PRESS RELEASE
Freetown, Sierra Leone, 24 June 2003

**President Kabbah Tours Special Court Facilities**

After President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah toured the 11.5 acre site of the Special Court on Tuesday, he commented on the enormous progress that has been made there and the significance of the institution for his country.

"I am extremely impressed," he said while viewing the administrative buildings, which are already occupied by Court staff, and the detention centre, which only requires a few finishing touches.

"The activities that are to take place here will surely enhance peace," he said. The Court complex will be a fitting legacy."

By the end of the year, the centrepiece of the Court complex - the courthouse - will have been completed. It will have two court rooms where the trials of those accused of committing crimes against humanity in Sierra Leone are to take place.

The Special Court was created through an agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations but it is independent of them both. The Court has three years to complete its mandate.

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