



Special Court for Sierra Leone

Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

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Special Court Pays Tribute to Former Registrar Robin Vincent

Registrar Binta Mansaray has expressed the Court's condolences to the family of former Registrar Robin Vincent, who passed away over the weekend in Manchester, U.K.



Robin – as he was known to the staff – took part in the negotiations to set up the Special Court and served as its first Registrar, from 2002 until September 2005. He later served as the first Registrar of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

Ms. Mansaray commended him as an excellent colleague and a genuine friend.

Robin Vincent will be remembered for his dedication to the Special Court and the people of Sierra Leone. He will also be remembered for his extraordinary vision and his contributions to international justice. The post of Principal Defender – unique to the Special Court – was created because of his concerns that the Defence often lacked a voice in international tribunals. Robin also strongly supported the formation of the Court's Outreach programme in the belief that the Court, the first international situated in the

country where the crimes took place, could and should contribute to post-war reconciliation, the fight against impunity, and the restoration of the rule of law.

He will be remembered for his open door policy: all staff members, from Chiefs of Section to cleaners were welcome to come to his office and to express their concerns.

Despite his departure in 2005, Robin Vincent remained a friend of the Special Court, and of his former colleagues.

Ms. Mansaray pointed out that, although there have been three Registrars in the years Robin Vincent departed the Special Court, they have largely followed the path that he set out.

"The Special Court is his legacy," she said.

#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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