Public Competition to Design the Peace Museum Memorial

The Sierra Leone Peace Museum is seeking designs for a memorial from members of the public, which will honour the war’s victims and form an iconic part of the Museum. Prizes will be awarded for the top four designs, as decided by a panel of judges. The winner will receive Le 10 million as well as seeing their design realised in the finished Museum.

The Peace Museum, which will open in 2013, will be dedicated to preserving and telling the history of the country’s decade-long conflict. It will help to promote peace in the future by helping future generations understand the impact of the conflict, and by honouring the suffering of the war’s victims.

The Peace Museum will create a memorial on its premises that will provide a space for visitors to think about the conflict, its devastating impact, the efforts made to secure peace and to remember those who suffered during it. The Peace Museum has set aside space next to the Museum building for the memorial (12 by 16.5 meters).

The memorial could take many forms. Other memorials around the world have used lists of victims’ names, statues, gardens, pictures and other methods for creating a quiet space for people to pay their respects to those who died or suffered during wars. All ideas from people and groups regardless of their background will be considered.

Entries must include diagrams of the design, the designers’ names and contact information. Entrants may also submit a description of what the memorial means to them and a discussion of how visitors will experience the memorial; however these are extras are not essential.

The above information must be submitted to the Peace Museum by 31 December 2011 and can be submitted to the Peace Museum’s representatives around the country. Please call 076 81 92 42 or email slpeacemuseum@gmail.com to find out more about how to submit designs.

The best designs will be shortlisted and their designers will be invited to come to the Peace Museum to discuss their designs and to see the site.

The Peace Museum is being designed by a committee of stakeholders including the Government of Sierra Leone, the Human Rights Commission, the Monuments and Relics Commission, the National Museum, the National Archives, Advocacy Movement Network and the War Victims’ Association, among others.