



PRESS RELEASE

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FREETOWN SCHOOLS RECEIVE FURNITURE FROM UNAMSIL

Freetown, Sierra Leone –The Deputy Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), Brigadier General Paul K. Opoku, over the weekend commissioned furniture for five schools in the capital Freetown.

The project was implemented by the Nigerian Battalion 17 (NIBATT 17) with resources from the Mission's Civil Affairs Section maintained quick impact trust fund. In response to an appeal by the Western Area Deputy Director of Education, an assessment and selection of the beneficiaries -- three primary and two secondary schools -- was undertaken jointly with the Education Ministry.

Speaking at the event the Deputy Force Commander assured that, "As long as UNAMSIL is in the country, it will continue to contribute to its socio-economic development," adding that UNAMSIL had not only helped bring peace to Sierra Leone but, with other UN agencies, engaged in peace building and national development. He emphasized that with the ongoing high migration to Freetown there should be improved educational facilities.

A representative from the Education Ministry noted that the Mission's personnel demonstrated that, in addition to being peacekeepers and peace builders, they were philanthropists. Commanding Officer of NIBATT 19, Lieutenant Colonel Jibril Ismail and Mrs. Sarah Lewis of the Freetown City Council also made statements.
