PRESS CLIPPINGS

Enclosed are clippings of the latest local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Press and Public Affairs Office as of:

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday. If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact Mariama S. Yilla Ext 7217 / 7216
$25M Needed To Run Special Court In 2006

By Arung Kamara

The out-going Registrar of the Special Court for Sierra Leone Robin Vincent has disclosed that twenty five million dollars is needed to run the affairs of the court in 2006.

Mr. Vincent made this disclosure during a press conference at the Sierra Leone News Agency (SLENA), Wallace-Johnson Street in Freetown over the weekend.

According to him, the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan will be hosting a conference where the one hundred and ninety one member states of the UN will pledge in a bid to acquire the said $25 million. Mr. Vincent said that the conference would be held at the end of this month at the UN Headquarters in New York.

He noted that the United States of America is one of the UN states that has been contributing immensely towards the running of the court.

The out-going Special Court Registrar further said that the court is working hard to make sure that former President of Liberia, Charles Taylor faces justice in Sierra Leone for crimes committed against the people of this country.

"If Charles Taylor does not face the court, it will be a disgrace to the International Community", he further said.

Mr. Vincent revealed that the court structure was put up at a cost of $3.8m, adding that over one hundred million dollars have been used to run the affairs of the court. The court, he said, is a tangible legacy which Sierra Leoneans will be proud of after some years.

He thanked Sierra Leoneans for their support in making the court succeed in its outreach programmes.

Formally introducing the new Interim Registrar of the Special Court, Levente George Mwamba, the new Deputy Registrar, Alexandra George, said that Mr. Mwamba has been appointed Interim Registrar of the Court from October 1st to December 31, 2008. Mrs. George went on to say that the new Registrar is currently the Deputy Registrar of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and has served as Minister of Justice and Attorney General and Deputy Minister of External Affairs in Malawi.

Mrs. George revealed that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has thought of providing security for the court after UNAMSIL leaves Sierra Leone in December 2005.
UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 26 Sept 2005

[The media summaries and press clips do not necessarily represent the views of UNMIL.]

International Clips on West Africa

Scoop, Independent News
Press Release

Sierra Leone Makes Progress On Peace But Not On Issues That Led To War, UN Says

United Nations
25 September 2005

With the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Sierra Leone winding down, Secretary-General Kofi Annan commended the West African country's government for its efforts towards consolidating peace, but said many root causes of the 14-year conflict, such as youth unemployment, have not been addressed.

Local Media – Newspapers

UNMIL Allays Fears of Premature Withdrawal
(New Democrat)

- UNMIL Spokesman Paul Risley told New Democrat recently that the mission would continue to provide security for the country until a new Liberian army and police are formed. He said force reduction, if any, would not affect the overall security environment, adding that there was a need for continued UN presence in Liberia after the elections.

UNMIL to Rearm Liberian Police
(New Democrat)

- UNMIL is finalizing plans with the Liberian government to partially rearm the Liberian National Police to combat the increasing crime wave in the country, UNMIL International Police Service Commissioner Mohammed Al Hassan said recently during the dedication of a new police sub station in Paynesville outside Monrovia.

Complete versions of the UNMIL International Press Clips, UNMIL Daily Liberian Radio Summary and UNMIL Liberian Newspapers Summary are posted each day on the UNMIL Bulletin Board. If you are unable to access the UNMIL Bulletin Board or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Jeddri Armah at armahi@un.org.