

## Charles Taylor / Guus Kouwenhoven

**Case ID:**

ARW-34

**Jurisdiction of Origin of Public Official or Entity Allegedly Involved:**

Liberia

**Position of Public Official(s) (yrs in office):**

President (Taylor, 1997-2003) / Head of the Oriental Timber Corporation (Kouwenhoven, 2000-2003)

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery:**

Netherlands

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery ? Description:**

Undertaking Recovery Effort, Location of Recovery Effort

**Asset Recovery Start:**

2003

**Asset Recovery End:**

Ongoing

**UNCAC Offenses Implicated:**

Art.16

Art.17

Art.23

**Money laundering Implicated:**

Yes

**Legal Basis for Asset Recovery:**

Criminal Prosecution

**Intl.Cooperation: MLAT/Letter of Request?:**

No

**Basis for Intl Cooperation:**

NA

**Contributing Factors in Asset Recovery:**

Ongoing Case

**Status of Asset Recovery :**

Ongoing

**Agreement for Returned Assets:**

Ongoing

**Agreement for Returned Assets - Description:**

N/A

**Case Summary:**

"Guus Kouwenhoven was de-listed from the travel ban and assets freeze lists by the Committee in December 2008. However, the Panel notes that in April 2010 the Supreme Court of the Netherlands overturned a 2008 ruling by the Court of Appeal which cleared businessman Guus Kouwenhoven of charges of involvement in illegal arms deals and war crimes during the civil war in Liberia from 2000 to 2003. The Court of Appeal will now have to re-examine the case and make a new judgement. The Panel recalls that Kouwenhoven was head of the Oriental Timber Corporation during the regime of President Charles Taylor." (Source: Court Press Release, April 20, 2010, accessed at <http://www.rechtspraak.nl/Gerechten/HogeRaad/Actualiteiten>)

. See also, summary of Mr. Kouwenhoven's case and court decisions at the Hague Justice Portal, accessed at <http://www.haguejusticeportal.net/index.php?id=6412>.)

**Disposition of Criminal Case(s):**

According to the Special Court for the Sierra Leone, in September 2013, Mr. Taylor's appeal was denied. (Source: Special Court for the Sierra Leone, In the Appeals Chamber, Judgment of September 23, 2013, accessed at <http://www.sc-sl.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=t14fjFP4jJ8%3D&tabid=5>).

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Investigative Agency:**

United Nations Special Court for the Sierra Leone

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):**

United Nations Special Court for the Sierra Leone

**Jurisdiction of Origin: Courts Involved:**

United Nations Special Court for the Sierra Leone

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Investigative Agency:**

Unknown

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):**

Unknown

**Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Courts Involved:**

Court of Appeal; Supreme Court; District Court of the Hague


**Documents:**

Taylor\_Netherlands\_Global\_Witness\_GVH\_ScT\_Apr\_21\_2010.pdf

Taylor\_Netherlands\_Hoge Raad\_Apr\_20\_2010.pdf

Taylor\_Special\_Court\_Sierra\_Leone\_May\_3\_2011.pdf

**Documents:**

<b>Attachment</b>	<b>Size</b>
 Taylor_Appeal_Judgment_Sep_23_2013.pdf	2.52 MB

**Documents Links:**

**Other Sources:**

The Special Court for the Sierra Leone, Web Homepage, accessed on May 3, 2011, at <http://www.sc-sl.org/>; Judgment, Chamber of Appeals, September 23, 2013, accessed at <http://www.sc-sl.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=t14fjFP4jJ8%3D&tabid=53>; Court press release, April 20, 2010, available at <http://www.rechtspraak.nl/Gerechten/HogeRaad/Actualiteiten>. See also, Global Witness, "Global Witness welcomes Dutch court decision to retry timber baron Guus Kouwenhoven for crimes committed during Liberian war," April 21, 2010, accessed at <http://www.globalwitness.org/library/global-witness-welcomes-dutch-court...> See also, "Guus Kouwenhoven," The Hague Justice Portal, <http://www.haguejusticeportal.net/index.php?id=6412> (last accessed on July 18, 2012).