

THE TRIAL CHAMBER ("Trial Chamber") of the Special Court for Sierra Leone ("Special Court") composed of Judge Bankole Thompson, Presiding Judge, Judge Benjamin Mutanga Itoe and Judge Pierre Boutet;

RECALLING the Trial Chamber's decision of 27 January 2004, in which it ordered that the accused Alex Tamba Brima, Brima Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu (singularly or collectively, "Accused") be tried jointly;

NOTING Rule 73 bis of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Special Court ("Rules"), which provides for the filing of a pre-trial brief by the Office of the Prosecutor ("Prosecution") addressing the factual and legal issues in the case at a time after the Pre-Trial Conference has been held, and further provides for the filing of a pre-trial brief by the Defence addressing the factual and legal issues not later than seven days prior to the date set for trial;

NOTING the "Practice Direction on Filing Documents before the Special Court for Sierra Leone," issued by the Registrar on 27 February 2003, and specifically Article 9 thereof,

CONSIDERING THAT the right of the Accused to a fair and expeditious trial will be advanced by the filing of the pre-trial briefs at an earlier stage in the pre-trial process than after the Pre-Trial Conference;

MINDFUL OF the need to comply with Rule 54 and Rule 73 bis of the Rules;

HEREBY ORDERS that the Prosecution pre-trial brief in this case shall be filed on or before 5 March 2004;

And FURTHER ORDERS that the each Defence team shall file its pre-trial brief by 26 March 2004.

Done at Freetown this 13th day of February 2004

[Handwritten signature of Judge Bankole Thompson]

Judge Bankole Thompson

Presiding Judge,
Trial Chamber

[Handwritten signature of Judge Benjamin Mutanga Itoe]

Judge Benjamin Mutanga Itoe

[Handwritten signature of Judge Pierre Boutet]

Judge Pierre Boutet



[Seal of the Special Court for Sierra Leone]