



TO: Ms. Jane Holl Lute, Assistant Secretary-General
A: Office of Mission Support
Department of Peacekeeping Operations

Date: 07 September 2005
Reference: ID-0598/05

FROM: Barbara Dixon, Director
DE: Investigations Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services

SUBJECT: **Allegation of a solicitation for a kickback by a**
OBJET: **United Nations Mission in Liberia staff member (ID Case No. 0422/04)**

1. The Investigation Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (ID/OIOS) received information alleging that the Officer, UNMIL, had attempted to solicit a kickback from the representative of a company based in Liberia. According to the information received by ID/OIOS, the Officer had sought a kickback of US\$2,000,000 from the representative of the company in return for his assistance in ensuring that the company was awarded a contract worth US\$25,000,000 to dredge the harbour.

2. ID/OIOS interviewed all persons involved in the matter. The representative of the company verified that the solicitation had occurred as reported. However, the Officer denied any attempt to solicit a kickback from the representative of the company. The only possible witness to the alleged discussion between the two men could not be located for the purposes of the investigation. In addition, it was established that UNMIL had not proposed such a project and, in any event, a contract of this size would have been subject to review and consideration by the Headquarters Committee on Contracts (HCC) by UNHQ. Therefore, without independent corroboration of the claim by the representative of the company, there is insufficient evidence to support the allegation and the Officer must be cleared of any wrongdoing as to this allegation.

3. ID/OIOS recommends that DPKO advise UNMIL senior management and the Officer of the result of the investigation (ID Rec. No. IV04/422/01).