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UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONFIRMS APPOINTMENT OF VICTOR ANGELO AS HEAD OF PEACE CONSOLIDATION IN SIERRA LEONE

The United Nations Security Council has approved Secretary-General Kofi Annan's appointment of Victor Angelo as his Executive Representative and Head of Mission for the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL). This appointment is the first of its kind and is in line with the spirit of UN reforms.

A native of Portugal, Mr. Angelo has a distinguished career both within the United Nations and in his country. Prior to his present appointment, Mr. Angelo served as the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for the peacekeeping operation in Sierra Leone, UNAMSIL. In the late '90s he was the UNDP Special Envoy for East Timor, as well as the Deputy Regional Director for Africa at UNDP headquarters in New York. He has also held appointments in Zimbabwe, Tanzania, The Gambia, Central African Republic, Mozambique and other African countries.



Prior to joining the United Nations, Mr. Angelo held various positions in Portugal, including as a Member of the Portuguese Electoral Commission. He has been recognized by his country with the high distinction of Grand Officer in the National Order.

“After many years of conflict, a successful peacekeeping operation is now complete, and the new challenge is to address the root causes of conflict in Sierra Leone. I am confident that we, together with our partners and the Government of Sierra Leone, will help the country to find the same success in the times ahead,” said Mr. Angelo.

UNIOSIL, established by the UN Security Council, in Resolution 1620 of August 31, 2005, will commence operations on January 1, 2006 to continue United Nations support to the people and Government of Sierra Leone. This will consolidate peace by enhancing political and economic governance, building national capacity for conflict prevention and preparing for the elections in 2007. UNIOSIL is the first ever integrated approach to peace building in a post conflict situation.