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UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SIERRA LEONE  
(UNAMSIL)

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FORCE COMMANDER CONTINUES WITH POST-ELECTIONS TOUR  
OF THE COUNTRY**

*Freetown* - In continuation of his post-election tour of the country, the Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), Lt. Gen. Daniel I. Opande, today visited the towns of Port Loko, Mange and Hastings to assess the security situation.

In Port Loko, the Commander of Sector 1, Brig. Gen. Steve Guar, and the Acting Commanding Officer of the Nigerian Battalion 12, Maj. Lasisi Adegboye, briefed the Force Commander on the activities of the peacekeepers, which included regular security patrols as well as routine checks at roadblocks to deter illegal arms transfer or other dangerous weapons. Arrangements are also being made to detonate recovered bombs and ammunition within the battalion's area of responsibility.

In his briefing in Hastings, the Commanding Officer of the Bangladeshi Logistic Battalion (BANLOG) 2, Col. Mukhles, informed the Force Commander that his unit has been providing logistic support to the military components of UNAMSIL such as the transportation of personnel, fuel and food distribution, vehicle recovery as well as repairs. Lt. Gen. Opande also visited the Ukrainian and Pakistani Aviation units based in Hastings.

Addressing the peacekeepers from the two units, the Force Commander commended them for their enormous contribution towards successful elections in Sierra Leone, noting that the elections were peaceful and without hitches because of the logistic and adequate security provided by the troops. He further reminded the peacekeepers that although the elections have come and gone, they should remain vigilant and alert in order to consolidate the hard earned peace.

He also stressed that UNAMSIL shall, in conjunction with other national security agencies, continue to assist the Government of Sierra Leone in the maintenance of law and order. Finally, the Force Commander enjoined the troops to remain good ambassadors of their countries by upholding and adhering to the tenets of the UN code of conduct at all times.