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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### **WEB EVENT ON UPCOMING CHARLES TAYLOR TRIAL**

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will host a web-based event entitled *Understanding the Upcoming Charles Taylor Case: An International Law Briefing*, on **Wednesday, May 30, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.**, Eastern Time.

The hour-long program is being conducted in anticipation of the June 4, 2007, opening of former Liberian president Charles Taylor's trial by the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

The webinar will be presented by ASIL member Michael A. Newton, Acting Associate Clinical Professor of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School. Members of the press are invited to participate by registering at [www.asil.org/webinar070530](http://www.asil.org/webinar070530).

This ASIL event aims to help followers of the Taylor case understand its international legal setting and learn what to expect in the days ahead. The webinar will draw on the expertise of Professor Newton, who has been an Associate Professor at the US Military Academy as well as a special advisor to the US Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues and a US representative to the UN Planning Mission for the Sierra Leone Special Court. Professor Newton will provide the audience with a forecast and analysis of the legal issues likely to arise in the Taylor case, as well as background on the

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Sierra Leone Special Court, its establishment, jurisdiction, and how it comes to try the Taylor case in the Hague at the facilities of the International Criminal Court (as opposed to its usual Freetown headquarters).

ASIL webinars are telephone- and web-based events that bring experts on current international law topics together with those who have an interest in them. The interactive format is a seminar conducted via telephone conference call and PowerPoint presentation on the web. **Participants need only telephone and internet access** to be a part of the webinar and to ask questions of the presenters. ASIL conducts webinars on an occasional basis as a free educational service. **Prior registration is required**, and the number of participants is limited. Upon registration, participants receive a confirmation email with complete instructions for the telephone and web portions of the event.

ASIL events generally deal with one of the Society's seven thematic program areas: Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, International Institutions, International Law and Development, International Security, Science and Technology, Trade and Investment, and Transnational Litigation and Arbitration. ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. For more information, visit [www.asil.org](http://www.asil.org).

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