



Special Court for Sierra Leone
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 19 May 2010

Special Court Hands Over Detention Facility to Sierra Leone Prison Service

Special Court Registrar Binta Mansaray and Internal Affairs Minister Dauda S. Kamara on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding which formally allows the Government of Sierra Leone to take physical possession of the Court's former detention facility.

The detention block was handed over to the Government symbolically last November, but the facility had remained under the control of the Special Court for operational reasons.

Friday's agreement means that the Sierra Leone Prison Service will now take full possession with immediate effect. The Prison Service will operate the facility independently, under its own mandate, while sharing the premises with the Special Court and with UN peacekeepers who ensure the Court's security.

#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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Produced by the
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