

The Baha Mousa Public Inquiry

Inquiry Chairman: The Right Honourable Sir William Gage

Monday 8 June 2009

Press notice

Inquiry holds third Directions Hearing

Today, the Baha Mousa Inquiry held its third Directions Hearing. The hearing was a procedural one at which the Chairman, the Rt Hon Sir William Gage, heard submissions from Counsel to the Inquiry (Gerard Elias QC) about progress to date and next steps. Representatives of the core participants had been invited to make representations about matters of concern but in the event no substantive issues were raised.

As with all the Inquiry's open hearings, the transcript is now available on its website at:

http://www.bahamousainquiry.org/hearings/directions_hearing/index.htm.

The Chairman has restated his intention that the Inquiry will proceed as swiftly as possible in keeping with the need for fairness to all those involved. Counsel to the Inquiry's Opening Statement will begin on 13 July 2009, followed by openings from each core participant's representative.

Note to Editors

1. All Hearings are held at the Inquiry's premises in the City of London: Finlaison House, 15-17 Furnival Street, London EC4A 1AB. ([View location map](#)).
2. Today's hearing had the following agenda:
 - Hearings timetable
 - Redaction and disclosure
 - Inquiry bundles
 - Ciphering
 - Anonymity
 - Witness services

- Core Participant issues [none were raised]
3. An issues list is available on the Inquiry's website at www.bahamousainquiry.org/key_documents/index.htm. This is designed as a guide to the issues that the Inquiry is likely to cover and it may be subject to revision from time to time.
 4. Hearings are generally open to the public. Journalists wishing to attend the hearing should contact the Inquiry press office (details below) and will need to arrive fifteen minutes before the advertised start of proceedings. All attendees will be required to undergo security checks in line with normal court procedures before being admitted to the building, and photography and the use of mobile phones in the hearing room is prohibited. Media organisations that are not accredited by the Inquiry will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis.
 5. Reporting Rules: Sir William Gage highlighted at the Preliminary Hearing that at the Court Martial of seven servicemen arising out of these events, the presiding Judge Advocate made an order, which remains in force for this Inquiry, requiring the media not to publish certain features and information in relation to the Defendants. A note on these restrictions and subsequent orders made by the Chairman are available on the website.

For more information please contact Suzanne Halls or Mark Fenwick in the Baha Mousa Inquiry Press Office on 020 7261 8327 / 07971 186710, or visit the website at www.bahamousainquiry.org.