



**Special Court for Sierra Leone**  
Press and Public Affairs Office

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 23 February 2007**

### **Special Court President Orders Inquiry into Death of Hinga Norman**

The President of the Special Court, Justice George Gelaga-King, today ordered an inquiry into the death of indictee Sam Hinga Norman.

The order was issued pursuant to Rule 22 of the Rules of Detention, which allows the President to order an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of any detainee.

The inquiry will be headed by Appeals Court Justice Renate Winter of Austria.

Mr. Norman died on Thursday at the Hospital Aristide Le Dantec, a military hospital in Dakar Senegal. His death came two weeks after he received medical treatment which, although considered routine, is unavailable in Sierra Leone. The procedure was performed successfully, and Mr. Norman had been receiving post-operative care.

#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 eleven persons on various charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Ten indictees are currently in the custody of the Court.

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