



**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

SIXTH COLLOQUIUM OF INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTORS

JOINT STATEMENT

WE THE PROSECUTORS, respectively, of the host institution - the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL), the ad hoc International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and Rwanda (ICTR), the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) and the permanent court - the International Criminal Court, following constructive discussions during the Sixth Colloquium of International Prosecutors convened in Freetown, Sierra Leone on the 14th and 15th of May 2011;

CONFIRM the importance of the expeditious and effective completion of our mandates, on behalf of the victims in the affected communities that we serve, by bringing to justice those who committed serious violations of international humanitarian and criminal law

REITERATE that the international criminal justice process is an essential element in combating impunity, including for crimes against women and children, strengthening the rule of law, engendering respect for human rights and maintaining peaceful and stable societies

REITERATE ALSO the fundamental requirement that all remaining and future cases involving international crimes be conducted in accordance with the relevant provisions of due process and universal principles of justice

EMPHASISE that the independence of the prosecutors is essential in the exercise of their mandate and call on all parties to recognize and support that independence.

EMPHASISE ALSO the critical importance of witnesses to the success of all the trials and the imperative that these witnesses be free to testify without fear that their personal safety and security will be endangered

STRESS the urgent need to locate, arrest and transfer fugitives to the international criminal courts and tribunals whose closures are fast approaching

URGE national authorities to ensure full commitment to the end of impunity and to eliminating safe havens for those suspected or indicted for international crimes

RECOGNISE the essential support and cooperation of States in enabling international criminal courts and tribunals to pursue their respective mandates

ACKNOWLEDGE the critical contribution of vibrant civil society movements in the fight against impunity.

STRESS the need to maintain sufficient resources to effectively and efficiently complete our mandates

ALSO STRESS the need to establish effective residual mechanisms which are provided with sufficient political and financial support from the international community to enable them to properly fulfill their functions and have the capacity to:

- establish and operate an effective regime of protection and support to victims, witnesses and confidential sources and that access to such a regime is assured
- provide timely and effective access to the public records of the courts and tribunals whilst continuing to protect sensitive and confidential information, especially information which could jeopardize the security of witnesses and confidential sources
- continue to disseminate information about its mandate and its activities and continue to engage with relevant national authorities
- consider the views of the prosecutors in all matters that affect pardon or commutation of sentence, security of witnesses and challenges to convictions and sentences

COMMIT to support and cooperate with national authorities to build their capacity to investigate and prosecute international crimes to the extent possible within our limited resources and primary mandates.

Brenda J. Hollis, Prosecutor
Special Court for Sierra Leone

Serge Brammertz, Prosecutor
International Criminal Tribunal for the
former Yugoslavia

Andrew Cayley, Co-Prosecutor
Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of
Cambodia

Fatou Bensouda, Deputy Prosecutor
representing Luis Moreno-Ocampo,
Prosecutor, International Criminal Court

Richard Karegyesa, Chief of Prosecutions
representing Hassan Bubacar Jallow,
Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal
for Rwanda

Daryl Mundis, Chief of Prosecutions
representing Daniel A. Bellemare,
Prosecutor, Special Tribunal for Lebanon

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE
15 May 2011