



Special Court for Sierra Leone
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

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Justice Richard Lussick Elected Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II

Justice Richard Brunt Lussick of Samoa has been elected Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II. He succeeds Justice Teresa Doherty, whose one-year term ended on 17 January 2012.

Pursuant to Rule 27 of the Special Court's Rules of Procedure and Evidence, the Presiding Judge of the Trial Chamber is elected for a renewable term of one year. It has, however, been the practice of the Trial Chambers to rotate the position of Presiding Judge at the end of each one-year term.

Justice Lussick was appointed a Judge at the Special Court in 2004. Prior to joining the Court, he held a wide variety of positions within the Samoan judiciary, including Acting Chief Justice, Judge of the Court of Appeal, Acting President of the Land & Titles Court, Supreme Court Judge, Chairman of the Public Service Appeals Board, District Court Judge, and Coroner. From 1995-2000 he served as Chief Justice of the Republic of Kiribati. He is a past Vice President of the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association.

Justice Lussick previously served as Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II from 2006-2007 and from 2009-2010.

Trial Chamber II is currently considering their judgement in the trial of former Liberian President Charles Taylor.

#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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