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**HRCSL engages pupils on laws, policies and human rights instruments**



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# Entrance exams in public universities: Professor Wurie puts Dr.Sengeh's result to test



Prof. Alhaji Alpha Tejan Wurie is unbending about quality



Dr. David Sengeh stoutly defended the WASSCE results which has proven otherwise

By Alfred Koroma

Public universities in Sierra Leone have begun with entrance exams for university applicants as demanded by the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education with massive failures reported already. The issue of conducting entrance exams for students leaving secondary schools was breath by the outcome of this year's West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examinations (WASSCE) which saw a record number of passes in the country's history.

Cont. Page 2

## Conditions for PR system do not exist as per constitution

-Hon.Chricoco



Hon.Chricoco addressing parliament

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## COI appeals matter: Judges furious over 'non-compliance' of state lawyers

**PR is advantageous for women**



President 50/50 Group Haja Alimatu Abdullah, says PR is cohesive and advantageous for women

-50/50 Group President

## UAE bans Sierra Leone, 19 others

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# LOCAL NEWS Conditions for PR system do not exist as per constitution

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

**L**eaders of the main opposition All Peoples' Congress (APC) in parliament, Hon. Cherno Maju Bah has stated in a press release dated 24 October, 2022, that the conditions for Proportional Representative system do not exist as per the Sierra Leone Constitution. Hon. Bah said an attempt by the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone (ECSL) to conduct next year's multi-tier elections using the District Block and Proportional Representation (PR) system would be a serious constitutional breach that will significantly reverse the gains made in strengthening democracy in post-war Sierra Leone.

"Before proceeding any further, I must make it very clear that if this decision by the President to use the P.R system in 2023 Parliamentary elections is not reversed in two weeks, I will not hesitate to call the people of Sierra Leone out to protest across the length and breadth of the country to demand that the decision is reversed," he writes.

The Opposition Leader in Parliament went on to state in his release that the idea of

**-Hon.Chricoco**

using the PR system was initially introduced in Parliament in the Public Elections Bill 2022, it was heavily criticised and rejected by Members of Parliament, leading to its eventual withdrawal.

Hon. Bah noted that given its potential to limit the participation of citizens in the country's democratic process, the proposed PR system generated considerable controversy amongst members of the public, the civil society and the media.

He said it was therefore disappointing that after its rejection by Parliament, the executive would still give directives for the system to be imposed on the people of Sierra Leone.

The boss of the main opposition in parliament said it was even more disturbing that such a change of the electoral system was being attempted on the eve of the multi-tier elections.

He added that using the PR system in place of the constituency system would amount to taking away the rights of the people to choose their



representatives directly and hand that power over to political parties.

He quoted section 38A (1) of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone (Amendment) Act OF 2001.

"Where under any law for the time being in force, a date for a general election of Members of Parliament has been appointed but constituencies have not been established in accordance with subsection (3) of section 38 for the purposes of such election," he said.

"Inarguably, the condition precedent to the exercise of such Presidential discretion is non-existent. As it is, constituencies already exist and by Section 38 subsection (4) of the 1991 Constitution, the Electoral Commission SHALL only review such constituencies

at intervals of NOT LESS THAN FIVE YEARS and NOT MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS. It is still less than five years since the present constituencies were established."

Hon. Bah drew highlighted several quotations from the constitution that counter the ECSL decision, therefore that it is shocking that the ECSL has, without consideration of the laws and based on the dictates of the Executive, decided to switch to a PR system.

"Even more shocking, the ECSL has gone further to state that it will also conduct the local council elections on a District Block/Proportional Representation System. These pronouncements by our Electoral Commission and its pandering to the whims and caprices of the Executive have the tendency to undermine the independence and credibility of the ECSL."

He called on the President to reverse his directive to the ECSL, adding that it would therefore be illogical, unprecedented and unconstitutional to revert to a PR system whose introduction was necessitated by the conditions of a raging war in the country.

## Entrance exams in public universities: Professor Wurie puts Dr.Sengeh's result to test

By Alfred Koroma



Over 70 percent of pupils passed the exams with 63% and 90% pass rate reported for the two most difficult to pass subjects – English Language and Mathematics respectively. More candidates achieved direct entry into degree programmes in the 2022 WASSCE compared to previous exams.

The headline pass rate triggered a rise in application for admission into universities within the country, propelling the Minister of Technical and Higher Education, Professor Alhaji Tejan Wurie, to pass order for an entrance examination to screen applicants before they are enrolled.

According to Wurie, thirty two thousand (32000) students applied for admission to both the University of Sierra Leone (USL) and Njala University.

Njala University had eight thousand (8000) applicants whilst USL, which comprises of Fourah Bay College (FBC), College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS) and the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) had twenty four thousand (24000) applicants.

Just by the publication of this year's



questionable WASSCE result, it became predictable that universities were going to experience a rise in the number of applicants for their programs.

The Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education Dr. Moinina David Sengeh defended the result, saying the outstanding performance of students in the last WASSCE has come as a result of government's steps in boosting the country's standard of education by ensuring that 'teachers have teaching guides, students given core textbooks, teachers being trained, together with the radio teaching and past papers made available for students.'

But recent entrance exams conducted are clearly testing Sengeh's 2022 WASSCE result. And it is proving otherwise.

The performance of students in the recent entrance exams in Njala University does not reflect their WASSCE results. Out of 200 applicants for the Nursing Department in the School of Community Health and Science in Njala, only 41 passed. 159 failed.

Other institutions including FBC, COMAS, and IPAM which experienced more applicants are also considering organizing similar exercise.

## PR is advantageous for women

By Alfred Koroma

**-50/50 Group President**

**P**resident for the 5050 Women Group, Haja Alimatu Abdullah has said that Proportional Representation is advantageous for women.

Madam Abdullah who was speaking to Concord Times in an exclusive interview made analysis on the two voting systems of representation the country has practised, but was clear in her support for the Proportional Representation which she says creates room for cohesiveness.

"I believe that this Proportional Representation will be inclusive. It will bring people together. And it is also advantageous for women," she said.

"Now the way Sierra Leone is, we all are aware of the regional divide in the country. So personally, I really would welcome the PR system because that will make people to come together," she added.

Proportional Representation, an electoral system where party representation reflects electoral support has been reintroduced for the 2023 election, bringing an end to the First Past the Post (FPTP) system used in the last three general elections.

FPTP allows for constituency representation and it is a system of representation in which constituents know who represents them and can hold them to account. However, the 5050 Group President views FPTP as a more disadvantageous electoral system – expensive and one that divides the country.

"For me personally, I had always thought that the First Past the Post System is good in the sense that every constituency know who their representative is, but the point of Bye-elections have been most times violent and expensive and problematic; I do not like that part of the First Past the Post system that every time it is fresh election if somebody dies or if somebody resigns or if somebody is appointed to another position. I think it is very expensive and violent and it does not



make for cohesiveness of our country," Madam Abdullah told Concord Times.

She emphasized that FPTP is so expensive in a way that requires one to spend a lot of money to win a constituency. "It is a one on one fight."

But for the PR, she said "As long as your name is on the list of the political parties, there is very strong likelihood that you would become a member of parliament. So I believe that it is really in favour of women because women don't like where there is a lot of violence and a lot of problems."

50 50 Group is one of the major feminist organizations advocating for gender equality, more women participation in politics and in decision making positions of Sierra Leone.

The work by those feminist groups has seen some impacts as the need for women protection and representation in positions of trust gain recognition. The new Public Elections Act which also made provision for PR; provides that for every three candidates nominated, one must be a woman.

With this, Haja Alimatu Abdullah said they believe they could have more women participating or being nominated as candidate for the different political parties to contest in the next general election.

I pray and hope that those who will be considered to be put on the list will be capable people who can run this country, she said.



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## LOCAL NEWS **HRCSL engages pupils on laws, policies and human rights instruments**

As part of its mandate of protecting and promoting the rights of all in the country, the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone has over the years conducted several community outreach campaigns in primary and secondary schools nationwide on right based issues.

Those campaigns and engagements have resulted in the establishment of Human Rights and Peace Clubs in some schools in Freetown and other parts of the country with the aim of building the culture of human rights.

In a bid to strengthen their capacity on laws, policies and human rights instruments protecting and promoting women and children's rights, the HRCSL on Friday 21st October 2022

engaged approximately 105 pupils and teachers from ten selected secondary schools in Kabala, Koinadugu District at the Dr. Francis Moses Memorial Hall with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) through Restless Development.

The selected schools include; Kabala Secondary School for Girls, Loma Senior Secondary School, Bintumani High School, Ahmadiyya Muslim Secondary School, Yogomaia Secondary School, FAWE Secondary School, UMC Secondary School and Pedmal International.

The trainers presented on key international and Regional Human



Rights Instruments Protecting Women and Girls, Domestic Laws and Policies Protecting Women and Girls, The Child Rights Act of 2007 and the Effects of Harmful Traditional Practices on Women and Girls.

Senior Head Girl of Loma Senior Secondary School, Rugiatu Barrie said she learnt a lot about children's rights and responsibilities. "I now have very good knowledge on especially the Sexual Offences Act and the penalties for any breach. I will teach my colleagues who are not fortunate to be part of this engagement," she said. She entreats her colleagues to speak out whenever their rights are violated or abuse and



also report cases of alleged sexual penetration and rape to the police.

The pupils recommended sustained public education and radio discussion on these key human rights instruments protecting women and children's rights and also urged that pupils in other schools within the district benefit from such engagement.

The Commission's Different Abilities and Non-Discrimination Officer; Abu Bakarr Kamara encouraged the pupils to concentrate on their academic work as it is the only way they can achieve great things. He also urged them to always remember their rights alongside their responsibilities.

@HRCSL Communications Team



## **Mayor Aki-Sawyer's matter: Magistrate Ngegba turns down defences' application**

By Jeneba A Conteh

The Principal Magistrate of the Freetown Magistrate Court No.1, Magistrate Mark Ngegba, has on Friday, October 21, 2022, for the three consecutive times turned down applications made by both defence counsel Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara and Pa Momoh Fofanah representing the sitting Mayor of Freetown, Yvonne Aki-Sawyer, in the ongoing alleged obstruction matter that is before the court.

The application was for the statements of the witness, Corporal 12225 Fanta Fofanah that she made to the police be given to the defence in order to help them in their cross examination.

Before commencement of the matter, Lawyer Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara made an application for the statement of the witness she made to the police been given to them so that they can go through it to help them during their cross examination. He made the application pursuant to Section 23 (5) (d) of the Sierra Leone Constitution. He added that the prosecution ought to have served them the statements of the witnesses that are going to testify before the court.

In response, state prosecutor, Yusuf Isaac Sesay, objected to the application saying that the section cited by the defence counsel was not in line with the application made.

He added that testing the validity of the witness comes during cross examination and the application made by the defence was not timely and the law relied by the defense was not in tandem.

Lawyer Sesay stated that statements were made available to defence pursuant to Section 190 of the Criminal Procedure Act of 1965 and so the application made was not matured and asked the magistrate to discountenance the application.

Magistrate Ngegba turned down the application made by the defence counsel.

Lawyer Pa Momoh Fofanah further made an application again that the statement of the witness made to the police should be made available to them pursuant 190 (2) of the Criminal Procedure Act of 1965.

He said they as defence wanted the statement of the witness because of inconsistency, adding that what the witness said to the police was different from what she testified before the court.

The witness herself when asked by defence counsel stated that she will like the defence to have her statement she made to the police, but still the application was not granted by the magistrate.

Lawyer Fofanah said the witness herself was not objecting to the application and that the said development will defect the end of justice and it was trial by ambush.

Magistrate Ngegba said section 190 is not the applicable section for such application, adding that the said application would not be granted because the proper foundation had not been made.

In that case, Lawyer Fofanah sought leave for an appeal challenging the ruling given by Magistrate Ngegba in his refusal for them to get access to the statement of the witness she made to the police.

He said section 42 (1) of the Courts Act of 1965 stated that even the prosecution cannot be deprived of that right getting access to statement made to the police.

Magistrate Ngegba did not grant the said application to appeal on the ruling and the reason stated was that the application made again by

defence counsel fell under the wrong section.

At that juncture an adjournment was taken.

Earlier, the witness Corporal 12225 Fanta Fofanah attached to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Lungi Police Station, recognised the Mayor, Yvonne Aki-Sawyer and recalled on the 17 September, 2022.

She further that on that day, while she was on duty, the Operation Officer, Inspector E.F Koroma and his team at the same division arrested and brought in Councillor Sheku Sesay for an alleged offense of planning and organising the execution of the August 10 protest.

She said the councillor was handed over to their department for caution statement to be obtained from him.

Madam Fofanah continue that while Mr. Tucker was preparing the statement, she had a voice of a woman at their charge office shouting "where is my councillor and why was he arrested without warrant".

The witness said upon arriving at the charge office she saw the Mayor and a military officer and that she cautioned Mayor to calm down but she didn't listen to her, but kept on shouting.

She further stated that the Mayor then stated that the police did not have right to arrest the councillor without warrant.

She added that while statement was being obtained from the councillor, she asked the military officer who the accused was, because she didn't know her at that time, and that the military officer replied that she is the Mayor of Freetown.

The witness continues that the Mayor then entered the investigation room and stated that her councillor would not make statement because there was no

warrant of arrest served on him.

Madam Fofanah further testified that the Mayor then gave her cross bag to the Military Officer and that she held the hands of the councillor taking him outside the investigation room.

She added that she and Mr. Tucker rushed to the door to stop her not to take the said suspect anywhere and she told the Mayor that she is obstructing their investigation.

She said the Mayor then removed her cell phone from her bag and she started making a live video that the police have arrested her councillor without a warrant.

She said at that point she asked the Mayor to allow her to do her work and after they have finished they will later hand over the suspect to the LUC for her to talk with him and secure his release.

The witness said she made statements at the police station.

During cross examination by defence Counsel Pa Momoh Fofanah, the witness said she was not present when the councillor was arrested.

She said that she did not know if the councillor was arrested with warrant.

The Mayor is standing trial before the court on two counts of obstruction of police duty contrary to section 39 of the Police Act no.7 of 1964 and disorderly behavior contrary to section 12 (b) of the Public Order Act 1965.

The charge sheet indicated that the Mayor on Saturday 17 September, 2022 at the Airport Police Division, Lungi in Sierra Leone, obstructed Detective Sergeant 7966 Richard Junior Caulker and Corporal 12225 Fanta Fofanah whiles executing their lawful duties and that the Mayor also behave in a disorderly manner.

The matter was adjourned to the 26 October, 2022 for furthered hearing and bail continue for the Mayor.

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# LOCAL NEWS UAE bans Sierra Leone, 19 others

By Yusufu S. Bangura

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced a visa ban on Sierra Leoneans and 19 other countries in Africa with immediate effect.

Sierra Leone and other countries including Ghana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Cameroon, Nigeria, Liberia, Burundi, Republic of Guinea, Gambia, Togo, Senegal, Benin, Ivory Coast, Congo, Rwanda, Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Comoros, and the Dominican Republic are all banned.

"This is to inform you that we will not be posting 30 days visa applications for these nationalities effective today October, 18, 2022," the notice read.

In August this year, the UAE Government provided free flights to all Africans residing in the country without documentation to kindly exit the country peacefully and there was a viral report on social media showing that Sierra Leoneans in Dubai were calling on the government of Sierra Leone to help them.

A notice issued to trade partners including travel agents and copied to airplane companies with the UAE authorities, indicated that all visa applications from the above mentioned countries should be rejected.

However, in their statement, no reason was given as to why UAE had taken the decision but sources said the move was aimed at keeping away African nationalities who had taken advantage of the visit visas to overstay in the UAE.

The development could be the latest in efforts by UAE while tightening the noose



UAE flight

for foreigners into the country. Many people, especially Africans seeking to work in UAE, mostly in Dubai have in the past been using the 30 day visit visas as a scapegoat to stay in the country.

It is said that after applying and getting a visit visa, one then flies to the country as a visitor but uses this time to look for a job.

The UAE government issues several types of visas and entry permits based on the purpose of one's visit and some of these include tourist visas, patient and his/her companion entry permits,

retirement visa for UAE residents, transit visa, student visa and work visa among others.

e-Visa for Co-operation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) residents,

## Over 12,000 reports posted within half an hour after WhatsApp went off across the world

By Alfred Koroma



## COI appeals matter: Judges furious over 'non-compliance' of state lawyers

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

Three Appeal Court judges, Justice Ivan Ansumana Sesay, Justice Adrian Fisher and Justice Alhaji Momoh Jah Stevens were very angry with the behaviour of state lawyers in relation as to how they handle matters that are before the court. They stated that the performance of the state counsels of non-compliance with directives given by the court was unacceptable and tantamount to contempt of court.

During proceedings on Tuesday, October 25, Lawyer Pa Momoh Fofanah mentioned the matter of the former Minister of Agriculture under the All People's Congress (APC) administration, Professor Monty Jones, Edward Bassie Kamara, amongst others, but state Counsel T. J Freeman, said that he was not the substantive prosecutor as he was only been instructed to deal with the matters.

Lawyer Pa Momoh Fofanah said he had filed the necessary papers in relation to their grounds of appeal and it was now left with the State ( Respondent) for them to respond to the issues being raised by the appellants' counsel.

But, to the dismay of the judges, they were not prepared to go ahead with the matters, after being given directives six months ago by the judges to file in their written synopsis.

As a result of that act, the judges were

furious and the Presiding Judge, Justice Sesay stated that, it was the least they were expecting from the State after being given six months to file in their necessary papers before the court.

He said the appellants reputations was one which were on the spotlight, while some of them were being barred at the moment to travel outside the country as a result of what came out from the COI.

The Learned Judge furthered that if it was the other way round, they will start to raise all sort of issues. "What is good for the goose must be good for the gander," he averred.

He promised to discuss such 'non-compliance' with the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, adding that the State was taking advantage of the people with such delay.

However, the Panel of judges has promised to go ahead with their judgments in the matters in case the respondent fails to adhere to the two weeks adjournment given to them to file their synopsis in response.

They warned the State to honour the orders of the Court, and the matters were adjourned to 9th November, 2022.

In the early hours of Tuesday 25th October 2022, popular messaging platform went down for users across the world, including Sierra Leone. Many people complained that they were unable to send and receive messages.

The messaging platform began reporting issues just before 08:00 BST on Tuesday. And more than 12,000 reports were posted within half an hour, according to the service status website Down Detector, BBC reports.

"Massaging app WhatsApp is currently experiencing international outages; incident not related to country-level internet disruptions or filtering," an internet monitoring group, NetBlocks twitted during the shutdown.

A spokesperson for Meta who spoke to the BBC said "We're aware that

some people are currently having trouble sending messages and we're working to restore WhatsApp for everyone as quickly as possible."

This is not the first time WhatsApp users have experienced the messaging platform going down. Last year, the messaging platform went down as part of a six-hour outage.

WhatsApp owned by Meta has about two billion users globally and is one of the most popular messaging platforms in Sierra Leone.

The platform has increased citizens' democratic participation in governance, but it is also being used wrongly. The popular massaging app has also been linked to recent violence in the country. Through its group chatting, WhatsApp is now a suitable platform where propagandists share fake news and plan anti-government protest.

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She further that on that day, while she was on duty, the Operation Officer, Inspector E.F Koroma and his team at the same division arrested and brought in Councillor Sheku Sesay for an alleged offense of planning and organising the execution of the August 10 protest.

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Madam Fofanah continue that while Mr. Tucker was preparing the statement, she had a voice of a woman at their charge office shouting "where is my councillor and why was he arrested without warrant".

The witness said upon arriving at the charge office she saw the Mayor and a military officer and that she cautioned Mayor to calm down but she didn't listen to her, but kept on shouting.

She further stated that the Mayor then stated that the police did not have right to arrest the councillor without warrant.

She added that while statement was being obtained from the councillor, she asked the military officer who the accused was, because she didn't know her at that time, and that the military officer replied that she is the Mayor of Freetown.

The witness continues that the Mayor then entered the investigation room and stated that her councillor would not make statement because there was no

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Madam Fofanah further testified that the Mayor then gave her cross bag to the Military Officer and that she held the hands of the councillor taking him outside the investigation room.

She added that she and Mr. Tucker rushed to the door to stop her not to take the said suspect anywhere and she told the Mayor that she is obstructing their investigation.

She said the Mayor then removed her cell phone from her bag and she started making a live video that the police have arrested her councillor without a warrant.

She said at that point she asked the Mayor to allow her to do her work and after they have finished they will later hand over the suspect to the LUC for her to talk with him and secure his release.

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The Mayor is standing trial before the court on two counts of obstruction of police duty contrary to section 39 of the Police Act no.7 of 1964 and disorderly behavior contrary to section 12 (b) of the Public Order Act 1965.

The charge sheet indicated that the Mayor on Saturday 17 September, 2022 at the Airport Police Division, Lungi in Sierra Leone, obstructed Detective Sergeant 7966 Richard Junior Caulker and Corporal 12225 Fanta Fofanah whiles executing their lawful duties and that the Mayor also behave in a disorderly manner.

The matter was adjourned to the 26 October, 2022 for furthered hearing and bail continue for the Mayor.



## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

### Impact of rising inflation on workers across globe



Picture of a hundred US dollar bills on top of Colombian peso bills taken in Bogota, on October 24, 2022. - Copyright © africanews/DANIEL MUNOZ/AFP or licensors

In nearly every corner of the world, people are feeling the impact of inflation as the cost of living continues to rise.

Inflation isn't impacting people equally, though, and for those with dependants, the higher prices are pinching families at home and abroad.

Migrant workers and people who send money to relatives abroad are often saving less because they're forced to spend more due to inflation.

For some, the only option is hustling even harder, working weekends and nights, and taking on second jobs.

For others, it means cutting back on meat and fresh fruits in order to send what's left of their savings to family back home, some of whom are fleeing famine or conflict.

Lissa Jataas sends about 200 euros (\$195) from her desk job in Cyprus to a family in the Philippines each month.

To save money, she looks for cheaper food at the grocery store and buys clothes from a charity shop affiliated with her church.

A staggering 71 million more people around the world experienced poverty as a result of higher food and energy prices that climbed in the weeks following Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its impact on the availability of grains from the Black Sea region, according to the United Nations Development Program.

The ripple effect of the war in Ukraine on grain-importing countries exacerbated already dire economic conditions in countries still reeling from the economic shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects of climate change.

When the price of food and fuel shoots up globally, that means what people are able to send to relatives back home is not going as far as it once did.

The International Monetary Fund estimates that global inflation will peak at 9.5% this year, but in developing countries, inflation is much higher.

In Somalia, drought and conflict have forced 1 million people to flee their homes.

The current drought is worse than any the country can remember, and thousands of people have died, many of them children.

The U.N. says half a million children are at risk of death due to malnutrition or famine.

Mahdi Warsama, 52, emigrated to the U.S. from Somalia when he was 17.

Now a U.S. citizen and graduate of resilience and security studies, he sends anywhere from \$300 to \$3,000 a month to relatives in northern Somalia, sometimes borrowing money in order to send members of his clan what they need to pay for medical bills and other emergencies.

Warsama, who splits his time between Columbus, Ohio, and Minneapolis, Minnesota, estimates he sent \$1,500 last month to help relatives pay for basic necessities like food and water for themselves and their livestock.

People needing his help amid the country's drought include siblings and distant relatives.

He's changed his spending habits and is looking for ways to earn more while closely watching the news to monitor rate hikes and inflation - something he never did before this year.

For Jaatas, the six relatives she supports in the Philippines are not only facing rising costs but are reeling from the aftermath of a typhoon that knocked out water and electricity in their town.

Analysis by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace says the Philippines is the most food-insecure country in emerging Asia due to its reliance on imported food to feed its expanding population.

Ester Beatty, who heads a chapter of the European Network of Filipino Diaspora in Cyprus, said it's common to see Filipinos working in Cyprus on Sundays and not enjoying the day off because they are trying to find extra income to support relatives back home struggling to afford the high cost of staples like rice and sugar.

In low-income countries, families spend over 40% of their household incomes on food despite government subsidies.

Ali el-Sayyed Mohammed, 26, came to the United Arab Emirates in February after several years of searching for work in Egypt.

Nothing he found provided a living wage, he said. "Life is expensive and wages don't cover enough so I took the step of leaving," he said. "It was a hard decision at first, but the situation left me with no choice."

With his father deceased, Mohammed is the family's primary breadwinner, caring for three sisters and his mother.

He hails from Beheira, a Nile Delta province that has seen many of its young men leave, sometimes embarking on deadly voyages across the Mediterranean Sea in search of work in Italy and other European countries.

With around \$1,000 saved up, some of which he borrowed, Mohammed came to Dubai and crashed at friends' apartments until he landed a job at one of Dubai's most popular Egyptian restaurants, Hadoota Masreya.

The rising cost of living in Egypt has made his goals of saving enough to help his sister get married next year or to secure his own future even harder.

Inflation in Egypt has climbed to around 16% as the value of the local currency has dropped, making life for millions of Egyptians living in poverty even more difficult.

Hadoota Masreya's manager, Mohamed Younis, said he's constantly being contacted by Egyptian men looking for work and a way out of Egypt, and the number is growing.

Younis manages a YouTube channel called 'Restaurant Clinic' that gives advice in Arabic on how to achieve success in the restaurant industry.

He warns that making the move to the UAE comes with risks because finding a job takes both time and money.

### 11 killed in fire at Uganda school for the blind - police

A fire outbreak at a boarding school on the outskirts of Uganda's capital, Kampala, has killed 11 people, including children, a police official said Tuesday.

Six others who were found in critical condition have been admitted to the hospital, the Ugandan police said in a statement but could not state the cause of the fire at Salama School for the Blind.

Fatuma Ndisaba, a top official in Mukono, told local broadcaster NTV that the victims, including children aged between 7 and 10, were burned beyond recognition.

With the support of families, she said, the victims' bodies will be identified through DNA investigations.

"I have no words to describe the pain I am going through," Richard Muhimba, the father of a dead child who lives in the nearby town of Mukono, told AFP.

"I visited him on Saturday, he was in good health, and three days later he died," he said on the phone before hanging up, overcome with grief.

The Salama School for the Blind, built in 1999, has dozens of students, aged between 6 and 25.



A fire remains inside the burnt building at the Ivory Tower of Makerere University in Kampala on September 20, 2020. - Copyright © africanews BADRU KATUMBA/AFP or licensors

Fire incidents at schools have been a cause of concern for education officials in the East African country where classrooms and dormitories are often crowded.

There's usually no firefighting equipment in place, and officials sometimes blame incidents on poor electrical connections.

Two dormitories at a prominent boarding school in Kampala were destroyed in separate incidents in 2020.

In 2008, 19 elementary school students were killed in a night-time fire outbreak at a boarding school.

### Ghana's ruling party lawmakers demand dismissal of finance minister



Ghana's Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta speaks during the G-24 news conference at the - Copyright © africanews Jose Luis Magana/AP

Ghana's ruling party lawmakers on Tuesday called for the sacking of the country's finance minister, adding pressure on the government to deal with record inflation.

President Nana Akufo-Addo has come under fire as Ghanaians face 37 percent inflation and the collapse of their currency - the cedi - in an economic hardship worsened by the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta has just returned from Washington, where he was in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to secure a loan of \$3 billion.

In addition to Mr. Ofori-Atta, a majority of parliamentarians from Mr. Akufo-Addo's New Patriotic Party (NPP) have called for the dismissal of another finance official.

The president must immediately fire the two officials "to restore hope to the financial sector and reverse the downward trend in the growth of our economy," the parliamentary group's spokesman, Andy Appiah-Kubi, told reporters.

"Until the aforementioned individuals resign or are removed from office, we in the parliamentary majority group will not participate in any government activity," Appiah-Kubi warned.

Five priests, 1 religious sister and 3 laypeople who were kidnapped on Sept. 16 in the Cameroonian diocese of Mamfe are now free, the diocese announced.

"It is with great joy that I announce the release" of five Catholic priests, one consecrated sister and two laypeople, Bishop Aloysius Fondong Abangalo wrote in his communiqué dated October 23.

The Mamfe diocese located in South West region is one of two restive regions in Cameroon where separatists have been waging war to the federal authorities since 2017.

On the evening of September 16, the Christians were abducted and St Mary's Church in Nchang (South West region) was burned down.

Murders, ransackings and kidnappings have become frequent in this region, where armed separatist groups regularly target schools and teachers in particular, but

"If our request does not receive a positive response, we will not be present at the session on the budget, nor will we participate in the debate," he said.

The call was supported by 80 of the 137 legislators in the NPP parliamentary caucus.

In Ghana's parliament, the NPP and the National Democratic Congress (NDC) have the same number of seats. Lawmakers are scheduled to begin debating the 2023 budget in November.

On social media, the call by the majority caucus in parliament has been leading the trends with minority MPs also calling for the same motion.

The video below by local media TV3 shows minority MPs addressing the media.

President Nana Akufo-Addo has been criticized for his economic management of the country, including his decision to enter into discussions with the IMF, which he once promised would lead to an "aid-free Ghana."

This decision has raised fears that the government will impose austerity measures that will further burden the population, which is already facing soaring prices.

Last week, shopkeepers in the capital, Accra, shut down their stores to protest against the soaring cost of living.

also Catholic and Protestant churches and their prelates. But the bishops of the region assure that Friday's kidnapping is "completely unprecedented" in its scale.

Last month, Archbishop Andrew Nkea, the president of the Ecclesiastical Province of Bamenda, did not give any details of the attack, did not attribute it to anyone in particular and said that the kidnappers had given "no concrete reason" for the act.

In the communiqué issued by Bishop Aloysius Fondong Abangalo, Sunday, no information on the kidnappers was given.

"Taking away the freedom of our brothers and sisters to make money at all cost is inhumane", the bishop of Mamfe simply condemned.

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### Priests, laypeople and a religious sister kidnapped in Cameroon's west, freed



An empty street by closed shops in Buea, the capital of the anglophone Cameroonian South West region, on September 30, 2017. - Copyright © africanews STRINGER/AFP or licensors

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Invitation for Bids

ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SIERRA LEONE

Procurement of Exhibition Forms and Signs

Date of First Issue: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) has received funds from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and intends to use part of the funds for eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of exhibition forms and signs. The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the printing and delivery of the undermentioned materials:

Lot No.	Item Description	Procurement Number	Quantity	Amount of Bid Security Required (SLE)	Delivery Period
1.	Procurement of Assorted Forms and Signs	ECSL/OPS/NCB/G/2022/0066	Various	80,000	One (1) Week
2.	Procurement of Flex Banners	ECSL/EED/NCB/G/2022/0068	Various	11,000	

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at procurement department, Electoral Commission Office, OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown between 9:00am-4:00pm from Monday-Friday. Bidding documents may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred New Leones only (SLE 500).

Payment for bidding document should be made into any of the bank accounts listed below and the payment slip presented at ECSL Procurement Department to collect the bidding document:

- Bank Name: Bank of Sierra Leone  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 000001011100398165

Below are details of Transit Accounts at the following Commercial Banks:

- Bank Name: Union Trust Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 004001113253120144
- Bank Name: Sierra Leone Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
Account Number: 003001081791112183
- Bank Name: Rokel Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA- Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 002001002101242863

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 at 1:00 PM. All bids must be accompanied by:

- A Valid Business Registration Certificate
- Bid Security in the amount specified above and from a reputable Commercial Bank;
- A Valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate;
- A Valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate;
- A signed Integrity Pact; [see attached]
- A signed and stamped Bid Form and Price Schedule
- Compliance with Payment Terms
- Evidence of undertaken similar assignment, including reference letters/contract documents.

Bids will be publicly opened on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 at 1:00 PM, in the presence of the bidders/bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

For any further clarification, please contact the address below.

Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone;  
Procurement Department;  
OAU Drive, Tower Hill;  
Freetown;



Investing in rural people



Agricultural Value Chain Development Project



Invitation for Bids

Freetown, Sierra Leone.  
October 19, 2022.

Re: SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ADDITIONAL TOOLS FOR INLAND VALLEY SWAMP DEVELOPMENT

1. The Government of Sierra Leone has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Adaption Fund (AF), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and Toni Blair Institute (TBI), the financing of which is being administered by IFAD and intends to apply a part of the proceeds of the financing to this purchase. The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (AVDP).

2. The goal of AVDP is livelihoods and climate change resilience of rural farming households in Sierra Leone improved, while the project development objective (PDO) is to promote agriculture as a business for enhanced incomes and reduced rural poverty, among 42,985 rural households. The AVDP will be implemented nationwide over a six-year period. A value chain development approach will drive the implementation process, supported by the application of a robust targeting strategy to ensure the inclusion of the rural poor in both the implementation of project activities and the sharing of the benefits and priority attention to enhancing climate resilience among the project beneficiaries.

The purchaser now invites sealed bids from eligible entities (bidders) for the supply and delivery of Various Tools for Inland Valley Swamp (IVS) development. More details on these goods and related services are provided in the schedule of requirements in this bidding document.

3. This IFB is open to all eligible bidders who wish to respond. Subject to restrictions noted in the bidding document, eligible entities may associate with other bidders to enhance their capacity to successfully carry out the procurement

4. The goods and related services, and the contract expected to be awarded, are divided into the following lots:

Lot No	Description	Unit of Measure	Total quantity of tools
Lot 1	Shovel	pcs	2400
	Spade	pcs	840
	Mattock	pcs	1920
	Pick axe	pcs	720
	Felling axe	pcs	960
	Head pan	pcs	1320
	Rake	pcs	1200
Lot 2	Wheel barrow	pcs	960
	Light cutlass	pcs	2400
	Heavy Cutlass	pcs	2520
	Hoe	pcs	3600
	Alignment Rope	Rolls	1440

Bidders can quote for and be awarded one or more lots.

Bidding will be conducted using the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method, the evaluation procedure for which is described in this bidding document, in accordance with the IFAD Procurement Handbook which is provided at [www.ifad.org/project-procurement](http://www.ifad.org/project-procurement). The NCB process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award. Please note that a pre-bid conference will not be held as described in the bid data sheet (BDS), Section III of the bidding document.

Bidders interested in submitting a bid shall purchase the bidding document against payment of a non-refundable fee of NLe250.00 Payment shall be made in the following account:  
Account Name: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project  
Account No: 014-001-107-861-136-462

Bank: Commerce and Mortgage Bank  
Bidding documents can be obtained by sending an e-mail with a copy of the payment slip, giving full contact details of the bidder and the subject of procurement, to [avdppmu@gmail.com](mailto:avdppmu@gmail.com). This will also ensure that the bidders receive the bidding document by email or hard copy at the following address, as well as any updates regarding the bidding document.  
Address: 23 Torwama Road, Bo, Southern Sierra Leone

Bids must be delivered electronically to the PMU via the following link and in the manner specified in the bid data sheet – instructions to bidders 23.2, no later than 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2022, at 12:00 hours GMT. Link: <https://bit.ly/3VxlZ2p>

Bidders shall be aware that late bids will not be accepted under any circumstance. All bids must be accompanied by:  
Certificate of Incorporation/Registration  
Copy of valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate  
Copy of valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate  
Copy of valid Local Council Certificate

Bid security in the form of a Bank Guarantee: The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be: Not less than five percent (5%) of bid amount for each Lot. Bid Security from community and village banks and Bid Bond from insurance companies are not acceptable.

Please note that only electronic bids shall be accepted.

There will be a virtual bid opening via ZOOM on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 at 12:30 hours GMT.

Link to join Bid Opening: <https://bit.ly/3D96HK1>

For any further clarification, please contact the above email address:

Yours sincerely,

Signed:  
Project Manager  
Agriculture Value Chain Development Project (AVDP)



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Mobile: 077 713533, 077630832, 088 635750



**Invitation for Bids**  
**ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SIERRA LEONE**

**Supply and Delivery of Assorted Stationery**

Procurement Number: ECSL/OPS/NCB/G/2022/0065

Date of First Issue: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) has received funds from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and intends to use part of the funds for eligible payments under the contract for the Supply and Delivery of Assorted Stationery. The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply and delivery of the undermentioned materials:

No.	Item Description	Quantity	Amount of Bid Security Required (Le)	Delivery Period
1.	Supply and Delivery of Assorted Stationery	Various	63,000	One (1) Week

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at procurement department, Electoral Commission Office, OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown between 9:00am-3:00pm from Monday-Friday. Bidding documents may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred New Leones only (SLE 500).

Payment for bidding document must be made into any of the bank accounts listed below and the deposit slips presented at ECSL Procurement Department to collect the bidding document.

- Bank Name: Bank of Sierra Leone  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 000001011100398165

Below are details of Transit Accounts at the following Commercial Banks:

- Bank Name: Union Trust Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 004001113253120144
- Bank Name: Sierra Leone Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Name: 0111003981  
Account Number: 003001081791112183
- Bank Name: Rokel Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA- Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 002001002101242863

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 at 10:00 A.M. All bids must be accompanied by:

- A Valid Business Registration Certificate
- Bid Security of SLE 63, 000 and from a reputable Commercial Bank;
- A Valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate;
- A Valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate;
- A signed Integrity Pact; [see attached]
- A signed and stamped Bid Form and Price Schedule
- Compliance with Payment Terms

Bids will be publicly opened on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 at 10:00 AM, in the presence of the bidders/bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

For any further clarification, please contact the address below.

**Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone;**  
**Procurement Department;**  
**OAU Drive, Tower Hill;**  
**Freetown;**



**Invitation for Bids**

**ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SIERRA LEONE**

**Supply and Delivery of Exhibition Materials**

Procurement Number: ECSL/OPS/NCB/G/2022/0078

Date of First Issue: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) has received funds from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and intends to use part of the funds for eligible payments under the contract for the Supply and Delivery of Exhibition Materials. The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply and delivery of the undermentioned materials:

No.	Item Description	Qty	Amount of Bid Security Required (SLE)	Delivery Period
1.	Ghana Must-go Bag	4000	7,000	One (1) Week
2.	Garbage Bag	4000		

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at procurement department, Electoral Commission Office, OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown between 9:00am-3:00pm from Monday-Friday. Bidding documents may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred New Leones only (SLE 500).

Payment for bidding document must be made into any of the bank accounts listed below and the deposit slip presented at ECSL Procurement Department to collect the bidding document.

- Bank Name: Bank of Sierra Leone  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 000001011100398165

Below are details of Transit Accounts at the following Commercial Banks:

- Bank Name: Union Trust Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 004001113253120144
- Bank Name: Sierra Leone Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA-Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Name: 0111003981  
Account Number: 003001081791112183
- Bank Name: Rokel Commercial Bank  
Account Name: NPPA- Revenue from sale of Bidding Documents  
Account Number: 0111003981  
BBAN: 002001002101242863

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at 12:00 Noon. All bids must be accompanied by:

- A Valid Business Registration Certificate
- Bid Security of SLE 7000 from a reputable Commercial Bank;
- A Valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate;
- A Valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate;
- A signed Integrity Pact; [see attached]
- A signed and stamped Bid Form and Price Schedule
- Compliance with Payment Terms

Bids will be publicly opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at 12:00 Noon, in the presence of the bidders/bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

For any further clarification, please contact the address below.

**Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone;**  
**Procurement Department;**  
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## NJALA UNIVERSITY

# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI) THE PROCURMENT TO SECURE FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS PROCUREMENT NUMBER: NU/FIN/RFP/2022/0001

With support from the Government of Sierra Leone, Njala University plans to build relationships with consulting firms that can offer consulting services. The University intends to contract firms (Consultants) to offer Consultancy Services. The key component of the Consultancy Services is to provide the following:

CONSULTANCY SERVICES	LOCATION
System review of the Finance Directorate, Internal Audit and Procurement Unit.	Njala Campus Moyamba District

### Responsibilities

- 1) Reviewing the roles of the Finance Directorate, Internal Audit Department, and Procurement Unit, as well as recommending potential synergies to ensure system and work flow improvement, are the primary duties.
- 2) Look for any potential work flow gaps in the flowcharts of the Finance Directorate, Internal Audit Department, and Procurement Unit and give recommendations for improvement.
- 3) Ensure that the staffing levels in the various units are adequate and to offer suggestions for filling any gaps.
- 4) To record the existing operational system and, if appropriate, offer recommendations for system improvements.

The service will be managed by Njala University's procurement unit, and eligible firms (Consultants) are now being invited to indicate interest in offering the service. Interested firms must submit documentation proving their ability to perform the services (indicating but not limited to the core business, years in business, qualifications in the field of the assignment, technical and managerial organisation of the firm and general qualifications and number of key staff, detailed curriculum vitae of key personnel and contact details of proposed personnel assigned to this Service, experience of the firm in handling such services).

Firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-firm to enhance their qualifications.

### Eligibility Criteria

The National Public Procurement Authority's "Rules and Procedures for the Use of Consultants" in Sierra Leone must be followed for the creation of the short list and the selection process for consultants. The method of Firms Qualifications Selection (CQS) will be applicable for selecting firm. Please note that Njala University is not obliged to shortlist any firm that expresses interest.

Interested Firms (Consultants) may obtain further information at the address below during office hours: 08:30 – 17:00hrs.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the following address by Wednesday, November 11, 2022, at 15:30 hours, and labeled "SYSTEM REVIEW OF FINANCE DIRECTORATE, INTERNAL AUDIT AND PROCUREMENT UNIT."

*To: The Procurement Officer*

*Njala University*

*Njala Campus*

*Moyamba District*

*Tel: +232 78-61-88-11*

*E-mail: lbangura@njala.edu.sl*



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**Njala University**

# Invitation for Bids

Procurement of (Office Stationery, Computers & Computer Accessories, Computer Consumables, Office Supplies (Toiletries and Provisions), Office Furniture, Office Equipment, Building Materials, Generator Spare Parts, Vehicle Spare Parts and Reagents).

Date of First Issue: 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2022

Njala University has allocated funds for the procurement of the following items and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the stated Lots in the table below:

Procurement Number: NU/EST/ICB/2022/0002

No.	LOTS	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BID SECURITY	DELIVERY
1	Lot A	Various	Office Stationery	15,000.00	Framework
2	Lot B	Various	Computers & Computer Accessories	21,000.00	Framework
3	Lot C	Various	Computer Consumables	12,000.00	Framework
4	Lot D	Various	Office Supplies (Toiletries and Provisions)	10,000.00	Framework
5	Lot E	Various	Office Furniture	25,000.00	Framework
6	Lot F	Various	Office Equipment	15,000.00	Framework
7	Lot G	Various	Building Materials	30,000.00	Framework
8	Lot H	Various	Generator Spare Parts	10,000.00	Framework
9	Lot I	Various	Vehicle Spare Parts	10,000.00	Framework
10	Lot J	Various	Reagents	12,500.00	Framework

Bidding is open to all suppliers who have capacity to supply the above goods of Lot A: Office Stationery, Lot B: Computers & Computer Accessories, Lot C: Computer Consumables, Lot D: Office Supplies (Toiletries and Provisions), Lot E: Office Furniture, Lot F: Office Equipment, Lot G: Building Materials, Lot H: Generator Spare Parts, Lot I: Vehicle Spare Parts and Lot J: Reagents.

Interested bidders can bid for one or more Lots. Meanwhile, bidders can obtain the bid documents for a non-refundable fee of Le500.00 (Five Hundred Leones). Please make payment to the accounts stated below:

ACCOUNT NAME: Revenue from the sale of Bidding Sub Treasury  
ACCOUNT NO.: 210113253-01  
BBAN NO.: 00-4001113253120144

BANK NAME: Sierra Leone Commercial Bank  
ACCOUNT NAME: Revenue from the sale of Bidding Sub Treasury  
ACCOUNT NO.: 003001081791112183  
BBAN NO.:

BANK NAME: Rokel Commercial Bank  
ACCOUNT NAME: Revenue from the sale of Bidding Sub Treasury  
ACCOUNT NO.: 02-011012428  
BBAN NO.: 002001002101242863

Further inquiries on the bidding document can be done at the address below between 9:00am to 4:00pm from Mondays to Fridays.

Bids must be delivered to the:

Njala University  
Procurement Unit  
University Secretariat  
Njala Campus  
Moyamba District.

On or before 12:00noon, on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

All bids must be accompanied by the following Documents:

- q A valid Business registration certificate
- q Bid Securities of the various Lots from a reputable Commercial Bank;
- q A valid NRA tax clearance certificate;
- q A valid NASSIT clearance certificate;
- q A signed Integrity Pact; [see attached];
- q A valid municipal/local council licence;
- q A Bid form signed and stamped; and
- q One Original copy and three photocopies of bids.

Bids will be publicly opened on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 at 12:00noon, in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

Njala University;  
University Secretariat;  
Procurement Unit;  
Room 7;  
Njala Campus  
Moyamba District  
078618811/030718284

## Are you being cheated by ignorance?

By Idede Oseyande



“For the thief cometh not, but for to steal, to kill, and to destroy. But I have come that ye might have life and that ye might have it more abundantly” – John 10:10

When I was younger, my father used to tell my siblings and I that we are lucky that we were raised in a God-fearing home. It did not make sense to me at that time, because the devil did not want me to operate in that realm of dominion.

That realisation would have helped me to prune out the things that held the old man back, which he felt raising us to know God early would avert such setbacks in our lives.

He would try to use his background to drive home his point. But you know the prodigal son did not know what his Dad went through to build and sustain wealth. He did not understand the privileges of being under the coverage and tutelage of a man who has grown wealth and sustained it over the years until he took his share and went to build his own 'empire'. It was then he realized that "khaki nor be leather", as we do say in our national parlance.

He had to make a wreck of himself for him to understand the lessons his father had been teaching him all these years.

Do you know that it is not everyone that can be lucky like the prodigal son? Yes, he was lucky enough to have come back alive. What if he had been killed by robbers or kidnappers due to the amount of money with him at the time? What if he had incurred a terminal disease or lost vital body parts in his riotous living?

There is a great tendency for young people to disregard the counsels, persuasions, and nudging of the elders, though it comes at a great cost. Yes, the prodigal son came back alive, but he has lost time, which could never be regained.

Mercy might bring you back, grace might sustain you from meeting a fatal end in your time of arrogance, but the time lost can never be regained.

The velocity and efficiency you will enjoy when you take the right counsel can never be overemphasised.

I don't know who needs this right now but don't let the devil rob you by making you assume you are wiser and smarter than your fathers.

Remember, the person who recommended Joseph was a servant himself, but his recommendation propelled Joseph to becoming a Prime Minister!

Your father might be an underachiever in your eyes, but his counsels from his "failed" attempts in life, might be all the inheritance you need from him for you to excel.

Yet, few more days and the year would be gone, that goal you are yet to achieve might be due to that counsel you have chosen to ignore!

Don't allow Satan to rob you out of your privileges.

Be wise!

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**With the financial support of**  
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**To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**  
**COUNTRY COORDINATING MECHANISM**  
**SIERRA LEONE (CCM SL)**  
**45 Adelaide Street Freetown Sierra Leone West Africa**

**Job Title:** Oversight Officer

**Entity:** Country Coordinating Mechanism Sierra Leone (CCM SL)

**Reports to:** CCM SL General Assembly and Oversight Chair Through the Country Coordinator/Executive Secretary

**Period of Performance:** The period of performance and expected duration of the contract is 1 year. Renewal based on performance and availability of funds

**Duty Location:** Freetown with 50% travel on **Field Visits**

**A. Introduction**

Oversight is CCM's pivotal process to ensure its Country ownership, alignment and harmonisation of Global Fund funded programs to national disease programs to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. CCM SL, through multi-sectorial partnerships, ought to provide strategic oversight - based on relevant, credible, accruable socio-epidemiological data available in the country - of all Global Fund related processes, to enable enhanced program efficiencies and effectiveness and maximum impact in Sierra Leone.

**Key Working Relationships:**

**Internal Oversight** within CCM SL and CCM SL Secretariat - Chair CCM, Oversight Chair, Ethics Committee Chair and Executive Secretary/Country Coordinator. Work as a Team to ensure a healthy governance environment and that processes are followed within CCM;

**Grant Oversight** within Programs- Principal Recipients, Sub-Recipients and Programs/Directorates. Work in consultation with Program Managers, Grant Managers, and Program M&E Staff to ensure grants are on track to deliver the outcomes and impacts according to the objectives of the grants; and support CCM during grant closure.

**Strategic Oversight** - In Consultation with Global Fund (GF)/Country Team (CT), CCM Hub and In-Country Technical Partners ensure alignment between the Global Fund grants and national disease programs and other development partners' programs.

**Proposal Development** -In consultation with the Country Coordinator/Executive Secretary and Proposal Development Taskforce work closely with CCM SL Members and stakeholders in the dialogue, engagement, proposal development and reprogramming processes.

**Select Principal Recipient (s)** - In consultation with the Country Coordinator/Executive Secretary and Proposal Development Taskforce work closely with CCM SL Members in the nomination of Principal Recipients for Global Fund Grant and closely oversee the selection of Sub-Recipients by the Principal Recipients

**Monitor** the relevant Grant Implementation tools using a user friendly reporting template and report back to the CCM through the CCM Oversight Chair and the CCM Coordinator.

**Ensure** that the relevant indicators that are below the grant target are raised with the CCM immediately or as soon as possible.

**B. Objectives of the position**

Facilitate and support analytical data-driven discussions and decision-making.

Provide support to oversight planning and implementation.

Provide technical and administrative support and act as secretary to the CCM oversight committee.

**C. Task and responsibilities**

**Operational Area 1: Support Oversight Planning and Implementation**

Update the CCM oversight plan in coordination with the Executive Secretary/Country Coordinator, CCM Oversight Chair and the oversight committee to obtain full endorsement for this plan by the general CCM SL Members. The oversight officer will then ensure the plan details specific activities, tools and methods for data collection, analysis and reporting, individual and/or constituency responsibilities, relevant elements and indicators related to risk management, issues related to sustainability or transition (where relevant), and Co-funding tracking and achievement taking into consideration the Government of Sierra Leone/Principal Recipient(s) Co-funding documents submitted to the Global Fund. The oversight officer then ensures the plan, tailored to the country's grant objectives and priorities are implemented.

Assist the oversight committee in the implementation of the annual oversight work plan. Ensure the implementation of activities of the oversight process (i.e. collection of information, analysis, and provision of recommendations to the CCM General Assembly, following up on actions decided by the CCM and sharing oversight information with the Global Fund on a frequent basis).

When required, support the mobilization of in-country technical expertise and/or Expert Pool (e.g. HIV, TB, Malaria, C19 and RSSH; Analytical Capacity for Data Use, etc.) on behalf of the CCM oversight committee. This could include being support staff of: the oversight committee, Ethics Committee, request for funding development process, programme reviews, grant-making process, etc.

Develop a user friendly reporting template taking into consideration key/main grant performance indicators

Communicate/Coordinate with Principal Recipients (PRs) in the preparation and presentation of oversight reports (based on key insights from the CCM reporting template, progress update/disbursement requests (PUDRs), Grant Management reporting template, Action points on oversight from CCM SL meetings and/or other reporting tools available).

To carry out additional tasks under this functional area as requested by the Executive Secretary/Country Coordinator CCM SL or Oversight Committee through CCM SL Leadership, according to its context and maturity level.

**Operational Area 2: Provide Technical and Administrative Support to the CCM Oversight Committee**

Support the oversight committee in the implementation of oversight activities throughout the Global Fund's grant life cycle (i.e., funding request preparation, grant-making, implementation and closure).

Support the preparation and implementation of quarterly oversight committee meetings, ensuring all relevant information is adequately synthesized and organized to facilitate discussions.

Support the oversight committee in the preparation and implementation of information collection activities, including meetings with PRs, site visits, consultations with specific groups (e.g., community-based monitoring initiatives, where these exist).

Develop and share procedures and templates to conduct site visits and support the oversight committee in their implementation. Whenever possible, leveraging other in-country field visits (e.g. field visits organized by the Ministry of Health and other donors, etc.). Specific tasks include: Analysis of issues to be explored during the site visit.

Documentation of the site visit team's findings and recommendations. Submission of the site visit findings and recommendations to the oversight committee.

Ensure that all oversight committee members are informed about Global Fund oversight policies, guidelines and tools.

Develop minutes of oversight committee meetings, including recommendations provided and actions agreed.

Track CCM decisions and actions based on the oversight committee's recommendations.

Carry out additional tasks under this operational area as requested by the CCM chair.

**Operational area 3: Enhance efficiency throughout oversight of Global Fund grant**

The oversight officer will ensure that the plan is carried out with focus on GF grants' strategic and effective contribution to national programs performance and will include relevant elements and indicators related to Risk Assurance, Resilient System Strengthening for Health, In-country Review and dialogue, co-financing, procurement and supply chain management, funds absorption and quality and efficiency of service delivery.

Supports the CCM SL through the oversight of the grant-making process to ensure strategic alignment with the country contextual realities.

Supports the CCM SL, after the grant-making process, in partnership with the CT, Inform and lead an orientation of the CCM - particularly the oversight committee - through the "knowing your grant programme". This programme will aim at

helping CCM members to understand the details of the grant(s) they will be overseeing.

Develop procedures (including ToRs informed by all relevant stakeholders) and templates for an expert pool for Malaria, HIV/TB, issue-driven site visits, facilitate site visits and participate in the site visit teams. As much as possible, leveraging on other in-country field visits (e.g. Joint Assessment Mission - JAM) regular field visits organised by Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) and other donors, etc.) to enhance efficiencies.

On a continuous basis, document information regarding grant oversight, in particular information related to grant optimization and impact. Including important data and data analysis related to relevant programmes at the national level.

In consultation with the Executive Secretary/Country Coordinator, work with the GF country team, MOHS/DPPI, PRs and Oversight Committee to hold and maintain ongoing data-driven dialogue for grant performance purposes, and ensure that appropriate linkages with other coordinating bodies in country are maintained.

Work with the CT, PRs and CCM to analyse the management letters, review the grant performance and update/guide CCM on its implications for remedial actions and relevant adjustments.

Work with the CT and support CCM (through the oversight committee) to actively monitor and manage risks, by ensuring that they are adequately anticipated and mitigated. This includes taking part in the development of risk assurance planning and validation processes.

In collaboration with the Executive Secretary/Country Coordinator, orientate all new PRs on oversight and relevant reporting tools, customize, review reporting tools for each grant with PRs on a quarterly basis, organize quarterly meetings of oversight committees and mobilize.

**Operational area 4. Lead analytical data-driven**

**discussions and decisions**

In coordination with the Ministry of Health Programme Managers (HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria & RSSH), the CT, PR(s) and other relevant partners in-country, with reference to current coverage of services and programmes for the three Global Fund diseases, support technical working groups of the Oversight, Resource Mobilization Committee and experts in carrying out In Country Review and Dialogue on coverage for each of the three diseases, for purposes of enhance efficiencies through alignment and harmonisation.

Attend and support regular programmatic, financial and system's briefings (led by the CCM and/or other relevant partners) on results of the three diseases programmes on behalf of CCM members and alternates, the public, private and Non-Governmental Organizations(NGO) stakeholders.

Ensure that all CCM members and alternates are knowledgeable about the national policies related to the three diseases and Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH) reporting requirements as well as the key indicators used in this process - ensure alignment and strategic complementarities with the GF grants indicators (programmatic, financial, Procurement and Supply Management/PSM, RSSH, Management, etc.).

Ensure that all key processes (funding request development process, programme revisions, etc.) are driven by socio-epidemiological data in the country, drawn from in-country discussions and dialogues.

Oversee timely and accurate updates of reporting tools and support (through thorough triangulation of information) the Oversight Committee presentations to the CCM and ensure that the most effective and efficient decisions are taken in order to anticipate and mitigate potential bottlenecks.

Ensure that credible and verified data from legitimate Community Based Monitoring is incorporated in the oversight assessments and reports and inform decisions accordingly.

**D. Performance indicators**

#	Operational Area	Indicator
1	Support the CCM & operational structures functioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Timely submission of draft minutes of oversight committee's quarterly meetings with PRs to the oversight committee. Three working days after each meeting at the latest is considered best practice.</li> <li>➤ CCM members', Secretariat, Oversight Committee, and other stakeholders' satisfaction (survey) regarding oversight engagement, linkages with other coordinating structures, &amp; support (of the oversight officer)</li> </ul>
2	Enhance efficiency throughout oversight of Global Fund grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Quarterly tracking and reporting on the absorption of CCM Funding &amp; PRs Grants.</li> <li>➤ Timely submission of site visit reports to the oversight committee chair. Three working days after each visit is considered best practice</li> <li>➤ Biannual orientation of all new CCM members and refresher training for all old members - in particular oversight committee members - on "knowing your grant" within three months after the grant signature or reprogramming process.</li> </ul>
3	Lead analytical data-driven discussions and decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Timely submission of analysis/technical summaries/completed oversight tools to support the oversight committee meetings. At least five working days before each meeting is considered best practice.</li> <li>➤ Number of reporting tools for each grant, accurately updated 2 weeks prior to each Oversight Committee Meeting and modified 2 weeks before meetings</li> </ul>

**E. Key qualifications and experience**

Bachelor's degree required with social science and/or public health, population studies orientation highly desirable and advanced degree preferred.

At least 4 years of experience in Monitoring & Evaluation of projects/programs

Knowledge and experience in project-level or state/national-level monitoring and evaluation system implementation

Familiarity with the Global Fund CCM Policy and Oversight Function is desirable.

Familiarity with the country's health system structures.

Familiarity with epidemiologic indicators for HIV, TB and malaria and financial indicators.

Proficient in Microsoft Office applications especially Excel / Access, word, email, internet and websites essential

Ability to work effectively with staff and organizational stakeholders

Proficiency in data collection, triangulation and information analysis from different sources.

Policy decision-support, strategic analysis and reporting.

Proficiency in the synthesis of financial, programmatic and management information.

Health Indicator and data analysis skills

Strong inter-personal skills and proven ability to communicate and interact with high-level officials from the government, NGOs, United Nation Agencies and the private sector

Strong writing, presentation and communication skills and experience in writing /editing proposals as part of a team essential

Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, set priorities and work independently as well as being a part of a team

Previous development experience and/or background with government or private sector desirable

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 To apply for this position please send an up to date CV, supporting letter and copies of relevant certificates to [ccmsierraleonesecretariat@yahoo.com](mailto:ccmsierraleonesecretariat@yahoo.com) and copy **Chairman oversight committee** at [sayed.sahibzada@undp.org](mailto:sayed.sahibzada@undp.org) No hardcopy of application will be accepted. **Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.**

**Date Posted: Friday 30th September, 2022.**

**Deadline for submission of Application: Monday 31st October, 2022 at 4:30pm SL time.**

**NOTE:** This advert can also be acquired by visiting the website of the Country Coordinating Mechanism Sierra Leone at [www.ccm.sierraleone.org](http://www.ccm.sierraleone.org)

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## Friday 05/08

## Set 17870

(\*) All bets subject to Mercury International rules. In case of discrepancy terminal data prevails. Canceled fixtures pay 1:1. Bets placed after kickoff are void. Single bets permitted.

Fix No.	Sales Close	Competition	Home Team	Home Goals	Draw	Home Goals	Away Team	1/1 (1)	1/X (2)	1/2 (3)	X/1 (4)	X/X (5)	X/2 (6)	2/1 (7)	2/X (8)	2/2 (9)
1	8/5/2022 13:55	Romania 2	UNIREA SLOBOZIA	12	v	14	FCM BAIA MARE	2.35	14.00	45.00	4.00	4.90	8.80	23.00	15.00	7.00
2	8/5/2022 15:40	Italy Cup	CAGLIARI	0	v	0	PERUGIA	2.85	16.00	50.00	4.40	4.60	8.20	29.00	16.00	6.80
3	8/5/2022 15:55	Poland	FKS STAL MIELEC	5	v	2	CRACOVIA	5.20	14.00	29.00	7.00	4.70	5.20	35.00	14.00	3.35
4	8/5/2022 15:55	Denmark	RANDERS FC	7	v	3	HORSENS	2.80	15.00	45.00	4.60	4.80	8.60	27.00	15.00	6.60
5	8/5/2022 15:55	Romania	UNIVERSITATEA CLUJ	13	v	15	PETROLUL	3.70	15.00	40.00	5.20	4.20	6.40	35.00	15.00	5.00
6	8/5/2022 15:55	Italy Cup	UDINESE	0	v	0	FERALPISALO	1.79	22.00	99.00	3.60	7.00	18.00	25.00	23.00	15.00
7	8/5/2022 16:25	Bundesliga 2	GREUTHER FURTH	15	v	18	KARLSRUHER	2.49	15.00	40.00	4.70	6.20	9.60	23.00	15.00	6.60
8	8/5/2022 16:25	Bundesliga 2	SANDHAUSEN	10	v	3	FORTUNA DUSSELDORF	4.70	14.00	28.00	6.80	5.00	5.60	35.00	14.00	3.45
9	8/5/2022 17:55	Denmark	LYNGBY	10	v	5	MIDTJYLLAND	7.00	16.00	23.00	9.60	5.80	4.50	45.00	15.00	2.49
10	8/5/2022 17:55	Croatia	VARAZDIN	8	v	1	DINAMO ZAGREB	12.00	20.00	22.00	16.00	7.40	3.85	80.00	20.00	1.85
11	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland	HEERENVEEN	16	v	17	SPARTA ROTTERDAM	3.00	15.00	45.00	4.80	5.00	8.20	29.00	16.00	6.40
12	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	DEN BOSCH	4	v	6	FC EINDHOVEN	4.90	14.00	25.00	7.40	5.60	5.20	35.00	14.00	3.15
13	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	DORDRECHT	5	v	16	RODA	8.40	17.00	20.00	13.00	7.80	4.30	50.00	17.00	2.02
14	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	HERACLES	8	v	1	ADO DEN HAAG	2.65	15.00	40.00	4.70	5.80	8.60	23.00	15.00	6.20
15	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	BREDA	14	v	7	HELMOND	1.95	18.00	70.00	4.00	7.00	14.00	22.00	19.00	11.00
16	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	TOP OSS	17	v	11	JONG UTRECHT	3.00	14.00	35.00	5.20	5.80	7.60	24.00	14.00	5.20
17	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	VENLO	19	v	2	ALMERE CITY	4.40	13.00	25.00	7.00	5.60	5.80	30.00	13.00	3.35
18	8/5/2022 17:55	Holland 2	WILLEM II	20	v	12	JONG PSV	2.28	16.00	45.00	4.30	6.60	10.00	22.00	17.00	7.40
19	8/5/2022 17:55	Slovenia 2	TRIGLAV KRANJ	13	v	16	PRIMORJE AJDOVSCINA	1.94	16.00	60.00	3.65	5.80	12.00	21.00	17.00	9.20
20	8/5/2022 17:55	Hungary	VASAS	9	v	1	PAKSI	3.80	13.00	30.00	6.00	5.20	6.40	28.00	13.00	4.20
21	8/5/2022 17:55	Turkey	ISTANBULSPOR AS	13	v	18	TRABZONSPOR	7.40	15.00	25.00	9.80	5.20	4.50	50.00	15.00	2.50
22	8/5/2022 18:10	Switzerland 2	XAMAX	10	v	1	YVERDON-SPORT	3.95	14.00	28.00	6.20	5.40	6.20	29.00	14.00	3.90
23	8/5/2022 18:10	Switzerland 2	THUN	9	v	6	AARAU	3.45	14.00	27.00	6.00	6.20	6.60	25.00	14.00	4.10
24	8/5/2022 18:25	Poland	LEGIA WARSZAWA	7	v	17	PIAST GLIWICE	3.00	15.00	45.00	4.70	4.70	7.80	28.00	15.00	6.20
25	8/5/2022 18:25	Poland 2	ODRA OPOLE	18	v	3	WISLA KRAKOW	5.20	14.00	27.00	6.60	4.30	4.40	40.00	14.00	3.00
26	8/5/2022 18:25	Bundesliga	EINTRACHT FRANKFURT	7	v	3	BAYERN MUNICH	9.20	18.00	20.00	14.00	8.80	4.50	60.00	18.00	1.96
27	8/5/2022 18:25	Slovakia	TRENCIN	12	v	7	MICHALOVCE	2.60	13.00	35.00	4.50	5.20	7.60	22.00	13.00	5.40
28	8/5/2022 18:40	Ireland	DUNDALK	2	v	3	DERRY CITY	3.75	14.00	35.00	5.40	4.60	6.40	30.00	15.00	4.70
29	8/5/2022 18:40	Ireland 2	CORK CITY FC	1	v	9	ATHLONE TOWN	1.41	27.00	99.00	3.30	9.40	26.00	21.00	26.00	20.00
30	8/5/2022 18:40	Ireland 2	GALWAY UNITED FC	2	v	6	WEXFORD FC	1.92	16.00	50.00	3.75	6.40	11.00	19.00	17.00	8.40
31	8/5/2022 18:40	Ireland 2	TREATY UNITED	5	v	3	WATERFORD FC	7.20	15.00	21.00	9.60	5.60	3.95	45.00	14.00	2.17
32	8/5/2022 18:40	Scotland Championship	QUEENS PARK	6	v	8	AYR UNITED	3.75	15.00	40.00	5.20	4.40	6.20	35.00	15.00	4.90
33	8/5/2022 18:40	Championship	BIRMINGHAM	14	v	19	HUDDERSFIELD	4.10	15.00	40.00	5.60	4.50	6.40	35.00	15.00	4.80
34	8/5/2022 18:40	Belgium	CLUB BRUGGE	8	v	7	WAREGEM	1.61	24.00	99.00	3.80	9.40	22.00	22.00	24.00	16.00
35	8/5/2022 18:55	Ireland	FINN HARPS	10	v	8	DROGHEDA UNITED	3.50	15.00	40.00	5.20	4.70	6.60	30.00	15.00	5.00
36	8/5/2022 18:55	Premier League	CRYSTAL PALACE	7	v	2	ARSENAL	7.20	16.00	26.00	9.40	5.40	4.60	50.00	16.00	2.70
37	8/5/2022 18:55	France League 1	LYON	9	v	1	AC AJACCIO	1.85	22.00	90.00	3.90	7.60	17.00	24.00	22.00	14.00
38	8/5/2022 18:55	Italy Cup	LECCE	0	v	0	CITTADELLA	2.31	17.00	60.00	4.00	5.40	11.00	26.00	18.00	8.80
39	8/5/2022 19:10	Portugal	BENFICA	2	v	1	AROUCA	1.52	30.00	99.00	3.45	8.80	29.00	27.00	30.00	25.00
40	8/5/2022 19:10	Italy Cup	SAMPDORIA	0	v	0	REGGINA	2.04	19.00	80.00	3.75	5.80	14.00	26.00	20.00	12.00

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**SALCAB** ECOBANK LAPO MICRO FINANCE (SL) LTD  
**HRC** **NPPA** **BSL** **SOLTHIS** OXFARM **AHF**  
**MIC** **UTB** **SLCB** **RCB**  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT **ORANGE**  
**MERCURY SL** UNDP WHO **M.R. DISTILLERIES** **IGR**  
OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY **AFRICELL** MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
**NMA** **ZENITH BANK** MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
KENEMA CITY COUNCIL EUROPEAN UNION **SMEDA**  
NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD **PPRC** CHASL STANDARD BUREAU  
STATISTIC SIERRA LEONE WORLD BANK **AFRIGAS** RADISSON BLU HOTEL  
**MARITIME** NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES **PLAN INTERNATIONAL**  
**PRA** FAWAZ BUILDING MATERIALS **ECOMED** PARTNERS IN HEALTH  
**PEE CEE & SONS** SMALL ARMS **MOTT MACDONALDS** **SLWREC**  
KINGHO MINING COMPANY **PPRC**  
**NEC** NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD **NPPA** **EBK UNIVERSITY** JUDICIARY OF SIERRA LEONE

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