









Mr. President,

Ten days ago, the Security Council extended UNAMSIL's mandate to June 2005. The Government of Sierra Leone has endorsed the Secretary-General's assessment and recommendations regarding the benchmarks for the residual presence of UNAMSIL in the country. We note in particular that over the next several months, the Security Council will review the residual functions against the capacity of the Sierra Leone armed forces and police to maintain security and stability effectively throughout the country. We hope that the review will take into consideration the security situation in the sub-region.

I would like to reassure the international community through this august Assembly that we do not expect UNAMSIL to remain in Sierra Leone indefinitely. The Government of Sierra Leone is determined to ensure a smooth and seamless transition from UNAMSIL to the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and Police throughout the country. The restructured army and the police ha

Mr. President,

The United Nations has already identified many of the root causes of armed conflict within States, including Sierra Leone. With the assistance of the international community, efforts are being made to address those root causes. The objective is to prevent the recurrence of armed conflicts. My delegation believes that equal attention should also be paid to the root causes of armed conflict across states, including the senseless acts of international terrorism that are being perpetrated in many parts of the world. While prompt, effective and decisive measures are absolutely necessary to deal

for financial and material support for the African Union to enable it to deal with the situation.

Mr. President,

The Government of Sierra Leone

African Union summit in Ouagadougou “good national governance will not succeed unless we have good global governance”. Consumers need to share, in a more equitable manner with producers in the developing world, the benefits derived from their abundant natural and human resources. This means, among other things, fair prices and debt relief, all of which should have a positive impact on our capacity to reduce poverty within our respective developing countries.

Thank you, Mr. President.