



## THE LEGAL LEGACY OF THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE

Thursday, 17 December 2020, 4.00 – 7.30 pm  
Sierra Lighthouse Hotel, Aberdeen

### INVITATION

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The Center for International Law and Policy in Africa (CILPA), a new international law and policy research think tank based in Freetown, Sierra Leone, has the honor to invite you to its inaugural symposium and book launch. Please confirm your participation at [cilpasierrealeone@gmail.com](mailto:cilpasierrealeone@gmail.com).

### CONCEPT

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The purpose of this symposium is to examine whether the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL), which was established jointly through an unprecedented bilateral treaty between the United Nations (UN) and the Government of Sierra Leone in January 2002 and completed its work in December 2013, left a legal legacy for the jurisprudence and practice for the nascent and still unsettled field of international criminal law. With a focus on advancing Sierra Leonean perspectives on the achievements and challenges that confronted the SCSL, and the role the SCSL played in the country's transition from conflict to peace, leading experts on the SCSL will discuss lessons learned for Sierra Leone as well as other post-conflict situations in Africa and other regions of the world.

Two central themes will guide the symposium discussions which will be divided into two panels. The first theme, which looks back, will address whether the SCSL as a mixed national-international penal tribunal made useful jurisprudential contributions on key legal questions with wider implications for the field of international law. In the main, we will focus on the impact of the SCSL judicial rulings on greatest responsibility personal jurisdiction, the war crime of child recruitment, forced marriage as a crime against humanity, amnesty, immunity and the relationship between truth commissions and criminal courts.

The second theme, which looks forward, will assess the continued relevance of the SCSL's innovative "hybrid" model as States from different regions contemplate how best to fulfill the present demands for accountability. These range from Guinea to Liberia, from the Central African Republic to South Sudan, to Syria and Myanmar. The symposium and book launch, which will bring together leading Sierra Leonean experts from academia, legal practice and civil society, should advance greater public understanding of the SCSL's significant contributions to post-conflict Sierra Leone as well as to the field of international criminal law and justice.

A new book on the symposium theme, *The Legal Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone* (Cambridge, July 2020) by Professor Charles C. Jalloh, who will be the keynote speaker, will also be launched at the symposium.



## PROGRAM

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**3:30 | 4:00**      **ARRIVAL AND REFRESHMENTS**

**4:00 | 4:20**      **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Mr. Ibrahim Tommy, Center for Accountability and Rule of Law  
Ms. Michaela Swallow, Sierra Leone Bar Association  
Prof. Charles C. Jalloh, Center for International Law and Policy in Africa (CILPA) and Florida International University (FIU)

**4:20 | 5:30**      **JURISPRUDENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SCSL**

Keynote: The Legal Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone -  
Prof. Charles C. Jalloh, Founding President, CILPA

Moderator: Dr. Abu Bakarr B. Kamara, University of Sierra Leone

Panelists:

Mrs. Rhoda Kargbo-Nuni, Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone  
Mr. Alpha Sesay, Open Society Justice Initiative  
Mr. Ibrahim S. Yillah, Residual Special Court of Sierra Leone

**5:30 | 6:00**      **Open Discussion/Q and A**

**6:00 | 7:00**      **THE SCSL AS AN INSTITUTIONAL MODEL FOR OTHER SITUATIONS**

Moderator: Justice Jamesina King, Sierra Leone Court of Appeal

Panelists:

Justice Fatmata Bintu Aladi, Sierra Leone Court of Appeal  
Mr. Mohamed A. Bangura, Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone  
Mr. Mohamed Suma, International Center for Transitional Justice

**7:00 | 7:30**      **Open Discussion/Q and A**

**7:30 | 7:45**      **CLOSING REMARKS**

Prof. Charles C. Jalloh, CILPA and FIU