



**Special Court for Sierra Leone**  
Outreach and Public Affairs Office

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 24 October 2011**

**Statement by President Jon M. Kamanda on the Death of Judge Antonio Cassese**

We are saddened to learn of the death on Friday 21 October 2011, of Judge Antonio Cassese, an eminent international jurist and, until recently, President of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

Among the many achievements in Judge Cassese's distinguished career was his role as an Independent Expert charged with looking at the challenges faced by the Special Court. In his December 2006 report, he raised for the first time, the importance of preparing a Completion Strategy, including a consideration of the Special Court's Legacy, and the need for a Residual Mechanism.

With the completion of our mandate in sight, the Special Court for Sierra Leone will be the first to transition into a Residual Special Court. Other tribunals will also build on Judge Cassese's legacy as they too complete their work.

#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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