

立法會
Legislative Council

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**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
on 24 May 2002**

**Legal Service Division Further Report on
United Nations Sanctions (Sierra Leone)
(Prohibition Against Importation of Diamonds) Regulation 2002
(L.N. 64 of 2002) gazetted on 10 May 2002**

At the House Committee meeting on 17 May 2002, a member wished to know the reason for the decision of the Security Council of the United Nations in Resolution 1385 of 19 December 2001 on prohibition against importation of rough diamonds from Sierra Leone.

2. According to the Administration, on 5 July 2000, the United Nations Security Council expressed concern about the role played by the illicit trade in diamonds in fuelling the conflict in Sierra Leone and passed the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1306 to impose sanctions on Sierra Leone. The sanctions included the prohibition of direct and indirect importation of all rough diamonds from Sierra Leone into the territories of the member states of the United Nations unless such diamonds were controlled by the government of Sierra Leone through the certificate of origin regime. The sanctions under UNSCR 1306 were established for an initial period of 18 months until 5 January 2002. The local legislation (United Nations Sanctions (Sierra Leone) (Prohibition Against Importation of Diamonds) Regulation) implementing the sanctions also expired on 5 January 2002.

3. On 19 December 2001, the Security Council reviewed the situation in Sierra Leone. Noting that the government of Sierra Leone has not yet established effective authority over the diamond-producing areas and expressing continued concern at the role played by the illicit trade in diamonds in the conflict in Sierra Leone, it passed UNSCR 1385 to extend the duration of the sanctions against Sierra Leone for another 11 months as stipulated in UNSCR 1306.

4. In reducing the re-production of large volume of papers annexed to the Administration's reply, members may wish to view its Annexes 1 (UNSCR 1385 (2001)) and 2 (UNSCR 1306 (2000)) at the following websites—

English version: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/UnamsilRS.htm>

Chinese version: http://www.un.org/chinese/peace/peacekeeping/s_Leone/UnamsilRS.htm

The Administration has also referred to a website which contains a background note on the conflict in Sierra Leone, the website is—

English version: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/unamsil/UnamsilB.htm>

Chinese version: http://www.un.org/chinese/peace/peacekeeping/s_Leone/UnamsilB.htm

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