Freetown: -The Chairman of the National Electoral Commission, Eugene Davies, the Electoral Adviser to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), Adrian Morrice and officials from the United Nations Development Program on Saturday made a one-day tour of the Northern Provincial districts of Kambia, Koinadugu and Bombali to follow up on the progress on preparation for the forthcoming local government elections on May 22, 2004, especially in the training of hailers and demonstrators.

The delegation expressed satisfaction at how the training was going on in all three places, as the 144 hailers and demonstrators from the three districts were shown a film on how to overcome obstacles during their voter education and how to persuade registered voters to vote during the local government elections.

The film also informed the trainees on the need to pass the message in the language the people understood to motivate them to vote, stressing on the differences between local government and Presidential and Parliamentary elections, and how local government councils would be responsible for construction of schools, roads, hospitals, etc and other infrastructural development in their respective communities, without relying on the central government.

It also emphasized that every Sierra Leonean who had attained the age of 18 years had the right to vote during the local government elections.

The delegation, which also included UNAMSIL Monitoring and Voter Education Officer, Ann Christine Raschdorf and an official of the civil rights group Campaign for Good Governance (CGG), was welcomed by UNAMSIL CIVPOL, MILOBS, and NEC District and Regional Officials.

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