

SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



Acting Prosecutor Joseph Kamara with members of the Single Leg Amputee Football Club, after making a presentation to them this morning

PRESS CLIPPINGS

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

as at:

Wednesday, 9 September 2009

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
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Special Court for Sierra Leone
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 8 September 2009

Joseph F. Kamara Named Acting Prosecutor



The Secretary-General of the United Nations has named Sierra Leonean lawyer Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara as Acting Prosecutor of the Special Court. The appointment is effective as of 8 September.

Joseph Kamara is the first Sierra Leonean to hold this post. He succeeds Prosecutor Stephen Rapp, who resigned this month to become the United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes. He will serve as Acting Prosecutor until a new prosecutor is appointed.

Joseph Kamara joined the Office of the Prosecutor in January 2004, and a year later he was called upon to lead the CDF Prosecution Team as Senior Trial Attorney. He was named Deputy Prosecutor in August 2008.

Prior to joining the Special Court, Mr. Kamara worked for eight years as prosecutor in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, where he rose to the rank of Senior State Counsel. In 1996, and again from 2000-2004, he worked in private practice, including several law firms in Washington, D.C.

In July 2009, Joseph Kamara was elected as President of the Sierra Leone Bar Association.

#END

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

INFORMATION FOR MEDIA - NOT FOR ADVERTISING

Produced by the
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Concord Times

Wednesday, 9 September 2009

Taylor denies 'mutual assistance' pact with Sankoh

By Alpha Sesay

Charles Taylor and Sierra Leone's rebel leader Foday Sankoh did not have any pact to render mutual assistance to each other for their respective wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia, the accused former Liberian president told Special Court for Sierra Leone judges today at his trial

in The Hague.

"I had no pact with RUF leader Foday Sankoh for mutual assistance. That could not have been necessary," Mr. Taylor said.

Mr. Taylor asserted that if such mutual pact ever existed between himself and Revolutionary United Front (RUF) leader Foday Sankoh,

the prosecution would have led evidence to show the assistance that Mr. Sankoh rendered to Mr. Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL).

"There has been no evidence in this court about Sankoh being involved in the conflict in Liberia or commanding an NPFL post.

Rapaport News

Tuesday, 8 September 2009

U.N. Appoints Kamara to Special Court of Sierra Leone

... U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara as acting prosecutor for the Special Court of Sierra Leone. Kamara is the first from Sierra Leone to serve in this capacity, pending the naming of a new prosecutor to replace Stephen Rapp. The Special Court was set up jointly by Sierra Leone and the U.N. in 2002 with a mandate to try those who bear the greatest responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian law and national law committed in Sierra Leone during the country's war.

Kamara worked for eight years as prosecutor in Sierra Leone's office of the director of public prosecution and rose to the rank of senior state counsel. He joined the Special Court's office of the prosecutor in 2004 and was named deputy prosecutor in 2008. Earlier this year he was elected president of the Sierra Leone Bar Association.

Rapp, who became U.N. ambassador-at-large for war crimes, told the U.N. Security Council that the Special Court had been ground-breaking in several respects, including the first-ever convictions on the charge of sexual slavery, both as a war crime and crime against humanity, as well as convictions on the use of child soldiers.

The Special Court normally resides in Freetown, Sierra Leone, but is currently holding the Charles Taylor war crimes trial in The Hague.

UN News

Tuesday, 8 September 2009

Sierra Leone: UN Names Local Lawyer to Top Post in Court Trying War Crimes in His Homeland

For the first time a Sierra Leonean is serving as acting prosecutor of the United Nations-backed Special Court trying those accused of violating international humanitarian law and national law in the civil war that tore the West African country apart between 1996 and 2001.

Appointed by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, senior Sierra Leonean lawyer Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara took up his post today pending the naming of a new prosecutor to replace Stephen Rapp, who resigned earlier this month to become UN Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes.

Mr. Kamara, who worked for eight years as prosecutor in Sierra Leone's Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, rising to the rank of senior state counsel, joined the Special Court's Office of the Prosecutor in 2004 and was named Deputy Prosecutor a year ago. Earlier this year he was elected President of the Sierra Leone Bar Association.

Set up jointly by the Government of Sierra Leone and the UN in 2002, the Court is mandated to try those who bear the greatest responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian law and national law committed in Sierra Leone since 30 November 1996.

In July, Mr. Rapp told the Security Council the Court had been ground-breaking in several respects, including the first-ever convictions on the charge of sexual slavery, both as a war crime and crime against humanity, as well as convictions on the use of child soldiers.

The Court, which normally sits in Freetown, Sierra Leone's capital, has completed three multiple-accused trials. A fourth trial, that of former Liberian president Charles Taylor on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity, is currently under way in The Hague.

BBC WORLD SERVICE TRUST

Tuesday, 8 September 2009

John Kollie

Former Liberian President, Charles Taylor and his Defence Team re-visited the horrific accounts of RUF Operation No Living Thing in which hundreds of Sierra Leoneans were murdered, amputated, or raped in 1998. Mr. Taylor said if the assassination attempt on his life at the Executive Mansion in 1996 had succeeded, Liberia would have been plunged into a catastrophic situation. The Former Liberian Leader told the court Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Press reached its peak during his presidency. John Kollie transcribes reports for the BBC World Service Trust from The Hague....

The Prosecution alleged in its indictment that Mr. Charles Taylor ordered and commanded the murder, amputation and rape of Sierra Leonean civilians. The Prosecution claimed the RUF Rebels supported by Mr. Taylor carried out the horrific atrocities in an operation code named **Operation No Living Thing**.

The United States in a statement released on May 12, 1998, condemned the atrocities and said it suspected a West African Governments of supporting the rebels.

Mr. Taylor denied any connection with the **RUF Operation No Living Thing**.

The Defence Team on Tuesday re-visited an assassination attempt on Mr. Taylor at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia in 1996, when he was member of the Transitional Government.

Mr. Taylor said he suspected that the Liberia Peace Council, the LPC Rebel Group headed by Dr. George Boley carried out the attack on him.

Mr. Taylor told the court if the assassination attempt had succeeded it would have had disastrous consequences on Liberia.

The defunct government of Charles Taylor and Press freedom in Liberia also took center point in Mr. Taylor's testimonies on Tuesday.

The Former Liberian President said Freedom of Speech and Press Freedom earned its true meaning during his presidency.

Mr. Taylor denied a United Nations 1999 report that ill-discipline was endemic or widespread in the Liberian Security Forces under his control.

Mr. Taylor further dismissed that the use of marijuana or alcoholic beverages was associated with the Liberian security forces in his government.

BBC WORLD SERVICE TRUST

CharlesTaylorTrial.org (The Hague)

Tuesday, 8 September 2009

Liberia: 'I Was Not Aware Of RUF's Operation No Living Thing,' Taylor Says

Alpha Sesay

Charles Taylor did not order or know about an infamous operation launched by rebel forces in Sierra Leone during its civil war aiming to ensure that anything that had life must be killed, he told Special Court for Sierra Leone judges today.

"I was not aware of 'Operation No Living Thing'," Mr. Taylor said at his trial in The Hague.

During the presentation of the prosecution's case, witnesses testified that Mr. Taylor worked in concert with Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) rebels to plan "Operation No Living Thing" against the Sierra Leonean population. After the operation, which saw the commission of grave atrocities by the RUF and AFRC rebel forces, the United States released a statement on May 12, 1998 expressing concerns about the atrocities that were committed by the rebels. The statement also said sources indicated that the rebels were supported by an unnamed West African government. In his testimony today, Mr. Taylor denied any involvement in such operation.

"I did not instruct anybody to launch such an operation. I had no control over anybody in Sierra Leone. There is no way that I would be in control or even acquiesce in any type of situation of this sort when throughout the revolution in Liberia we never had these kinds of atrocities, so this is impossible," Mr. Taylor said.

Mr. Taylor told the judges that he had "no advantage whatsoever" to gain from getting involved in such an operation in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Taylor also admitted in court today that he knew there were Liberians who were fighting in Sierra Leone but these Liberians were mercenaries paid for their services by the fighting forces in Sierra Leone. Mr. Taylor referenced several discussions that he had with former Sierra Leonean president Ahmed Tejan Kabbah about the presence of Liberians in Sierra Leone.

"Kabbah will tell me that there were Liberians fighting in Sierra Leone and I will say to him that I don't know how those Liberians got to Sierra Leone but we were trying to get them back to their country," he said.

He explained further that those Liberians who were fighting in Sierra Leone were not part of his National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) but were remnants of other Liberian factions who had found their way to Sierra Leone.

"I thought they were just ULIMO-K [United Liberian Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and Armed Forces of Liberia personnel who had ran away following my election and they were just there as mercenaries," the accused former Liberian president said.

Mr. Taylor is accused of sending Liberians to Sierra Leone to fight alongside the RUF rebels against the government and people of Sierra Leone. Mr. Taylor has denied the allegations.

Mr. Taylor said he made frantic efforts to get the Liberians to leave Sierra Leone by offering them guarantees of non-prosecution for acting as mercenaries in a foreign country. He said that after some efforts, "some of them returned, some were unidentifiable but those with the Special Task Force [a group of Liberian fighters who reports indicate escaped to Sierra Leone during the Liberian conflict and eventually fought alongside the Sierra Leone army] did not return. They remained in Sierra Leone and some even applied to join the Sierra Leone army."

Mr. Taylor also today refuted prosecution claims that whenever West African peacekeepers, based in Liberia, took off with their Alpha Jet aircraft to bomb RUF territories in Sierra Leone, he would send a radio message to the rebels to escape or put up a defense. Asked by his defense counsel whether he ever had any prior knowledge before the Alpha Jets took off from Liberia to launch operations in Sierra Leone, Mr. Taylor said "I couldn't. The only time we would know of Alpha Jets was when they were in the air because they were very noisy."

Several prosecutors, including former RUF radio operators, have testified that whenever the Alpha Jet was getting ready to leave Liberia to attack RUF positions in Sierra Leone, Mr. Taylor's radio operators would alert the RUF of such an attack. Mr. Taylor has denied being involved in any such communications with the RUF.

Mr. Taylor's testimony continues tomorrow.


United Nations **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 8 September 2009

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

International Clips on Liberia

Taylor Did Not Have Any Pact With RUF Leader Foday Sankoh for Mutual Assistance, He Says

Sep 08, 2009 (CharlesTaylorTrial.org/All Africa Global Media via COMTEX) -- Charles Taylor and Sierra Leone's rebel leader Foday Sankoh did not have any pact to render mutual assistance to each other for their respective wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia, the accused former Liberian president told Special Court for Sierra Leone judges today at his trial in The Hague. "I had no pact with RUF leader Foday Sankoh for mutual assistance. That could not have been necessary," Mr. Taylor said. Mr. Taylor asserted that if such mutual pact ever existed between himself and Revolutionary United Front (RUF) leader Foday Sankoh, the prosecution would have led evidence to show the assistance that Mr. Sankoh rendered to Mr. Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL). "There has been no evidence in this court about Sankoh being involved in the conflict in Liberia or commanding an NPFL post. There was no such thing because I did not know him at this time," he said.

Uganda to deploy peacekeeping police officers in Liberia, Somalia

KAMPALA, Sep 08, 2009 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Uganda is to deploy 170 police officers for peacekeeping missions in Liberia and Somalia, a police spokesperson said here on Tuesday. A contingent of twenty policemen will leave on Wednesday for a peacekeeping mission in Liberia, said Judith Nabakooba, Uganda's police spokesperson. "The officers are going to replace those who have returned after their contract expired. They are going to serve for a period of one year," Nabakooba told Xinhua in a telephone interview. The officers are deployed under the United Nations Mission in Liberia, UNMIL, which was established in September 2003 to monitor a ceasefire agreement and the peace process in **Liberia**. Nabakooba said another contingent of 150 officers is to be deployed in the troubled Somali capital, Mogadishu for the same mission.

Liberia: UNDP enhances prosecution capacity Donates Materials valued at 72,926.00 USD to the Ministry of Justice

Source: United Nations Country Team in Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia: The United Nations Development Programmes has donated a consignment of legal texts to the Ministry of Justice to be used by County Attorneys and prosecutors at the Ministry of Justice. The donation is part of UNDP's support to strengthening the justice system in the Country and is intended to keep County Attorneys conversant with the Law when adjudicating cases brought before them. The consignment includes 15 sets of the Liberian Law report (LLR), Volume 1-27 and the Liberian Codes Revised, Volumes 1-IV. Presenting the materials to the Ministry, UNDP's Assistant Resident Representative for programme Nessie Golakai said the items secured under the United Nations Peace Building Fund which is managed by UNDP were meant to strengthen the capacity of County Attorneys and other prosecutors so as to ensure access to Justice for all. She said Law is a progressive discipline and that it was expedient that prosecutors are provided with legal materials for the appropriate references in prosecuting cases.

Human rights must be paramount in policing, UN envoy says in Liberia

Source: [United Nations News Service](#)

Date: 07 Sep 2009

Respect for human rights must be central to police work, a senior United Nations official in **Liberia** has told the new members of an elite unit within the West African country's police force as she warned them never to misuse their strength and power. Eighty officers from the **Liberia** National Police (LNP) have completed a three-month intensive training programme to join the force's Emergency Response Unit (ERU), joining just over 200 others who have finished their training since courses began in mid-2008. They are tasked with responding to crisis and high-risk situations. Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, the Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for the Rule of Law in **Liberia**, told a graduation ceremony in Monrovia, the capital, for the 80 officers that they have "inherited the hopes and dreams of all **Liberians** who seek to live" in safety and security.

International Clips on West Africa **Sierra Leone**

In Sierra Leone, Explosion at Kissy Brook ...1 Dead, 2 Severely Injured

http://www.news.sl/drwebsite/publish/article_200512909.shtml

An explosion in the east end of Freetown has killed at least one person, leaving two others severely injured, police sources have confirmed. The incident which happened in the early hours of Friday 4th September 2009 at the Kissy Brook environs killed 13 years old Mohamed Alie Kargbo, who was residing at No. 28 Kissy Brook. Doctors at the Emergency Hospital, as at time of going to press on Saturday, were still fighting to save the lives of one Issa Kargbo of 12 Kissy Book and a teenage girl called Edna, who were initially rushed to the Connaught Hospital and later transferred to the Emergency Hospital at Goderich. Although the exact object that exploded was yet to be ascertained, the Local Unit Commander (LUC) of Ross Road Police Division, Chief Superintendent Fayia Sellu said military personnel have linked the exploded substance to one of those that were dropped by the ECOMOG fighter jets (Alpha Jets) during the war period.

Guinea

President Dos Santos gets message from Guinea-Conakry's military junta

[/www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/politica/2009/8/37/President-Dos-Santos-gets-message-from-Guinea-Conakry-military-junta,196ba341-876a-4e36-8c76-29e095cc705f.html](http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/politica/2009/8/37/President-Dos-Santos-gets-message-from-Guinea-Conakry-military-junta,196ba341-876a-4e36-8c76-29e095cc705f.html)

Luanda - The President of Angola, José Eduardo dos Santos, this Monday here received a message from the leader of the military junta of the Republic of Guinea, captain Moussa Dadis Camara, with its content not having been disclosed. The bearer of the message was the vice president of the military junta, Sekouba Konate, whose visit to Angola happens under the diplomatic plan of the new regime in Guinea Conakry, following the swearing in of the junta on December 23, 2008. After being received in audience by the Angolan statesman, Sebuka Konate said that President Dos Santos expressed his views regarding the situation prevailing in this West African country, which he considered as calm, having added that the relations between his country and Angola date back to various years.

Local Media – Newspaper

Education Minister and Deputies Suspended

(Daily Observer, The Inquirer, New Democrat, The Analyst, The News, Heritage, The Informer)

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has suspended for one week without pay, Education Minister Dr. Joseph Korto and two of his Deputies, Hester Williams Catakaw and James Emmanuel Roberts.
- President Sirleaf suspended the officials after she noticed the filthy state of classes at the renowned public during an unannounced visit.
- She expressed disappointment in teachers and Education Minister Korto for subjecting the students to learn in unhealthy environment and described his failure to monitor activities at public schools as irresponsible.
- President Sirleaf has meanwhile suspended classes at the E. Jonathan Goodridge School until conditions are improved.

Former Officials Found Guilty in Bribery Investigation

(Daily Observer, The News, National Chronicle, New Democrat, Heritage, The Inquirer, The Informer, New Democrat, The Independent, The Parrot)

- The Justice Ministry team investigating allegation of attempted bribery involving dismissed Liberia Petroleum Refinery Corporation (LPRC) Managing Director, Harry Greaves and former Deputy Minister of State for legal and Economic Affairs Aloysius Jappah has submitted its report to the President.
- Presidential Press Secretary Cyrus Badio said the report finds Greaves and Jappah guilty of violating the law regarding bribery but did not explain how the two men violated the statute.
- At the same time, Mr. Badio said the Justice Ministry report exonerated the Minister of State for Legal and Economic Affairs, Mr. Morris Saytumah, Matthew Clarke and Anthony Autridge of any connection to the bribery scam.
- Meanwhile, the Board of Directors of the Liberia Petroleum Refinery Corporation (LPRC) has requested a review of the Henry Reed Cooper Independent Technical Committee report that triggered the dismissal of Mr. Greaves
- The Board's request for a two-week review of the report before it determines any action followed overwhelming calls for the prosecution of the former LPRC Boss.

UNDP Enhances Prosecution Capacity

(The Informer)

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has donated a consignment of legal texts and assortment of office equipment and stationeries to the Ministry of Justice.
- The donation according to UNDP's Assistant Resident Representative, Nessie Golakai is part of her organization's support to strengthening the country's justice system and to keep County Attorneys familiar with the law when adjudicating cases.
- The consignment includes 15 sets of the Liberian Law report (LLR) Volume 1-27 and the Liberian Codes Revised, Volumes 1-IV.
- Deputy Justice Minister for Administration, Eva Mappy Morgan received the donation and praised the UNDP for the contribution. She said it would help improve and strengthen prosecution in the country.

South African National "Murdered" in Monrovia, 2 Chinese Linked

(The Inquirer, Daily Observer)

- Police are Monrovia investigating two Chinese nationals in connection with the death of a 41-year-old South African who was residing in Monrovia.
- The deceased known as Wesley C. Daamis was reportedly murdered on Sunday night at his residence in the city centre.
- An employee of Daamis said he discovered the body of his boss wrapped in bed-lining when he reported to work Monday morning.
- Police sources said the Chinese men who were allegedly last seen with the victim have been arrested with the slain South Africa's laptop and camera.

Taylor Lead Defense Lawyer Returns to Court

(National Chronicle, The Parrot)

- The Lead Defense Lawyer of former Liberian President Charles Taylor has reportedly returned to court in The Hague.
- Mr. Courtenay Griffiths returned to court Monday to avoid being replaced by another lawyer as was ordered by judges of the UN-backed Special Court.
- Constantly sneezing and coughing in court, Mr. Griffiths led Mr. Taylor's testimonies through the RUF written ideology which presents the group as a decent organization contrary to the prosecution accusation of Mr. Taylor and the RUF of committing Acts of Terrorism in Sierra Leone.

Alleged Terrorists Produced in Court Amidst Warning of Threat to National Security

(The News, New Democrat)

- The Liberian Government in response to several habeas corpus motions filed by defense lawyers, has finally produced in court the living bodies of six Pakistanis and their Liberian associates accused of involvement in terroristic acts.
- They were arraigned before the Monrovia Magisterial Court which is hearing charges brought against them including human trafficking, criminal facilitation, criminal conspiracy and harbouring illegal entry. No charge of terrorism was read out.
- The House Committee on National Security has warned against any move to release the six suspected Pakistani terrorists who were arrested in Liberia and said that they must remain in jail and not be bailed.
- The Committee chair, Margibi County Representative Saar Gbollie said the case of the suspected Pakistani terrorists must be handled with care because it has national security implication even though he believes in the wisdom of the Court.

Liberia's Ex-Rebels in Nigeria

(New Democrat)

- The Commander of Nigeria's biggest rebel group now disarming following an amnesty, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), has reportedly said that amongst his fighters and trainers disarming are ex-Liberian fighters.
- Mr. Kile Selky Torughedi who surrendered 100 assorted guns and over 100,000 bullets said he has soldiers from Liberia and Gabon who are involved both in training and actual action.

Over Delay in Domestic Debt Payment...Major Sit-in Action Imminent

(The Inquirer, Heritage)

- Over 10,000 Lessors and Vendors are poised to this week carry out a major sit-in-action before the Ministry of Finance to press for what they called the speedy payment of debt owed them by Government.
- The Co-Chairman of the Committee on Domestic Arrears, Edward Bryant said the domestic debt covered the period 1982-2005 and are for services which were pre-financed by the lessors and vendors.

Local Media – Star Radio (*culled from website today at 09:00 am*)

Star Radio (*News monitored today at 09:00 am*)

Education Minister and Deputies Suspended

(*Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC*)

Taylor Lead Defense Lawyer Returns to Court Sneezing and Coughing

(*Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC*)

Greaves, Jappah Guilty in Bribery Investigation

(*Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC*)

Alleged Terrorists Produced in Court Amidst warning of Threat to National Security *(Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC)*

In Brutal Murder, Two Chinese Arrested

(Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky F.M., Truth F.M. and ELBC)

House Debates Motion on Threshold Bill

- The House of Representatives is currently deciding the fate of a motion for reconsideration on its concurrence vote on the controversial population threshold bill filed by Maryland County representative David Saydee.
- Representative Saydee announced the motion Thursday after the House dramatically concurred with the Senate to pass the bill.
- The House had concurred with the Senate to set the threshold at 40,000 per electoral constituency provided no county shall have less than two seats.
- However, Representative Saydee and other lawmakers protested the decision of the House and sought the temporary stalling of the final passage of the threshold bill.

District Commissioner Suspended for Corruption in Rivercess

- Rivercess Superintendent Wellington Geevon-Smith has suspended Beawor District Commissioner Augustus Richard for allegation of corruption pending investigation.
- Citizens of Beawor in a complaint to the Superintendent Geevon-Smith alleged that Mr. Richard inserted ghost names on the education payroll.
- The Superintendent has set up a three-member committee chair by the County Attorney to look into the allegation and report in two weeks.

* * * *

Radio Netherlands Worldwide
 Wednesday, 9 September 2009

Cambodia prosecutor wants to investigate 5 more war crimes suspects

By International Justice Desk



*Phnom Penh,
 Cambodia*

The Cambodian war crimes tribunal announced Tuesday that international co-prosecutor William Smith recommends investigating five more potential war criminals in what would be the court's final investigations.

The announcement came a day after Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed hope that the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) would cease to prosecute those suspected of war crimes during the Khmer Rouge regime due to security concerns.

According to court rules, the names of the five suspects were not released.

Smith was recently appointed acting international prosecutor to replace Robert Petit when his resignation took effect on 1 September.

The ECCC is in the midst of its first trial of a former Khmer Rouge leader - Kaing Guek Eav, also known as "Duch."

A verdict in that case is expected in early 2010. Duch is the first of five ex-Khmer Rouge officials expected to be tried before the ECCC.

Radio Netherlands Worldwide

Tuesday, 8 September 2009

Karadzic trial could begin on 19 October

By International Justice Desk



*The Hague,
Netherlands*

Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic could go on trial as early as 19 October for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, the pre-trial judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) overseeing his case said on Tuesday.

Karadzic, the most prominent figure being prosecuted for crimes during the 1992-95 Bosnian war, asked last week for the trial to be delayed by at least 10 months. Captured just over a year ago after 11 years on the run, he is representing himself.

Judge O-Gon Kwon proposed a start date of 19 October, assuming that all pending filings are resolved by then, and scheduled another pre-trial conference for 6 October.

Kwon did not grant Karadzic's request to delay the start of the trial, but instructed prosecutors to make more cuts to the scope of their case against Karadzic.

Karadzic faces 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including two of genocide. Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, who is still at large, face genocide charges over the 1995 Srebrenica massacre of 8,000 Muslim men and boys and the 43-month siege of Sarajevo.