

## **ECOSOC Decision 2001/255**

### **Situation of human rights in Sierra Leone**

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 24 July 2001, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/20 of 20 April 2001,<sup>1</sup> endorsed the Commission's decisions:

(a) To reiterate its request that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the international community continue to assist the Government of Sierra Leone to establish and maintain an effectively functioning Truth and Reconciliation Commission as soon as possible as an important healing process to contribute to peace and reconciliation in the country;

(b) To request the High Commissioner and the international community to make relevant technical assistance available to personnel of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, in particular to judicial, prosecutorial and protection personnel;

(c) To request the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner and the international community to give all necessary assistance to the Human Rights Section of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, including ensuring that the Section is fully integrated into the work of the Mission, to enable it to fulfil its mandate to report on violations of international humanitarian law and human rights in Sierra Leone and, in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies, assist the Government of Sierra Leone in its efforts to address the country's human rights needs, including:

(i) To strengthen its involvement in programmes of technical cooperation, advisory services and human rights advocacy programmes;

(ii) To strengthen its support for, and to continue and expand its cooperation with, human rights non-governmental organizations and other groups doing human rights work in Sierra Leone, including within the framework of the National Forum on Human Rights;

(d) To request the High Commissioner to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session on the human rights situation in Sierra Leone, including with reference to reports from the Mission.

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3 (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.*