

Special Court for Sierra Leone
Press and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 21 July 2003

Special Court Delegation of Donors visits Kailahun

Representatives of the Special Court's management committee visited Kailahun on Wednesday as part of their efforts to talk with Sierra Leoneans and hear their views on the Court. Hundreds of people in the area turned out to meet them at the local 'court barry', the town's official meeting place.

"We were very impressed by the level of interest in the Court," said the Chairperson of the management committee, Ms. Deborah Chatsis who represents the Government of Canada. "Many Sierra Leoneans seem to place importance on justice as a way of ending impunity here."

Also part of the delegation was Mr. Ralph Zacklin, Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs; Ambassador Alieu Kanu from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations as well as officials from the Governments of Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The committee oversees the Special Court's non-judicial operations and has been on a three day visit to Sierra Leone evaluating the Court's progress

#END

The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone. It is mandated to bring to justice those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed in Sierra Leone after 30 November 1996.