us.
MR LAPORTE: Yes. No, we have nothing further. Thank you so much.
MR WELCH: Thank you.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
So now we should go ahead immediately with the

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Claimants' closing argument.
MR LIBSON: Madam President --
THE PRESIDENT: I should mention that you are already over -- I mean, you don't have the 45 minutes left if we apply the maximum time allocation, which was 4 hours 30 . We will give you the 45 minutes. The reason why I'm saying this is just that you know that the 45 minutes is already an extension.
MR LIBSON: Thank you. We are grateful for the indulgence. Thank you very much.
( 3.49 pm )
Closing statement on behalf of Claimants
MR LIBSON: We are going to divide these comments into two. I'm going to speak very briefly about the expert evidence that we've heard over the last couple of days, and then Mr Daele is going to address the Tribunal on our application.

I want to just start by taking great exception to Mr LaPorte and Mr Welch's closing statements. They were replete with misrepresentations both of what Mr Radley has had to say and with actually their own evidence.

If we take just one single example, they quoted as part of the more modern authorities Kelly and Lindblom in relation to the "no evidence" rule, saying that they recommend being able to say that there's "no evidence to

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formulation, we've also learnt that it effectively has no meaning. And it shouldn't have been "no evidence of fraudulent production", it should have been "no evidence of alteration". But despite the difference, it has effectively no meaning. I'm glad we've established this, because its repetition was very misleading, to the extent that Guinea's experts adopted it, as we saw, and supercharged it into an even more meaningless phrase of "every indication suggests".

So we've established that the Tribunal-appointed experts are adamant that their conclusions are based on the totality of evidence, but at the same time they entirely disregard any irregularities that raise cause for concern. And we're criticised every which way. Even when we put very specific questions in our questions to the Tribunal-appointed experts, those were dismissed in the same way as the general ones were.

We asked the question about five irregularities observed by the experts, the impression of R-29 on R-26, the ink toner transfer, disregarding the "A.L." initials, but none of these found their way into the repeated conclusions of "no evidence of fraudulent production".

We learnt too that the assumptions set out as to the dating of R-28 and R-29 are fundamentally unreliable.

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15:50 1 support that this document was fraudulent". That's just a misquote from the textbook. Throughout the highlighted quotes that they draw our attention to, it says, "no evidence that this document was altered".

This is a mistake that Mr LaPorte has fallen into time and time again. In a discipline where we expect precision from our expertise, the constant falling into mistakes and the constant misrepresenting of the position is simply not acceptable.

In relation to Mr Radley, there were five or six scurrilous misrepresentations of the position he has adopted, and we reserve our position to come back and analyse the misrepresentation, because it's simply not fair to allow those to be the final word on the record; it's not fair to Mr Radley, and it's certainly not fair to my clients' case.

So what have we learnt over the last couple of days?
First of all, it seems that we've learnt that
analysis -- and this seems to be agreed -- falls into two parts: there's document examination and then there's the signatures.

In relation to the first, the document examination, Mr LaPorte, Mr Radley and Dr Aginsky all agree, I think, that the evidence is entirely indeterminate. And notwithstanding the repetitive use of the "no evidence"

We learnt that the evidence relating to the application of stamps is all irrelevant, because Mr LaPorte now states that he meant to refer to the date of manufacture of the stamps, rather than the date of application. This is very surprising, given how many questions were asked about the stamps and how important, absent availability of ink dating, the stamps are to assessing the creation of documents.

We learnt that Messrs Aginsky and Picciochi failed properly to engage with the assessment of that evidence as articulated by Guinea, they didn't read it properly; that Mr Picciochi wrongly assumed that Mr Avidan's signature was Hebrew; and we learnt today for the first time Mr Picciochi's views on handwriting and his approach, which appears to have been entirely driven by an analysis of similarities in self-serving samples.

As for the handwriting, it's our submission that there is significant doubt to be cast on the conclusive findings of Mr Welch. We heard Mr Radley give clear evidence, unopposed by Guinea's counsel, on differences.

It seems that it boils down to whether the Tribunal prefers Mr Welch and Mr Picciochi's views that similarities are what counts, and that any variations could not possibly be "fundamental differences", as they characterise them, or whether the Tribunal prefers

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differences as variations without explaining the significance of each. So I will invite the Tribunal to favour the conclusions of Mr Radley.
In our post-hearing briefs BSGR will explain how that starting point is supplemented by the factual evidence. But by way of overview, just so that we can highlight that now, Struik and Avidan both deny signing any of the documents in question. Guinea criticises them for not dreaming up alternative solutions as to why

15:55 \(1 \quad\) the documents seem to have been signed by them. But to use the words of the experts, it's simply not their place to speculate on how a forger was successful in this instance.
Mr Avidan was not in the country at the time he is purported to have signed R-28 and R-29, and those are the assumed dates by Mr LaPorte. Mr Struik's understanding of French was very basic at the time. There's countless witness testimony on the record undermining Mamadie Touré's account of when and how these documents were signed. Mr Tinkiano gave evidence that he did not check the ID of the woman or the white man who presented the documents to legalise them, and has no recollection of R-27, which he also alleged to have legalised. There's no evidence of BSGR making payments to Mamadie Touré, and even Guinea avoided asking BSGR's witnesses questions about cash payments.
There's an extremely strange coincidence that on the disputed documents, Mr Avidan's name appears as "Avidan Asher". Nowhere else does it appear in that wrong order; presumably because when Mr Avidan signs his documents, he ensures his name is presented properly before doing so.
Other apparently signed versions of R-28 and R-29, the ones we've now looked at, marked "Forged" by BSGR,
display yet different signatures, raising further questions relating to the documents' provenance. We will obviously develop these arguments later. But in our view, the only sensible conclusion is that the documents, based on the expert evidence and applying all of the factual evidence, particularly those which pertain to BSGR, are not authentic.

I think Mr Daele is now going to deal with our application.
MR DAELE: Thank you.
Dear members of the Tribunal, the integrity of this arbitration has been compromised, through no fault of BSGR, by the conduct of the Tribunal-appointed experts; in particular, the determinations they made in their final report of 12th February 2018 in relation to BSGR's alleged conduct in the expert proceedings. These determinations by the experts raise justifiable doubts as to their impartiality to serve as Tribunal-appointed experts in this matter. Therefore, in accordance with Article 44 of the ICSID Convention and ICSID Arbitration Rule 34, BSGR submits that the experts must be disqualified, and that the final report be declared inadmissible.

In what follows, I will make submissions on our proposal as it stands today. However, we do reserve our

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experts or to declare evidence inadmissible, also there I think there is no dispute, and the parties agree, that the Tribunal has both of these powers. In this respect, I refer to paragraph 39 of Guinea's reply.

Moving on to the qualities that are required from a Tribunal-appointed expert, the ICSID Convention and the Rules themselves are silent on this. However, Article 14 of the ICSID Convention sets out the qualities that arbitrators should meet. And it is our position that it's the same kind of qualities that we look for in arbitrators in ICSID cases that we should look for in Tribunal-appointed experts in ICSID cases; more precisely, the requirement of independence and impartiality.
"Independence" refers to the absence of relationships between the arbitrator or the expert and the parties and their counsel. "Impartiality" refers to the absence of bias. There's no issue here about independence; obviously it's all about bias and impartiality.

You will hear on the other side that impartiality does not come into play in these proceedings, that it would only be independence. We think that's wrong. We have referred in our proposal to other arbitration rules all over the world that require both independence and

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We refer to a couple of cases in our proposal. One in particular, for example, is the EDF v Argentina case, the decision on annulment of 5th February 2016. It was determined that the standard is whether a reasonable third party, with knowledge of all the facts, would consider that there were reasonable grounds for doubting that an arbitrator possessed the requisite qualities of independence and impartiality.
In other words, it is sufficient on the basis of objective evidence to establish reasonable doubts as to an arbitrator's impartiality, or an appearance of bias on the part of the arbitrator. I am obviously talking about this in terms of the arbitrator, but obviously we're talking here about the Tribunal-appointed experts.
Guinea disagrees with the standard that we have put forward. However, they fail to offer an alternative standard. Their main point is that the rules of arbitrators and experts are different, so it wouldn't be right to apply, let's say, the same test.
Again, we disagree. In this particular case we are dealing with a highly technical issue; maybe too technical, we've heard in the course of this hearing, for laypersons such as the arbitrators. That's why you have requested the help of experts to assist you, and you have mandated them to ascertain the authenticity of

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16:05 \(\quad 1\) the disputed documents.
To ascertain, in our view, is in some way to judge, to determine, to decide. Although the experts' decision or views on this issue, on the authenticity of the disputed documents, will not be binding and final, in the sense that it obviously is ultimately for the Tribunal to rule on the issue of the authenticity, it is in our view nevertheless some form of judgment. That is why all the rules in the world require from experts both independence and impartiality.
You may also hear from Guinea that they put an emphasis on this concept of "manifest" in Article 57 of the ICSID Convention. We don't think that applies here. But in any event, if you analyse the ICSID case law on this concept of "manifest", it does not relate to the degree of seriousness of the lack, but it relates to the ease with which, let's say, the lack can be identified. And we believe, purely on the basis of the comments that the experts have made in their final report, that we also meet -- if the Tribunal would be of the opinion that it applies -- the thresholds of manifestness.
So what is now the basis for this challenge? I think the main point is the accusation of expert shopping. Without, in our view, any shred of evidence,

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the experts have accused BSGR of having engaged in shopping for experts.

In the context of this case, the concept of expert shopping has basically two components. The first component is that BSGR's original experts would have agreed with the findings of the experts. I refer to paragraph 9 of the final report:
"In some cases, when an expert provides conclusions to a party that do not significantly deviate from an opposing expert and do not support the position of their client ..."

In [paragraph 11] they write:
"It seems obvious that BSGR made their request for an extension because the 'original experts' did not dispute the testing we performed or our final conclusions ..."

During the hearing yesterday, we heard:
"... it appears that the Claimants were seeking another expert, because the original expert did not have findings that supported your position."

That is transcript page [94], lines [2 to 4].
There is another quote from yesterday's hearing:
"You assume first of all that the original experts ..."

So that is a question that I raised:

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I refer to the transcript, page [98], lines 21 to 25 , and to page 99 , lines 1 to 2 .
So these are the two components. However, the record shows that neither of these components is present in this case.
First of all, BSGR's original experts did not agree with the experts' findings. We refer to Exhibit C-376, the declaration of Mr Dennis Ryan, who was one of the two original experts, who said:
"We had a number of significant concerns in relation to the conclusions reached by the Tribunal-Appointed Experts."
In the same letter, he says:
"We therefore find the allegation of expert shopping entirely unjustified."
So the first component is not present in this case.
The second component, the fact that BSGR would have selected its new expert because he's known as an advocate for the parties who appoint him, is also wrong. We appointed him because of his expertise and his independence.
We refer in this respect to all the diplomas and certificates that Mr Radley has collected over the years. We've set those out in paragraph 46 of our proposal. We refer to all the cases in which Mr Radley

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"You assume first of all that the original experts were basically agreeing with your analysis, and that is why we changed the experts. Is that the concept of 'expert shopping'?"

Mr LaPorte replied:
"That's part of the concept, yes."
That's on the transcript at page 100 , lines 5 to 9 .
The second component of this "expert shopping" concept is that the new expert is then selected because he will advocate for his appointing party. Also there, you can read in the final report, paragraph 9:
"... 'shopping for an expert'. That is, parties are known to seek out an expert to advocate on their behalf."

A bit further on, in [paragraph 11]:
"... it appears they were seeking a 'new expert' to advocate for them."

Yesterday during the hearing, Mr LaPorte said:
"So when we say 'advocate', that would mean that they have the position -- or they will render an opinion or have a position that supports your proposition or the parties' proposition.
"Question: Yes, and that is why they are selected?
Mr LaPorte confirmed:
"Yes."
has been involved, and in which he received praise from numerous judges and arbitrators. We refer to paragraphs 47 and 48 of our proposal, where you will find a list of these cases.
We also refer to the experts' repeated praise of Mr Radley here in the hearing. They described Mr Radley as:
"... he is well respected. I have tremendous respect for Dr Radley."

That's on the transcript page [97], lines 4 to 6.
"Dr Radley is a professional colleague and he's well trained and he's well versed in this area."

Transcript page 107, lines 8 to 10 .
Mr LaPorte said:
"Of course he's competent, yes."
"He" is again Mr Radley. That's on the transcript, page 107, line 12.
"Like I said, Mr Radley is a well-respected forensic document examiner ..."
The transcript at page 166, lines [24 to 25].
Then we would also like to refer to Mr Radley's report, where he himself makes a declaration that he adhered to the standard in the English CPR Rule 35.3, although it doesn't apply in this case, but that he has applied the same standard here.

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So the allegation of expert shopping is not made out by the facts. So on what basis did the experts then make this assumption? Well, yesterday they said during the hearing that it was based on the "circumstances that surrounded" the changing of the experts. I refer to the transcript, page 172 , line 23 , up to page 173 , line 6.

So this allegation is based on the "circumstances that surrounded" the changing of the experts. So what were then those circumstances?

The first one was the fact that our new expert did not attend the sessions in New York. That is correct. But it is our position that the usefulness of attending those sessions was very limited. Mr Garel was there as well, he will have his own views on how useful it was, but obviously we think it wasn't very useful. The questions, for example, that the experts were allowed to ask were very limited. You know, it was even so that the experts obstructed the views of the parties and our experts, so we couldn't actually see what was going on.

The second circumstance is that the experts were of the opinion that this request for an extension -- and they repeated it twice -- so this "last minute" request for an extension, "just prior to the deadline". That's on the transcript at page 95 , lines 4 to 7 , and there's another reference to this on the transcript at page 96 ,

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lines 18 to 21 .
That is factually wrong. The request for an extension was not made at the last minute, it was not made just prior to the deadline. It was made on 10th January, eight days prior to the expiry of the deadline.
The next circumstance is the nature of the questions that were asked. But here the experts, I think, yesterday during the hearing really contradicted themselves, because at the transcript at page 97 , lines 13 to 14 , they explicitly admitted that:
"... the questions that we received from Mr Radley -- which are fair and appropriate ..."
So there wasn't anything wrong with the questions. I think the fact that they felt the need to, on the eve of the hearing, file 137 pages of answers to the Radley report, that to some extent, you know, follows up on these questions, shows that there was nothing wrong with the questions themselves.
So we don't believe that the "circumstances that surrounded" the changing of the experts warranted the comments that the experts were making in their final report.

So during the hearing yesterday, I think the experts were trying to back down from their earlier statements.

They started to hide behind words in their report as, "Oh, it appears that", "it seems". They tried to convince us that, "We didn't make an affirmative allegation", and so forth. They even said that expert shopping as such is:
"... not something that is not permitted; you're allowed to do that sort of thing."

That's on the transcript, page 94 , lines 12 to 13.
However, for each moderate word or term that the experts used in their report or used here yesterday at the hearing, they have used two or three strong words, and that is what the Tribunal needs to look at.
I refer to wording such as "It [is] obvious that", in paragraph [11] of the final report. They refer to their "combined 50 years of experience" in paragraph 9. In paragraph 11 they say in affirmative terms:
"In our opinion, BSGR did not, in good faith, disclose their reasoning ..."
In the same paragraph 11 they say:
"We are also concerned that BSGR has not been forthright and did not act in good faith ..."

In paragraph 10 they say:
"This is highly inappropriate as BSGR has now tainted the 'new expert' ..."
Yesterday at the hearing they said:
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"... based on our duties to the Tribunal, it's to
notify that we have a genuine concern that there was something ... going on."
That is at the transcript at page 95 , lines 17 to 19 .

So there are plenty of strong words, plenty of affirmative statements, and it is not enough to just, two or three times in the report, try to disguise that you've not made up your mind by saying, "Oh, I've just pointed to", "it appears that", "it seems that". Throughout the paragraphs, I think what comes out of this is that they had made up their mind, they had serious problems with the conduct of BSGR, and we think that that was highly inappropriate.
In any event, if the experts were in doubt over BSGR's conduct, they had every opportunity to ask information from BSGR. They did not, but preferred to jump to conclusions.

That is in relation to the expert shopping.
The second issue of concern is that BSGR was accused of appointing an expert who is neither properly trained nor competent. We refer in this respect to basically Annex L , in which the experts reply to the comments that BSGR made on the preliminary report, and on twelve occasions the experts simply stated that any properly

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trained, competent forensic document expert would come to the same conclusions as they did. We refer to footnote 30 of our proposal, where you will see the references to these twelve occasions.

So as we know that both BSGR's original expert and Mr Radley did not come to the same conclusion, the experts' reply suggests that they are simply not properly trained, nor competent.

This is corroborated by the experts' statement that the majority of BSGR's comments on the preliminary report were unnecessary if the preliminary report and the supporting data had been reviewed thoroughly. So again here they imply that BSGR -- and, more importantly, its experts -- did not thoroughly review the preliminary report. Again, that is absolutely wrong.

The third item we take issue with is the fact that BSGR is accused of having failed to act in good faith. BSGR would have failed to be forthright and act in good faith by not disclosing the true reason for seeking an extension to file the comments on the preliminary report.

However, when yesterday at the hearing they were questioned on this, they had to admit that they had not even been aware of the reasons that BSGR had given to

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10 gigabytes. There is not a dispute that there was a snowstorm; there is not a dispute that the original experts had difficulty to get into their offices, and so lost four days before they actually -- not could start working, but could really start engaging with the jobs that they had to do.
The second reason was the volume of work. And I think I will summarise: there the answer of the experts was basically, "Well, if we could do it, basically anyone could do it". So when I questioned them about how long it would take in their view to analyse 10 gigabytes of information, they had no idea. I refer to the transcript at page 164 , lines [11 to 13].
In any event, during the hearing they had to acknowledge that the report was actually very lengthy, and there was indeed a lot of data to analyse. That is at page 106 , line 8 , and page 164 , line [20].
The next accusation is that BSGR raised unnecessary questions, or questions to confuse the Tribunal. However, when this was tested during the hearing, they failed to identify any question that they had qualified as unnecessary. I refer to page 104 of the transcript, lines 10 to 11 , and page 106 , lines 15 to 18 .
What did become clear also during the hearing is that they did not appreciate the comments they had

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Page 195 page 103 , lines [15] to 18 , and to page 160 , line [6].

It's a mystery to us how you can accuse a party of not being forthright about the reasons when you actually don't have an idea what reasons have been given. The experts acknowledge that this accusation is actually quite extraordinary. I read from the transcript:
"Is it common practice to accuse parties of bad faith?"
"Well", Mr LaPorte answers. I interrupted him. I said:
"Or failing to act in good faith."
Mr LaPorte confirmed:
"So normally we wouldn't do that ..."
That's on the transcript, page 103, [lines 19 to 22].

Furthermore, at the hearing, when they were given the reasons for the extension that BSGR had mentioned, in my view the experts' response was quite amazing. In relation to the snowstorm, they basically said, "Well, all you need is an internet connection". To which I thought: well, Mr Garel on Sunday had to go to their hotel to pick up three documents of 137 pages because they had issues to upload these documents.

Here we are talking about 1,100 electronic files of
individually would justify their disqualification; even
more so when they are considered cumulatively, and I believe Guinea does not really contest that it is appropriate to look at these issues cumulatively.
So in our view the disqualification is warranted. It is obviously up to the Tribunal to determine whether a reasonable third-party observer would, on the basis of all the statements of the experts, have reasonable doubts as to the experts' impartiality. We are of the view that a third party would have such doubts, and in that case there is only one appropriate remedy: the experts must be disqualified. That is the case for arbitrators when there is an appearance of bias; that should also be the case for experts.
Guinea will argue that it would not make sense to disqualify the experts now because their mission is coming to an end. We believe that's wrong, for four reasons.
First of all, the experts' mandate is to assist the Tribunal not only today, but also tomorrow. The Tribunal may have follow-up questions upon review of the transcript, or of this entire process.
Secondly, the challenge is about what the experts have done in the past, not about what is going to happen in the future.
career heard experts that pretended to be so sure of their findings. I refer to page 223, lines [19 to 21]. We have heard Mr Radley, who raised serious issues with the experts' findings and conclusions.
We also know that BSGR's original experts had serious concerns about the preliminary report. And we know that the experts did not meaningfully engage with BSGR's questions, and refused to amend meaningfully their final report.
There is at least a possibility that the final report is tainted by the experts' appearance of bias, and therefore it should be declared inadmissible.
In our proposal we have listed several cases in which reports filed by experts that did not meet the required standards of independence and impartiality were rejected. I refer to paragraphs 93 to 99 of our proposal. We request that the Tribunal carefully considers them and comes to the same conclusion.
Guinea will argue that these cases do not apply because they predominantly go to the issue of independence and not impartiality, and because they are decisions issued by the English courts. We believe, however, that the difference between independence and impartiality is irrelevant in this matter, or at least for this purpose. And yes, these decisions may have

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convince other jurisdictions not to give weight to the final report because of a lack of impartiality of the experts if the disqualification proposal itself has been dismissed and the experts are not disqualified.

Four, even if it would be possible for BSGR to convince other jurisdictions of this, BSGR should not be put at the cost and risk of doing so when there is a quick and safe fix, i.e. the disqualification of the experts in these proceedings.
We have referred in our proposal to a number of cases in which arbitrators have been disqualified for criticising parties' conduct and that of their counsel. We refer to paragraphs 85 to 89 . Although these decisions are not binding, obviously, on your Tribunal, we do believe that these cases provide guidance, and that having seen and considered these cases, your Tribunal should come to the same conclusions.

The last point I want to make is on the admissibility of the final report.

During the hearing we heard that determining the authenticity of documents is actually a matter of degree, and I refer to the transcript at page 56,
lines 19 to 21. We also heard, I believe, the President of the Tribunal saying that she had never before in her
been issued by the English courts, but the same basic principles apply in every international dispute, and also in the present arbitration.

Therefore, for all these reasons, we request you to disqualify the experts and declare the report inadmissible. I thank you.
( 4.35 pm )
Questions from THE TRIBUNAL
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Can I just ask: what, in your submission, would the consequence be of disqualifying the experts?
MR DAELE: Just disqualifying the experts.
THE PRESIDENT: Because your application is two-pronged, right?
MR DAELE: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: So is there a difference? Does it go together? What is the consequence of one, what is the consequence of the other?
MR DAELE: The consequence of the disqualification of the experts is also the declaration of the inadmissibility of the report, because otherwise you have a report that's been issued by experts that are considered -- or at least where there is an appearance --
THE PRESIDENT: I can see that. And then procedurally, what is the consequence for us? Do we rule on the case

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without this expert evidence, or how do you see --
MR DAELE: Yes, if it's declared inadmissible, then it is off the record --
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, that I understand!
MR DAELE: -- and then I think you should rule without taking it into consideration, yes.
THE PRESIDENT: After a number of years, I understand that, yes.

So we rule without forensic evidence on authenticity and handwriting?
MR DAELE: Well, there are still obviously the two reports that have been filed by the two party-appointed experts; they don't disappear. When we talk about the inadmissibility of the final report, we are not filing an application that therefore Mr Radley's report should be declared inadmissible, or the evidence that has been given by the experts of Guinea. We are talking about the final report.
THE PRESIDENT: So Mr Radley's "report" has been considered like a party's submission on the Tribunal's expert report. So would you say it would nevertheless stand? What is your submission?
MR DAELE: Well, I believe there are a lot of cases where there is no Tribunal-appointed expert, so where both parties present evidence.
the comments that we've made in the last two days, we will still request the Tribunal to take all of this into account when it is considering the value of the final report.
THE PRESIDENT: As a matter of assessment of the evidence, yes.
MR DAELE: Yes.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
Do my colleagues have any questions for the
Claimants?
Then I think we have provided for a break at this stage, absolutely. We should resume at 5.00, and then we will hear the Respondent's closing, and then we will need a little time for a procedural discussion. I'm especially saying this for the court reporters and the interpreters, who yesterday were eager to finish today at a reasonable time. So around 6.00, a little bit thereafter, we should be done.

So let's take the break now, and resume at -- well,
maybe we'll say 4.55 , in 15 minutes from now.
( 4.41 pm )
(A short break)
( 5.02 pm )
THE PRESIDENT: So the Tribunal is a little late, but now it is ready to listen to the Respondent's closing argument.

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16:38 1 THE PRESIDENT: Yes. That is not the situation we have here.
MR DAELE: But de facto that would be the position or the situation when the report of the Tribunal-appointed expert is not on the record. What you are left with, de facto, is expert evidence by a party-appointed expert and by another appointed expert.
THE PRESIDENT: And what you call the party-appointed evidence here is the written comments and the oral evidence, or is it one or the other?
MR DAELE: It would be both.
THE PRESIDENT: It would be both.
I would expect the Respondent also to give us their submission, not now but when you present your closing statements, so we have both parties' positions on these issues that are before us.

MR DAELE: If I just may add one clarification in relation to the consequences.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.
MR DAELE: If the Tribunal would not disqualify the experts and would not declare the evidence inadmissible -- we will obviously elaborate on this in our post-hearing submissions -- then we will make the case that little weight should be given to the final report. So even if you decide to keep it on the record, for the reasons and
(Interpreted) Sorry, I should have given the floor in French.

Closing statement on behalf of Respondent
MR JAEGER: (Interpreted) Thank you, Madam President, arbitrators. I would like to approach this closing argument in dealing with the impartiality of Tribunal-appointed experts, and then Michael Ostrove will briefly deal with issues on the merits of the case.

You will remember that in May last year, during the hearing, Mr Beny Steinmetz explained to your Tribunal that BSGR was the victim of a plot organised by Mr Soros and the President of the Republic of Guinea. In any such theory, there are a number of assumptions that cannot be verified.

In that particular case, this is this mysterious character nobody else has met. We do not know where he lives, we do not know his name, and he has been called the "master forger". This master forger, as far as BSGR is concerned, everything relies on the assumed existence of this individual, who would have exceptional capabilities, and who would be capable of imitating any signature, and fooling all experts and every kind of analysis conducted by experts.

Well, precisely the Tribunal-appointed experts have said this assumption is not valid, and they have
demonstrated that such an individual doesn't exist and could not exist. No forger -- that's what they are telling us -- can imitate signatures with such accuracy and in such a perfect way that an exhaustive analysis would not see it.

So a second assumption was needed, which was that the Tribunal-appointed experts are partial, are biased, and this is what I would like to deal with now. I'm not going to take all the elements that we gave the Tribunal on 22nd March 2018; you've read it. I would like to focus on what has emerged during this hearing.

First of all, I would like to make a preliminary comment on the notion of impartiality, which has been the subject of abundant literature in the field of international arbitration. You're familiar with this notion and you know that it is a subjective notion, contrary to the notion of independence that can be appreciated on the basis of objective criteria. And because it is subjective, it is difficult to establish, since you have to try and guess what is the state of mind of the person who is told to be partial.

It is difficult to establish, it is difficult to prove, but it is not a problem for BSGR. As a matter of fact, the Tribunal is familiar with the special idea that BSGR has of impartiality. If I may summarise it,

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appreciation. And disqualification of an expert appointed by the Tribunal is meaningless, or loses its meaning, in [that] there is no procedure for disqualification of an expert. There's nothing in arbitration rules or regulations because the sanction, if partiality is proven, is that the opinion of that particular expert is disregarded by the Tribunal.

The consequence is that the sanction can be divided. In other words, what will be disregarded by the Tribunal as being partial will be the opinion affected by that partiality; but the other opinions, the opinions of experts that are not considered as partial, remain valid and can be used by the Tribunal as evidence in the procedure.
In other words, we are not talking about disqualification of an expert; we are talking about the evidentiary value of the opinions of the experts. And this is interesting in this case because most of the work conducted by the Tribunal-appointed experts is not affected by allegations of partiality, as indicated by BSGR.
I would like to express myself in three stages: first, until the establishment of the preliminary report; then a second stage between the preliminary report and the final report, where the accusations of

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for BSGR this notion of impartiality or partiality is a way to accuse somebody who makes a decision contrary to their interest. The Tribunal is familiar with this attitude, since this means has already been used once again its members; and once again, a second time, it is used against the Tribunal-appointed experts.

BSGR is challenging the partiality of the Tribunal-appointed experts because they do not like their conclusions, and this is in accordance with their usual practice. But not quite so because, since we're dealing with experts, BSGR went out of its comfort zone. They are not so familiar with the criteria and with the consequences of impartiality of experts. It's not exactly the same as for arbitrators.

BSGR is making a confusion between impartiality of experts and arbitrators, and, as you've seen, they are referring to texts or cases having to do with arbitrators. This is misleading for a simple reason: arbitrators have a power of decision, and therefore their partiality -- if it is proven -- disqualifies them. They are challenged, and their disqualification is a special procedure provided for by the ICSID Rules.

Experts appointed by the Tribunal, on the other hand, have no power of decision: they only issue opinions that are submitted for the Tribunal's

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partiality are involved; and the third stage is what we heard from the experts. And for each stage I shall study this partiality issue.

The first stage: until the preliminary report. The experts are appointed on 1st August 2017, and they submit their preliminary report more or less five months later. During this stage, the experts conduct scientific analysis on the disputed documents and establish a preliminary report. This first stage is not considered in the accusation of partiality by BSGR.

Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo, who attended the examination of documents between 31st October and 3rd November 2017, as well as BSGR counsel who also attended the examination, did not object and never expressed doubts as to the experts' partiality. Later on, there was no objection as to the way in which the work was conducted. In Mr Radley's report, on the other hand, he recognises, he acknowledges the considerable work that has been conducted by the experts.

So all that period of time is not concerned by those allegations of partiality, which means that all that is stated in the preliminary report, the scientific findings of the experts are not concerned. BSGR is not disputing the fact that this is the result of an objective work with a due process, and that the work

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17:13 1 has been carried out in a professional way.
Therefore I would say that whatever your conclusions as to the partiality or lack of partiality of the
Tribunal-appointed experts, we may already conclude that the preliminary report by the experts appointed by the Tribunal, which contains most of the scientific findings, cannot be disregarded.

I would like to come to the second stage, which has to do with the establishment of the final report, where the accusation of partiality is focusing. Actually it has to do with a few paragraphs, five paragraphs in the final report, paragraphs 8 to 12 , where Mr Welch and Mr LaPorte are telling the Tribunal about some anomalies in the behaviour of BSGR. They were concerned by BSGR's behaviour, and they thought they had to communicate to the Tribunal.

Well, this is more or less useless. The Tribunal is familiar with BSGR's practice, and it may be unnecessary. But this is novel for the Tribunal-appointed experts. They are surprised at what is going on, and they think it is their duty to warn the Tribunal.

Is this abnormal? The fact of telling a tribunal about the anomalous behaviour of a party is something quite normal. It is the duty of experts to tell the

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only one possible reason in that case: it is that they are not prepared to follow the thesis of BSGR. There is no other alternative. And a reasonable and objective observer, faced with this situation, can reach only one conclusion: those experts were replaced by another expert because they did not accept to follow BSGR's directions.

When the Tribunal-appointed experts warned the Tribunal about the abnormal nature of those practices, they showed that they are very much attached to the impartiality of experts. It is rather strange that they should be attacked for defending the principle of impartiality in such a case. And they show that they are quite aware of the fact that the new expert retained by BSGR is not impartial, and that he has been selected to follow a thesis that the previous experts did not accept to follow; in other words, they drew the consequences of what they had observed. BSGR is attacking the impartiality of the Tribunal experts, but actually what they did was to observe facts and draw logical conclusions from that.

There's something which is missing in BSGR's thesis, and which is fundamental: what would be their motive? What would be the motive of the Tribunal-appointed experts to support Guinea and to go against BSGR? Well,

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17:15 11 Tribunal about what they find to be contrary to good practice in a party's behaviour. So in this approach they are within their terms of reference.

The other thing is: was this warning to the Tribunal justified? Well, this is obvious. First of all, the preliminary report is not favourable, is not supporting BSGR's statement. They consider that there is no evidence of forgery, alteration, et cetera.

As the conclusion, BSGR adopted a new strategy, in changing the expert, which is something they did not say immediately. But in a letter dated 23rd January 2018, in which they make their comments on the preliminary report, BSGR counsel indicate that their comments have been established with the assistance of Mr Radley, who is a new expert, and BSGR's counsel are saying that this is a new expert who has been retained after the experts who attended the analysis. So we realise that Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo have been set aside.

BSGR did not give any explanation for this fact.
They do not state that those experts were unavailable, sick, could not accomplish their mission. They do not mention anything.

So what can be the possible explanation for the disappearance of those experts? Well, either they are unavailable or they have been set aside. And there's
they have no reason to support one party rather than the other, they have no personal motive, and BSGR does not have any [theory as to that]. It is extremely unlikely.

The question was put to the experts yesterday; yesterday's transcript, page 172 , line 18 . If the Respondent had behaved in such a way, the experts would have reacted in the very same way, which proves that it is not an issue of partiality but an issue of the experts appreciating what is good practice and what is bad practice in such a case. You may have different notions of what is a good practice or a bad practice. But nevertheless, it is an objective assessment of the situation by the experts, and this is why they refer to "expert shopping". There's no French word for that.
"Expert shopping" means looking for an expert who is going to support your thesis. This is not forbidden, as the experts mentioned. But it has to be said, because the Tribunal has to be informed about the situation to have an idea of the value of the findings given by the expert who has been retained in such a way.
BSGR gives another reason as evidence of impartiality of the experts: when they say that something was not done in good faith, they say that BSGR did not act in good faith, they did not disclose in good faith their reasoning. That's what BSGR states. Well,

17:26 1
this morning that BSGR had the comments of his previous experts. Mr Radley confirmed that BSGR sent him a document of one page and a half, and he told us it was not very useful. So that when BSGR retained Mr Radley, Mr Radley had the findings of Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo, and we may conclude that BSGR was not satisfied with its experts' position and they started looking for another expert.
We know that Mr Radley was contacted in the evening of 8th January; in other words, five days after the preliminary report was submitted. So during those five days the first experts, Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo, gave their opinion; and BSGR was not satisfied with that opinion and started looking for another expert. And they contacted Mr Radley on 8th January. Mr Radley started working a few days later; that's what he told us this morning.
And on 10th January, when BSGR asked for an extension of the deadline to make their comments, they had no expert. They were looking for an expert and they were discussing with Mr Radley, who had not started working. So we know that the true motive for the

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are fairly vague, confused, and they have a feeling that those queries could have been answered if the new expert had attended the analysis. They answer in a short way; this is no evidence of any impartiality on their part, but it has to do with the fact that it was difficult to answer in an exhaustive way to each of those queries.

Mr Radley this morning -- page [49] of the transcript, [lines 11 to 12] -- said he did not expect Mr Welch or Mr LaPorte to change their conclusions following the questions, and he explained that it has nothing to do with the fact that they might be biased; he said that it was because the preliminary report was the fruit of their conviction. So according to Mr Radley, the fact that the preliminary report was not altered practically, and the fact that the final report has not been changed, has to do with the fact that the expert findings and conclusions are the reflection of their honest belief. In other words, Mr Radley does not support this partiality.
BSGR is also trying to state that the Tribunal-appointed experts would have some animosity against Mr Radley. Well, in the final report they never showed any such animosity. He quotes the sentence that says any competent expert could have known that. Mr Radley mentioned this morning that he did not

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17:24 11 request for extension was the fact that they were looking for an expert.

BSGR, in their letter dated 10th January to the Tribunal, mentioned the importance of annexes, the length of the preliminary report, and a snowstorm which could not affect Mr Radley, who at the time was in London. So the experts had good reason to say that BSGR was not in good faith when it stated the reasons for which it was asking for an extension of the deadline.

BSGR are trying to put forward a number of elements. They say that the Tribunal-appointed experts would not have answered the questions that were put in the letter of 23rd January, or that they would have answered in a vague way.
We know that there were 65 queries in that letter, and we know that in Annex L to the final report the Tribunal-appointed experts answered each of the queries. Well, BSGR may consider that some answers are not exhaustive, that they refer back to the report, and sometimes the experts say that the answer is in the report, or that any professional expert, any competent expert could answer a given query.

This is related, as explained yesterday by the Tribunal-appointed experts, to the fact that it is difficult for them: they have to answer 65 queries that

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consider that there was any animosity of the Tribunal-appointed experts against him, or any prejudice. Page [49] of the transcript, [lines 2 to 4]:
"Do you have any reason to believe that [Mr Welch might feel any] animus or bias against you ...?"

He said:
"I would hope not. We are good professional colleagues."

This thesis doesn't go any further, just like the previous one.

Let's now turn to the third phase of this expertise, i.e. the hearing; the hearing during which, under your control, the Tribunal-appointed experts answered BSGR's criticisms and [those of] their expert, Mr Radley.

BSGR pays a lot of heed to the 65 questions that it had listed in its writings, but we see that these 65 questions were in fact a sort of "wait and see" attitude, before Mr Radley truly had enough time to undertake his work and prepare the report that was submitted to the Tribunal at some stage. But it's in this report, not in the questions, it's in the report that we find the criticisms that Mr Radley expresses against the experts, their findings, and his own conclusions as to the pseudo-forgery or challenged documents.

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The Tribunal-appointed experts only normally answered the questions of the Tribunal and met the criticism formulated by Mr Radley, and it's only normal that the Tribunal-appointed experts should answer these criticisms fully, and they did this in a very demonstrative way.
In other words, they didn't just present arguments of authority. They didn't say, "We are more experienced than Mr Radley, and Mr Radley knows nothing about this"; no. They took heed to show the Tribunal, on the basis of examples, why the alleged differences noted by Mr Radley were not in fact differences, but variations in nature.
It's quite bizarre actually that although they should complain that the Tribunal-appointed experts failed to answer Mr Radley's questions, BSGR did everything they could to prevent them yesterday from answering Mr Radley's criticisms. They opposed, for instance, the demonstrative exhibits that had been prepared from being submitted, while they would have been very useful for their demonstration. So there is a contradiction in kind in BSGR's approach.
But what one can say and what one can infer from this in terms of impartiality is that no element of partiality could be pinpointed during this hearing by

17:33 1
deal with some of the elements on the substance.
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) Thank you.
If my colleague allows me to continue with a few points of clarification, the question was raised: if, extraordinarily, you were to set aside the final report and the preliminary report, what would remain? The idea that we would keep BSGR's comments in the form of a report by Mr Radley, in fact comments on the expert report, while the Republic of Guinea -- who didn't have many comments on these expert reports because we agreed with their findings -- did not submit a report: it would leave the parties in a situation of blatant inequality, which is unacceptable. So either we say that the expertise itself never took place, there was no need to launch into this expertise, it was something that had been offered by the Tribunal; [but] I hope that this will remain totally hypothetical.

I saw that our colleagues across the table were jumping at the idea that Mr Radley's conclusions -- in fact, let me correct that: he said that he had not seen the findings, but notes by the other experts. But anyway, there is no putting into question what Mr Ryan and Ms Mancebo communicated as a preliminary reaction on 7th January to BSGR.

We learnt today that on 8th January BSGR got in
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the experts. Everything they said was demonstrated by the demonstrative exhibits. This is what one expects from an impartial expert.

We also note that Mr Radley himself stated that the Tribunal-appointed experts are, as he sees them, sincere. That's on page [28] of the transcript from this morning, [lines 10 to 12]:
"... I don't think Mr Welch is incompetent or insincere; I think we just have different interpretations."

It's not a question of honesty of the findings of the experts that's at stake, but a divergence of view between the experts; nothing that could lead to interpreting that there is a lack of impartiality.

This is why, with the benefit of these observations, I am respectfully asking the Tribunal to take note of the fact that there is no element of partiality in the work that was carried out by the Tribunal-appointed experts, and that consequently I am asking the Tribunal to take into account all of the conclusions, explanations, observations and opinions that were submitted to you in their report and throughout the hearing.

Now, if you'll allow me, Madam President, I'm going to give the floor to Michael Ostrove, who is going to
touch with Mr Radley, and on 9th January they signed a contract with Mr Radley, gave him the preliminary report; and the following day, on the 10th, they asked for an extension. So doubting the good faith that their experts, in the plural, with whom they were working were impeached because of a snowstorm, I will leave that to the qualified appreciation of the Tribunal.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: (Interpreted) I apologise. I have a question in this regard. You said that what would remain, if extraordinarily the report of the experts were ignored, would be the comments in the form of Mr Radley's report. That has no evidentiary value, if I understand you rightly?
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) Yes, I would say that it's not an expert report; it's a mere reaction to the existing report. If you withdraw the existing report, it makes no sense to keep Mr Radley's comments. On the other hand it would also create a situation of inequality, because there would be a written report on one side and none on the other.
PROFESSOR VAN DEN BERG: (Interpreted) How do you qualify the statement of the experts on both sides during the hearing? What about those? Is that evidence in one way or another?
MR OSTROVE: (Interpreted) Well, again, the experts were

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first invited to consult with the parties in order to comment on the report, and to come here to express their points of view on this report. It's true that the experts presented their personal analysis, but this already exists in the existing report. So I don't think that we can materially distinguish between those elements that are independent from the expert report, and that could be kept.

If I may pick up some of the items on the substance, on the basis of what we learnt on the authenticity of the documents today, we waited for nine months since the closure of the eleven days of testimony and pleadings in June last to reach this stage. It was a very lengthy timeline, but necessary to bring about the expertise.

But given the expertise and its scientific and technical nature, the fact that there were Tribunal experts and experts on either side, we spent more time on the scientific analysis of the documents than practically any other factual element in the case. Naturally, we are extremely satisfied with the results of this expertise, which only supports the Republic of Guinea's position. But again, in all good faith, I'd like to in fact weight the importance of these elements: it's only one amongst many others.

As an example, we spent a lot of time on Mr Avraham
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17:42 \(\quad 1\)
itself. The evidence that you had here for the Republic of Guinea is but one extra element that supports our thesis; you don't have to go beyond reasonable doubt. But we are going very far on this.
[On all these points, we would note that on the question of] the authenticity of the documents, the challenge comes from BSGR, [so -- as already mentioned in our previous briefs] -- the burden of proof of such an allegation of counterfeit in fact [rests] with BSGR. We are not in a situation where the Republic of Guinea would be under the obligation to [prove] the authenticity of the [document].

Now, all of these philosophical questions being interesting, what can we prove as to the analysis of the documents? Let's forget the signatures for a moment. [All] the tests that are carried out try to reveal the alteration or modification [or] forgery of a document; there is no such test to prove authenticity. But Mr Radley said, "Equally likely genuine, equally likely false", because there are only two possibilities: either it's forged or it's genuine.

But these are not mathematical equivalences. This is the problem with his Bayesian approach, which consists in saying that statistically you have to check things. If the allegation is a falsification, and all

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as to: is it a complex signature? Simple? Easy? Difficult? What is the scope of variation, et cetera? But what is all this worth for the Arbitral Tribunal if it leads to the conclusion either that Mr Welch, the Tribunal-appointed expert, is certain that it be the signature, or it is likely, [or] there might be a doubt, we don't know? Where do we stand?

I'd just like to recall that this is meant for the Tribunal; the expert exercise is just one element of evidence amongst many others; and all the more so when we know that Mr Lev Ran's partner has already admitted the genuineness of the [Pentler] contracts.

So it's somewhat surprising, when you take a step back, to see how much time is being spent to question the scientific genuineness. It's of course of great interest. We all know that it's an authentic [signature], because the partner himself said these are real documents. And it's interesting to see to what length it can be discussed between the experts.

There are many other pieces of evidence of the execution of these disputed contracts. We should wait for the post-hearing briefs to tackle this more in detail. But the mere fact that there were payments on the basis of several of these contracts suffices in

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of the potential tests [reject] this falsification,
there is no [proof] of falsification, it is [nonetheless] difficult to accept this premise when you know no more at this stage than you knew when proceedings started, [if] you have no elements [of falsification].

As to this question of genuineness of the signatures, here indeed, Madam President, as my colleague Mr Daele noted on two occasions, you noted that you have never heard such an assertive expert.
THE INTERPRETER: There was a mixture between "tranchant" and "tranché", one meaning "cutting" and the other one "assertive".
MR OSTROVE: As Laurent Jaeger was saying, this expert -who has just retired, I believe, as a policeman in Michigan, is an expert in this field, and has been an expert for a long time -- has no reason to go one way or the other. He's just doing his job. Nobody has challenged the sincerity of his opinion. And if he finds things that way, an alternate thesis to that of BSGR, it's precisely that he's right to be so assertive in his opinion, because scientific elements, the detail of the work that's been accomplished, all leads to the conclusion that these signatures are genuine.

Mr Radley -- we can go into more detail in our

17:46 1 post-hearing brief -- tries to find flaws, to raise
2 exceptions; the Tribunal-appointed experts have answered
and then in an answer in a few minutes later, he contradicted himself. Again, this is something that we shall put in our brief.

But the attempt at refusing to accept any flaw was quite extraordinary: with R-182, for instance, when he refused to accept that the first loop should be quite narrow. The explanation that it was a very bad copy of the signature, et cetera: you can see something, it's not difficult to admit.

This leads me to the question: what does he point at? In his report he says that in Mr Struik's signature there are nine differences and rarities, but he accepted that it was Osborn -- God on earth in terms of analysis -- who says on page 245 of the 2 nd edition, which you can find under Annex F of his report, on page 245 Mr Osborn says:
(In English) "In identifying a person, for example, scars, deformities, finger-prints ... must be depended upon and finally, if the conclusion of identity is reached, either in a person or a handwriting, there must not remain significant differences that cannot reasonably be explained. This ignoring of the differences ..."
[And then]:
"... [one must not] 'explain away' differences that

17:50 \(\quad 1\)
are as plain as the nose on a man's face."
(Interpreted) And in the next paragraph he talks about rarity, but that appears nowhere. Therefore Mr Radley looks at differences and rarity, but never claimed that there were "significant differences", as quoted.

The Tribunal-appointed experts had an opportunity to look at and analyse the alleged differences raised by Mr Radley. They were not at all convinced. Mr Radley doesn't attack them for being impartial; he just says that he accepts that this is their sincere position. Mr Picciochi explained his analysis: same thing. Why does he reach the same conclusion? This analysis is not criticised.

We are submitting that the evidence that you heard throughout these last two days goes totally in the acceptance of genuineness of the documents.

We would like to thank you for listening to us with such attention, and having to listen to so much scientific evidence and expertise, and we are waiting for your instruction as to the post-hearing briefs, so that we may reach the end of this marathon.
THE PRESIDENT: (Interpreted) Thank you. Well, we are practically at the end of the marathon, indeed.

Would you like to give five/ten minutes to the
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17:52 \(1 \quad\) Tribunal for a last deliberation, after listening to everything you had to say?
MR DAELE: Madam President, we would like to leave around 6.30.

THE PRESIDENT: (In English) Yes, we would like to too, actually!
MR DAELE: No, I'm not saying we are the only ones who would like to, but ...
THE PRESIDENT: No, we note this, and I'm sure many will join you in wishing to leave.
( 5.52 pm )
(A short break)
( 6.02 pm )
THE PRESIDENT: So now we need to discuss the further procedure.

As you know, we had provided after the last hearing that we would have post-hearing briefs that would cover the liability hearing and this authenticity hearing, and that we would decide now exactly what we would do.

It is also true that we have the
disqualification/admissibility application: we asked ourselves whether that would change something in the sequence.

Our preference, subject to hearing your views, would be to have the post-hearing briefs now. We appreciate

18:03 1
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that it may complicate your task somewhat by having to make assumptions, one assumption being that the report is in, and another one that it is out. Another way that could be envisaged is that we make a decision first on disqualification/admissibility. We might want to have the broader picture for that. But it is one question that we put to you, certainly, with our preference for not slicing up.

If we then go to post-hearing briefs, we would have to decide on time limits. We would think that two rounds would be preferable, with a shorter second round, but if the parties prefer one, we are fine. Experience just shows that when you receive only one round of post-hearing briefs, often there are issues that need to be rebutted, and you end up with a second one.

We would not look for post-hearing briefs that repeat what was said before the first hearing. We just want comments on the evidence gathered in the two hearings, and that then being placed in the overall perspective of your case: to what extent does it help your case, and to what extent does it not help your opponent's case, essentially.

We can have page limitations or a length limitation if you wish. It may be a good idea.

Then there's another issue that is still pending

18:07 1 THE PRESIDENT: Yes, you're right.
MR DAELE: -- and we did indicate in our letter. So I think that's another outstanding point.
THE PRESIDENT: Absolutely. Would you want to do this in the context of your post-hearing brief?
MR DAELE: Well, that's --
THE PRESIDENT: It would probably be more logical, no?
MR DAELE: Yes, I think so.
THE PRESIDENT: Because you can place it in the whole context. Yes.
MR DAELE: Yes. That's the only point I wanted to add. THE PRESIDENT: Yes, thank you.
MR DAELE: But in terms of the number of rounds, we had also suggested in our letter in the end of February to have two rounds. I do think it makes sense to make the second round shorter than the first one.

On your idea or proposal not to repeat what was said in the, let's say, written submissions, in principle, yes, we also agree. Of course, to put everything into context, we may have to repeat some of the issues.

The page limitation, I'm a bit struggling. I would say it depends on the number of pages. If you limit it to 1,000 , I agree! The initial proposal was 75 : I think that is way too short. As we set out in our letter, if I may say, just the transcript of the June hearing of

Page 231 the receivership of BSG Resources on the counterclaims, that we have not entirely covered. We understand now from the administrator that there is a suspension of the counterclaims' continuation, and the Respondent has had no opportunity to respond to this. We can have a short time limit to cover this in the coming weeks.

Then there is also the correction of the transcripts that we could agree, and eventually cost submissions as well.

I think I've now set out all the different points that we need to cover. I would suggest that we now gather your reactions to the different points. Maybe we will not get to a final order or agreement tonight, and maybe the Tribunal will have to think about it a little further, but we certainly need to get to a determination on the further procedure in the coming days.

So, unless my colleagues want to add something to my list, maybe I turn to Mr Daele.
MR DAELE: Thank you, Madam President. I think there is one other point that we have discussed to some limited degree, and that was dealing with the transcripts of Mamadie Touré that have now been accepted. We were asked a few weeks ago whether we would like to make comments on those --
last year was, I think, 1,800 pages; I think with this hearing we will probably have another, I don't know, 300 pages.

So, yes, I am not opposed to the principle, but the number has to be reasonable. I mean, the post-hearing brief must serve its purpose, and if we can't say what we would like to say, then what's the point?

I do agree on the effect of the receivership. I agree, it is probably not the right time right now to deal with that, but in the next couple of weeks, because we also need input from the receivers and from the lawyers in Guernsey.

Then also on the submission of costs, I would say we deal with that in the post-hearing briefs as well.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes, or afterwards. Maybe a little deadline after the post-hearing briefs, because you have to integrate these costs.
MR DAELE: In terms of timing, you know, we would need considerable time. I know we've been accused over and over again of trying to delay, and even trying to get to the next election and maybe the election after that. I mean, I can just honestly say that that's not our objective. But I mean, this is a complicated case with a lot of evidence and witness statements, and we will need the time that we need.

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We said in our letter that we would like to have three months; you know, I maintain that. I think for the second round, depending where we end up in the year, but maybe for the second round, one month or something. But this is kind of the timeframe that we have in mind.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. I think you've covered all the points.
MR DAELE: Maybe just ... no, it's fine, thank you. Sorry.
THE PRESIDENT: You wanted to add something?
MR DAELE: Yes, but I changed my mind.
THE PRESIDENT: Okay, fine. You're entitled to change your mind.

Can I turn to the Respondent.
MR OSTROVE: (In English) The hesitation is I never know if I'm speaking French or English; it's just to keep the interpreters on their toes! For facility purposes, let's do this in English.

Probably the most difficult question,
Madam President, I think you asked is whether we're comfortable waiting for a decision on admissibility of the experts' report before filing the post-hearing brief.

My concern is, on the one hand, doubling the work of having to have two hypotheses, and the danger that again -- well, I don't want to prejudge your view. So

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18:12 1 hypothetically, were you to decide that the report were inadmissible, and had we filed post-hearing briefs that include commentaries about this evidence, interspersed with the testimony and all that, I would be worried that you'd be left with something that in order to -- if you then decided that it's inadmissible, we would have to be in a situation where the Tribunal would have to extract all that information, set it aside, and I fear procedural concerns being raised afterwards in connection with certain post-award activities.

So I think that it would be safer and cleaner if we were to have a decision on that in advance. That said, if the Tribunal were minded to really consider how important these things are in the overall weight of the evidence, we would be entirely in your hands.

You had our remarks in February regarding post-hearing briefs. We would have preferred one round of post-hearing briefs. We understand your view that it certainly happens often, when there's one round, that people then make an application for a reply on certain points. Were a second round truly limited only to replying to things that a party felt were misleading or otherwise in the first round, and were kept very short, we would not oppose a second round; but again, with the qualification that this has been going on for a very

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long time and we just had a nine-month delay since the merits hearing.

So we had suggested, even with respect to there being only one round, we had suggested six weeks from today for the post-hearing brief. Obviously the parties have had a long time to consider the evidence, and we don't think that it's necessary to wait significantly long.

Three months would take us into late June. The second round would then clearly be after the summer, or in all likelihood be after the summer. It would get very complicated. And we're then falling into 2019 for an award, and that is of some significant concern.

So we would really suggest six weeks for the first round, ideally with some page limitations. You've had 1,000 pages of written submissions, not counting the expert proceeding. So with then responses, giving the necessary time for translation, the few days that we know is necessary, two or three weeks for short reply briefs thereafter would seem more than enough, given everyone's familiarity with the case.

On your next point, regarding what has to happen with the counterclaims, as mentioned in our email in response to your request for our comments, we're in the process of retaining Guernsey counsel. We're rather

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18:15 \(11 \quad\) surprised by the position taken by the administrators 2 with respect to an ongoing proceeding. So I'd rather reserve comment on that, and we really would require -we had requested 30 days. It's going to take us a week or so to have counsel retained, and then we need to get them up to speed. So that would be helpful.

I don't think that affects the timing of the post-hearing briefs too much, because on the factual record there's really no, or very, very little evidence: I think it's only one expert witness whose evidence really needs to be addressed on the merits of the counterclaim, whereas otherwise it's the flipside of the coin in many ways.

Transcript correction: I think that perhaps the parties can reach an agreement when we receive the drafts of the transcript, which I'm sure will be impeccable in French and English. So if that's alright with counsel for Claimants, we can try and reach an agreement on how long that would take once we see them.

Then cost submissions. We would certainly agree that something like a month after the last post-hearing brief is submitted would give us time to get all of our accounting in place in order to submit that.

I would have a question whether you would want cost

18:17 \(\quad 1\)
2
submissions -- it's a personal preference. Usually just a pure cost submission: here are the costs, without detailed invoices and everything, especially in a case of this magnitude, as opposed to cost submissions where one argues the merits of the cost allocation. My own view is the Tribunal has enough information about the case, how it's been argued, the strengths of the points, that you wouldn't require further argument back and forth between the parties on that. But that's just a proposition.
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
There is one part on which I have not heard the Claimants, the sequence of the disqualification decision, on which your opponents have expressed a view.
MR DAELE: I think we share the same opinion, and that it would probably be better to first deal with the disqualification issue. Personally I would not mind, for example, or I would not object to the Tribunal informing the parties first of its, let's say, principle decision, or the outcome, and then maybe later on following up with the reasoning, if that can assist or speed up the process. Again, we are not here to unnecessarily delay the proceedings. But yes, we would suggest that, let's say, the clock starts ticking from the moment we have the principle decision of the

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18:21 1

Tribunal.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. Would this be agreeable to the Respondent as well? You would receive a decision on disqualification/admissibility without reasons, and that would trigger the beginning of the deadlines for the post-hearing briefs, and the reasons would be filed later on.
MR OSTROVE: Well, I'm certainly fine with the idea of just a pure decision first, with reasons to follow. Causing a further delay before the time starts running on the post-hearing briefs submission doesn't really seem necessary, given the quantity of information already available from last May and June's hearing. To think that the parties have to wait to start digging in, with a deadline in mind, in order to understand whether or not we are including the authenticity evidence seems a tad exaggerated.
THE PRESIDENT: Fine. So I think what we essentially need to do now -- and I look at the clock -- is to agree on the time limits for the post-hearing brief.
MR DAELE: Maybe if I may just add one thing in relation to that. It was actually the thing I was thinking about telling you, and then I changed my mind. But now I hear Mr Ostrove, I will say it any event.

One of the things that we would like to take into
account is just also the size of our team. I mean, this is basically it. Also, if you look at the attendance list, we have two law firms on the other side. You know, for us, we are restricted in the resources that we can dedicate to this case. It's just one of the elements that should be taken into account in our view.
THE PRESIDENT: If we were to say two months from today -and the Tribunal would give its decision on the disqualification/admissibility promptly, but it is true that you can start working without having it, because there are many other issues -- that would give us --
MR OSTROVE: 27th May would be a Sunday. If it were 31st May ...
THE PRESIDENT: End of May? Mr Daele, is that ... it's not the three months that you wished, but it's not far.
MR DAELE: It's like the glass is half-empty or half-full!
(Pause) 31st May is the Thursday.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.
MR DAELE: If we could get the weekend of 1st June, and file on 4th June?
MR OSTROVE: Is it really necessary, Mr Daele, to ruin our first weekend in June, knowing that work expands to fill the time limit?

THE PRESIDENT: It's either your weekend or theirs, so ... MR DAELE: We would appreciate 4th June, on the Monday.

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MR OSTROVE: That's fine.
THE PRESIDENT: Then we would have the second round.
I think the second round should indeed be limited to matters that you consider absolutely need a rebuttal, either because they have not been brought before or the like; not a systematic rebuttal of everything, because otherwise we duplicate the briefs.

So you had different wishes. Three weeks would be the end of June.
MR DAELE: We could do the Monday, 2nd July?
THE PRESIDENT: Is that fine with the Respondent?
MR DAELE: That's four weeks after the first round.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.
MR OSTROVE: That is fine with us.
THE PRESIDENT: That's fine. Good.
MR OSTROVE: We would really request some kind of actual even page limit on that.
THE PRESIDENT: No, I come to this now.
Page limits. One way of doing it is not to limit the first, but strictly limit the second brief. But we can also limit both. I just don't really know where to place the limit. Is it 100 pages? To me a post-hearing brief of 100 pages is already quite long, and concise briefs are often more effective than longer ones. Is 100 pages something? Because you said 75 was not

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18:26 1 enough.
MR DAELE: For the second round or the first round?
THE PRESIDENT: No, I'm speaking of the first round.
MR DAELE: 100 pages? No. Well, definitely if it includes,
for example, the material on the Mamadie Touré transcripts, I don't think that is enough. Personally, I would go for the first suggestion, and say that there is no limit on the first round; and then once you've seen what was actually filed, once we file the first briefs, then impose a limit for the second round, because then at least we've seen what we are talking about, instead of imposing a deadline or a limit.

I do not oppose the idea, so ...
THE PRESIDENT: You do not oppose the idea of limitation? MR DAELE: Of the second round.
THE PRESIDENT: Of the second round.
MR DAELE: But I would suggest that we impose that limit once we've seen the length of the first submission.
MR OSTROVE: One would like to be able to rely on -- and I don't direct this comment to opposing counsel; I direct it as much to ourselves -- one would like to rely on the good sense of counsel, who have heard the President of the Tribunal say, "Keep it short, it's better". But getting some direction that will actually constrain us to be focused and useful to you, if

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something like a 40 -page maximum second round, would seem to be more than sufficient to summarise where key elements fit into different arguments.
THE PRESIDENT: I had in mind something like 40 for the second. Maybe we could go a little bit higher for the first one, like 150 pages or so.

I must say that having to keep it short also forces one to select what you bring forward. It's a healthy discipline. It's a difficult one, but it's a healthy discipline. And you are very experienced on both sides, so I have no doubt that you can do this extremely well.
MR OSTROVE: I have no doubt that I will regret my words today at a later time.
THE PRESIDENT: No, I increased your limitation to 150.
I turn to Mr Daele, who doesn't look very happy. No, now he laughs!
MR DAELE: I think it's fine. We will try to convince the Tribunal, and so it's not about writing as many pages as possible. So we'll go for the 150 .
THE PRESIDENT: Appreciated.
The question of the receivership and the effects, can this be dealt with in the post-hearing briefs or does it have to be dealt with before, by a separate exchange? That is what I suggested first, but then I'm
18:27 1100 pages seems too short, 125 pages, followed by
not sure whether I'm not complicating things by saying that.
MR LIBSON: We did have a representative from the receiver
here, but he's had to go home. We don't know, but
I think it can't wait until the post-hearing -- I think
for all parties it needs to be clarified.
THE PRESIDENT: Would it be better to have a time limit in three weeks or so for the Respondent to take a position?
MR OSTROVE: Yes, we agree that it would be better to clarify this situation, to the extent we can, sooner rather than later.
THE PRESIDENT: It does leave us more time, in case there are things to be done as a result of whatever the position is.
MR OSTROVE: On our side as well, because even assuming that the legal determination were that there was a suspension of the ongoing counterclaims, there is a provision that an application can be made to the court to lift that. So it would be better that if we knew we had to go in to court in Guernsey, we would have time to do that.
THE PRESIDENT: I think you mentioned in your letter 30 days; is that right?
MR OSTROVE: That is what we had requested.
THE PRESIDENT: If we would say three weeks from now, 17th April, is that a good ...

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MR OSTROVE: 17th April seems fine.
THE PRESIDENT: Good. And then I'm not clear what is the next step, whether we need to submit this to the administrator or whether you want to comment.
MR LIBSON: I'm not sure what we are actually scheduling for, because I think it may require an application to the Guernsey court --
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.
MR LIBSON: -- in relation to the issues that Mr Ostrove wants to raise, which would be then governed by the timetable in the Guernsey court. And it will be for the administrator to reply to the issues in the Guernsey court rather than in this jurisdiction, I think.
THE PRESIDENT: Absolutely, yes.
MR LIBSON: The knock-on effect then may have to be addressed within this jurisdiction, but the determination may have to first come in the Guernsey court.
MR OSTROVE: It may be premature. I think if we submit our position on the 17th, so for example it was our initial understanding that there is no extraterritorial effect of that and we don't think that the Guernsey courts have any jurisdiction over this Tribunal, so it may be our submission to this Tribunal that it should simply ignore the administration proceedings and proceed; in which

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case it may be that BSGR or the administrators want to make submissions to this Tribunal about whether or not it has the authority to do that. Or it may be that we ourselves decide, after looking at it, that we have to make an application to the Guernsey courts, in which case we'll do that, as necessary. So I'd hate to prejudge that before we've taken counsel.
THE PRESIDENT: I think the best way of doing this is you make your submission on 17th April, and the Tribunal then decides whether it needs to hear you, or whatever the appropriate action is.
MR LIBSON: That's agreed, thank you.
THE PRESIDENT: There was a question about the type of cost submissions. I think the Tribunal could be satisfied with a statement of the costs incurred by category, without detailing every invoice, which is very tedious and not necessarily helpful. We don't need the supporting documentation.

But then the other side could have a brief time to comment. In case one party thinks that the other's costs on this item are unreasonable or so, they could then raise this and we would take it into consideration. And that would be a deadline that would follow the 2nd July second round.

How much time would you like then? End of July

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18:34 1 or ...? (Pause)
MR OSTROVE: Unless the Tribunal thought that it might be able to issue an award within a month or two of the final post-hearing brief, then even if we wanted to submit the cost submission in September, that would be --

THE PRESIDENT: You could do so, absolutely.
MR OSTROVE: Of course, if you thought you would get your award out in August, that would be fine with us as well, in which case we would accelerate our cost submission. We're entirely in your hands, Madam President.
THE PRESIDENT: I know that this case has been pending for a long time, and the Tribunal will endeavour to be diligent and render an award as soon as possible. It is true that the matters are complex, and there are many issues and there's a lot of materials, and we also need to do a serious job and not just give rough justice.

So you have to take all this together, and it means that we can allow you to file your cost submissions in September if that is preferable.
MR DAELE: Yes, I think so. I think we will be able, maybe just the parties among themselves, to maybe agree on maybe a deadline somewhere in September. I think we will manage to sort something out.
THE PRESIDENT: You will do this, I'm sure.

MR OSTROVE: There is a narrow scope of issues on which we are able to agree!
THE PRESIDENT: Can I suggest 14th September? Then it's done, and I incorporate it in the order. It's a Friday. The 21st? The 14th?

MR DAELE: Yes, the 14th is fine.
THE PRESIDENT: The 14th is fine.
The transcript corrections: you will agree as soon as you get them. You get the transcripts and the audio; there is audio as well, right? And then should we set a time, in case there is disagreement on anything, for you to raise it? Or do you want to agree among counsel?
MR DAELE: I would say maybe somewhere in the end of next week or something. We need to review, and it's Easter and some of us will be away.
THE PRESIDENT: Yes.
MR DAELE: So maybe by next week, Friday or something. THE PRESIDENT: That is fine. That is 6th April.
MR OSTROVE: That's fine with us again, assuming that we do like we did last time, which is: in this hearing, most of the testimony and pleadings and discussions were in English, so we won't correct the French translations; but the parts that were done in French, we won't correct the English translations. Which is what we did last time, where only the actual language spoken fait foi.

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THE PRESIDENT: Yes. It should be easier, and it's much shorter as well.

Fine. That is all on my list. Is there anything that I forgot? No.

Please make sure that all the different presentations and materials that you have used during the hearing are transmitted by electronic mail or uploaded on Box, because I'm not sure everything was done electronically.

Nothing further? No. Anything on the Claimants' side?
MR DAELE: No, except that I would like to thank the Tribunal and all the experts and the people for the translation, and obviously counsel on the other side; and also Mr Garel for installing the green light that I've been looking at, but that we haven't used. So thanks, everyone.
MR GAREL: On that topic, I'm going to talk off the record about that portion. There were two instances.
THE PRESIDENT: Anything further on Respondent's side?
MR OSTROVE: Nothing from our side, other than likewise to thank all the members of the Tribunal, the experts, opposing counsel, interpreters and court reporters.
Thank you very much.
THE PRESIDENT: So it remains for me to reciprocate the

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thanks. It was an intense hearing, and I thank you very much all for your cooperation. I would also like to thank the court reporters and the interpreters, who had quite a strenuous job, and who stayed with us all through the hearing.

So that allows me to close this hearing and wish everyone a good rest now and a good trip home. ( 6.40 pm )
(The hearing concluded)

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