

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE  
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

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

**as at:**

Tuesday, 19 June 2007

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
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## Concord Times (Online)

Monday, 18 June 2007

Opinion

### **'Measuring the Performance of Sierra Leone's Government - the Concept of Popular Sovereignty And Elections 2007 in Sierra Leone'**

By Amara Omar Kuyateh

Freetown

Sierra Leoneans will be going to the polls in August 2007, and the electorate, yet again, has another opportunity to decide who will form the sovereign government of Sierra Leone for the next 5 years.

Thomas Hobbes in the Leviathan (1651) stated as follows: "During the time men live without a common power to keep them all in awe, they are in that condition which is called war; such a war as is of every man against every man the nature of war consisteth not in actual fighting, but in the known disposition thereto during all the time there is no assurance to the contrary".

Hobbes went on to write: "No arts; no letters; no society; and which is worst of all, continual fear and danger of violent death; and the life of man, solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short." Simply put, Hobbes was trying to say that people need a sovereign to rule over them otherwise there will be chaos and anarchy. What Hobbes described above is what is called "government sovereignty". Given what transpired during the 10 years civil war, when the nation-state of Sierra Leone failed, one can indeed say that the lives of Sierra Leoneans were solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and indeed held the lowest life expectancy in the world. By all accounts for the vast majority of the 90s, and early 2000, Sierra Leone failed, as a nation-state.

Most of the activities of the International community, in collaboration with the present government, have been an attempt to restore government authority, rebuild the damaged infrastructure and the economy after the end of the civil war. This present government acquired that mandate, after the electorate rejected the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), and the other parties in the polls in the 2002 elections.

There is another type of sovereignty, and that is called "popular sovereignty". Popular sovereignty means citizens hold ultimate authority through the ballot and even a sovereign government is accountable to its citizens. The importance of the elections in August 2007 cannot be underestimated. Yet again, the electorate in Sierra Leone has another opportunity to exercise popular sovereignty by re-electing or rejecting the present government, in favour of another political party.

The aim of the Sierra Leone Network (SLN) and other civil society organizations involved in this year's voter education process is to help the electorate make an informed decision come August 2007.

The Challenges ahead - Who dares win?

It is important to note that whoever wins the next elections would still have to face the existing issues and challenges of the present day government and an analysis of the present government's response to the existing problems. Its successes and failures will indeed be an important lesson or first step for all involved in this process.

In this article, the author aims to briefly, examine the present government's record in establishing government's authority throughout Sierra Leone, and its effort in developing the economy and infrastructure during its last tenure.

Establishing Government authority throughout the Country: In the area of establishing government authority one can boldly say that, this present government was successful in that regard. With the help of our development partners, the Sierra Leone Police Force and the Military were restructured, and re-trained to some extent. These forces have been deployed in all areas of Sierra Leone, with the exception of the disputed territory of Yenga. On the issue of the Decentralization and devolution process, the government passed the 2004 Local Government Act, and there are now 19 functioning local government councils in the four administrative regions of the country.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission - Never Again!

The government's response in addressing the causes of the war has been two-fold. The first was to set up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in collaboration with the United Nations. The second was the setting up of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, to put on trial, those who bear "the greatest responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian law and Sierra Leonean law, committed within the territory of Sierra Leone since November 30, 1996".

The TRC was mandated by the Lome Peace Agreement of 7th July 1999, and it was established by an Act of Parliament on 10th February 2000. The mandate of the Commission was to create an impartial historical record of violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law related to the armed conflict in Sierra Leone, from the beginning of the conflict in 1991 to the signing of the Lomé Peace agreement. In addition, the TRC's mandate was to address impunity; respond to the needs of the victims; promote healing and reconciliation and prevent a repetition of the violations and abuses suffered.

Since the final report of the TRC was published almost 3 years ago, the government's response has been in the form of a poorly written white paper. There has been no action at all in regard to establishing the commission responsible for implementing the recommendations of the TRC.

The Special Court: The establishment of the Special Court, its monetary costs, and its results thus far, have been a very contentious issue for many Sierra Leoneans. I consider the top 5 people indicted by the special court to be: Foday Sankoh, Johnny Paul Koroma, Sam Bockarie, Hinga Norman and Charles Taylor. Of the top 5, 3 have died before judgement was passed; one presumed missing or dead, and one is in The Hague awaiting trial. Was justice served at the special court for Sierra Leone?

That is a question that Sierra Leoneans will most likely debate for hundreds of years to come.

What has been the government's record in tackling corruption, developing the economy, and the damaged and neglected infrastructure of the country?

The government responded by forming the: - Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) - National Commission for Social Action (NACSA) - National Procurement Authority - National Revenue Authority - Institutional Reform and Capacity Building Project - Development Assistance Coordination office - National Social Security and Insurance Trust (NASSIT) - Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper - The Public Financial Management, reform initiative and the Public Budgeting and Accountability Act of 2005.

- The Justice Sector Development Program - Amending the 1973 Act to allow Sierra Leonean born nationals to hold dual citizenship.

In a paper I published on the 11th of November 2004, titled: Modernizing Government Management and Government Financial Management", I called for the establishment of a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA.)

<http://www.sierraleonenetwork.org/pdf/modernizinggouvernement.pdf>.

In my contribution to the Sierra Leone Network's response to the United Kingdom Department for International Development's country strategy paper earlier this year, I again called for the establishment of the GRPA. Within the current legal and regulatory framework, there is no measurement system, for the performance of the government's Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs). A Government performance and Results Act (GPRA) would provide us with the tool with which we can measure the results of the MDAs against their published strategic objectives, and the resources expended to achieve those objectives. Also a Freedom of Information Act makes those reports available to us, the general public. With these two acts, every public official will be held accountable in a fair process. GPRA would serve as a management tool for the government and an Accountability tool for the general public. In the absence of a GPRA we would still attempt to briefly review some of the performance of the government agencies and initiatives above.

In part 2 of this article, the author will review the performance of some of these government agencies, and the success or failures of the initiatives mentioned above.

*About the Author: The Author, Amara Omar Kuyateh is a Principal Consultant with Oak Solutions, LLC, a Management Consultancy he founded after working for Pricewaterhousecoopers and Deloitte and Touche in Washington DC. He has over 9 years of government financial management experience from his work in the United Kingdom and the US. He is currently the Sierra Leone Network's Chief Operating Officer. He was a delegate at the Consultative Group's conference on Sierra Leone in London UK in November 2005, and at the Investors Forum in Freetown, in March 2006. For more on the Sierra Leone Network please go to our website on [www.sierraleonenetwork.org](http://www.sierraleonenetwork.org).*

## Legalbrief Africa

Monday, 18 June 2007

### **Taylor should count his undeserved blessings**

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Category: Liberia

Issue No: 235

Liberia's former President Charles Taylor doesn't seem to realise how lucky he is, writes Chege Mbitiru in *The Nation*.

It doesn't take a trial at The Hague to ascertain Taylor waged a guerrilla war against one of his predecessors, President Samuel Doe. He compounded that by supporting rebels in neighbouring Sierra Leone. Yet, notes Mbitiru, the international community, through the Special Court for Sierra Leone, wants to give him a fair trial for the sake of an orderly world. By the end of the first day of that trial – which he boycotted – Taylor had won another undeserved favour. Although Taylor fired his appointed lawyer, Karim Khan, presiding Judge Julia Sebutinde said: 'There has to be equality of arms', and ordered he get adequate defence 'without further delay'. Taylor's victims wouldn't be amused, Mbitiru says. He gave them no quarter. Taylor has declared himself indigent. That's hogwash, according to Mbitiru. Investigators estimated Taylor's fortune at \$450m. Given the seriousness of the charges against Taylor, his legal bill is bound to be hefty. So far, it amounts to \$680 000. Prosecutor Stephen Rapp says if funds run out, Taylor goes free. The leading donors include the US, Netherlands, Britain and Canada. There hasn't been an African penny donated. African nations plead perpetual poverty. The more plausible explanation is that some African leaders can't rule out a Taylor-like situation for themselves, reckons Mbitiru. The special court's rules overlook one thing, he argues: stashed cash. Switzerland knows where some of Taylor's money is. It should be unfrozen to meet his court fees.

**Full report in *The Nation***

Equilibri.net

Monday, 18 June 2007

[http://uk.equilibri.net/article/7044/Africa\\_\\_Charles\\_Taylor\\_\\_039\\_s\\_trial](http://uk.equilibri.net/article/7044/Africa__Charles_Taylor__039_s_trial)

Africa: Charles Taylor's trial

**The trial of Charles Taylor, the first African Head of State to be judged by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for war crimes and crimes against humanity, represents an important step in the process of democratisation of the 'dark continent' and expresses a veritable political willingness to recognise the 'superior' and 'deterrent' function international criminal justice has against infringements of the humanitarian rights, many examples of which have taken place in Africa during the last decades.**

Serena Grassia

### **Taylor boycotts the initial trial hearing**

June 4th was the first day of the trial; even though it had been switched from Freetown, in Sierra Leone, to the Dutch city of The Hague, the trial will still be under the jurisdiction of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL). Following the requests of the Governments of Liberia and Sierra Leone, and to ensure safety and transparency, the Security Council of the United Nations decided to switch the trial last year as it was believed the presence of Taylor might have hindered peace building and economic stability in both the countries.

Taylor has been indicted on 11 charges relating to mass murder, mutilation of civilians, sexual abuse of women and young girls, incitement to war, slavery of thousands of civilians, and the use of baby-soldiers. The former Liberian dictator objects to and denies all of the charges; he even refuses to recognise the authority of the Court that is carrying out the trial. His lawyers, and in particular their chief, the British Karim Khan, denounced unjust inequalities among the possibilities given to the prosecutors to accuse and those the defence had to rebut, especially due to an international sanction, the only one still valid in Liberia, that forbids Taylor's civil servants from leaving the country; they cannot thus reach The Hague to be heard as witnesses. Khan also denounced the difficulties in talking with her client since a camera had been placed in the room of the International Criminal Court in order to control visits and phone calls. But a recent disposition of the Court disproved these accusations affirming that the detainee has access to all the structures and communication systems allowed by the international law. In order to protest against such presumed violations of his rights, Taylor boycotted the initial trial hearing that has been postponed, even though the judge Julia Sebutine opposed to this decision, and will take place on 25th June.

### **International justice and democracy**

Elise Kepper, responsible for the International Justice Program of Human Right's Watch organisation declared that the Taylor's trial is a turning point for the entire African continent for at least two reasons:

- it revealed the several criminal offences committed by Charles Taylor with the help of the RUF (Revolutionary United Front) and the AFCR (Armed Forces Revolutionary Army) responsible not only for the massacres in Sierra Leone but also for the humanitarian abuses in Liberia, Guinea and Ivory Coast. Taylor would thus be the main responsible for the political, economic, social destabilisation that has affected the Western African countries during the last decades;

- Africans will have eventually the chance to rely on a certain, transparent form of justice and on fair trials that will safeguard both parties, prosecutors and defence, through the basic principles of the international criminal justice: same "instruments" for both prosecutor and defence; presumption of innocence, i.e. innocence until the applicant is found guilty; public, fair, impartial trial; guarantees of full equality.

Africa is moreover the continent in which the largest number of states have ratified the Statute of the International Criminal Court; this shows a precise will to speed up the process of democratisation of its institutions.

### **Special Court for Sierra Leone: merits and demerits**

Public opinion concerning the system of international criminal justice and the functioning of the ad hoc Courts set up to investigate and judge those who committed war crimes has changed in recent times. If up to the genocide in Rwanda only local courts, the Gacacas, had judged, now people want a more efficient, protective form of justice, free from the typical corruption that characterises all African courts and able to "fill" the legislative gaps of some national legislation that do not provide for the protection of the human and basic human rights (the role of local courts in internal post-conflict reconciliation trials is however still considerable). A recent poll carried out by Amnesty International researchers in Sierra Leone and Liberia showed that interviewees, unaware of the reason why the trial had been switched to The Hague, feel the need to follow the process every day in order to know how it is developing. Public opinion hopes that the Taylor case will mark a turning point in African judicial history and that it can repay them of all the failures the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which had originally been given the mandate. After being set up through a joint agreement signed by the UN and the local government the Court should have completed its mandate within 2006 but it has not delivered any judgement yet. The two main accused, Sam Hinga Norman, former Defence vice minister and Foday Sankoh, leader of the RUF rebels, have died. Taylor is in The Hague and the other eight accused are not senior figures. Such a development of events caused general disillusion and people abandoned their hope for justice especially because of the length of the trials and the huge costs to be born. The general discontent is also one of the defence lawyers' concerns: they fear that, in order to make up for all the failures so far, the Court might carry out an inaccurate trial in order to reach the political aim to give exemplary punishment to Taylor even if this could be detrimental to debate and the accuracy of evidence.

### **Conclusions**

The motive of the international criminal justice is showing that whoever is responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity may and shall be tried according to rules approved and ratified by the whole international community. In Africa the first accusations have been made by the Court for crimes committed in Rwanda against the Prime Minister, Georges Rutaganda, guilty of genocide. His condemnation shows that international criminal justice is applied to everyone, even to state authorities. The aim is to restore the rule of law and to adequately punish those who are found guilty for the aforementioned crimes. This aspect is of particular importance in countries like Africa where several have been the cases of massacres but where those responsible have rarely paid for their actions.

## The Trial of Charles Taylor website

Tuesday, 12 June 2007

### **The Special Court at the U.N. Security Council**

Posted by trialmonitor1 on June 12th, 2007

At the Special Court for Sierra Leone's second ever briefing before the UN Security Council last Friday, June 8, the UN's second top official called for greater funding and cooperation by States to allow the Special Court to finish its work. The U.N.'s Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro, said that the Special Court's achievements represented "an important milestone against impunity." Dr Migiro used this briefing as an opportunity to highlight witness protection and relocation needs; residual and legacy issues; and the need for adequate human and financial resources at the court.

The day's main event, however, was the presentations by the Special Court's President, Judge George Gelaga King, and its Chief Prosecutor, Stephen Rapp, to the Security Council Ambassadors and diplomats. King and Rapp gave an overview of the court's progress generally and focussed on the Taylor trial specifically.

Here's what they said:

#### **The Taylor Trial**

Stephen Rapp's comments were the most interesting of the day. Here's what he said about the Taylor trial:

He noted the need to ensure that the Taylor trial, like the others at the Special Court, "embodies the principles of fairness and due process at all times."

Taylor's declaration of partial indigency (which meant he was not in a financial position to fully pay for his defence), means that the Special Court has to largely foot Taylor's defense bill. Given that the court operates on voluntary contributions, the need to ensure the court had access to sufficient resources to provide an effective defense was critical. He urged the States to provide enough funding to make sure adequate defense resources continued to be possible (and also cooperation assistance to help the Registry track assets and investigate indigency claims).

Though not providing specific details, Rapp said the Registry had, in the past month, organized for a "substantial augmentation of resources" for Taylor's defense, which "oustripp[ed] those of other defendants in other tribunals." If this is correct, then Taylor's argument about inadequate facilities, which he put forward (through Khan) on the first day of trial may have less force. Rapp noted the resources Taylor's defense team already has, which includes offices in The Hague, Freetown and Monrovia. (Remember: Khan said he was working from bars and cafes to prepare his defense for lack of other options).

To end his presentation, after urging States to contribute to defense costs, Rapp noted of Taylor's trial that "at the end of the day, the most important this is that the trial be fair, and be seen to be fair."

## The Special Court's Progress

President King, facing the president of the Security Council (the Belgian Ambassador, Johan Verbeke) and with his back to the gallery, outlined the progress of the court, highlighting that the tribunal was on track to meet its completion strategy aim of shutting down all judicial activity in both The Hague and Freetown by December 2009.

Two of the Special Court's three ongoing cases have finished the trial phase. On June 20, 2007, the trial judgment of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council case (or AFRC – a group comprised largely of former Sierra Leonean Army soldiers) is expected. The trial judgment for the Civil Defense Force case (or CDF, a militia group which operated in support of the Sierra Leonean government) will be handed down in July 2007. The trial of Revolutionary United Front leaders (RUF, a rebel group) is scheduled to end by December 2007, and a judgment delivered by the trial chamber in June next year.

Judge King, in his capacity as the "Special Court's president and as a Sierra Leonean" said the court's establishment had made a "major contribution to long term peace and security in the region." It also helped to "resurrect the rule of law" and to "end impunity." The President noted the importance of both outreach (particularly the accessibility of the Taylor trial to the region) and also the court's legacy after it shuts its door (which he considered one of his "top most priorities").

He appealed to the Security Council for help in three areas:

1. Funding to ensure the court could operate until its expected shut-down date of December 2009. The current funds will be exhausted by the end of 2007. More money (at least \$60 million) is needed.
2. Cooperation in the enforcement of sentences and the protection of witnesses.
3. Support for the court's legacy projects and its residual issues.

Throughout the briefing, aides and diplomats wandered in and out of the four wooden doors on either side of the august room, whose mural on the back wall – depicting a phoenix rising from the ashes — dominates the scene. The U.N.'s top legal counsel and head of its Office of Legal Affairs, Nicholas Michel, remained for most of the briefing, looking relaxed as he sat directly behind the seat from which Dr Migiro delivered her intervention. To the right, Special Court staff and advisors from the Registry, Prosecution and Chambers, watched and whispered among themselves as the Security Council members went through their paces. In the gallery, the front section reserved for diplomats was about halfway filled with ambassadors and their diplomatic legal advisors. A handful of NGOs and students took notes from the upper gallery.

State reactions to President King and the Prosecutor's remarks were remarkably uniform. What was surprising, however, was the content of the responses – almost all interventions highlighted the importance of legacy efforts designed to impact and enhance the Sierra Leonean legal system and the rule of law more generally after the court closes its doors; and the court's outreach efforts which aimed to engage Sierra Leoneans at a grass roots level about the court's work. This marks a welcome shift in the way in which States have talked about international and hybrid courts more generally, moving away from discussions which have traditionally focussed on a purely legal and budgetary analysis of the trials themselves, towards a greater appreciation and awareness of the daily impact such courts can have on people most affected by the crimes.

## **UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 18 June 2007**

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

### **International Clips on Liberia**

#### **UN praises Indian women peacekeepers**

Mon, 18 Jun 2007 03:13:01 Press TV

UN has extended the term of Indian women peacekeepers in strife-torn Liberia for six months praising their role in the West African nation. "The UN has lauded the performance of women troopers of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Liberia and requested for extension of their stay, which has been approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs," IANS new agency quoted a senior Indian official D.C. Dey as saying in New Delhi. "After completion of the extended stay, we will be sending a new team to Liberia depending on the requirement there," Dey added.

#### **High praise for Indian women troopers in Liberia**

New Kerela, New Delhi, June 17: From seizing drugs to killing robbers, the work done by Indian women peacekeepers in strife-torn Liberia has made such a remarkable impact in the West African nation that their stay has been extended by six months. The Indian ministry of home affairs received a UN request to increase the tenure of the women troopers of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Liberia.

#### **Blind immigrant overcomes many obstacles to earn GED**

The Columbia, Washington June 17--Moving his fingers across a Braille script, Michael Logan addressed around 100 fellow graduates of Clark College's GED and high school completion programs and their supporters Saturday. "I am proud of myself to stand here today, a member of the Bassa tribe, the second oldest of my mother's four children and one of my father's 14 children," Logan said. "I am pleased to say that I am the first and only child of my father who has achieved in completing a high school education, and I am very thankful."

#### **Truth Commission reveals discovery of over 100 mass graves in Liberia**

Running Africa June 18,2007

In Lofa County, northwestern Liberia, over 100 mass graves have been discovered. The shocking disclosure was made by the Chairman of Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, TRC, Counsellor Jerome Verdier on Saturday, June 16th at a town-hall gathering of Liberians in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area.

### **International Clips on West Africa**

#### **Seeing is believing in charity's visionary work**

Source: SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY Date: June 17, 2007

WE FIRST encountered eight-year-old Adama as she was rushed in through the hospital's front doors. In a classroom accident, a sharpened pencil had been pushed deep into her left eye and the race was on to save her sight. Moments before, in the nearby operating theatre

of the Connaught Eye Hospital in the **Sierra Leone** capital of Freetown, surgeons had operated on Fatou Kamara, who thought she would never again see her grandchildren.

## **From life as refugees, songs of true inspiration**

Source: Seattle Times, The (KRT) Date: June 17, 2007

Jun. 17--You may have heard them on the soundtrack of the harrowing Oscar-nominated film "Blood Diamonds" or on their own album, "Living Like a Refugee." Or maybe you saw the moving, self-named 2006 documentary at last year's Seattle International Film Festival. Or on "Oprah."

### **Local Media – Newspaper**

#### **UNMIL Introduces New Security Measures to Tackle Crimes**

*(The Informer, The Inquirer, The News, Daily Observer, Heritage, Public Agenda and New Democrat)*

- The Special Representative of the Secretary-General Alan Doss said that UNMIL Military Police, UNPOL and the Liberia National Police (LNP) have started "dusk to dawn foot patrols" in high crime areas in the country. "Vehicles and premises will be searched if there is good reason to suspect that criminals are being sheltered or criminal activities are taking place," Mr. Doss said.
- Mr. Doss also said that UNMIL has agreed with the Government to strengthen the armed capacity of the LNP.
- The new security measures are apparently preparation for an expected increase in criminal activity in Monrovia and its suburbs during the rainy season.

#### **Armed Robbers Attack Dredgers at Freeport**

*(Daily Observer, Public Agenda and New Democrat)*

- Men armed with machetes and other dangerous instruments Sunday morning attacked dredgers at the Freeport of Monrovia and made away with several valuable items.
- National Port Authority Public Relations Officer, Maxwell Jalibah confirmed the incident, saying it took place around the breakwaters where dredgers are dredging the port.

#### **'TRC Crumbles – Becomes White Elephant'**

*(Plain Truth)*

- [sic:] While the excitement for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) might have been vociferous, its administrative ineptitude unwittingly overshadows its relevance. The TRC has become a white elephant bought at a higher price that has no meaning to a nation struggling to bury its ugly past. If mandates could be achieved by recitations, then the TRC would have taken the first place in any competition. A sound and comprehensive mandate, but poor performances characterized by administrative ineptitude and false sense of relevance have made the TRC a white elephant.

#### **UN Panel Report Criticizes Liberia and Nigeria for Ignoring Security Council's Decision**

*(The Monitor and New Democrat)*

- The United Nations Panel of Experts investigating compliance with UN Security Council's order to all states to freeze the assets of indicted former President Charles Taylor and his associates says both Liberia and Nigeria, among others have rebuffed the Council's decision.

**Local Media – Radio Veritas** *(News monitored today at 9:45 am)***Liberian-Japanese Officials to Begin Bilateral Talks**

- Liberian officials and a delegation of the Japanese Government are to begin talks in Monrovia this week on the restoration of development cooperation and assistance to Liberia.
- The delegation headed by the Director and Second Country Assistance Planning Division, Kogi Abe is expected to visit the Japanese Maternity Hospital, the collapsed Tubman Bridge and other damaged infrastructure.

**Chinese Ambassador Challenges ECOWAS Members**

- Speaking at the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Economic Community of West African States(ECOWAS), Chinese Ambassador to Liberia, Lin Songtain says members of ECOWAS should stand together to deal with the challenges facing their countries.
- Ambassador Songtain praised ECOWAS members for bringing themselves together in recognition of the organization and said development is only possible if people come together.
- He promised to help foster the relationship among member countries and provide assistance to boost the organization.

**Media Managers Begin Six-Week Capacity Building Training**

- The Centre for Media Studies and Peace Building (CEMESP) will today begin a six-week capacity building program for managers and senior staff of Liberia Media Organizations.
- According to the Executive Director of CEMESP, Malcolm Joseph the workshop is intended to brush up the skills of participants in the management of their organizations and said this was also meant to improve the Liberian Media towards firmly implanting the democratization of Liberia.

*Complete versions of the UNMIL International Press Clips, UNMIL Daily Liberian Radio Summary and UNMIL Liberian Newspapers Summary are posted each day on the UNMIL Bulletin Board. If you are unable to access the UNMIL Bulletin Board or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Weah Karpeh at [karpeh@un.org](mailto:karpeh@un.org).*

# Voice of America

Monday, 18 June 2007

## Rwandan Genocide Tribunal Requests Venue Transfers to Meet Deadline

By Katy Migiro  
Nairobi

The president of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda is briefing the U.N. Security Council on the court's efforts to prosecute the 90 people indicted for masterminding the Rwandan genocide. Katy Migiro reports for VOA that the court hopes to transfer a number of cases to Rwandan and European courts in an effort to complete its work before its mandate expires next year.

Significant changes are taking place in the way in which the 10-year-old International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda prosecutes those it believes are responsible for the 1994 genocide.

The court has until the end of 2008 to complete the trials of the 90 people it has indicted as the main instigators of the Rwandan genocide. Eighteen of these men are still on the run. The majority of the 72 who have been arrested are either in court or still awaiting the start of their trials.

Last week, the prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, based in Arusha, Tanzania, made his first request for a case to be transferred to Rwanda for trial.

If the request is approved, the prosecutor hopes to transfer up to 16 more cases to Rwanda.

The prosecutor also hopes to transfer several cases to Europe.

On Friday, the prosecutor revealed the names of two fugitives that he wants to be tried in Europe - Wenclas Munyeshaka and Laurent Bucyibaruta.



The spokesman for the prosecutor, Tim Gallimore, says their names were revealed - or unsealed - because the court believes they are close to being caught.

"Those two indictments are unsealed and these two persons are targeted for transfer to a European country," he said. "Of the 18 fugitives, we have already two now that have been identified for transfer to a European jurisdiction."

Gallimore says the European country may be revealed later this week.

**Tim Gallimore addresses a press briefing in Nairobi, Kenya, 18 June 2007**

One of the major challenges facing the tribunal is what to do with indictees who are acquitted or have served their term. When it was set up, U.N. member states agreed to share the burden of hosting such people. But several men have been stuck in Tanzania for up to four years, at the tribunal's expense, waiting for another country to take them on.

Tribunal spokesperson Roland Amoussouga says the prosecutor will ask members of the U.N. Security Council to fulfill their obligations when he meets with them Monday in New York.

"Those are people who do not have any passports," he said. "They do not have ID. And some of them have families in the western countries and they all believe that they would be better off security wise in Europe or elsewhere, not in any African countries. Some of them have their wives who are citizens of a particular country, for instance in Belgium. Their kids are there."

The International Criminal Tribunal has completed 33 cases since it began its work in 1997, with 28 convictions and five acquittals. It has cost \$1 billion.