

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



Young men planning their day

PRESS CLIPPINGS

Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Press and Public Affairs Office

as at:

Friday, 21 September 2007

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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For CDF indictees...

Margai Pleads 3 Yrs Jail term

By Musa Seay Two Civil Defence Forces indictees Moinina Fofanah and Alieu Kondewa may be given a lesser jail term compared to the AFRC convicts who may serve some 50 years sentences. At past Wednesday's wrap-up submission from

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Alieu Musa Kondewa



Margai Pleads 3 Yrs Jail term

From front page

both the defense and prosecution, legal luminary representing Alie Kondewa Mr. Charles Margai submitted to the Trial Chamber that his client by all indications deserve a lighter sentence.

"The matter before the Trail Chamber worth a policy consideration in determining sentence," he said.

He said the court should take cognizance of the fact that the rebel war was distinct of a conventional war where rules of engagement are observed. He said what ever verdict reached by the Trial Chamber will not only rest in Sierra Leone but will serve as a precedent which would be used in similar circumstances in future.

He stated that had it not been for the 'Kamajors' God alone knows whether even the prosecution team will ever be there to argue the case.

"Assuming it had hap-

pened somewhere else, the accused might have either sought consultation or totally refrain," Mr. Margai submitted.

He said his client, contrary to what Mr. Joseph Kamara of the Prosecution said, indeed expressed remorse which is a mitigating factor. This he recalled was mentioned by Evidence TF2 -116 in Bonthe.

Advancing further, a concise and comprehensive matter relating to the one before the Trial Chamber, lawyer Margai recalled the case of 'Nasra Oris of Paragraph 766 (viii) of the International Court of Justice (ICRC) verdict in which the accused was sentenced to seven years for committing murder under similar circumstances and therefore called for the same jail term for his client, which he has already served in jail.

Also is the same vein, lawyer for Moinina

Fofanah Steven Powels submitted that his client contributed towards peace building and has no criminal record. His behaviour while in custody was excellent as he was calm, tactful and always helpful. He said his client has a fair mind by accepting responsibility for crimes committed by the kamajors.

However, Prosecutor Joseph Kamara pleaded for a 30 year jail term for each of the accused. He said whether the accused were illiterates and fought for the restoration of democracy are no mitigating factors. He said the Kamajors targeted innocent civilians, inflicted injuries and killed where necessary.

He referred to the killings in Koribondo, Bonthe and Lower Bambara Chiefdom. He said both indictees planned, instigated and ordered their subordinates to commit the crimes.

The New Citizen
Friday, 21 September 2007

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**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
MESSAGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
New York, 21 September 2007**

Dear friends,

Peace is one of humanity's most precious needs. It is also the UN's highest calling.

It defines our mission. It drives our discourse. And it draws together all of our world wide work, from peacekeeping and preventive diplomacy to promoting human rights and development

This work for peace is vital. But it is not easy. Indeed, in countless communities across the world, peace remains an elusive goal. From the displaced person camps of Chad and Darfiir to the byways of Baghdad, the quest for peace is strewn with setbacks and suffering.

September 21, the International Day of Peace, is an occasion to take stock of our efforts to promote peace and well-being for all people everywhere.

It is an opportunity to appreciate what we have already accomplished, and to dedicate ourselves to all that remains to be done.

It is also meant to be a day of global cease-fire: a twenty-four hour respite from the fear and insecurity that plague so many places.

Today, I urge all countries and all combatants to honour this cessation of hostilities. And I ask people everywhere to observe a minute of silence at 12 noon local time.

As the guns fall silent, we should use this opportunity to ponder the price we all pay due to conflict. And we should resolve to vigorously pursue ways to make permanent this day's pause.

On this International Day, let us promise to make peace not just a priority, but a passion. Let us pledge to do more, wherever we are in whatever way we can, to make every day a day of peace.

Thank you.

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**UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED
OFFICE INSIERRA LEONE
(UNIOSIL)**

PRESS RELEASE

**THE EXECUTIVE
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL
APPEALS FOR TOLERANCE AND
NATIONAL COHESION**

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 19 September 2007 — The Executive Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (ERSG) in Sierra Leone is following events in the aftermath of the elections closely. He appreciates the restraint the People of Sierra Leone has demonstrated since the announcement of the results, and calls on everyone to remain within the rule of law, and to respect public order and private property.

Constructive dialogue at this time in the history of Sierra Leone is crucial. The ERSG reaffirms that the United Nations remains actively engaged in support of the national efforts for peace consolidation, democracy and development.

The Trial of Charles Taylor Website

Thursday, 20 September 2007

<http://charlestaylortrial.org/>

Charles Taylor's Status Conference

At a status conference today, the Parties appeared before the Trial Chamber to report on various issues concerning preparation for the trial, set to begin on January 7, 2008. Mr. Taylor was present in the court room, wearing a suit and gold-rimmed sun glasses. The status conference was relatively brief, finishing in approximately 30 minutes.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Composition of the Defence team and legal status of additional Co-Counsel
2. Transfer of disclosed materials to the new Defence team
3. Status on pending Motions
4. Agreed facts
5. Witness List
6. Any issues in relation to the administration of the case plus additional issues.

Presiding Judge Sebutinde referred to a letter dated September 17 from the Principal Defender concerning the composition of the Defence team. Mr. Griffiths, lead Defence Counsel, confirmed that it lists the core legal Defence team. A potential conflict of interest issue arose concerning the marriage of the Defence case manager to a staff member of the Special Court, but the Prosecution had written a letter stating that they did not see any objection to this. Brenda Hollis for the Prosecution confirmed that at this time there is no objection and she did not anticipate that there will be any conflict in the future.

A further issue briefly discussed was the protection of certain materials in respect of which the Prosecution sought assurances from the Defence. Mr. Griffiths gave these assurances in court.

The Parties also addressed the issue of whether the current Defence team had received all the materials disclosed by the Prosecution to the previous Defence team. Mr. Griffiths indicated that he had difficulty with the filing system of the previous team, but that he was now confident that he had all the relevant documents in his possession.

Next, the Presiding Judge stated that all pleadings had been timely received on outstanding motions, except for one motion where the deadline is September 24. These motions were not discussed further, and the Trial Chamber indicated that it will issue its rulings on these motions in due course.

With respect to the issue of agreed upon facts, Defence Counsel stated that the Defence had wholeheartedly accepted the previously agreed upon facts between the Prosecution and Defence [posted [here](#)]. However, the Defence proposed two minor corrections to these facts, one relating to the meaning of ECOWAS and the other concerning the two states bordering Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. Defence Counsel proposed to defer the discussion of possible other agreed upon facts to the next status conference and requested postponement of that conference to mid-November. In response, the Trial Chamber scheduled the next status conference for November 13, 2007.

The witness list issue was not discussed as the Parties agreed this was premature.

Finally, there was one additional issue raised by the Defence, concerning the detention conditions of Mr. Taylor. Mr. Griffiths said he did not want to trouble the Trial Chamber with this at present. He stated that he would take this issue up with the Registry and merely wanted to alert the Trial Chamber.

We will post again from the Hague at the November 13 status conference.

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 18 September 2007

[The media summaries and press clips do not necessarily represent the views of UNMIL.]

International Clips on Liberia

09/20/2007 09:04:19

FEATURE-Liberians who fled war live in limbo in New York

By Edith Honan

NEW YORK, Sept 20 (Reuters) - Recovering in a New York nursing home from surgery to remove a brain tumor, former Liberian interim President David Kpormakpor is relieved to learn that he will not be deported. At least not this year. Kpormakpor is one of more than 3,300 Liberians who have come to the United States since 1991 under a program to help people from war-torn countries. For months, they anxiously awaited Oct. 1, when an order granting them safe haven was to expire.

International Clips on West Africa

AP 09/20/2007 06:36:41

Sierra Leone tribunal briefly hears status report on Charles Taylor trial preparations

THE HAGUE, Netherlands - The Sierra Leone war crimes tribunal reviewed preparations Thursday for the trial of former Liberian President Charles Taylor, due to begin in January. In an unusually quick half-hour hearing, the court decided to cancel another pre-trial hearing scheduled for October, and would convene again Nov. 13. The defense said it had received all required documents and evidence from the prosecution, and prosecutors said they had no concerns about a potential conflict of interest over a husband and wife team working for the defense.

AFP 09/19/2007 12:52:39

Prosecutors urge 30-year jail terms for Sierra Leone war crimes

FREETOWN, Sept 19, 2007 (AFP) - Prosecutors on Wednesday urged a UN-backed tribunal to hand 30-year sentences to two leaders of a pro-government militia for atrocities committed during Sierra Leone's decade-long civil war. "I am asking for a sentence of 30 years for each. This will reflect the gravity of the crimes committed," prosecutor Joseph Kamara told the court. Allieu Kondewa and Moinina Fofana led the Civil Defense Forces (CDF), a paramilitary force which recruited traditional Kamajor hunters to fight rebel forces during the 1991-2001 conflict.

Local Media – Newspaper

UN Observes International Peace Day Tomorrow

(The Analyst, Liberian Express)

- Liberia will tomorrow, Friday, September 21 join the rest of the world to observe the International Day of Peace.
- According to the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the mission in conjunction with the Government of Liberia has planned series of programmes to celebrate the day which is considered as a global cease-fire day.
- In a message to commemorate the day, UN Secretary General Ban ki Moon said peace is one of humanity's most precious needs and also the organization's highest calling.

UNIFEM Takes Gender Training to Tubmanburg

(The News)

- The new Programme Manager of UNIFEM-Liberia, Signe Alliamadi says her organization would hold gender training for local government officials and residents of Tubmanburg in Bomi County.
- Speaking at UNMIL regular press briefing on Wednesday, Ms. Alliamadi said the training would focus on gender analysis and mainstreaming issues affecting women.
- She said the training is intended to build the capacity of local officials and rural dwellers to effectively address issues affecting women. The UNIFEM Programme Manager said the training is also intended at making local officials incorporate gender issues as part of the county's programs.

14 Deactivated Security Personnel Charged For Rioting

(New Democrat and Daily Observer)

- Police in Monrovia on Wednesday formally charged fourteen deactivated state security officers with aggravated assault for their alleged role in a riot on Monday.
- The New Democrat reports that the ex-officers, amongst them women, erected road blocks on Monday night on several parts of the streets following hours of what was initially perceived as a peaceful demonstration in Monrovia in demand of their "benefits".
- According to a police charge sheet the action by the aggrieved ex-officers caused property damage, injured peaceful citizens and obstructed the free flow of traffic. Meanwhile, reports say the protestors allegedly threatened to burn down the national headquarters of the ruling Unity Party, where a combined force of UNMIL Jordanian Police and Liberia National Police personnel are still posted.

Auditor General Reappears before Senate Today

(The Inquirer, National Chronicle, New Democrat)

- Auditor General John Morlu is due to reappear before the Liberian Senate today. On Tuesday, Mr. Morlu was held in contempt for failing to honor the request by the Senate's Plenary to reinstate dismissed employees of the General Auditing Commission (GAC).
- He was also fined nearly L\$5,000 for speaking to the press after a hearing with that august body. The Senate mandated him to pay the amount into government coffers within 24 hours and present an official receipt to the secretariat of the upper House.
- The Inquirer quoting credible reports says there are indications that the Auditor General may likely resign his post today for what he termed as "impediments" created to limit his ability to do his job. The media reports that Mr. Morlu is also contemplating dragging the Senate to the Supreme Court and has resolved not to pay the fine until a determination is made by the court.

LMC/RNTC Launches Community Radio Project, Target Six Rural Stations

(The Inquirer, The News, The Analyst, The Informer, Heritage)

- The Liberia Media Centre will on today, Thursday launch a broadcast training facility and a community radio support project in partnership with Radio Netherlands Training Centre (RNTC).
- The community radio project known as the Initiative for Mobile Training of Community Radio (INFORMOTRAC) is a four year support programme geared towards building the capacities of community radio stations across the country starting this month.
- An LMC release issued in Monrovia said the INFORMOTRAC project is being implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism with funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- In its initial phase, the project will provide six stations in Nimba, Margi, Lofa with broadcast and studio equipment and routine training and technical support.

- The six stations are Radio Nimba, Radio Kergheamahn, Radio Voice of Tappita, Radio Kakata, Radio Peace and Radio Life.

Local Media – Radio Veritas *(News monitored today at 9:45 am)*

Lobbyists Persuade Senate to Confirm Presidential Nominees

- Sources confided to Radio Veritas that amidst the Senate's rejection of the nomination of Commerce Minister Frances Johnson Morris and Foreign Minister Olubankie King Akerele, frantic lobbying was on-going on the part of the Government for the Senate to reverse its decision not to confirm the two officials. However, sources said that Sinoe County Senator Joseph Nagbe would file a motion for reconsideration.

UN Agency for Women Launches Awareness

- Addressing a news conference yesterday, UNIFEM Programme Manager Sengbe Alamande said that the UN agency will launch a nationwide sensitization on gender-based violence in Liberia, focusing on planning, monitoring and evaluation of basic abuses against boys and girls.
- For his part, the new Chief of UNMIL Public Information George Somerwill said that he was happy for the level of improvement made since he left Liberia more than 10 years ago and encouraged Liberians to redouble their efforts in the rebuilding processes of the Country.

(Also reported on Truth FM, Star and ELBC Radio)

Justice Minister Vows to Transform National Police

- During a familiarization visit to the Liberia National Police Headquarters yesterday, Justice Minister Philip Banks said that the Police would be transformed and restructured to ensure that Liberians are served and protected by the most discipline and respectable police force.
- Minister Banks indicated that the Government was considering the strengthening of Police operations in the 15 Counties by building additional sub-stations and providing logistics. He called on Liberians to see the Police as an integral part of the criminal justice system of Liberia and as such should be respected and accorded all necessary courtesies in the discharge of their duties.

(Also reported on Truth FM, Star and ELBC Radio)

Discourse to Honour Ailing Renowned Catholic Bishop Launched

- According to the Liberia Council of Churches Good Governance Commission Head, the Reverend Thomas Jallah the Council formally launched an intellectual discourse on peace and justice in honour of ailing Catholic Archbishop Michael Francis.
- The Council stated that the discourse is to keep alive the social-justice advocacy role played by the Archbishop and would work with other partners who believe in the principles and doctrines of social justices to promote the discourse.

(Also reported on Truth FM, Star and ELBC Radio)

Liberia Observes International Day of Peace Friday

- In a press release, UNMIL said that Liberia will join the rest of the world in observance of International Day of Peace on Friday, 21 September 2007, and would be climaxed by several sporting activities.
- UNMIL called on Liberians to consider the celebration as an occasion for Liberians to take stock of efforts to promote peace with the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon urging UN peacekeepers to promote human rights and development in all parts of the world.

(Also reported on Truth FM, Star and ELBC Radio)

Complete versions of the UNMIL International Press Clips, UNMIL Daily Liberian Radio Summary and UNMIL Liberian Newspapers Summary are posted each day on the UNMIL Bulletin Board. If you are unable to access the UNMIL Bulletin Board or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Weah Karpeh at karpeh@un.org.

Press Release, 20 September 2007
UNMIL/PIO/PR/112

Security Council extends mandate of UN Mission in Liberia for one year

Monrovia, Liberia – Commending the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) for its continuing and significant contribution to maintaining peace and stability in Liberia, the Security Council in its resolution 1777 (2007) has extended the Mission’s mandate for one year, until 30 September 2008.

The resolution welcomes the Liberian Government’s continued efforts to improve governance and combat corruption, and the important steps taken to regain and consolidate Government control over the country’s natural resources. However, the resolution notes that Liberia faces significant challenges in its post-conflict transition, including in the consolidation of State authority, massive development and reconstruction needs, the reform of the judiciary, extension of the rule of law throughout the country, as well as in the further development of the security sector. Noting that progress has been made in rebuilding, equipping and deploying the Liberian National Police (LNP), and starting the restructuring of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), the Security Council encourages the Government of Liberia, in cooperation with the international community, to expedite its efforts in those areas.

The Council also noted that substantial progress has been made in reintegrating ex-combatants, but formal sector employment remains a serious need. The Council welcomes UNMIL’s continuing efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and calls on Liberian authorities to cooperate with the United Nations and civil society to achieve further progress in combating gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse.

The Council endorsed the Secretary-General’s proposal to reduce military forces by just over 2,400 by September 2008 and its police component by about 500 between April 2008 and December 2010. The Council will further review the drawdown planning in August 2008.

Presenting Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s progress report to the Security Council earlier this month, his Special Representative for Liberia, Alan Doss, said, because the security and stability of Liberia remained matters of paramount importance, the Secretary-General was recommending that the drawdown of the Mission’s military component be undertaken in “a gradual manner to avoid creating instability”.

The Council requested the Secretary-General to monitor progress on the achievement of a number of core benchmarks, which include the stand-up of the new AFL, the nationwide deployment of the LNP and the establishment a 500-strong police quick reaction force, which should be in place by July 2009.

UNMIL was established in 2003 to support the ceasefire and peace process in Liberia following a fourteen-year civil war. Currently, the Mission has a total strength of over 14,000 military troops and 1,000 police personnel.

Reuters

Friday, 21 September 2007

UN extends Liberia peace force, with cuts

By Patrick Worsnip

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - The Security Council extended the mandate of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Liberia for another year on Thursday, but began a drawdown in response to the country's gradual recovery from a 14-year civil war.

A unanimously adopted resolution said the more than 14,000 troops in the UNMIL force in the West African state should be reduced by 2,450 by the time the renewed mandate expires on September 30, 2008.

The cut would be the first stage in a reduction of 5,000 that U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon wants by 2010. The resolution asked Ban to recommend any second-stage cutback by next August.

UNMIL also includes nearly 1,200 police. The Security Council endorsed Ban's recommendation that their number should go down by nearly 500 between next year and 2010.



The U.N. force was sent to the country, originally founded by freed American slaves, when its civil war ended in 2003.

Ban said in a report last month the two-year-old government of President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf had made great strides in consolidating peace and promoting economic recovery, especially in timber and diamonds, where sanctions had been lifted. Liberia's economy grew 7.9 percent last year.

"Sufficient progress has been made in the implementation of (UNMIL's) mandate and in stabilizing the security situation in the country to allow for" troop and police reductions, the report said.

Thursday's resolution, however, noted "significant challenges" remaining in consolidating state authority, meeting development and reconstruction needs, reforming the judiciary, extending the rule of law and developing security forces.

Ban has said it is too early to say when to withdraw the entire peacekeeping force, which would depend on the state of the domestic police and army in Liberia, beset by years of large-scale corruption and warfare across the region.

The precariousness of Liberia's recovery was underscored this year when the government foiled a coup plot by a former army chief.

Charles Taylor, the former Liberian president and warlord, is on trial in the Netherlands, accused of instigating murder, rape and mutilation in a quest for diamonds in neighboring Sierra Leone. Taylor's trial is being conducted by a special Sierra Leone court.

The Wall Street Journal

Friday, 21 September 2007

Yet Another U.N. Scandal

By JOHN A. HALL

On Wednesday, the United Nations-sponsored Khmer Rouge tribunal in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, detained Nuon Chea, "Big Brother Number Two," to stand trial for crimes against humanity. He joins "Duch," the former head of the infamous S-21 prison at Tuol Sleng, who has been in the tribunal's custody since late July. This might look like progress toward prosecuting one of the 20th century's most heinous genocides: the extinction of over one million Cambodians between 1975 and 1979. Unfortunately, this optimism masks another U.N. corruption scandal in the making -- one so serious that it threatens the legitimacy of the entire process.

The tribunal was structurally flawed from its inception. After nearly a decade of acrimonious negotiations, the U.N. and the Cambodian government agreed to a "hybrid" structure that combines international and Cambodian law, and employs a mix of Cambodian and international judges, lawyers and staff. In a sharp contrast to the Sierra Leone and East Timor trials, the U.N. agreed to let Cambodian judges play a decisive and indeed dominant role. Every case at the tribunal will be decided by judges, not juries -- and the trial and appellate chambers all have a majority of Cambodian rather than international judges.

That was a big bet on a notoriously corrupt, inefficient and poorly administered judicial system. Cambodian judges, quite simply, must pay careful attention to the wishes of their political superiors. Few if any would willingly antagonize the ruling political party or the prime minister, and this climate of tacit control undermines the tribunal by limiting the independence of the Cambodian judicial appointees.

Unsurprisingly, serious problems are now popping up. In August, just as the tribunal was getting underway, the Cambodian government elevated co-investigating judge You Bunleng to the presidency of the Cambodian Court of Appeals. This was in clear violation of the rules governing the tribunal, which require that judges appointed to its ranks must serve until their duties are completed -- a rule intended to limit interference by the Cambodian government. The judge, who had developed a good working relationship with the French co-investigating judge, Marcel Lemonde, was in effect promoted off the tribunal.

He'll be replaced by reserve judge Thong Ol, a man regarded as a loyal supporter of Prime Minister Hun Sen and the ruling political party. He is perhaps best known for acquitting former Khmer Rouge military commander Chhouk Rin of charges stemming from a train ambush and kidnapping in 1994 that left dozens of Cambodians and three Westerners dead. Whether Mr. Lemonde will be able to work with his new colleague, and how Mr. Lemonde will react to such heavy-handed interference in the tribunal's inner-workings, remains unclear.

The tribunal has also failed to adequately address allegations that United Nations Development Program funds -- a three-year, \$13.3 million national program budget for the Cambodian side of the tribunal -- are being siphoned off as kickbacks. Specifically, Cambodian employees are suspected of paying part of their salaries to superiors in exchange for their appointments and continued employment. The charges, along with questions about hiring practices, were first raised by the New York-based Open Society Justice Initiative, which was subsequently threatened with being denied access to the tribunal's staff and facilities. The UNDP hired a Malaysian company,

Candide Consulting, to conduct an independent special audit carried out between Jan. 29 and Feb. 8, and March 27-30, of this year.

The results of that audit, which addressed only OSJI's concerns regarding the lack of transparency of the hiring practices in the Cambodian side of the tribunal and did not report on the kickback allegations, have been vigorously suppressed by the UNDP and the tribunal. The UNDP has not released the document publicly, and doesn't intend to do so. Its Web site states that "it is standard practice at the U.N. that these reports are not released to the public." Meanwhile, Cambodia-based journalists report that while the tribunal is typically highly porous, this particular document is impossible for them to obtain from their sources within the tribunal. As a result, the audit has gone mostly unnoticed outside of Cambodia.

The UNDP has good reason to fear publicity. The Special Audit, which I have seen, concluded that while the Cambodian appointees'"high salary scales" had been initially justified as a means to attract high-caliber local candidates, the hiring process for Cambodian staff was so seriously flawed that "recruits did not meet the minimum requirements specified in the vacancy announcements in terms of academic qualifications or professional working experience." Recruitment was "not performed in a transparent, competitive and objective manner that ensures the most suitable candidate for the job." Remarkably, international managers appointed by the U.N. had been forbidden from participating in the performance evaluations of the Cambodian staff who work under them. In this way, inept local appointees are shielded from dismissal.

The independent auditors concluded that "taking into account the serious lapses in the recruitment process to date, all the recruitments of staff . . . should be nullified" and a new, transparent and rigorous recruitment process under the supervision of UNDP initiated "to ensure that the most suitable and competent candidates are recruited for every position to ensure the success of the project." This is an extraordinary recommendation, given that the tribunal is halfway through its three-year mandate, and reflects the seriousness of the auditors' concerns. The auditors concluded that "serious considerations should be given to withdrawing from participation in the project altogether" unless the Cambodian side agrees to measures to "ensure the integrity and success of the project."

The U.N. is a public institution, funded by public moneys. It is deeply troubling that the Cambodian government has been allowed to interfere with the tribunal process and allegations of corruption may have been, in effect, covered up. For a start, the UNDP should make the independent audit public, however embarrassing its accusations. If it doesn't, the justice that the Cambodian people have waited over 30 years to obtain may, in the end, mean very little.

Mr. Hall is an associate professor of law and director of the Center for Global Trade and Development at Chapman University School of Law in Orange, Calif., where he specializes in international law.

BBC Online

Friday, 21 September 2007

Rwandan genocide suspect arrested

The UN-backed International Tribunal on Rwanda is to seek the extradition of a prominent Rwandan genocide suspect arrested in Germany this week.

The man, Augustin Ndirabatware, was Rwanda's planning minister in 1994 when an estimated 800,000 people were killed within a few weeks.

He is accused of providing weapons for ethnic Hutu militiamen.

Mr Ndirabatware was one of 18 people named by the International Tribunal as war criminals who are still at large.

According to the Frankfurt general prosecutor's office, the 50-year-old is also a co-founder of the Rwandan radio station (Radio Milles Collines) that repeatedly called for the murder of Tutsis.

A spokesman for the International Tribunal on Rwanda, Roland Amoussouga, said "Mr Ndirabatware is accused of conspiracy to commit genocide, complicity in genocide, public incitement to commit genocide and crimes against humanity."

The Tribunal has already convicted 28 senior figures on genocide charges.

German police said Mr Ndirabatware had been evading them by regularly changing hotels or apartments.



Some 800,000 Rwandans were murdered in the 1994 genocide