NINTH ANNUAL REPORT
of the President of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Office of the President and Chambers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Office of the Prosecutor</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Registry</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and Diplomatic relations</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Defence Office</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obituary Announcements</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annexes</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOREWORD

The Secretary-General of the United Nations; Mr António Guterres. The President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Dr Julius Maada Bio:

Your Excellencies,

It is my honour and privilege to submit the Ninth Annual Report (Report) on the operations and activities of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (Residual Special Court or Court), established pursuant to an Agreement dated 11 August 2010 between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone on the Establishment of a Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (Agreement). The Report covers the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

The Residual Special Court in The Hague and Sierra Leone continued to execute the Court’s mandate with both on-going and ad hoc functions during the reporting period. In the early part of the year, the Court functioned in strict compliance with guidelines issued by the United Nations and Residual Special Court on COVID 19. Principals and staff who could work remotely continued to do so. With the easing of the COVID 19 restrictions in the first quarter in both Sierra Leone and the Netherlands, however, staff returned to in-person work, and continued to adopt remote working methods as needed.

On-going functions, including ensuring that witnesses and victims are protected and supported; maintaining, preserving and managing archival material for research and posterity, and ensuring that enforcement of sentences of convicted persons continues to meet international standards, were executed accordingly. The Residual Special Court also responded to requests for assistance received from national prosecution authorities, and supervised the conditions of early release of convicted persons serving their sentences pursuant to its Practice Direction governing early release.

The Court is also well prepared, if and when called upon, to perform ad hoc functions. These include: reviewing convictions and acquittals; conducting contempt of court proceedings; holding the trial of fugitive Johnny Paul Koroma; providing defence counsel and legal aid; responding to national authorities with respect to claims for compensation; and preventing double jeopardy.

Seven Special Court convicted persons continue to serve their sentences in three countries. Four convicted persons (Issa Hassan Sesay, Morris Kallon, Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu) are serving their sentences in Rwanda, one in the United Kingdom (Charles Taylor), and two in Sierra Leone on conditional early release (Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao). The Residual Special Court’s annual visit to both Rwanda and the United Kingdom to supervise the conditions of imprisonment, which did not take place in 2021 due to COVID 19, was resumed. In collaboration with the
respective prison authorities, the Residual Special Court continues to ensure that the prisoners’ welfare and conditions of imprisonment meet international standards.

The year under review saw the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone, that set up the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the formal declaration of the end of the 11-year civil war in the country. The commemoration of both historic events was held at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum on the grounds of the former Special Court, with the United Nations Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs representing the United Nations and the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice representing the Government of Sierra Leone.

The Global Affairs-Canada sponsored Public Archives and Sierra Leone Peace Museum developmental project titled “Preservation and Promotion of the Legacy of Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone” was also completed during the reporting period. The report of the project, aimed at preserving and promoting the legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, was launched in November in Freetown.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, holding of an in-person plenary meeting of Residual Special Court Judges to elect a new President and Vice President and to exercise other functions provided for in the Agreement, the Statute or the Rules of Procedure and Evidence was impossible for two consecutive years. The plenary meeting, which had been postponed twice, was held on 3 and 4 March 2022 in The Hague. It was an honour for me to be elected to a two-year term as President, succeeding Justice Jon Kamanda. Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts was elected Vice President, succeeding Justice Teresa Doherty, and Justice Desmond Edwards was elected Staff Appeals Judge, succeeding Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts.

The 16 Judges, principals and hard-working staff of the Court continue to dedicate themselves to ensuring the fulfillment of its mandate and achievement of its aspirations. I am grateful for their unflinching support.

As in previous years, the subject of financial and budgetary support to the Court to ensure its continued operation occupies the front seat. I appreciate the support, cooperation and timely efforts of the Oversight Committee, the approval of subvention funds by the United Nations and limited voluntary contributions which ensured smooth operations for the year under review. I encourage you to continue to support the Court and efforts to seek for a lasting and sustainable solution to the problem.

On behalf of the Residual Special Court, I thank Your Excellencies for your support to the Court over the years, which has prevented encumbrance of its operations.

Justice Pierre G. Boutet
President
INTRODUCTION

The President of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (Residual Special Court, or Court) issues this Ninth Annual Report (Report) pursuant to Article 26 (1) of the Statute of the Residual Special Court (Statute) which states:

The President of the Residual Special Court shall submit an annual report on the operation and activities of the Residual Special Court to the Secretary-General and to the Government of Sierra Leone.

The report provides an update on the Residual Special Court’s work, including the fulfillment of its primary mandate, and reports on the major activities of all sections of the Residual Special Court, namely the Chambers, the Office of the Prosecutor, and the Registry including the Defence office, during the ninth year of its existence. It covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022.

PRIMARY MANDATE

The Residual Special Court was established pursuant to an Agreement dated 11 August 2010 between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone on the Establishment of a Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (Agreement). The Agreement was ratified by the Sierra Leone Parliament on 15 December 2011 and signed into law on 1 February 2012.

Pursuant to Article 1(1) of the Agreement:

There is hereby established a Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (the Residual Special Court) to carry out the functions of the Special Court for Sierra Leone that must continue after the closure of the Special Court.

Article 1(1) of the Statute annexed to the Agreement sets out the competence of the Residual Special Court as follows:

...the Residual Special Court shall: maintain, preserve and manage its archives, including the archives of the Special Court, provide for witness and victim protection and support, respond to requests for access to evidence by national prosecution authorities, supervise enforcement of sentences, review convictions and acquittals, conduct contempt of court proceedings, provide defence counsel and legal aid for the conduct of proceedings before the Residual Special Court, respond to requests from national authorities with respect to claims for compensation, and prevent double jeopardy.

Furthermore, pursuant to Article 1(2) of the Statute:

The jurisdiction of the Residual Special Court is limited to persons who bear the greatest responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian law and Sierra Leonean law committed in the territory of Sierra Leone since 30 November 1996. That is, the Residual Special Court shall have the power to prosecute the remaining fugitive Special Court indictee, Johnny Paul Koroma, if his case has not been referred to a competent national jurisdiction, and to prosecute any applications resulting from review of convictions and acquittals.
COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

In line with the Agreement, even though the Residual Special Court’s principal seat remains in Freetown, it carries out its functions at an interim seat in the Netherlands with a sub office in Freetown for witnesses and victims’ protection and support. During the reporting period, the Residual Special Court was funded by United Nations subvention funds, with limited voluntary contributions.

Pursuant to Article 2 of the Agreement, the Residual Special Court maintained its composition of the Prosecutor, the Registrar and the Chambers. The full constitution of the Chambers is 16 judges on a roster, which includes the President. The Residual Special Court also has a Principal Defender whose services are engaged on an ad hoc basis. The President and judges continued to work remotely, or at the Court’s principal or interim seat, as required, and are remunerated on a pro rata basis.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The Residual Special Court continued to successfully execute its mandate during the period under review. In line with its on-going functions, which are managed by its offices in Freetown and The Hague, Residual Special Court activities carried out during the reporting period include:

- Maintenance, preservation and management of the archives in both Freetown and The Hague;
- Witness protection and support, including actively monitoring and providing support (psycho-social assessments, welfare and medical assistance) to former witnesses of the Special Court located in various regions of Sierra Leone and in other countries;
- Requests for assistance received from national prosecution authorities;
- Requests for access to the Court’s records pursuant to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone: Records and Information Sensitivity, Classification, Changes in Classification, Handling and Access Policy (Access Policy);
- Supervision and monitoring of prison sentences of convicted persons in Rwanda and the United Kingdom pursuant to enforcement of sentence agreements with the respective enforcement States, and
- Supervision of the terms of conditional early release of two convicted persons in Sierra Leone.

In line with its ad hoc functions, the Residual Special Court also commenced investigations into an alleged act of contempt.

The other ad hoc functions for which the Residual Special Court will convene or act if required include:

- The trial of Johnny Paul Koroma;
- Review of convictions and acquittals;
- Defence counsel and legal aid issues;
- Claims for compensation, and
- Prevention of double jeopardy.
President Justice Jon Kamanda handled administrative and judicial issues from the Residual Special Court’s Office in Freetown from 1 January to 4 March, when his successor, Justice Pierre G. Boutet, was elected during the Judges’ Plenary in The Hague. During that period, President Kamanda consulted with the Vice President, Justice Teresa Doherty, Registrar Binta Mansaray, and Judges remotely and in person as and when required. President Kamanda convened and presided over the Plenary of Residual Special Court Judges at The Hague in March.

Residual Special Court Plenary – 2022

The Residual Special Court plenary meeting was postponed twice by the Judges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was re-scheduled by the President in consultation with the Judges and Registrar, and was held on 3 and 4 March 2022 in The Hague.

Fourteen Judges attended the two-day plenary in person, and two Judges joined the plenary remotely. The Judges were briefed by the Registrar, Prosecutor and Principal Defender on the operations of the Court. The Court’s principals and the Principal Defender reported on the challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic, and described how these challenges were addressed.

The Judges also considered proposals for amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, policies, and practice directions, and deliberated on matters pertaining to the internal functioning of the Court. Proposals considered for amendments included: one pertaining to the Access Policy and a proposed Practice Direction under Rule 75(H). The plenary meeting also discussed a proposed further review of the Practice Direction on Con-
ditional Early Release of Persons Convicted by the Special Court for Sierra Leone (Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release) in light of the experiences of the Residual Special Court Registrar and Principal Defender, and of Rwandan Prison personnel in implementing the Practice Direction.

The composition and mandate of Working Groups that were previously set up were also reviewed. The Working Group on the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release, which comprised Justice Shireen Avis Fisher, Justice Teresa Doherty and the Registrar was reconstituted to include Justice Alusine Sesay. The Working Group on Ethics and Professional Code of Conduct for Residual Special Court Judges was reconstituted to replace Justice Vivian Solomon (who is no longer a Judge of the Court) with Justice Isaac Lenaola. The Working Group set up to consider a holistic amendment of the Residual Special Court Rules, which comprised Justices Bankole Thompson, Teresa Doherty, Philip Waki and Elizabeth Nahamya, was reconstituted to replace the late Justice Bankole Thompson with Justice Tonya Barnett. All Working Groups are to review proposals for amendment of the various documents being worked upon and revert to the Plenary.

The Judges elected Justice Pierre G. Boutet to a two-year term as Residual Special Court President to succeed Justice Jon Kamanda. Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts was elected Vice President, succeeding Justice Teresa Doherty, and Justice Desmond Edwards was elected Staff Appeals Judge, succeeding Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts.

Since the plenary meeting, President Boutet has directed judicial and administrative matters remotely from Canada, consulting as necessary with the Vice President, Registrar and other Judges.

President’s Direction Pursuant to Rule 77(C)(iii) – Alleged Contempt

On 28 March, President Boutet, acting as Duty Judge pursuant to Article 12(1) of the Statute of the Court, issued a Direction to the Registrar pursuant to Rule 77(C)(iii) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence to appoint an independent prosecutor to investigate an allegation that a person or persons may have knowingly and willfully interfered with the administration of justice of the Special Court or Residual Special Court, and may be in contempt of the Special Court or Residual Special Court by disclosing classified information relating to proceedings, contrary to Rule 77. Specifically, it was alleged that information protected by a Court order had been disclosed. The independent prosecutor has been charged with providing the President with the investigation results under seal, after which the President will determine whether there are sufficient grounds for instigating contempt proceedings. The independent prosecutor’s investigation is ongoing.
Conditional Early Release – Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao’s Compliance with Conditions of Release

On 21 March, the President issued a direction to the Registrar to give an update on the compliance of convicted persons Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao with their respective conditions of early release. In addition, the Registrar was asked to assess Augustine Gbao’s ability to comply with the special condition in Paragraph 83(viii) of the Decision granting conditional early release of 8 September 2020. The report was to include medical evidence on the condition of his health and the options available to ensure full compliance with that paragraph.

The special condition in Paragraph 83(viii) of the Decision granting conditional early release provides as follows:

“The applicant must commit to producing a community volunteer service plan in support of his stated commitment to contribute to restitution of victims for my approval within 90 days of release.”

The plan originally approved by the Court was for Augustine Gbao to undertake large-scale agricultural activities in restitution to the victims of his crimes. On 19 May, the Registrar submitted a report to President Boutet on the assessment of the conditional early release compliance of Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao. The report stated that Allieu Kondewa had been in compliance with the conditions of his early release.

The Principal Defender submitted that in the case of Augustine Gbao, the plan that was originally approved by the Court for compliance with Paragraph 83(viii) should be reviewed, as permitted under Article 11 of the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release. The President directed the Registrar to work with the Defence Office to recommend an alternative proposal, pursuant to Article 11 of the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release, as it was apparent that Augustine Gbao was physically unable to fulfil the special condition.

On 12 September, the Principal Defender submitted a memo requesting that the President allow Augustine Gbao to fulfil the special condition required under Paragraph 83(viii) of the Decision granting conditional early release by volunteering to sit on the reconciliation and dispute settlement committee established by the Paramount Chief of Small Bo Chiefdom, where he resides.

On 26 September, President Boutet requested the views of the Prosecutor and the Monitoring Authority (the Sierra Leone Police) on the review and modification requested by Augustine Gbao pursuant to Article 11(B) of the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release. The President also requested the views of the Registrar pursuant to Rule 33(B) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

On 4 October, the Registrar submitted an interoffice memorandum, in which she stated that she supported the request for a review of Augustine Gbao’s special condition and the alternative proposal.

On 6 October, the Prosecutor submitted an interoffice memorandum in which he opposed the granting of Augustine Gbao’s application on the grounds that it failed to provide necessary and sufficient information to enable the President to make an informed decision. Specifically, the Prosecutor averred that the medical
evidence provided in support of the request was inadequate and that, based on the information provided, the proposed plan of participation in a chieftain reconciliation board seemed inadequate as an alternative.

By letter dated 11 October from the Inspector-General of the Sierra Leone Police on behalf of the Monitoring Authority, it was acknowledged that the Sierra Leone Police was aware of the state of Augustine Gbao’s medical situation and was not averse to the review of the special condition in Paragraph 83(viii) of the Decision granting conditional early release in view of his medical condition. The Inspector-General, however, stated that the Sierra Leone Police did not approve of the alternative proposal because of security concerns. The Inspector-General suggested that Augustine Gbao could be entirely relieved of the special condition.

Upon review of all the submissions, the President issued a Directive for Additional Submissions to the Registrar and Principal Defender on 17 October. The Directive called for an independent, comprehensive medical examination report on Augustine Gbao, to include expert opinion as to any medical limitations on his physical capacity. The Principal Defender was also required to submit a different alternative proposal to meet the special condition.

These additional submissions were received by the President on 24 October and 7 November from the Registrar and Principal Defender, respectively. Included were a comprehensive medical report from a former full-time medical doctor of the Special Court and a medical opinion and interpretation of Augustine Gbao’s medical records by a different medical officer. It was further proposed that Augustine Gbao be permitted to meet his obligations under Paragraph 83(viii) of the Decision granting conditional early release by undertaking small-scale agricultural activities within the garden of his compound at Blama, where he intends to grow vegetables with the assistance of members of the community. The latest proposal recommended that the products of the gardening and harvest be made available for distribution to victims of Augustine Gbao’s crimes and members of his community in Blama. Augustine Gbao’s request is still being considered by the President.

Enforcement of Sentences – Request from Special Court Convicted Persons in Rwanda

On 29 November, the President received an interoffice memorandum addressed to him from the Principal Defender transmitting a signed document from Special Court convicted persons serving their sentences in Rwanda. The signed document was a request handed over to the Principal Defender during his annual visit with them in November. The request to the President was for a reduction of the requirement of 2/3 minimum completion of the terms of imprisonment of convicted persons before becoming eligible for consideration for conditional release to 1/3 service of their sentences. It was signed by the four convicted persons serving their sentences in Rwanda. They also expressed an apology for the atrocities that took place during the civil conflict in Sierra Leone, and a desire to be part of consolidation of peace and reconciliation in the country.

On 19 December, the President was informed by the Principal Defender of the withdrawal of convicted person Issa Hassan Sesay from the request. The President’s decision on the request is still pending.
CHAMBERS’ ACTIVITIES

Twentieth Anniversary Commemoration of the Signing of the Special Court Agreement and the Formal End of the 11-Year War in Sierra Leone

On 18 January, President Boutet represented the Residual Special Court by virtual participation at an event hosted by the Court in collaboration with the Freetown-based think tank Center for International Law and Policy in Africa (CILPA), commemorating the 20th anniversary of the formal end of Sierra Leone’s civil war and the signing, two days earlier, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone which set up the Special Court.

The commemoration of both historic events was held at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum on the grounds of the former Special Court. Representatives of Parties to the Agreement, with United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs Miguel de Serpa Soares representing the United Nations, and then Attorney-General and Minister of Justice Anthony Y. Bre-wah representing the Government of Sierra Leone, gave keynote addresses. The Under-Secretary-General made his remark in a video recording. The President represented the Court and spoke on behalf of the Judges and staff, referring to the groundbreaking jurisprudence of the Court. Judges resident in Freetown also attended the events of the day, whilst other Judges joined the commemoration events remotely. Introductory remarks were also given by the two lead organizers of the event: Residual Special Court Registrar Binta Mansaray and CILPA founder Professor Charles C. Jalloh. Other keynote speakers were David M. Crane, the Special Court’s first Prosecutor, Simone Monasebian, the Special Court’s first Principal Defender, and Madam Musu Jatu Ruhle, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Freetown.

The event featured two panel discussions on the Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Legacy of the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The panel discussions were moderated by Professor Charles C. Jalloh and the former Special Court Deputy Prosecutor, Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara. It was attended by the Judges and staff in Freetown, along with victims, representatives of Civil Society, paramount chiefs, the war wounded and amputee associations, members of academia, former national and international Commissioners of the TRC, and former principals and staff of the Special Court.

The event ended with a tour and dedication of the Sierra Leone Peace Museum’s Memorial Garden. The Garden was dedicated in a solemn ceremony by Sierra Leone’s Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, the Chief Justice of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the President of the
Residual Special Court, and war victims. The Memorial Garden includes symbolic mass graves from each of the country’s 16 districts, which were unveiled by war victims.

**National Reconciliation Award to Registrar Binta Mansaray**

Vice President Roberts represented President Boutet at a ceremony in which the National Reconciliation Award – honouring a Sierra Leonean who has worked consistently for transitional justice and human rights in Sierra Leone for a minimum of ten years – was given to Registrar Binta Mansaray. The award was conferred on 7 July by the Centre for Memory and Reparations, a Sierra Leonean non-governmental organization that facilitates remembrance and common narratives around the Sierra Leonean civil war. The President congratulated Ms Mansaray on his personal behalf and on behalf of the Judges and the entire Court for this recognition of her work and that of the Court. Justice Jon Kamanda, the most senior Judge of the Court in Sierra Leone, and other staff of the Court also graced the occasion.

**Presentations and Engagements**

On 28 January, Justice Teresa Doherty gave a talk at the University of Third Age (U3A) group of Holywood, Northern Ireland, and on 7 March to the Antrim Voluntary Group in Northern Ireland on her work in both the courts of Papua New Guinea and Sierra Leone.

On 24 February, Justice Teresa Doherty spoke at the Women’s Forum of Northern Ireland on the Special Court for Sierra Leone’s achievements in developing international criminal law on the rights and status of women.

On 21 March, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher attended the American Bar Association-s sponsored “Atrocity Crimes Initiative Ukraine Discussion” at which the jurisprudence of the Special Court in regard to the
Charles Taylor case was held up as foundational to holding heads of state accountable under International Criminal Law. Also present for the discussion were Mr David M. Crane and Ambassador Stephen Rapp, former Prosecutors of the Special Court.

On 22 March, Justice Renate Winter participated in the International Colloquium on the Protection of Children in Humanitarian Crises, held in Rabat, Morocco. Justice Winter spoke on the topic “Children in War” and relied on the jurisprudence of the Special Court in this regard.

From 24 through 27 March, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher traveled to The Hague to participate as a member of the Steering Committee for the American Bar Association’s “International Criminal Justice Standards Project.” The agenda included sharing experiences of the Special Court for Sierra Leone on judgement writing and institutional issues.

On 22 March, Justice Teresa Doherty participated in the International Colloquium on the Protection of Children in Humanitarian Crises, held in Rabat, Morocco. Justice Doherty worked with other experts from around the world to discuss the protection of children in humanitarian crises and the role of the Special Court in this regard.

In April, Justice Teresa Doherty was elected as the Irish representative to the International Law Association Committee on Human Rights in Times of Emergency.

In May, President Boutet and Vice President Roberts participated remotely in the Court’s virtual Diplomatic Briefing for Fundraising Purposes hosted by the missions of Sierra Leone and Canada to New York. The President led the Residual Special Court presentations during the Briefing, details of which are reported in the Registry Section below.

On 16 May, Justice Renate Winter represented the President at a gathering of Judges at the premises of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC) in The Hague. The event, which was to have been held in December 2021 but was postponed due to the COVID 19 pandemic, was held to inaugurate the KSC’s courtroom, mark the significant milestones reached by the KSC over the past year and a half, and to bring together the judges of that institution and the wider family of judges active in the field of international law.

On 28 May, Justice Teresa Doherty gave a talk remotely on the contrasts of sentencing in the domestic courts and the international tribunals, and the conditional early release practice of the Special Court to members of the International Law Association, Irish branch.

On 16 June, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher made a presentation as part of the Hardiman Lecture Series at the invitation of the Supreme Court of Ireland. Although the focus was on Afghanistan, her talk made reference to the work of the Special Court, liability for Heads of State, and the jurisprudence of the Charles Taylor case.

From 6-8 September, Justice Teresa Doherty worked with other experts at a workshop in Cairo, Egypt on access to justice for women victims of violence in.

As reported in the Registry Section, on 28 September, the President and Vice President, together with the Court’s principals, participated in a virtual meeting with the Oversight Committee members to discuss the Court’s ongoing work and funding.

On 6 October, Justice Teresa Doherty gave a talk to over 100 members of the University of Third Age (U3A) group of Causeway Coast, Northern Ireland on judicial work experiences in the national courts of Papua New Guinea and Sierra Leone, and at the Special Court. Other participants who had also worked in Sierra Leone recalled their experiences. This was followed up with a recording for the local Talking News, a project that records and distributes news cassettes for local visually impaired persons.

On 11 October, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher made a podcast at the request of the International Association of Women Judges for the International Day of the Girl Child, describing the treatment and suffering of girls abducted, used and abused as child soldiers. Justice Doherty also narrated how some harmful cultural practices impacted on the girl child, and quoted examples where she had struck out such practices in the course of judicial rulings.

On 19 October, Justice Teresa Doherty gave a talk to the members of the Probus Club of Ards Peninsula, Northern Ireland on the work of the Special Court and the advancement of women’s rights which the Court promoted.

On 20 October, Justice Renate Winter participated as a speaker at the University of Vienna’s “Consultation on Russian-Ukrainian-Project”. Justice Winter spoke of the impact of war on children, specifically the experience of the Special Court.

In October, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher did an interview for the first of a series of podcasts for Irish Rule of Law International, a Non-Governmental Organization supported by the Solicitors’ and Barristers’ organizations of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Among the subjects covered by the interview were the ac-
accomplishments of the Special Court and the Residual Special Court, and the viability of the hybrid court model for future ad hoc International Criminal Law courts. The podcast will be broadcast in 2023.

On 3 November, Vice President Roberts represented President Bouter and made a statement at an event at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum in Freetown, which was organized by the Residual Special Court in partnership with Global Affairs Canada to launch the report on the Preservation and Promotion of the Legacy of the Residual Special Court through its Public Archives and Outreach/Peace Museum project. The project was implemented by the Registry of the Residual Special Court and sponsored by Global Affairs Canada. Ms Grace Lee, Political and Public Affairs Counsellor at the High Commission of Canada in Accra, Ghana, represented Global Affairs Canada at the event. She was accompanied by Ms Bertha Desmennu, Political and Public Affairs Officer at the High Commission of Canada in Accra, Ghana, who is also a Judge of the Sierra Leone Law School who, together with Residual Special Court personnel, took the visiting team on a conducted tour of the former Special Court site, including the Sierra Leone Law School.

From 22 November to 1 December, Justice Teresa Doherty joined Residual Special Court Vice President Roberts, Chief Justice of Sierra Leone, and Judge of the Residual Special Court Justice Desmond Edwards and experts from United Kingdom in a pro bono consultation held in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The consultation focused on the effects and implementation of the recent legislation abolishing the death penalty in Sierra Leone, the introduction of minimum mandatory sentences for crimes of sexual violence, and the work of a new Model Court to implement this law. This involved consultation with judges, prosecutors, defence counsel, and Non-Governmental Organizations working on and promoting justice and protection of victims, in particular girls and women. The judges and experts also visited the main Correctional Center on Pademba Road and various national courts within Freetown.

On 1 December, the President, Court’s principals, and a number of Judges and staff participated in an online demonstration of the Court’s new website as part of the ongoing project to upgrade the website. The website technicians, in cooperation with the Registry, organized the presentation for the organs of the Court in order to receive feedback on the work that had been done so far. The expected time for the completion of the project is early 2023.

On 9 December, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher joined Ambassador Stephen Rapp and Judge Guenaël Mettraux from the Kosovo Specialist Chambers on a panel for a side event at the 21st Session of the International Criminal Court Assembly of States Parties on the topic of “Judicial Selection, Evaluation, and Trial Management in International Criminal Tribunals.” The event was co-sponsored by Ecuador, Switzerland, and the International Criminal Law Practice Project of the American Bar Association. The panel was moderated by Angela Mudukuti of the Global Justice Center. They were joined on the panel by Judge Benes Aldana, President of the United States National Judicial College, and Filippo Musca, Director General of the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights.

While in The Hague in December, Justice Shireen Avis Fisher was invited by the Registrar to join Prosecutor James Johnson in meeting with Ambassador Michael Kanu of the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations, and the Chair of the Residual Special Court’s Oversight Committee, Ms Beatrice Maille, who were in The Hague for the Assembly of States Parties meetings. They brought with them representatives of other donor states: Beth Dyson (United Kingdom), Wieteke Theeuwen (Netherlands) and Jennifer Marcovitz (United States). The Court’s Office Manager, Jacquinn Stanley, gave the guests a tour of The Hague office, and they were able to meet the staff. They each expressed their gratitude for the work of the Court.
20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION – END OF WAR AND SIGNING OF SCSL AGREEMENT
The Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) functioned normally during the year under review. The Prosecutor worked briefly from Freetown in January and from The Hague in March and December. He worked remotely for the rest of the year from his home in New York. The Prosecution Legal Adviser worked from the Residual Special Court office in The Hague, except for a brief spell in Freetown.

**THE PROSECUTOR**

The Prosecutor travelled to Freetown in January. While in the country, the Prosecutor, together with the Registrar, paid courtesy visits to both the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice of Sierra Leone, and to the Inspector-General of the Sierra Leone Police, during which he was able to follow up on requests for assistance that had previously been served on both offices. The two principals also paid diplomatic visits to the United States Ambassador and the Head of Mission of the European Union Delegation. In addition, the Prosecutor separately hosted town hall meetings in Makeni and Waterloo, gave a talk to the Law Faculty at the University of Makeni (UNIMAK) and, through the facilitation of the Registrar, he met with the Court’s civil society partners, the Residual Special Court Interactive Forum (RSCIF). Further, he participated in the Court’s Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the end of the conflict in Sierra Leone and the signing of the Agreement establishing the Special Court.

In March, the Prosecutor travelled to The Hague to participate in the Judges’ Plenary, his first Plenary since assuming his post. During his stay, the Prosecutor worked from The Hague office with his Legal Adviser. He used the opportunity to review his office’s operations and obtained a first-hand impression of the procedures and processes of day-to-day activities in the office.

In May, the Prosecutor participated remotely in the Court’s diplomatic briefing, hosted by the missions of Sierra Leone and Canada to New York. He provided a brief update on the main activities of his office.

On 1 July, the Prosecutor and the Registrar participated in a virtual round table discussion titled “The Little Engine That Could! Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the United Nations Special Court for Sierra Leone.” The event was organized by Case Western University School of Law in collaboration with the Public International Law and Policy Group, the American Society for International Law and the Global Accountability Network. Other participants at the round table discussion were Mr David M. Crane, the first Prosecutor of the Special Court, Ambassador Hans Corell, the United Nations Undersecretary-General for Legal Affairs who drafted the creative documents for the Special Court for Sierra Leone, Ambassador David Scheffer, who led the international effort to create the Special Court, and Ms Brenda Hollis, former Prosecutor of the Special Court and Residual Special Court. The discussions recalled how the Special Court earned the title of “The Little En-
gine That Could” by working hard to accomplish justice for the people of Sierra Leone, against tremendous odds.

From 29 to 30 August, the Prosecutor participated in the 14th International Humanitarian Law round table discussion at Chautauqua, New York, an annual gathering of current and former prosecutors, academics and practitioners. The theme of this year’s round table was “Standing Up to Aggression”.

In October, the Prosecutor travelled to United Nations Headquarters in New York, where he attended the 32nd Informal Meeting of Legal Advisors, held coordination meetings with the Chair of the Oversight Committee, Sierra Leone’s Mission to New York, and the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. He also attended two diplomatic receptions, the first of which was hosted by the Association of the Bar of New York City, and the second hosted by the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, where he liaised with attendees concerning the activities and needs of the Residual Special Court.

From 5 to 9 December, the Prosecutor travelled to The Hague, where he worked with his legal officer on a number of activities relating to the day-to-day functioning of the office and the objectives and priorities for the upcoming year. He reviewed work processes and systems in the office, including an evaluation of records and archiving into the Prosecution data set in TRIM.

The Prosecutor’s visit coincided with the annual meeting of the Assembly of States Parties of the Rome Statute in The Hague at which he was able to attend a number of official side events. The Prosecutor and Justice Shireen Avis Fisher, who was also present in The Hague, co-hosted a brief visit by the Chair and various members of the Court’s Oversight Committee to the Residual Special Court office.

AUGUSTINE GBAO’S REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF HIS CONDITIONAL EARLY RELEASE AGREEMENT

In October, at the direction of the President, the Prosecutor responded via an Inter-Office Memorandum to a request from the Principal Defender on behalf of Augustine Gbao for a review of a certain condition (Paragraph 83(viii)) in his Conditional Early Release Agreement. The Prosecutor took the view that the information supporting the reasons for the review provided was insufficient, and urged the President not to consider the merits of the application until additional supporting information was provided.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE/INFORMATION

The Office of the Prosecutor continued to respond to new requests for assistance from national prosecution authorities during the year. The office also responded to a request from a researcher. In addition, the Office of the Prosecutor routinely provided verbal and email responses to follow up inquiries from national authorities on pending matters.

WITNESSES

Monitoring of the trial in Finland of a former Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) witness charged with crimes allegedly committed in Liberia continued during the reporting period. The Finnish District Court delivered a judgment of acquittal in late April 2022, finding the witness (defendant) not guilty on all the counts charged. The Finnish prosecutor appealed the acquittal to the Court of Appeals, and hearings before the Court of Appeals are expected to begin in January 2023. Monitoring of the appeal proceedings will continue as needed.
collaboratively with the Registrar through the Witness Unit in Freetown in addressing matters affecting other witnesses, including investigating complaints by and against such witnesses both locally and abroad.

Consistent with his mandate, the Prosecutor launched an investigation into a complaint about the unauthorized disclosure of a protected witness’s statement that had been taken by the OTP. An unauthorized disclosure of this nature could lead to allegations of contempt. The investigation has been held in abeyance since the President became seized of the complaint.

OTHER MATTERS

The Prosecutor’s office, along with representatives from Registry and Chambers, made presentations on the proposals for rule amendments that had been prepared at the plenary in March.

In May, the Prosecution Legal Adviser represented the Registrar at diplomatic events in The Hague. One of such events focused on “Discussion about Promoting Accountability for Atrocity Crimes” with Beth Van Schaack, Ambassador-At-Large for Global Criminal Justice. It was organized by the Grotius Center for International Legal Studies in The Hague and moderated by Carsten Stahn, Director of the Grotius Center.

In June, the Prosecution Legal Adviser signed a book of condolence on behalf of Court at the International Court of Justice pertaining to the death of Justice Antonio Augusto Cancado Trindade.

In addition, the Prosecution Legal Adviser performed such other tasks as were assigned by the Registrar on a day-to-day basis. These include reviewing draft materials not exclusive to the Registry operations, such as the content for the website of the Sierra Leone Peace Museum, draft brochures for distribution to visitors, content of Power Point slides for presentations to visiting institutions to the Residual Special Court, and assisting with an investigation into a complaint raised by a staff member on witness issues.

The Prosecution Legal Adviser also participated in meetings related to the wider subject of International Criminal Justice organized by independent entities. On 13-14 May, he attended a meeting of experts on the Malabo Protocol hosted by the Center for International Law and Policy in Africa (CILPA) in The Hague, to finalize drafts of Rules of Procedure and Evidence and Elements of Crimes of the restructured African Court of Justice and Human Rights.

Also in July, the Prosecution Legal Adviser represented the Prosecutor at a one-day symposium organized by the International Criminal Court to mark the 20th anniversary of its founding.

Also on 18-20 May, the Prosecution Legal Adviser attended a Wilton Park meeting in the United Kingdom – the Latin America/Africa network of human rights and criminal practitioners (WP2013) – which aims to build a network of criminal law practitioners from the two continents with shared experience in closing the impunity gap for serious international crimes. The meeting was partly sponsored by the United Kingdom’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and G37 Chambers, a United Kingdom-based international law firm.

In July, the Office of the Prosecutor was joined by Ms Caroline Atlas, an intern from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. In addition to performing general research for the Office of the Prosecutor, Ms Atlas prepared files in the trial of the former OTP witness in Finland for archiving.

Also in July, the Prosecution Legal Adviser represented the Prosecutor at a one-day symposium organized by the International Criminal Court to mark the 20th anniversary of its founding.

Students from University of Sussex visiting RSCSL The Hague Office.
THE REGISTRY

Under Article 15 of the Statute, the Registry provided assistance to the organs of the Residual Special Court. The following activities were conducted between 1 January and 31 December of the year under review.

WITNESSES AND VICTIMS SECTION (WVS)

The WVS staff in Freetown continued to provide protection and support services to protected witnesses in Sierra Leone and Liberia, as well as those located outside of the sub-region. The support provided includes the provision of welfare and medical assistance to vulnerable witnesses. The WVS maintained contact with relevant authorities and agencies that provide support to the Court’s witnesses.

In the first quarter of the year, the WVS staff continued to provide information to protected witnesses and victims on the COVID 19 pandemic and Omicron variant in accordance with public health guidelines. Witnesses and victims were also advised on steps to take in the event of a COVID 19 infection or other medical complaints.

On 12 January, the Registrar and Prosecutor wrote a joint letter concerning a protected Special Court expert witness who expressed safety concerns about his family’s immediate return to Sierra Leone in the event they are required to depart their present country of residence. The letter was addressed to the relevant authorities of the country where the witness’ family resides.

With the easing of COVID 19 restrictions in the first quarter, the WVS staff conducted field missions to Sierra Leone and Liberia for welfare and security checks on the Court’s protected witnesses throughout the reporting period.

MAINTENANCE OF ARCHIVES AND COURT MANAGEMENT

The original archives of the Residual Special Court continued to be maintained at the Dutch National Archives (DNA) in The Hague. In Freetown, a copy of the Public Archives continued to be stored at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum alongside the TRC records.

During the reporting period, the archiving team in The Hague responded to requests and provided information internally and to external parties that had expressed interest in the work of the Court. Such requests relate to, inter alia, judicial filings before the Special Court.

The archiving unit continued to archive all Special Court final documents and review the administrative and legal records of the Office of the Registrar. The unit appraises the records to sort out their permanent or temporary value. Those with permanent value are then uploaded into the Residual Special Court Electronic Records Management system (TRIM) and enhanced with the appropriate metadata descriptions. The archivists continued to respond to requests from researchers, and supported the Registrar in completing employment verifications.

The team also continues to review and cross-check the original judicial audio-visual records retrieved from the DNA to ascertain whether the tapes earlier identified as damaged/
bad were originally like that or have deteriorated over time.

In Freetown, having completed in March the preservation of the public archives of the Special Court by putting them in acid-free folders under the special project funded by Global Affairs Canada, the archivists continued maintaining the records while making them accessible to the public. The archivists also started preserving the records of the TRC, which could not be completed before the expiration of the special project.

**ENFORCEMENT OF SENTENCES**

The Residual Special Court continues to supervise the enforcement of sentences imposed by the Special Court, pursuant to the enforcement of sentences agreements with the States enforcing the sentences of the Court’s prisoners.

Seven Special Court convicted persons continue to serve their sentences in three countries. Four convicted persons are serving their sentences in Rwanda (Issa Hassan Sesay, Morris Kallon, Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu), one in the United Kingdom (Charles Taylor), and two in Sierra Leone on conditional early release (Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao).

**RWANDA**

The Office of the Registrar continued to work closely with the Rwandan authorities to monitor the enforcement of sentences of the four remaining convicted persons at Mpanza Prison in Rwanda. Additionally, through the Principal Defender’s Office and the prison authorities, the Office of the Registrar responded to specific requests from the convicted persons.

On 8 June, the Registrar, the Residual Special Court Prison Adviser and the Principal Defender held a virtual meeting with the Commissioner-General of the Rwanda Correctional Services and the Director of Prisons to discuss several matters pertaining to the enforcement of sentences of the Court’s prisoners in Rwanda. The specific requests relating to the resumption of family visits of the convicts and the annual visit of the Court, which were suspended in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, were also discussed. The Commissioner-General advised that the visits could resume given the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions, provided that visitors are fully vaccinated or show proof of a negative COVID test upon arrival in Kigali.

On 15 June, a social media video was released by a supporter of some of the prisoners serving prison terms in Rwanda calling for the release of Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara and Issa Sesay, and claiming that the Court has been granting conditional early release to other prisoners based on the prisoners’ tribal and political affiliations. The Residual Special Court held outreach meetings with civil society partners to further review and discuss the eligibility criteria to be granted conditional early release.

The Residual Special Court Prison Adviser and the Principal Defender travelled to Rwanda in October to supervise the conditions of imprisonment of the four prisoners serving their sentences there. They met with the prisoners, the Prison Director and the Commissioner General of Rwanda Correctional Services to discuss prisoner welfare issues.

**UNITED KINGDOM**

The Registrar continued to coordinate with prison authorities and the Principal Defender on matters relevant to Charles Taylor’s service of sentence at Her Majesty’s Prison Frankland (HMP Frankland) in the United Kingdom. The Registrar and the Residual Special Court Prison Adviser periodically sought updates from the prison authorities on Charles Taylor’s well-being and the COVID-19 situation in the United Kingdom. Charles Taylor continues to serve his sentence in the United Kingdom for planning and for aiding and abetting the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity by rebel groups in Sierra Leone during the armed conflict.

The Registrar and the Residual Special Court Prison Adviser have been in consultation with prison authorities to discuss Charles Taylor’s conditions of imprisonment, and the resumption of his family and the Court’s annual visits. Prison authorities agreed to the resumption of the annual visits in light of the relaxation of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to a query raised by Charles Taylor, prison authorities provided the schedule of hours spent in and outside of the prison cell per day by prisoner retirees (prisoners who have reached retirement age). The prison dealt with a shortage of personnel due to the impact of the COVID-19 situation.

The Prison Adviser visited Charles Taylor in May, and also met with prison authorities. The Residual Special Court assisted the Taylor family with their United Kingdom visa application process, which resulted in the issuance by the United Kingdom authorities of a two-year visa. The Court provided an economy class ticket for one of the family members, and the family travelled to the United Kingdom to visit Charles Taylor in December.

**SIERRA LEONE**

Two convicted persons of the Residual Special Court (Allieu Kondewa
and Augustine Gbao) are presently serving the remainder of their sentences in Sierra Leone under the Court’s conditional early release programme until 2023 and 2028, respectively. The Office of the Registrar continued to work closely with the Principal Defender’s Office and the Monitoring Authority in Sierra Leone (the Sierra Leone Police) to supervise the enforcement of sentences of Allieu Kondewa and Augustine Gbao as they continue to serve the remainder of their sentences on conditional early release in their communities in Bo and Blama, respectively.

On 23 September, in response to Augustine Gbao’s request to seek medical treatment in Freetown, the Registrar and the Monitoring Authority granted his request to travel from Blama to Freetown. The request was granted on the condition that Augustine Gbao strictly adhere to all the conditions of his early release.

**ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES**

The Registrar executed her obligations by assisting national authorities who contacted the Court to seek information that may be useful for determination of immigration issues and investigations and trials in domestic jurisdictions.

The Registrar’s Office also received and responded to requests for information regarding the proceedings by Finland against a former OTP witness for war crimes allegedly committed in Liberia between 1999 and 2003, which continued during the reporting period. The Registrar’s Office and the Office of the Prosecutor continued to consult with host states on matters related to protected witnesses relocated by the Special Court and Residual Special Court.

**ALLEGED CONTEMPT AND APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT COUNSEL**

On 28 March, President Boutet directed the Registrar to appoint an independent prosecutor pursuant to Rule 77(C)(iii) to investigate the allegation that a person or persons may have knowingly and willfully interfered with the administration of justice of the Special Court or Residual Special Court, and may be in contempt of the Special Court or Residual Special Court by disclosing classified information relating to proceedings, contrary to Rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The confidential matter (RSCSL-22-01-PT) was filed, following a request for an investigation into an allegation of contempt made by a former Special Court prosecution witness.

On 28 April the Registrar appointed an Independent Prosecutor pursuant to Rule 77(C)(iii) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Directive of the President stated above. The independent prosecutor commenced the investigation into the allegation of contempt, and the investigation is ongoing.

**LEGACY ACTIVITIES**

**The Special Court Public Archives and Sierra Leone Peace Museum Project**

The Sierra Leone Peace Museum is a legacy project of the Special Court and Residual Special Court. The Museum serves as a centre for the promotion of human rights and learning. It also serves as a historical and memorial site in honour of the victims of the 11-year armed conflict that took place in Sierra Leone in the 1990s.

Global Affairs Canada sponsored the recently completed Public Archives and Sierra Leone Peace Museum developmental project titled “Preservation and Promotion of the Legacy of Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone”, aimed at preserving and promoting the legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone. As stated above, under this project the Special Court public archives have been preserved in acid-free folders to make them available and accessible to the present and future generations.

The Museum has exhibition areas designed to explain the decade-long war and make the value of peace visible to the people of Sierra Leone. They include the peace hall, the archives room, the hallway artefacts, the peacekeeper’s room, the crime scene room, the anteroom, and the Memorial Garden. The Memorial Garden features symbolic graves and a memorial wall of names of those who died in the Sierra Leone war.

In line with modern technology, The Museum has a film screening and audio-visual section where historical facts and other stories of the war are told electronically. It also has an audio tour guide that narrates the story of the war, peace and transitional justice.

A series of outreach events, including town hall meetings and mobile exhibitions, was held nationwide to communicate the new developments at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum to Sierra Leoneans. A press release was issued on 31 March to announce the completion of the project sponsored by Global Affairs Canada. The project report was launched on 3 November. Participants at the launch were briefed about outreach activities involving visiting schools to update children on what happened during the Sierra Leone war and why such conflicts
should be avoided. Mobile exhibitions were also held in remote areas to create awareness about the impact of the war, the transitional justice mechanisms, and the work of the Special Court and the Residual Special Court. The team reported having successfully held town hall meetings in 14 out of the 16 districts in Sierra Leone, and expressed great appreciation to the Global Affairs Canada for their support.

VISITS TO THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE MUSEUM AND THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Sierra Leone Peace Museum and the Memorial Garden were visited regularly by victims, civil society activists, and other individuals and groups, including former child soldiers. The following groups visited during the reporting period: delegates who attended the January 18th commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the Special Court and the end of the war in Sierra Leone, participants of the November 3rd event on the launching of the project report on the Preservation and Promotion of the Residual Special Court, the United Nations, Ambassador Michael Kanu, visited the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and the Memorial Garden. He was pleased to see the developmental work that had been done at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and Memorial Garden, and spent some time reflecting and meditating at the symbolic grave site. Ambassador Kanu commended the efforts of the Court in upholding and maintaining the Legacy of the Special Court through its legacy projects, and thanked the Principal Defender and staff in Freetown for their warm reception.

TRAINING

In collaboration with civil society in Sierra Leone, the Registry implemented a training project for the Sierra Leone Police, personnel of the Sierra Leone Correctional Service (SLCS) and civil society activists on the Residual Special Court’s conditional early release and witness protection programmes. The objective of this training was to provide the participants with the skills necessary for the monitoring of the Court’s conditional early release programme. The training was completed in July and funded by the Government of Italy.

WEBSITE/INFORMATION MATERIALS

In September, the Registrar initiated the upgrading, merging, and redesigning of the Special Court/Residual Special Court website and engaged the services of former staff member Lee Evans, who is an IT and web design expert, to lead the project and redesign the website in line with modern technology. Lee Evans is working with Peter Andersen, who designed and has been managing the current Residual Special Court website for over a decade. He is also working with a local Sierra Leonean web designer for capacity-building purposes on how to manage such projects. The office of the Registrar provides support to the team as and when required for the development of the project.

The online demonstration of the new website was organized on 1 December (see above – Chambers) in which the President, Court’s principals, a number of Judges, and staff participated. They provided the technicians with helpful feedback which has already been implemented. The expected completion date of the website project is the first quarter of 2023.

The office of the Registrar published informational materials, including brochures, fact sheets and flyers aimed at providing information about the Court and promoting its legacy. These materials are distributed to outreach participants and other stakeholders.
TRAINING ON CONDITIONAL EARLY RELEASE

Training on Conditional Early Release - Sierra Leone Police, Correctional service personnel and Civil Society, funded by Italy.
LAUNCH OF REPORT - PROJECT ON THE PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE LEGACY OF SPECIAL COURT

Project funded by Global Affairs Canada.
INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

In October, the Director of the Sierra Leone Law School addressed a letter to the Registrar informing the Court about the re-introduction of International Criminal Law as an elective module for the 2022/2023 Academic Year, with the Principal Defender of the Residual Special Court as the Tutor. It is recalled that the module was first introduced into the Law School’s curriculum by the late Justice Bankole Thompson when he was Acting Director of the Law School while simultaneously serving as a Judge of the Special Court’s Trial Chamber I.

STAFFING

While the Residual Special Court functions as a streamlined organization with minimal staff, its operations continue to require a diversity of skills to manage the workflow of its mandate. The Court retained the services of certain individuals who have previously worked for the Special Court, at minimal or no cost. These included a press officer, a prison adviser, and a communications and information technology services officer, all of whom were briefly brought in to complete a variety of tasks and projects.

On 31 March, an independent contractor was recruited to investigate and report on the compliance of Aliel Kondewa and Augustine Gbao with the terms of their conditional early release.

In the second quarter, the Registry recruited an intern to support the Court with graphic design. At the recommendation of the Prosecutor, an intern was recruited to assist his office with research on various issues.

The Associate Defence Legal Officer resigned from his position at the end of August with an effective date of 1 October 2022.

FULL-TIME STAFF

The Residual Special Court’s office in The Hague continues to be served by a small team consisting of archivists, an office manager, a legal officer, an associate legal officer, a budget and finance officer, and a prosecution legal adviser. Residual Special Court staff positions in Freetown include three full-time witness and victim protection staff, an associate defence legal officer, an office administrator and a cleaner. In New York, a liaison officer continues to serve on a part-time basis.

STAFF ON A ROSTER

In addition to a roster of defence counsel, the Registry continues to maintain a roster of former Special Court staff, created pursuant to Article 15(4) of the Statute.
FACILITIES

Interim Seat in The Hague and Branch Office in Freetown

The Residual Special Court continues to share administrative and technical platforms with the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT) pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions. In Freetown, the Residual Special Court continues to occupy a portion of the former Special Court site and shares the site with the Law Reform Commission, the Justice Sector Coordinating Office, the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and the Sierra Leone Law School.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND FRAMEWORK

In the first quarter of 2022, the measures to reduce the spread of COVID 19 in the Netherlands and Sierra Leone were relaxed. The Court staff returned to in-person work, and continue to adopt remote working methods as needed. The IRMCT issued broadcasts updating all staff on how to successfully transition to in-person work.

As of 17 September, the Netherlands had lifted all COVID 19 travel restrictions, while advising the public that adequate countermeasures may be reinstated if deemed necessary to prevent or slow down the spread of a potential new COVID 19 variant if it is a public health concern. Though these measures have been relaxed, the Court encourages its personnel to continue to take precautionary measures on staying safe because of the risk ofcontracting variants of COVID 19.

The Registrar worked mainly from the Court’s office in The Hague. In July and August the Registrar worked from the Court’s office in Freetown and returned to The Hague office at the end of August. From the 24 October to 3 November, the Registrar worked from the Court’s office in Freetown and also worked remotely from New York in November and December. She worked with the President of the Court, the Prosecutor, the Principal Defender and the staff. She also liaised remotely with the Chair of the Oversight Committee as and when needed.

FINANCIAL SITUATION

Budget

In February, a subvention in the amount of US$2,773,300 was received from the United Nations as a bridging financial mechanism for fiscal year 2022.

In July, the Oversight Committee approved the Residual Special
Court’s 2023 budget in the amount of US$2.9 million, following budget discussions in which the Registrar and the Budget and Finance Officer participated. A request for a subvention towards the Court’s 2023 budget was submitted to the United Nations in September.

In October, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) considered the Court’s request for Subvention for 2023. In November, the United Nations Fifth Committee considered the Court’s 2023 budget. The Registrar, the United Nations Controller’s Office and the United Nations Office for Legal Affairs participated in-person in the budget hearings to provide clarification and respond to questions raised by the budget committees, as appropriate. The Court’s Finance and Budget Officer and the Office Manager joined the hearing remotely from The Hague. In December, the Fifth Committee approved the subvention grant of US$2,765,000 against the US$2,910,500 Residual Special Court budget.

Audit

In April and May, the Auditor-General of South Africa conducted the annual audits of the Residual Special Court’s 2019 and 2020 accounts remotely. The audit commenced after an exchange of letters between the Chair of the Oversight Committee and the Auditor-General regarding the resumption of the annual audit, which had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Auditor-General issued an unqualified audit opinion for both fiscal years and submitted its reports to the Oversight Committee at the end of May. In June, the Chair of the Oversight Committee convened a meeting of the Oversight Committee to discuss the audit reports.

The Auditor-General and the Registrar have been in communication regarding the conduct of the outstanding audits of 2021 and 2022.

Distribution of the Eighth Annual Report

The Eighth Annual Report of the President of the Residual Special Court was published in June. The report was distributed by the Office of the President and Office of the Registrar to the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations, diplomatic and international partners, Judges, Oversight Committee members, and staff. The distribution was done both online and by hard copies, as appropriate.
VISITS BY SCHOOLS TO THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN
Visits by Schools to the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and Memorial Garden.
Visits by Schools to the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and Memorial Garden.
Visits by Schools to the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and Memorial Garden.
VISITS OF COLLEGES TO THE PEACE MUSEUM

Students from Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone Law School and Institute of Public Administration and Management.
During the year under review, the Oversight Committee and the Registrar held a series of discussions concerning ongoing efforts to secure means of funding for the Residual Special Court. On 17 May, the United Nations Secretary-General addressed letters to all United Nations Member States seeking voluntary contributions for the financing of the Residual Special Court. In July, the Government of Sierra Leone sent a letter of appeal for financial support to the African Group at the United Nations Headquarters.

The Court continues conducting fundraising activities, mostly virtually. A few meetings requiring minimal travel resources were held in person. From January to December the Residual Special Court principals, particularly the Prosecutor and Registrar and their staff, which included the Prosecution Legal Adviser and the Registry Legal Officer, held a total of 102 fundraising meetings, most of which were conducted virtually.

Meetings were held with officials from Member States in The Hague, New York, Freetown and Brussels, with diplomats from Albania, Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On 14 July, the Registrar held an in-person meeting with the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Freetown to brief him on the activities of the Court, its fundraising challenges, and the support received from the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone.

During the reporting period, the Registrar participated in virtual meetings with the Chair and Members of the Court’s Oversight Committee to discuss matters including the Court’s efforts towards fundraising, voluntary contributions and the request for subvention.

The Registrar and the IRMCT Registrar held a series of remote meetings in 2022 related to the administrative sharing arrangements and matters of mutual interest. On 28 September, the Registrars met in person in The Hague to further discuss related issues.

**VIRTUAL DIPLOMATIC BRIEFING**

On 25 May, President Boutet led the Residual Special Court presentations during a virtual Diplomatic Briefing for Fundraising Purposes on the Residual Special Court, hosted by the Permanent Missions of Canada and Sierra Leone to the United Nations. Also speaking on behalf of the Residual Special Court were Vice President Roberts, Prosecutor James C. Johnson, Principal Defender Ibrahim Yilla and Registrar Binta Mansaray. More than 70 participants, including members of the diplomatic corps and current and former staff of the Residual Special Court, attended the virtual briefing. Delegates were also addressed by the United Nations Assistant Secretary General for Legal Affairs, Mr Stephen Matthias, and the hosts of the event, their Excellencies Ambassador Rae of Canada.
and Ambassador Fanday Turay of Sierra Leone, respectively.

President Boutet spoke about the important work of the Residual Special Court and appealed for funding. The Vice President focused his briefing on the legacy of the Special Court in Sierra Leone, while the other principals of the Court spoke about the ongoing activities of their respective offices. The Permanent Representatives and the Assistant Secretary-General each highlighted the history, legacy, landmark achievements and relevance of the Residual Special Court and its predecessor to international criminal justice. Additionally, the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone raised awareness about the relevance of the Court to Sierra Leone. In closing, the Permanent Representative of Canada encouraged representatives of United Nations Member States to speak to their Governments and urge them to support the Residual Special Court in furtherance of its ongoing mandate.

STAFF MEETING WITH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE VIA ZOOM

The RSCSL Hague staff and the Amb. for Int.’l Organizations of the Dutch MFA, Mr. Paul Van den Ijssel, at the RSCSL’s office in The Hague.
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Registrar and the Liaison Officer in New York participated virtually in the Oversight Committee meetings convened by Ms. Beatrice Maille, Chair of the Oversight Committee. At these meetings, the Court’s efforts towards fundraising were discussed. The Registrar and the Chair of the Oversight Committee also met virtually once every three weeks for updates on the Court’s activities that require the attention of the Oversight Committee.

On 28 September, the President, Vice President, Prosecutor, Registrar and Principal Defender had a virtual meeting with Oversight Committee members to discuss the Court’s ongoing work, the difficulty in securing funding for the Court, and the Committee’s efforts at securing a subvention for the Court. Members of the Oversight Committee expressed their appreciation to the Court’s principals for their hard work and for continuing to fulfill the Court’s mandate.

On 30 November, the Court’s Oversight Committee held their annual meeting with the Court virtually. The Residual Special Court staff at The Hague and Freetown Offices, including the Registrar, Principal Defender and Prosecutor, were in attendance. Staff introduced themselves and talked about their work during the year. The contractors working on the Court’s Legacy Project and Outreach spoke about the impact of their work in Sierra Leone.

On behalf of the members of the Oversight Committee, Ms Beatrice Maille thanked the Residual Special Court staff for giving details of the incredible work that they are doing. Noting that international criminal justice is not all about justice but also about reconciliation, she expressed gratitude for the opportunity to hear about all the activities of the Court, and acknowledged that much work had been done by the Court in the course of the year to ensure that true justice was accomplished. Ms Maille promised to support the Residual Special Court further in completing its work for 2022 and support the budget and funding for 2023 so that the Court could continue its work.

The meeting was attended by Ms Maille, Chair of the Oversight Committee and representative of the Canadian Mission to the United Nations, Ambassador Michael Kanu, Deputy Permanent Representative to the Sierra Leone Mission to the United Nations, Ms Hanna Dreifeldt Laine, representative of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA), Ms Elizabeth Grosso, representative of the United States Mission to the United Nations, Chanaka Wickremasinghe, representative of the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations, Roan Ramos, and Mr David Cohen, Residual Special Court Liaison Officer at United Nations in New York.

On 19 December, the Registrar met with the Oversight Committee in New York to discuss outstanding administrative matters requiring the Oversight Committee’s attention.

Public Lecture on the Special Court for Sierra Leone - Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone.

RSCSL Judges, the Prosecutor, the Principal Defender, the Registrar, the Senior Legal Officer and RSCSL the Hague Staff.
The Registrar briefed them about the activities and needs of the Court.

OTHER EVENTS

On 22 February, following an invitation from the International Nuremberg Principles Academy, the Registrar attended an online panel discussion and book launch: “The Past, Present and Future of the International Criminal Court”.

On 1 March, the Registrar and staff in The Hague held an in-person meeting with the outgoing President, Justice Jon Kamanda. President Kamanda had been scheduled to meet the staff in The Hague in early 2020, but the plan was stalled by the COVID 19 pandemic. The outgoing President thanked everyone for their contributions to the work of the Court which kept it successful, despite the pandemic. He took the opportunity to say farewell to everyone, since the upcoming plenary would be his last as the Court’s President. The Prosecutor, who was also at this meeting, said he was happy for the opportunity to join the meeting in person and to see everyone in The Hague after so long. The Registrar, Prosecutor and staff thanked the President for his exceptional leadership in furtherance of the mandate of the Court.

The Registry made travel and other logistics preparations for the plenary of Judges meeting that took place in The Hague from 3-4 March.

On 3 March, the Registrar briefed the Judges at the Plenary on the operations of the Court, and the challenges the Court has faced working during the COVID 19 pandemic. On behalf of the Office of the Registrar and the Principal Defender, the Registrar also presented a proposal for a review of the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release.

On 14 March, the Registrar’s Office circulated a broadcast to diplomatic missions, international courts, tribunals and partners, the Oversight Committee and Residual Special Court staff, announcing the election of Justice Pierre G. Boutet of Canada as the new President of the Court, succeeding Justice Jon Kamanda of Sierra Leone. As reported in the Office of the President and Chambers Section, Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts was elected as Vice President, succeeding Justice Teresa Doherty; and Justice Desmond Edwards as Staff Appeals Judge, succeeding Justice Roberts.

As part of his trip to the Gambia, former Special Court Prosecutor Ambassador Stephen Rapp, visited Freetown from 17-19 March. During his visit, he met with the Chief Justice and the Attorney-General of Sierra Leone and the Residual Special Court Judges to brief them on the purpose of his visit and to seek their views on possible cooperation between Sierra Leone and the Gambia to host proceedings recommended by the Gambian Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC). Ambassador Rapp clarified that the hosting of proceedings in Sierra Leone is one of several options presented to the Oversight Committee and Residual Special Court staff, announcing the election of Justice Pierre G. Boutet of Canada as the new President of the Court, succeeding Justice Jon Kamanda of Sierra Leone. As reported in the Office of the President and Chambers Section, Justice Emmanuel Eku Roberts was elected as Vice President, succeeding Justice Teresa Doherty; and Justice Desmond Edwards as Staff Appeals Judge, succeeding Justice Roberts.

Amb. Stephen Rapp, Former Special Court Prosecutor given an award.
Gambian government, and he was only on a fact-finding mission. He held other meetings, including one with the RSCIF, a consortium of 95 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) based in Sierra Leone, and was given a tour of the Sierra Leone Peace Museum and Memorial Garden.

The Registrar met with Ambassador Stephen Rapp in The Hague at the end of March for a briefing on his trip to Freetown and the issues related to the Gambian TRRC.

On 11 April, the Registrar received the Ambassador for International Organizations of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Paul Van den IJssel, at the Court’s office in The Hague. The Ambassador briefed the Registrar about matters related to the support of the Host State to the Residual Special Court and international organizations. The Registrar thanked the Ambassador for the meeting and his visit to the Court’s premises.

On 2 June, while on official mission to the Netherlands, the Attorney-General of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Mr. Mohamed Lamin Tarawalley, visited the Court’s office in The Hague. He interacted with staff and conveyed the Government of Sierra Leone’s continued support of the work of the Court.

On 31 July, the Registrar attended a photo exhibition organized by the Center for Memory and Reparations titled “Dealing with the Past Photo Exhibition” The Center for Memory and Reparations launched the ‘Exhibition at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum’ as part of the process of community healing while dealing with the impact of the decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone.

In July, the Registrar met with the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice of Sierra Leone in Freetown. The Attorney-General was briefed on the activities of the Court. He raised the issue of the achievements and legacy of the Special Court and the need for engagement with West African countries on these issues in the context of the 20th Anniversary of the creation of the Special Court.

On 4 August, 23 students from The Hague Academy of International Law visited the RSCSL’s office in The Hague. The Registrar and Principal Defender – Mr. Ibrahim Yillah at a Reflection Dialogue on the Legacy of Transitional Justice in Sierra Leone.
al Law visited the Residual Special Court office in The Hague. The Associate Legal Officer and the Prosecution Legal Adviser briefed the students on the operations of the Special Court and Residual Special Court. The students asked questions about reparations, the elements to be considered in the creation of an international court, and how a TRC and criminal court can work together in achieving accountability.

On 10 August, there was civil unrest in Freetown which caused the death of several persons including police officers, and the declaration of a curfew in the country. Following this development, on 17 August, the Registrar held meetings with the RSCIF – a consortium of 95 Civil Society Organizations in Sierra Leone, including community members – among other groups. The group met to discuss the need for a continued engagement of communities and the youth on the legacy of the Special Court, impunity and accountability issues.

On 15 August, the new President of the IRMCT, Judge Graciela Gatti Santana, visited the Court’s Office in The Hague and interacted with staff.

On 8 September the Registrar signed the book of condolence at the British Embassy in The Hague, marking the death of Queen Elizabeth II, and expressed the Court’s appreciation for the support of the United Kingdom over the years.

On 15 September, the Registrar attended the induction ceremony of the former Residual Special Court Prosecutor, Brenda J. Hollis, into Bowling Green State University Academy of Distinguished Alumni as part of the University’s 100th homecoming celebration. Ms Hollis was recognized for her exceptional accomplishments, including as Prosecutor of the Court and its predecessor institution, the Special Court. The event was held at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, USA.

On 3 October, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) invited the Registrar to an in-person meeting to discuss the draft Host State Agreement and resolve the pending matters in the proposed draft agreement. Outstanding matters were discussed and resolved to a large extent. The meeting was productive and the representatives of the Dutch MFA and Ministry of Justice at the meeting promised to send a revised draft to the Residual Special Court within four weeks from the date of the meeting. The revised draft is still outstanding.

At the invitation of the International Criminal Court, the Principal Defender represented the Registrar at a “Reflection Dialogue on the Legacy of Transitional Justice in Sierra Leone”. The event was organized by the Campaign for Good Governance, a local non-governmental organization in collaboration with Sierra Leone’s Independent Commission for Peace and National Cohesion. The event was held at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum.

On 12 December, law students from the University of Sussex visited the Registrar’s office in The Hague.
INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP VISITS TO THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN

Director of Sierra Leone Law School.

Irish Amb. H.E. Claire Buckley.
INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP VISITS TO THE SIERRA LEONE PEACE MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN

Ambassador Stephen Rapp

Former UK High Commissioner to Sierra Leone H.E. Peter Penfold.

Justice Teresa Doherty

US Amb. to Sierra Leone – H. E. David Dale Reimer

Amb. Kanu and Principal Defender.
The Defence Office continues to perform its functions pursuant to Rule 45 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The following activities as highlighted were undertaken by the Defence Office for the period under review.

COMMUNICATION WITH CONVICTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Defence Office continues to maintain regular communication with the authorities in the United Kingdom and Rwandan detention facilities as well as with pro bono counsel in relation to the conditions of detention of Special Court convicts in both jurisdictions. The Defence Office is also in communication with family members of Special Court convicts regarding family visits and other related matters.

VISA APPLICATION FOR TAYLOR FAMILY

The Defence Office, with the support of the Registrar, facilitated the issuance of United Kingdom visas to Charles Taylor’s family. Following the submission of their visa applications in Freetown in September this year, Charles Taylor’s wife and two daughters were granted visas for a duration of two years each.

The Defence Office, in collaboration with the Registrar’s office, also provided assistance to relatives of Special Court convicts to obtain Sierra Leonean passports to facilitate their visit to Rwanda.

MONITORING SPECIAL COURT CONVICTS ON CONDITIONAL EARLY RELEASE

The Defence Office continues to monitor Special Court convicts Augustine Gbao and Allieu Kondewa, who are currently serving the remainder of their prison terms in Bo and Blama in the south and east of Sierra Leone, respectively. In this regard, the Defence Office has continuously engaged the Monitoring Authority – the Sierra Leone Police, the Registrar’s Office and the convicts themselves – to ensure compliance with their obligations as imposed by the President of the Residual Special Court in the various decisions regarding conditional early release.

AUGUSTINE GBAO’S REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO TRAVEL TO WATERLOO, WESTERN AREA OF SIERRA LEONE

On 21 September, the Principal Defender submitted a request to the Registrar on behalf of Augustine Gbao, requesting permission for Gbao to travel from Blama to Waterloo for a period of two weeks commencing on 26 September. The request was approved by the Registrar, and the Principal Defender informed the Sierra Leone Police in Blama and Waterloo to ensure that Gbao did not violate any of his obligations contained in the decision on his early release.

REQUEST BY AUGUSTINE GBAO TO TRAVEL TO FREETOWN, ON MEDICAL GROUNDS

Following receipt of a request from
Augustine Gbao to travel from Blama to Freetown to visit an eye specialist, the Defence Office sought and obtained the Registrar’s permission to allow Augustine Gbao to travel as requested. During this approved visit, the Defence Office ensured that Augustine Gbao complied with all conditions of his early release.

PLENARY AT THE HAGUE

The Principal Defender and other Defence Office personnel undertook a review of all materials submitted by Court principals and Judges in connection with the plenary meeting which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands from 3-4 March. At the plenary meeting, the Principal Defender made a presentation on the activities of the Defence Office and participated on discussions pertaining to review of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and conditional early release.

ADDRESSING COMPLAINTS BY SPECIAL COURT CONVICTS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO THEIR HEALTH AND DETENTION CONDITIONS

The Defence Office received a communication from convicts in Rwanda by which they raised a number of complaints pertaining to their detention conditions, namely, medical conditions as well as the quality of food supplied to them by the Rwandese prison authorities. Upon receipt of the complaints from the convicts, the Defence Office immediately contacted the Rwandese authorities, and was able to negotiate an amicable resolution to the above mentioned complaints.

The Defence Office emphasized to the convicts the need to respect and follow prison rules to ensure there is an amicable relationship between them and the prison authorities.

RSCIF OUTREACH MEETING WITH FORMER PROSECUTOR STEPHEN RAPP

On 17 March, the Principal Defender represented the Registrar at an RSCIF meeting held at the Sierra Leone Peace Museum in Freetown with former Special Court Prosecutor Ambassador Stephen Rapp and members of Civil Society in Freetown. The session which discussed the topic, “The Special Court for Sierra Leone’s Lessons for the World – from the Gambia to Ukraine” was interactive, and members of civil society shared their experiences of the Special Court as a model for the Gambia.
The Principal Defender served as co-moderator of a public lecture hosted at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone on the topic “The Special Court for Sierra Leone’s Lessons for the World – From the Gambia to Ukraine”. The public lecture featured former Special Court Prosecutor Ambassador Stephen Rapp, and the event was organized by the local Non-Governmental Organization Campaign for Good Governance in collaboration with the Department of Political Science at Fourah Bay College. The Principal Defender shared experiences from the Defence and victims points of view for the benefit of any transitional justice process to be undertaken in the Gambia or Ukraine.

ANNUAL VISIT OF THE PRINCIPAL DEFENDER TO SPECIAL COURT CONVICTS IN RWANDA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

As part of his annual visit to Special Court prisoners in Rwanda and the United Kingdom, the Principal Defender undertook a trip to Mpanga Prison in Rwanda and to HM Prison Frankland in the United Kingdom in November, where he had discussions with the respective prison authorities on detention conditions, including reviewing concerns raised by the prisoners.

MEETING WITH THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Principal Defender and Court principals met virtually with members of the Oversight Committee on the 28 September. At that meeting, the Principal Defender provided an update on court activities undertaken by the Defence Office, including but not limited to monitoring of convicts in Rwanda, United Kingdom and Sierra Leone, as well as steps taken by the Defence Office to ensure that detention conditions of convicts comply with the various decisions on conditional early release, detention rules and international law.

SUBMISSION OF AUGUSTINE GBAO’S REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF SPECIAL CONDITION IN PARAGRAPH 83 (VIII) OF THE DECISION ON CONDITIONAL EARLY RELEASE

On 12 September, the Principal Defender submitted a request on behalf of Augustine Gbao, requesting that the President of the Court review the Special Condition in Paragraph 83(viii) of the decision granting him conditional early release, which relates to his obligation to undertake agricultural activities in restitution to the victims of his crimes, and to substitute same with sitting once a month in his Chiefdom Reconciliation Committee, or to relieve him entirely of his obligation contained in the special condition on account of his continued failing health. The request was submitted pursuant to Article 11(B) of the Practice Direction on Conditional Early Release and on compassionate medical grounds.

Following a Directive from the President dated 17 October. The Defence Office, with support from the Registrar, facilitated Augustine Gbao’s trip to Freetown so he could be diagnosed for the purpose of preparing an independent medical report on his current health situation, in line with the President’s Directive of 17 October, the Principal Defender also filed an alternative proposal on behalf of Augustine Gbao for review of the Special Condition in Paragraph 83(viii) of the President’s decision. The Defence awaits a decision by the President. This is reported extensively in the Office of the President and Chambers Section above.

Panel discussions on the Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Legacy of the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission at an event organized by CILPA.
CHARMAINE JOHNSON – FORMER BUDGET AND FINANCE OFFICER

On 15 April, the Registrar announced with sadness the passing away of Ms Charmaine Johnson in St. Lucia. Charmaine served as Finance and Budget Officer for the Residual Special Court in The Hague from 2014 to 2019, and continued to assist the Court on audit and budget preparation, working remotely. She also worked as Acting Chief of Finance for the Special Court in Freetown from 2008, when she joined the Court, until the Special Court’s closure in December 2013. In a message to staff, the Registrar called Charmaine “one of the most dedicated Residual Special Court family members”. The Registrar noted that “Charmaine continued to work with the Court until the very end of her life,” and “she will be remembered for the way she touched everyone’s life, and her exceptional contribution to the achievements of the Special Court and the Residual Special Court”. The President, Court principals and staff of the Residual Special Court sent condolences to her family, friends and colleagues.

In a letter sent on behalf of the Court, the President extended heartfelt condolences to her family, and prayed that her legacy of hard work, excellence and kindness will live on after her.

May her soul rest in peace.

MAGNUS LAMIN – FORMER WITNESS PROTECTION OFFICER

On 8 September, the Registrar announced with sadness, the passing away of Mr Magnus Lamin, a staff member and one of the Witness Protection Officers of the Residual Special Court office in Freetown, who died on the same day after a short illness. Magnus served with the Special Court as an Investigator in the Office of the Prosecutor from 2004 to 2013, and Witness Protection Officer with the Residual Special Court from 2014 until he passed away. Until his death, Magnus remained one of the pillars of the Witness Protection Office. He served the Court with great distinction and integrity. He will be remembered for his dedication and invaluable contribution to the Residual Special Court and its predecessor, the Special Court.

The President, principals and staff expressed their heartfelt condolences to his loved ones and prayed for a peaceful repose of his soul. In a meeting with the Court’s principals on 28 September, the Chair and Members of the Oversight Committee also conveyed their deep condolences to the family of Magnus and to the Residual Special Court. Vice President Roberts represented the President and led the Court’s delegation to the funeral service, which was held on 20 September in Freetown, where he presented a letter of condolence signed by the President, Vice President and Registrar on behalf of the Court.

May his soul rest in peace.

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Late Mr Magnus Lamin.

Late Ms Charmaine Johnson.
The Registrar submitted the Residual Special Court 2022 Budget to the Oversight Committee for their consideration and approval. The proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget was US $2,949,300.

To manage the non-judicial residual functions and the judicial and other proceedings, the budget for the Residual Special Court’s operations for 2022 is US$2,949,300. Further breakdown of the 2022 figure is as follows: permanent staffing costs (US$1,604,100), which includes income tax liability of (US$20,000); and operational costs (US$1,345,200). The operational costs include IRMCT administrative support services (US$442,400) and the annual cost for enforcement of sentences of the five remaining SCSL convicted persons in Mpanga Prison, Rwanda (US$62,000).

### Non-Judicial and Judicial

#### Requirements by Object of Expenditure  
(United States Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object of expenditure</th>
<th>Non Judicial</th>
<th>Judicial</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posts</td>
<td>1,164,300</td>
<td>104,600</td>
<td>1,268,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Staff Cost</td>
<td>321,700</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>335,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation to Judges</td>
<td>49,800</td>
<td>99,600</td>
<td>149,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultants and experts</td>
<td>27,100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>27,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>73,300</td>
<td>135,000</td>
<td>208,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual services</td>
<td>600,400</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>650,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General operating expenses</td>
<td>262,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>290,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and materials</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of furniture and equipment</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,518,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>430,700</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,949,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ANNEX II

Residual Special Court Judges and Personnel Nationalities 2022

### JUDGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samoa</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PRINCIPALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SHORT-TERM CONTRACTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Sierra Leone</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INTERNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grand Total**  **53**

*Contractors for Special projects in 2022*
Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Jomo Kenyatta Road, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW, The Hague
P. O. Box 19536, 2500 CM The Hague

www.rscsl.org