SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
JOMO KENYATTA ROAD • FREETOWN • SIERRA LEONE
PHONE: +1 212 963 9915 Extension: 178 7000 or +39 0831 257000 or +232 22 295995
FAX: Extension: 178 7001 or +39 0831 257001 Extension: 174 6996 or +232 22 295996

Before: Judge Bankole Thompson

Registry: Mr. Robin Vincent

Decision of: 07 March 2003

THE PROSECUTOR

Against

SAM HINGA NORMAN

CASE NO. SCSL - 2003 - 08 - I

DECISION APPROVING THE INDICTMENT
and
ORDER FOR NON-DISCLOSURE

The Office of the Prosecutor:

David Crane
Brenda Hollis

THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE (the Special Court),

SITTING AS Judge Thompson, designated by the President of the Special Court according to Rule 28 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("the Rules");

HAVING RECEIVED on 07 March 2003 from the Prosecutor the enclosed Indictment and accompanying material, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules against SAM HINGA

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NORMAN a citizen of Sierra Leone, born 1 January 1 1940, in Ngolala Village, Mongeri (or Monghere), Valunia Chiefdom, Bo District, Republic of Sierra Leone, who is accused of Crimes against Humanity, violations of Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II, and other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law;

BEING SATISFIED from the material tendered by the Prosecutor that there is sufficient evidence to provide reasonable grounds for believing that the suspect has committed crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court and that the allegations would, if proven, amount to the crimes specified and particularised in the said Indictment;

HEREBY APPROVES

the Indictment submitted by the Prosecutor against SAM HINGA NORMAN in respect to each and every count.

TAKES NOTE of the Prosecutor's request that a Warrant of Arrest and Order for Transfer and Detention be issued against SAM HINGA NORMAN.

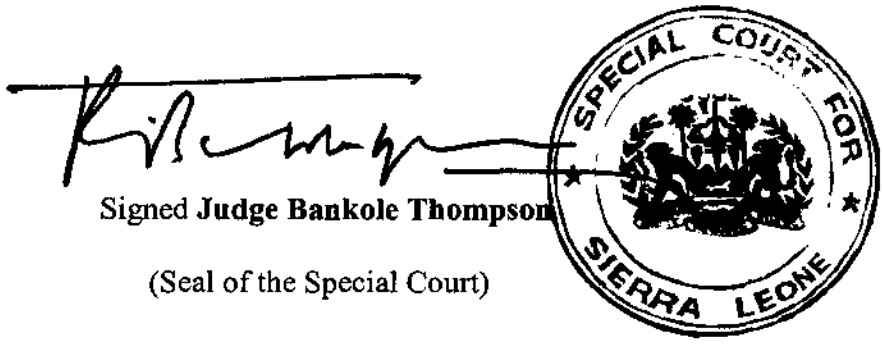
CONSIDERING Article 17(2) of the Agreement Between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone on the Establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone ("the Agreement");

CONSIDERING the Special Court Agreement 2002 (Ratification) Act 2002, Section 20, an order of the Special Court, shall have the same force or effect as if it had been issued by a Judge, Magistrate or Justice of the Peace of a Sierra Leone court.

ORDERS, pursuant to Rule 53 and after consultation with the Prosecutor, that there be no public disclosure of the Indictment or any part thereof or information pertaining to the Indictment, the Warrant of Arrest, the transfer and detention until further order by the Special Court.

DIRECTS the Registrar, in accordance with Rule 55(B) of the Rules, to serve this Decision and the Special Court's Warrant of Arrest and Order for Transfer and Detention of the Accused on the relevant authorities of the Government of Sierra Leone.

Done in London, this 7th day of March 2003.



Signed **Judge Bankole Thompson**

(Seal of the Special Court)

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