



UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS UNIES

UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SIERRA LEONE
(UNAMSIL)

PRESS RELEASE

Ref No UNAMSIL/PIO/PR271 /2005

“War Don Don, Peace Don Com”
“War is Done, Peace has Come”

Freetown, Sierra Leone – 23 September 2005 - The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone is hosting the ***first ever*** International Music Festival from the 22nd to 26th November 2005 to mark the end of the successful UN mission that brought peace and stability to Sierra Leone. A host of internationally renowned musicians, in addition to a wealth of local talents, will be on hand to celebrate this success with the United Nations. World class artists from Europe, the United Kingdom, the United States and Africa have expressed interest in joining the Mission’s celebrations

Free concerts featuring many national and international artists will be held from 22-25 November in the provinces of Makeni, Bo, and Kenema culminating in the **“Peace Concert”** on 26 November in Freetown. With a focus on women and children, the UN agencies and NGO’ community will engage to simultaneously collaborate by hosting activities such as children’s workshops and cultural activities in the week preceding the Peace Concert, creating a truly inclusive and community focused Festival.

The festival provides an opportunity for the United Nations’ to celebrate the success of the Government and people of Sierra Leone as well as the UNAMSIL and the UN Agencies who have all worked tirelessly to bring peace and stability to this country. But also, the concert will demonstrate to the world the impact of war -- and the benefits of peace in Africa and show that that international engagement works.

A charitable trust is to be established from the revenue that is generated by the Festival, to guarantee a longer term legacy for future “War Don Don” festivals. Education is a central theme of the United Nations Millennium Goals. This is an area which we believe warrants special attention, especially for all those who suffered at the hands of the war.

<i>David Warner</i> <i>Lieutenant Colonel</i> <i>Chief of Operations and Plans</i>	<i>Mark Lynch</i> <i>Lieutenant Colonel</i> <i>Chief of Logistic Support</i>
--	--

War Don Don, Peace Don Com

For Public Information Inquiries, please contact:

Sheila Dallas, OIC, Public Information/Head of Production Team: 232-76-602133

UNAMSIL Public Information Office, Mammy Yoko Hotel, Room 230 Aberdeen, Freetown, PO Box 5
MEDIA CONTACT: Ag. Spokesman: Daniel Adekera: 232-22-295-817 or Mob:232-76-609-294
or Information Assistant: Mohamed Sankoh: 232-76-611-986 or 232-22-295-676 EMAIL pis@un.org

Daniel Adekera, Ag. Spokesman: 232-76-609 215
Rachel Goldstein-Rodríguez, UNHCR, 232 76 607 473
Peter Ngu Tayong, UNDP:232-76-865691

***UNAMSIL Public Information Office, Mammy Yoko Hotel, Room 230 Aberdeen, Freetown, PO Box 5
MEDIA CONTACT: Ag. Spokesman: Daniel Adekera: 232-22-295-817 or Mob:232-76-609-294
or Information Assistant: Mohamed Sankoh: 232-76-611-986 or 232-22-295-676 EMAIL pis@un.org***