Special Court for Sierra Leone

Press and Public Affairs Office



PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 14/11/2003

<u>Special Court Releases New Booklet To</u> <u>Students</u>

Students representing 50 Freetown primary and secondary schools received copies of the Special Court's new booklet Friday, which is designed to help Sierra Leonean students to better understand the workings of the Special Court.

The Booklet "*Wetin Na Di Speshal Kot: The Special Court Made Simple*" was written by the Special Court's Outreach department. It provides easy-to-understand information

about the Court's work, its mandate, and what it will achieve.

In his address to more than 300 students and members of the public at the YWCA New Hall, the Director General of Education William Taylor commended the launch of the book.

"It will help us sustain the peace that we have all worked so hard to get," Mr. Taylor said.

"Indeed the war is over, but we will continue to remember the atrocities and the damage it did to our country," he added.

Special Court Registrar Robin Vincent and the Chief Prosecutor David Crane also spoke and answered questions at the meeting.

Mr. Vincent said one of the Court's primary responsibilities to the people of Sierra Leone was to keep them informed about the Court.

"It's incredibly important for the school children of Sierra Leone to understand what the Special Court is about and the booklet will be a valuable tool in ensuring that happens."

#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. To date, the Prosecutor has indicted thirteen persons on various charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Nine indictees are currently in the custody of the Court.

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