



PRESS RELEASE

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DSRSG HANDS MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO HEALTH MINISTRY

Freetown, Sierra Leone –The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG) of the United Nations Mission for Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in Sierra Leone, Mr. Victor Angelo, yesterday handed over medicines and medical supplies to the Ministry of Health at Youyi building, in the capital Freetown.

Presenting the medicals, Mr. Victor Angelo said UNAMSIL was aware of the constraints the Ministry of Health was going through to provide improved medical services to the person of Sierra Leone, and that, that was why the Mission was making the donation to complement the effort of government in order to reduce mortality rate in the country.

The DSRSG stated that, “UNAMSIL considers the provision of health services a key priority and a basic social right. We all recognize that resources available in the national budget are very limited and seriously overstretched. Any step, however small that enhances the capacity of the public health sector to respond to the most urgent needs of the population makes a difference and sometimes that difference is what separates life from death.” He appealed to the international donor community for increased support to primary health care because the economy of the country could not generate sufficient revenue to cater for the basic needs of its people.

Responding, the Deputy Minister of Health Mr. Ibrahim Sesay, in receiving the items on behalf of the Minister of Health, commended the DRSSG for the donation and the role UNAMSIL had played to restore and build peace in the country. He assured that Sierra Leoneans would be able to sustain the peace in their country but appealed for more support to sustain that peace after the Mission would have pulled out.

The items donated, at the ceremony in the presence of senior officials of the Ministry, were anti-biotics, anti-malaria drugs, and various types of vitamins as well as bandages and needles.

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