



*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
The Republic of Sierra Leone Freetown*

15th April 2009

REF: 3079/96

The International Court of Justices
The Hague
The Netherlands

**DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF KOSOVO
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

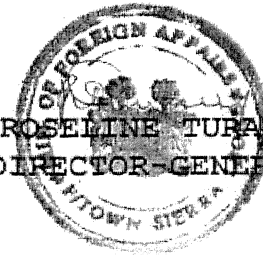
The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone wishes to provide a written submission in response to the Court's order dated 17th October 2008 in the case "Accordance with International Law of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence by the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo" the request for an advisory opinion was referred to the court pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 63/3.

The Government of the Republic Sierra Leone recognized Kosovo as an Independent State in June 2008 and the Government of Sierra Leone believed that Kosovo's independence itself (in addition to the act of declaring independent) was in accordance with International Law, as well as with the consistence provisions of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

In understanding the particular situation in Kosovo, the Government of the Republic Sierra Leone thinks it is appropriate to look more closely at the provisions

of resolution 1244, which the United Nations Security Council adopted in June 1999. Resolution 1244 provided for a "political process" that would determine the future of Kosovo.

One again, the Government of Sierra Leone wishes it to be known that it had recognized Kosovo as an Independent State.



ROSELINE TURAY (DR.)
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL