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[The public session for ISN 1460 opened at 0910, 27 February 2018.]

CA: This Periodic Review Board is being conducted at 0910 hours on 27 February 2018, with regard to the following detainee: Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah.

As a reminder, the unclassified portions of these proceedings are being recorded for the purpose of generating a transcript to be posted on the PRS website.

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

CA: Representatives from the following agencies are present and are members of the Board:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE;

DEPARTMENT OF STATE;

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE;

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY;

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE; and the

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.

The following personnel are also present:

LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD;

CASE ADMINISTRATORS; and a

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.

[ONE TRANSLATOR]

TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

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CA: The detainee's Personal Representative is located at the detention facility, U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He is attending via video teleconference, and a classified summary of Personal Representative and Private Counsel's opening statements have been posted to the Periodic Review Secretariat website. This session is being observed by foreign, national, and local media, and representatives from non-governmental associ... organizations.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: This Board is convened to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted for Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah, to protect against a continuing significant threat to the security of the United States. From here on forward, we will refer to the detainee as Abdul. This session of the hearing is unclassified.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: This is Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah's periodic review board to determine whether continued law of war detention is warranted. Continued law of war detention will be warranted if it is necessary to protect against a continuing significant threat to the national security of the United States. The focus of this hearing is on the threat Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah may pose to the United States and its interests if transferred or released from U.S. custody. It is not on the lawfulness of Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah's detention.

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The Personal Representative and Private Counsel are... for Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah's representatives to assist him during this process.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah, ISN 1460, was al-Qa'ida facilitator who worked directly for al-Qa'ida external operations chief, Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, ISN 10024, focusing primarily on logistics support and operating an al-Qa'ida safe house in Karachi, Pakistan. Recruited by his younger brother and fellow Guantanamo detainee Ahmed Ghulam Rabbani, ISN 1461, a.k.a. Abu Badr, Abdul Rabbani probably played a support role in al-Qa'ida operations although we judged that he probably did not have specific insights into al-Qa'ida's operational plans.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: Does the Personal Representative wish to make an unclassified opening statement at this time?

TRANS: **[BEGAN TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

PM: I would like to remind all participants that any information shared at this time must be unclassified. If there is a concern about the classification of the information, I will indicate such and we'll stop the proceedings until we solve this issue.

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Personal Representative, you may proceed.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR: Members of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to present this full review for Mr. Abdul Rabbani Abu Rahmah, ISN 1460. Mr. Abu Rahmah has refused recent meetings with me. As a result, I am unable to effectively write and submit a statement on his behalf. I'm hopeful that he will resume participation in the PRB process.

PM: Okay. Personal Representative, I understand that you will be reading the Private Counsel's statement. You may proceed with the unclassified opening statement.

TRANS 1: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PR: Dear Members of the PRB, at this time Mr. Abdul Rabbani does not personally have more specific information to provide to the PRB. If the panel has specific questions, we would be happy to answer those. We regret that given the timing, we are unable to participate in person. We sincerely believe that Mr. Rabbani's previous submissions for the last hearing should suffice for a decision to release him. We are reattaching that submission in its entirety for your case of reference along with our counsel letters to you after the hearing and our letters explaining why he's unable to attend himself. Mr. Rabbani is getting older. He has not been well during his detention. We wish to reiterate that particularly given

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the passage of time, his aging and maturing, there truly are secure and cost-effective alternatives to long-term detention at Guantanamo that are available for Mr. Rabbani as shown in the previous major submissions made on his behalf which we would urge you to review and reconsider in full again. All of the options presented for his last hearing in our supplemental submissions since then strongly support Abdul Rabbani's being found no longer be a... to vote no longer be an enemy combatant and eligible for release now. We have just reached out to Reprieve and they have reiterated their commitment to include Abdul Rabbani in their Life After GTMO program should he be released. Reprieve's reiteration for their continuing commitment is also attached. We urge the Board to act favorably on this request for reconsideration and release.

PM: Okay. Does any member of the Board have a question for the Personal Representative in this session?

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

PM: Okay. Seeing no questions, this concludes this portion of the hearing. I ask that all remain seated until further instructed by the Case Administrator.

TRANS: **[TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]**

CA: We will take a 15-minute recess to prepare for the remaining sessions.

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TRANS: [TRANSLATION OF ABOVE]

[The public session closed at 0922, 27 February 2018.]

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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYM KEY

CA: CASE ADMINISTRATOR
PM: PRESIDING MEMBER
BM: BOARD MEMBER
PR: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
TRANS: TRANSLATOR (LOCATED AT PRS HQ)

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