



PRESS RELEASE

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PRESIDENT KABBAH INAUGURATES UNAMSIL-BUILT BRIDGE IN FREETOWN

Freetown, Sierra Leone – President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah yesterday joined the Force Commander and Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), Major General Sajjad Akram to commission the Congo Town Bridge in the west of Freetown, built by Bangladeshi Engineers (BANENGR) serving with UNAMSIL.

The Congo Bridge links the Central Business District of Freetown city to Congo Town, Aberdeen, Lumley and other areas in the west. It also will help decongest traffic from the main highway to the city center and help stimulate economic activities in Freetown. Work on the 110-foot long and 13.7-foot wide bridge began on 13 April and was completed on 26 May this year. It has a load capacity of 32 tons.

President Kabbah noted that because of its age, lack of maintenance and the civil war, the bridge had been reduced to a decrepit structure that needed to be rebuilt.

Major General Akram assured the President and other Sierra Leoneans that UNAMSIL would continue to cooperate with the Government of Sierra Leone in the construction and maintenance of roads in addition to undertaking its principal responsibility of peacekeeping. The Mission was aware that an efficient communication road network was essential for economic development.

Also present at the ceremony were UNAMSIL Deputy Force Commander, Brigadier General Paul K. Opoku and Chief of Staff, Colonel Roland Ladley, among others.

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