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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **UNAMSIL AND NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES TO SIMULATE SECURITY EXERCISES IN FREETOWN**

*Freetown, Sierra Leone* – The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) will, on Wednesday 22 September, hold two exercises with the Sierra Leone security agencies in the Freetown area ahead of the handover of security primacy for the Western Area, including the capital city, to the Government of Sierra Leone next Thursday 23 September,

The exercises, scheduled to take place at Kingtom and Wilberforce, will demonstrate the capability of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP) and the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) in dealing with matters of public order, including crises situations. Members of both forces will rehearse command and control procedures, and information and the decision-making processes in the morning. The day's activities will climax with a simulation, which scenario calls for UNAMSIL military forces to monitor the capacity of the national forces to control crowds.

The public is advised that the exercise will entail intense police and military activity, during which loud bangs will be heard due to the firing of blank rounds of ammunition.

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