



## Special Court for Sierra Leone Press and Public Affairs Office

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 7 November 2007**

### **Justice Jon Kamanda Sworn in as Appeals Judge**

Justice Jon Kamanda, a Judge of the Sierra Leone Appeals Court, was sworn in today as Justice of the Special Court's Appeals Chamber.



Justice Kamanda was appointed by the Government of Sierra Leone. Under the Statute of the Special Court, three of the five Appeals Chamber Judges are appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and two are appointed by the Government.

He replaces Justice Geoffrey Robertson, QC, who resigned in August.

The Solemn Declaration was administered by the Registrar of the Special Court, Herman von Hebel, in the presence of Special Court Judges, staff, invited guests and journalists. The Declaration was witnessed by Attorney General and Minister of Justice Serry Kemal, and by Victor de Angelo, the Executive Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Justice Kamanda trained as a Barrister at the Inns of Court School of Law in London, and was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple. From 1976-80 he worked as State Prosecutor in the Government Law Office, rising to the rank of Senior State Counsel. In 1980 he entered private practice in criminal law.

He was elected to Parliament in 1982 and was appointed Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources. In 1985 he became Minister of Health.

From 1987-92 he served as Deputy Managing Director of the National Diamond Mining Company. Justice Kamanda has served as an Appeals Court Justice in the Sierra Leone judiciary since 2004 and is the Presiding Judge in criminal appeals. He is also a High Court Judge in the Civil Division.

Appeals are currently pending before the Court in the case of The Prosecutor vs. Alex Tamba Brima, Brima Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kano (the AFRC case) and in the case of The Prosecutor vs. Moinina Fofana and Allieu Kondewa (the CDF case).

#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.