AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

Al Index: AFR 51/008/2003 (Public)
News Service No: 179

30 July 2003

Sierra Leone: Foday Sankoh's death will not stop the Special Court's obligation to end impunity.

Amnesty International today reiterated the crucial role to be played by the Special Court for Sierra Leone in ending impunity for some of the worst crimes ever known.

"Foday Sankoh's death, however, deprives the hundreds of victims of atrocities during Sierra Leone's internal armed conflict of the opportunity of seeing one of those accused of being responsible tried and held accountable," the organization added.

Foday Sankoh, former leader of the armed opposition Revolutionary United Front, was indicted by the Special Court for Sierra Leone in March 2003 for war crimes, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. He was among 12 people so far indicted by the Special Court for bearing the greatest responsibility for these crimes.

Amnesty International repeats its call to all states to fulfil their obligation to bring to justice those alleged to have committed serious violations of international humanitarian law and to cooperate fully with the Special Court.

Public Document	

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566 Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW. web: http://www.amnesty.org

For latest human rights news view http://news.amnesty.org