



Security Council

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Resolution 2097 (2013)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 6942nd meeting, on 26 March 2013

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and the statements of its President concerning the situation in Sierra Leone, in particular resolution 2005 (2011), 2065 (2012) and the Statement of its President on 30 November (2012),

Welcoming the tenth report of the Secretary-General dated 27 February 2013 (S/2013/118) and taking note of its recommendations,

Welcoming the significant progress achieved by the Government and people of Sierra Leone towards achieving peace and stability and in laying the ground for Sierra Leone's long-term development,

Commending Sierra Leone for the conduct and successful conclusion of Presidential, Parliamentary, district, and local elections in November 2012, in particular *acknowledging* the important role played by Sierra Leone's electoral institutions, political parties, civil society groups, international partners, and domestic and international observers, and *congratulating* the people of Sierra Leone for their large turnout in the elections, which showed their strong commitment to democracy,

Welcoming the important role played by the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), the United Nations Country Team, bilateral and international partners in supporting Sierra Leone to prepare for the elections, *noting* in particular efforts to improve the capacity and effectiveness of the national democratic, electoral and security institutions, promote inclusive political dialogue between the national stakeholders, promote a culture of non-violence and ensure the safe, full and equal participation of all sections of society, in particular women in the electoral process,

Welcoming the steady progress the Government has made in implementing the Agenda for Change, in particular steps taken to sustain macroeconomic stability, promote gender equality, improve youth engagement, improve access to justice and human rights and strengthen the Government's management of the extractive industries, and *commending* the valuable contribution of UNIPSIL, the United Nations Country Team and the international community to the peacebuilding and



development priorities in Sierra Leone, and in particular through the integrated United Nations Joint Vision and the Transitional Joint Vision,

Welcoming efforts to finalise Sierra Leone's Agenda for Prosperity, including through the conduct of a fragility assessment under the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States, *emphasising* the need to retain the peace, security and development nexus in future planning to ensure that progress achieved thus far is sustained, and *further emphasising* the importance of continued integrated support of the United Nations system, bilateral and international partners to the Agenda for Prosperity, in order to ensure that international support is delivered in a coordinated and effective manner,

Reiterating its strong support for the Special Court for Sierra Leone and its appreciation for the Court's work, welcoming the conclusion of oral hearings in the Charles Taylor appeal, *requesting* the Court to make every effort to complete its remaining work by 30 September 2013, *acknowledging* the special subvention provided as an exceptional measure from the United Nations regular budget to the Court for the period from 8 December 2012 to 31 December 2013, *calling upon* Member States to contribute generously to the Court and to the implementation of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone Agreement,

Welcoming the role played by the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States and the Mano River Union, in support of Sierra Leone's peacebuilding and development goals, and *encouraging* these and other regional organisations to continue their dialogue aimed at consolidating regional peace and security,

Recognising the continuing challenges posed by transnational organised crime and corruption, and *emphasising* the need for continued national and international support to the Transnational Organised Crime Unit (TOCU) in order to ensure its sustainability,

Welcoming the role of the Peacebuilding Commission's Sierra Leone Configuration and the Peacebuilding Fund in supporting peacebuilding efforts in Sierra Leone,

1. *Decides* that the mandate of UNIPSIL shall be extended until 31 March 2014;
2. *Decides* that, in accordance with the views of the Government of Sierra Leone, conditions on the ground following the successful conclusion of elections in 2012, and in line with the recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General (S/2013/118), UNIPSIL should be fully drawn down by 31 March 2014;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council regularly informed of the developments on the ground and to submit to the Security Council, no later than 15 September 2013, a report providing an update on the planned completion of UNIPSIL's mandate and the transfer of responsibilities to a United Nations Country Team;
4. *Encourages* UNIPSIL, the Government of Sierra Leone and bilateral and multilateral partners to form a transition steering group to map the international community's support to Sierra Leone, in particular regarding the transfer of any residual functions currently provided by UNIPSIL which may be needed after the Mission's withdrawal, *requests* the Executive Representative of the Secretary-

General to finalise a Transition Plan no later than 30 May 2013, and *requests* the Secretary-General to provide an update on such planning activities in his next report;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Sierra Leone to engage in discussions on the nature, activities and scope of the United Nations role post-UNIPSIL in coordination with UNIPSIL, the United Nations Country Team, multilateral and bilateral partners, the Peacebuilding Commission, and other relevant stakeholders;

6. *Requests* UNIPSIL to focus its remaining activities during this mandating period on facilitating political dialogue, including support to the government, particularly related to the planned constitutional review, security sector support, and strengthening of human rights institutions and their long-term sustainability;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations Country Team and its component United Nations agencies to scale up their activities and programming during UNIPSIL's transition and after its liquidation and factor such activities into their planning for a new United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and *urges* the Secretary-General to ensure there is a seamless transition to a new Resident Coordinator and United Nations Country Team management team model as UNIPSIL departs;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a peace and development advisor to support the Resident Coordinator, and *requests* the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) to make available its good offices to support the Government of Sierra Leone and the future United Nations Resident Coordinator as necessary;

9. *Welcomes* the planned review of the 1991 Constitution that will, *inter alia*, examine ways of fostering a greater sense of national cohesion and *calls on* all parties to participate in an open, transparent, and constructive manner in the review to contribute to a more inclusive system of governance;

10. *Calls upon* Sierra Leone's electoral institutions, in particular the National Electoral Commission and the Political Parties Registration Commission, to continue to foster an environment of political inclusion over the coming years as Sierra Leone prepares for its next and subsequent local and national elections by ensuring that the preparations and conduct of elections proceed in a peaceful, inclusive and credible manner, strengthening voter information and education, and promoting dialogue to resolve conflicts as well as political tolerance and non-violence;

11. *Urges* the passing of the Gender Equality Bill, including consideration of necessary amendments, to enhance the rights of women, as well as to increase their participation in the political process, including through the full participation of women both as voters and as candidates;

12. *Encourages* the Government of Sierra Leone to continue implementing the National Gender Strategic Plan and the Sierra Leone National Action Plan to address Gender-Based Violence; and *further encourages* the Government to continue efforts to improve youth employment and empowerment and reduce socioeconomic inequalities;

13. *Welcomes* the good work of the Sierra Leone Human Rights Commission, *reaffirms* the importance of its impartiality and independence, and *encourages*

international partners to continue to provide financial and technical support to its functioning and long-term sustainability;

14. *Urges* the Independent Media Commission to ensure full compliance with the current Media Code of Practice, and *encourages* the development of a revised Media Code of Conduct to enhance Sierra Leone's democratic processes;

15. *Calls upon* the Government of Sierra Leone to ensure that its security agencies, in particular the Sierra Leone Police, continue to respond in an impartial, proportionate and effective way to security threats, and remain committed to upholding human rights and other applicable international law, *welcomes* the work of the Anti-Corruption Commission, and *urges* the Government to accelerate efforts to establish the Independent Police Complaints Committee;

16. *Calls upon* the Government of Sierra Leone to continue enhancing the effectiveness of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit, including by addressing concerns about its sustainability and to strengthen coordination with countries in the region through the West Africa Coast Initiative;

17. *Reaffirms* the important potential role of extractive industries in Sierra Leone's economic development, *encourages* the Government of Sierra Leone and international partners to strengthen protection of workers' rights and national capacities for transparent regulation, oversight, and revenue collection from such industries, as well as to address issues of land ownership with a view to establishing mutually beneficial arrangements for local communities and the private sector, and *calls upon* the government to tackle corruption;

18. *Emphasises* that the Government of Sierra Leone bears the primary responsibility for peacebuilding and long-term development in the country, and *urges* the national authorities to continue implementing on-going activities under the strategic priorities of the Agenda for Change and to finalise the Agenda for Prosperity and begin its implementation;

19. *Calls on* international partners to continue their financial and technical support to Sierra Leone during and after UNIPSIL's drawdown in line with the Agenda for Change and subsequent Agenda for Prosperity, including through strengthening capacity building of national political, security, human rights and rule of law institutions, promoting good governance and accountability, promoting gender and social equality, strengthening human rights protection, supporting efforts to improve youth empowerment and strengthening efforts to tackle transnational organised crime including illicit activities such as money-laundering and drug trafficking;

20. *Requests* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to provide support to the Government of Sierra Leone, working with UNIPSIL and the United Nations Country Team, in particular through efforts to mobilise resources for the Agenda for Prosperity, and, *noting* its request in Resolution 2065 (2012) for the Commission to review its engagement with Sierra Leone following the successful completion of the elections and in line with the drawdown of UNIPSIL, *requests* that the Commission review its engagement with a view to scaling down its role;

21. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.