



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FORCE COMMANDER WELCOMES GHANBATT-11**

*Freetown, Sierra Leone-* The Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), Major General Sajjad Akram, yesterday paid a working visit to the Ghanaian Battalion 11 (Ghanbatt11) in the southern Bo Town, to formally welcome them into the Mission area.

On arrival, he was received by Ghanbatt11's Commanding Officer, Lt Col Omame Agyekum, followed by a review of a Quarter Guard mounted in his honour.

Senior officers gave detailed and comprehensive briefings about the operational deployment of the battalion and the general security situation within their area of responsibility. They explained that the battalion was responsible for the security of Bo but that they also went on routine joint patrols with the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and the Sierra Leone Police (SLP) to increase their operational capabilities. "The battalion is engaged in running various cadres to enhance the operational readiness and professional capability of the RSLAF and SLP", Lt Col Omame Agyekum disclosed.

In his address to the officers and soldiers, Major General Sajjad Akram said he was certain that Ghanbatt 11 would carry out all its operational tasks and responsibilities in UNAMSIL in the most professional manner, while maintaining highest standards of discipline and conduct. He noted that everyone valued the professionalism, dedication and spirit of the Ghanaian soldiers and their contribution in bringing and maintaining peace and stability in the country.

The Force Commander urged them to demonstrate high standards of discipline and rich traditions of the Ghanaian army, adding that they should be dignified and honourable ambassadors of their country.