

ORAL QUESTION H-0170/09  
for Question Time at the part-session in April 2009  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Johan Van Hecke  
to the Council

Subject: Financial assistance for Special Court of Sierra Leone

The Special Court of Sierra Leone (SCSL) is facing serious challenges in making appropriate arrangements for the persons that have already been convicted or are still facing trial. As it is currently inconceivable from a political, security and institutional point of view for those convicted to serve their sentences in Sierra Leone itself, an alternative solution must be found if the efforts of the international community to effectively implement the fight against impunity are not to be undermined. Certain African States have the political will and the institutional capacity to enforce the sentences of those convicted in accordance with international standards, but lack the financial means to do so without international support.

Can the Member States provide additional financial assistance to the SCSL so that those convicted by the SCSL can serve their sentences in those African States that have the capacity to enforce sentences in accordance with international standards, but lack the financial means to do so?

Tabled: 10.03.2009  
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