



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

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 9 June 2011**

### **Justice Jon Kamanda Re-elected President of the Special Court**

Justice Jon M. Kamanda of Sierra Leone has been elected unanimously to a third term as Presiding Judge of the Appeals Chamber and President of the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He is expected to hold that office until the end of the Court's mandate in 2012.



Justice Kamanda's re-election took place during the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary of Judges in The Hague late last month.

Justice Emmanuel Ayoola of Nigeria was also re-elected as Special Court Vice President and Staff Appeals Judge.

Justice Kamanda has served as an Appeals Court Justice in the Sierra Leone Judiciary since 2004, and has been Presiding Judge in criminal appeals. He has also served as a High Court Judge in the Civil Division.

In 1982, he was elected to Parliament, and has served as Minister of Health and Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources.

He was sworn in as a Special Court Appeals Judge in November 2007.

Justice Ayoola was Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, President of the Seychelles Court of Appeal, and former Chief Justice of the Gambia. He has been a Vice President of the World Judge's Association, and won the UN Human Rights Fellowship award, in 1996. He is a graduate of London and Oxford Universities and has edited the Seychelles Law Digest, the Law Reports of the Gambia, and the Nigerian Monthly Law Reports.

#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.

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