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**UNMIL hands over Central Bank payment centre in Tubmanburg, Bomi County**

*Tubmanburg, Liberia* – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Alan Doss, and the Executive Governor of the Central Bank, Dr. J. Mills Jones, yesterday opened the newly constructed building housing the Tubmanburg payment centre of the Central Bank of Liberia. The construction was financed by the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), through its Quick Impact Projects.



SRSG Doss, Governor Jones and County Superintendent Haja Washington cutting the ribbon

Addressing the gathering of civil servants, community leaders and County officials, Governor Jones said the opening of the Central Bank payment centre in Tubmanburg represents the concerted efforts made by the relevant Government authorities to address the difficulties civil servants face when collecting their salaries. He commended UNMIL for constructing this as well as two other centres in Voinjama, Lofa County and Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County. “Serving the Liberian economy and the Liberian people is the overriding goal of the Central Bank of Liberia and the guiding theme of my administration,” the Governor added.

During his remarks, Special Representative Doss said: “The ceremony today is a testimony of UNMIL’s commitment to advance the restoration and consolidation of state authority throughout Liberia.” In addition to the two other centres nearing completion in Voinjama and Zwedru, discussions are underway over the construction of three more centres in Grand Kru, Sinoe and Maryland Counties, the SRSG added. He encouraged commercial banks to also extend their activities outside of Monrovia as functioning banks are vital for savings, investment and economic growth.

The Tubmanburg centre is expected to serve approximately 2,500 civil servants in Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Gbarpolu Counties. It will also enable customs and revenue agents to deposit funds and avoid the need for frequent travel to the Central Bank in Monrovia.

As of March 2006, UNMIL, through its Quick Impact Projects, has approved 232 projects costing approximately US\$3million. These projects are located throughout the country and are aimed at helping Liberia recover from long years of conflict. They include the renovation of schools, clinics, court houses, prison facilities, government offices, markets and police stations; road repair; street lighting; and the construction of wells and latrines.

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