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CONCORD TIMES

NEWSPAPER

Vol. 17, No 140250783 Thursday, Nov. 24, 2022 Price: Le 2

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Contempt of court: Peter Conteh guilty!

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Mohamed Rahman Swaray Minister for Information and Communications



Alfred Peter Conteh

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

High Court Judge, Justice Adraian Fisher, has found Alfred Peter Conteh of the main opposition All People's Congress (APC) party guilty of contempt of court and levied a fine of Le 50M or 30 days in prison, should he fails to file an affidavit of compliance within 7 days.

Justice Fisher made the above ruling yesterday, November 23rd, 2022, at the High Court on Siaka Steven Street in Freetown. He said failure to go by such orders then the ruling takes effect.

The contemnor, Alfred Peter Conteh, who was represented by lawyer Jesse M. Jengo, had earlier filed a case against erstwhile Chairman of the APC Earnest Bai Koroma and others including the party. On April 28th, 2022, the court passed a judgment to resolve the issue of democracy in the APC by dissolving the entire executive of the party.

Cont. Page 2

Skye Bank GM remanded

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The VP IFAD Brown and PC Mariama Jaward Tarmia III Niawa Chiefdom and one beneficiary

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INTERVIEW **An exclusive interview with Dr. Richard Konteh - A senior member of the All People's Congress about the ongoing bruhaha in the party**

Q: There is so much noise within the APC about Dr. Richard Konteh and Peter Conteh. What can you tell the general public about your relationship with Peter Conteh?

A: I'm Dr. Richard Konteh, a senior member of the APC Party and flag bearer aspirant. Yes, I carry a surname similar to Peter Conteh but with a different spelling. Mine started with "K," and his with the letter "C." Therefore, there is no blood relationship between us. Besides, I'm black in complexion, while Peter is fair. Our only relationship is that we are all serving under the same Party.

Q: So why are people referring to you as Peter Conteh instead of Dr. Richard Konteh and at the same time accusing you of having taken the APC party to court?

A: To me, it is just a conscious and deliberate effort by some mischievous party members to smear my character. But it will surely be a blessing for me when the truth eventually comes out to the people they are misguiding. The truth always triumphs over falsehood, that I believe.

Q: I am made to understand that you are a member of the "Big Six," and people are accusing you and the "Big Six" of undermining the Party. What do you have to say about such

allegations?

A: To answer your question, yes, I am a member of the "Big Six," which I presume you already know the composition of it. Almost all of us in the "Big Six" joined the APC when the Party was in opposition and have contributed immensely towards the progress and development of the Party.

Since I gave my words to my former Boss and brother, former President Ernest Bai Koroma, sometime in 2005 to date, I have always worked in the interest of my Party. This is why even in government when I was appointed as Minister in 2007 and later a Chief of Staff in the Office of the President, I worked assiduously to ensure my Boss and my Party succeeded. Despite my predicament in 2014, I had never in any instance said anything or did anything that had the tendency to undermine my Party. In 2019 when I finally decided to declare my intention to run for the flag bearer position of my Party, my campaign message has always been based on promoting and projecting the image of the Party. I had taken unimaginable and unequal

risks to defend my Party since 2018, when the Party went into opposition.

The Party hierarchy and some senior comrades are fully aware of my genuine and sincere efforts to bring peace and unity to the Party. Both in the open and behind the scenes, I have also worked tirelessly to see that comrades see the need to come together and work in the Party's best interest. I wonder why the same people (some senior members) of the Party have decided to launch a negative campaign against us as "Big Six" knowing fully well our roles in terms of peacebuilding in the Party. Presumably, the only crime we committed as "Big Six" is the interest we have expressed in the flag bearer position of our Party.

Q: So what do you have to tell Sierra Leoneans about you and the Big Six?

A: I want fellow Sierra Leoneans to avoid what I refer to as an unfortunate statement made by one Alpha Saidu Bangura on AYY television the other day, telling Sierra Leoneans that all the bad things he had been saying about President Bio were false and that bad politicians

were asking him to do that. As a person of integrity and morals, always learn to do self-research to have the facts of what you put out there. People should judge us by our antecedents and what they have seen us do before 2007 and since we lost power in 2018, to date. Do not allow bad politicians who have nothing good to offer for the Party to use you for self-aggrandizement. We had believed in the APC and believed in Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma from the days in opposition (i.e. before 2007), and we shall continue to believe and sincerely work in the interest of the Party to regain power in 2023, God being our helper.

And for those bad politicians who know themselves very well, I am asking them to henceforth refrain from their diabolic attitude as this does not take the Party anywhere. We are in opposition, and we need to work together in the interest of our Party and the people of Sierra Leone, by extension. Only the truth can salvage the Party's situation and the country as a whole.

Contempt of court: Peter Conteh guilty!

From Cover

The April 28 judgment gave birth to the Interim Transitional Governance Committee (ITGC), vacating all the old executives with the intention to resolve differences in the party and take the party to its delegates' convention.

The ITGC was mandated to temporarily run the affairs of the APC until a new substantive body is elected under the party's new constitution.

The 21-man Interim Governance transition Committee (ITGC), according to the ruling of the court, should consist of 9 members to be nominated by Alfred Peter Conteh, one of whom should be the chairman, 2 Members of Parliament from each region including the North, North-West, the Western Region and one each from the East and Southern regions nominated by the party's parliamentary leader, 1 senior legal practitioner of not less than 20 years standing nominated by the party's legal team, 1 member each from the young congress, women's congress, diaspora and veterans of the party.

But the ITGC has been constrained with sharp division between the Chairman Alfred Peter Conteh faction and that of the leader of the APC in Parliament led by Hon. Abdul Kargbo Secretary and head of the Secretariat of the ITGC.

Hon. Abdul Kargbo and others filed a case of contempt against Alfred Peter Conteh for taking several unilateral



decisions on behalf of the ITGC.

In his judgment, Justice Fisher therefore stated that Alfred Peter Conteh has no powers to appoint executive members to act in regions, adding that ITGC was not the National Advisory Committee (NAC) of the APC to form such bodies.

He also noted that Peter Conteh has no such authority to appoint interim chairmen and that the decision to appoint interim chairmen was completely illegal.

"The chairman acted illegally and it's therefore null and void," Justice Fisher

stated.

The Judge further rules that members were ought to be reinstated through a convention and therefore the chairman acted beyond his powers to admit such people.

The judge further noted that the press release of 4th August, 2022, issued by Peter Conteh, suspending some members of the ITGC, cannot stand, stating that all issues stated there was void.

He said simply forming a quorum will not constitute what the court

envisages as simple majority, adding that the decision of the IGTC will only be valid where all the members voted and a majority of those members constitute the decision of the IGTC.

Justice Fisher rules that a committee of five is to be formed within the Interim Transitional Governing Committee (ITGC) by simple majority to resolve membership issues.

Justice Fisher therefore nulls all the decisions unilaterally taken by Alfred Peter Conteh to direct donations to the ITGC.

"Nowhere did I say in my judgment that the chairman must receive donations on behalf of the party.

He therefore urged that a committee of five be formed within the IGTC by simple majority to resolve membership issues. He said members ought to be reinstated through a convention and therefore the chairman acted beyond his powers to admit such people back to the party.

Justice Fisher ruled that membership issues is required to be done through a convention at the next national delegates' conference which must be included in its agenda.

He ruled that the ITGC holds regular meetings not extending one week between each meetings. He urged that all activities of the party including going into a delegates' conference and election of presidential candidate be done not later than January 29th, 2023.



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MNO CHALLENGES

The telecommunications industry is contributing immensely to the socio economic development of Sierra Leone through the payment of taxes, employment, investments and CSR. Today this sector is considered one of the largest taxpayers and employers in the country and they have done so with grace, empathy and resilience even in the face of adversities and challenges mainly associated with the cost of doing business. They have remained consistent in delivering on their promise to provide telecommunications services to the people of Sierra Leone with the highest quality of service akin to international standards. Today, over 90% of the population can now access voice and data services across the country as a result of the aggressive investments undertaken by the MNO's over the years. Over 60,000 Sierra Leonean are employed directly or indirectly through this sector and many communities, organizations & stakeholders are benefitting through their CSR and sponsorships.

Due to the current global economic challenge, the cost of operations incurred by telecommunications companies have quadrupled over the past few years to such an extent that they are currently struggling to even maintain their operations talk less of their ability to recover returns on their investment.

From the discoveries gathered by this medium, it came out glaringly that these GSM Companies are incurring high production and operational costs and are mostly subsidizing some of the cost associated with the provision of various telecommunications services on a 24/7 basis in the best interest of their valued customers.

As the Foreign Exchange rate against the Leone continues to fluctuate, the present day value of the UD Dollar is at Le. 18,000 (Old Leones) to \$1. This records an increase of 148% since the last GSM tariff adjustment was done in 2017 when the exchange rate was Le. 7,258 (Old Leones) to \$1.

Also, telecommunications companies are presently contending with an increase in fuel cost. It must be noted that Fuel price is at Le 25,000 (Old Leones) against Le 6,000 per litre 5 years ago when the telecommunications sector tariff was last reviewed. This records a colossal increase of 317% for a product that accounts for a major part of the total operations of their business.

Similarly, the cost of Electricity tariff (EDSA) which is a similar utility service and a cost driver for telecommunication services has witnessed a significant increase of 78% from Le. 1,890 (old Leones) to Le. 3,364 (New Leones) as at July, 2022.

Presently, the use of the internet is now a necessity and not a



privilege. Since Zoodlabs took over the management of the submarine cable from SALCAB, the cost of connectivity has increased by 53% from Le 156 Million (Old Leones) per Gbps in January 2022 to the present Le234 Million (Old Leones) per Gbps.

Further, the cost of capacity on the National Terrestrial Fiber managed by Leonecom has registered a colossal 2400% increase from \$0.4 per Mbps to \$10 per Mbps.

The Telecommunications companies may not be able to maintain the level of investments relating to the construction of Sites as the cost of Cement per bag and steel per ton which was Le 65,000 and Le 6,000,000 (Old Leones) are now Le. 120,000 and Le. 11,500,000 respectively accounting for 92% increase. All their vendors responsible for the operations or maintenance of their sites as well as the supply of equipment, products and services have increased their prices due to the rate of the foreign exchange and the resultant effect of the inflation.

Based on the foregoing and considering the seriousness of the constraints they undergo, we have been reliably informed that these companies will be forced to rationalize services, limit CSR and even halt further investment if urgent action is not taken to rescue their businesses. The sector is badly in need of a price review the same way other sectors have benefited from price adjustment to reflect the actual cost of providing the services plus a reasonable margin. The Government should urgently intervene as this medium is even afraid that some of these Companies might begin to consider redundancies in the short term which will negatively impact thousands of families in the country.

LOCAL NEWS Port Loko land owners present petition letter to Parliament

By Jariatu S Bangura
Affected land owners and indigenes of both Maforki and Marampa Chiefdoms in Port Loko district on Tuesday, November 21st, presented a petition to the Speaker and Members of Parliament for immediate redress.

Hon. Abdul Karim Kamara who presented the letter, said land owners and indigenes had registered their displeasure and utter dismay at the hurried and non-consultative way INTEGEMS had conducted the Public Disclosure on 28th of October 2022 in Maforki Chiefdom regarding the Port Loko bauxite mining concession on behalf of TC mining Company. He said land owners drew the attention of the Minister of Mines and Mineral Resources on the need to have the process clear and concise in line with the laid down laws governing such a process, but that the Minister had not responded to their call.

"That we the community members in Maforki Chiefdom are presenting this petition to the House of Parliament, the supreme law making organ and further crave your kind and timely intervention to address this anomaly

before such a lease agreement is tabled before the House for ratification which will not be a fair process of awarding a mining concession to CTC Mining company," the letter reads.

He said the community has neither met with the owners of CTC Mining Company nor had any favorable discussion with Integems (the Environmental Impact Assessment Consultants) for the award of such a licence, adding that during the public disclosure in Maforki on the 28th of October, 2022, the community rejected the public disclosure and the meeting ended abruptly.

He said the people were very concerned that an Environmental Impact Assessment license (EIA) was hurriedly awarded to TC Mining Company without a legally signed lease agreement by the landowners of the chiefdom, a condition they believe was a prerequisite for the application for an EIA license.

He further echoed that the people were also worried at the speed at which the entire Environmental Impact Assessment study was conducted and also the speed at which EPA issued an EIA licence to CTC



Land owners at Parliament

Mining within a short period of time. He also stated that both Integems and CTC mining company limited haven't the interest of the communities at heart, taking into consideration how such an important aspect was hastily executed.

He said his people also highlight that their community was concerned as to

why Indigenes Mining, Oil and Gas Company that got its environmental impact assessment license from EPA on the 26th of August 2022 for the same area, but its application was not sent to the Minerals Advisory Board for months until after TC Mining Company submitted its application.

Ecobank staff remanded for embezzlement IFAD engages stakeholders in Bo District

By Yusufu S. Bangura

On Wednesday 23rd November 2022, Magistrate Isata Sellu-Tucker of the Pademba Road Court No.2 remanded Admira Abdullah to the Female Correctional Facility in Lunsar for alleged embezzlement.

The accused appeared before the court on six counts of embezzlement and four counts of larceny by servant contrary to the laws of Sierra Leone.

It was alleged that the accused on the 3rd May 2019 and 28th May 2020, at Eco-Bank, Lunsar Branch in Marampa Chiefdom, Port Loko District, embezzled two hundred million Leones (Le200,000,000).

Testifying in court, second prosecution witness, James M. Samai, attached to the Economic and Financial Fraud Unit (EPU) at the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) headquarters, said he recognised the accused and recalled on 24 April 2020.

He said he was at the aforesaid unit when he received distress call from Eco-Bank, adding that he and Detective Sergeant Koroma N. M left for Ecobank at Charlotte Street in Freetown.

Samai continued that upon their arrival at the bank, they met the accused and that in his presence the accused admitted misappropriating the said sum.

He said the accused was later apprehended and conveyed to the CID headquarters for questioning.

The witness said statements were obtained from the complainant and witnesses, adding that the

complainant later submitted to him Eco-Bank savings and withdrawal slips, copy of administration statement made by the accused in respect of the alleged fraudulent conversion.

They were produced and tendered in court to form part of the court's records and the account open mandate for customers' documents were also tendered in court.

He narrated that on 24th April 2020, he and Detective Sergeant 9094 Koroma N.M obtained voluntary caution statement from the accused and during the investigation, the accused confessed to him that she had handed over one hundred million Leones to her fiancé, Sahr Bendo.

He said as a matter of fact, they went to Goderich in search of the aforesaid individual, but he was nowhere to be found.

"My Lady, due to the seriousness of the outbreak of COVID-19, the accused was put on bail as requested by the bank," he said.

The witness concluded his evidence that on 12th October 2022, he charged the accused with six counts of embezzlement and four counts of larceny by servant contrary to the laws of Sierra Leone.

The accused's charged statement was tendered in court.

The witness was cross examined by Defense Counsel M.B. Koroma on behalf of the accused person and he later applied for bail for her, but she was denied.

The matter was prosecuted by Assistant Superintendent of Police, Hawa Bah.

The matter was adjourned to Tuesday 29th November 2022.

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, on Monday 21st November, had an engagement with stakeholders in Bo District on their project.

IFAD is a specialised agency of the United Nations mandated to enable poor rural women and men to improve on their food security and nutrition, raise their incomes and strengthen their resilient. The Programme Manager for the Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (AVDP), Monica Kwame Green, said AVDP was working in ten districts across the country in the IFAD project.

She said AVDP has increased production and improved the marketing of rice, palm oil, cocoa and vegetables, contributing to the government's priorities of rice self-sufficiency, crop diversification and rural poverty reduction.

She added that they were still working with their farmers to see how they can improve productivities in the ten districts that they are working, adding that over the years they have been able to cultivate over 100 acres of groundnut, and for rice they were targeting four thousand five hundred acres of land.

She said they were supporting five thousand beneficiaries in various districts across the country, and continued that all those years they have cultivated one thousand two hundred acres of rice in various districts.

She added that the new project will increase production and improve the marketing of rice, palm oil, cocoa and vegetables, contributing to the government's priorities of rice self-sufficiency, crop diversification and rural poverty reduction.

She said they have been having a lot of challenges in weather conditions on cultivation of resistance crops variety that withstand changes in climate patterns.

She continued that timely dissemination of information on weather forecasts to farmers will enable them to adjust their farming calendar in line with such information.



During the engagement with stakeholders in Bo District

She added that another challenge is wildfires, stating that government through local authorities should increase awareness on strategies of controlling wildfires.

She said government needs to strengthen local by-laws and regulation to control of wildfires.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Sahr Hemore, said the purpose of the IFAD board's visit was to look at their various projects that they have been spending their money on for the past years.

He said the IFAD project has been a major boost in the development of agriculture in the country and that government has been ensuring that the project is monitored in the districts where the project is located.

He thanked the IFAD executive board who came from various parts of the world and stated that their stay in Sierra Leone will be a success and that they will continue to do their part as a government in supporting the rural people.

Chairman of Bo District Council, Joseph M. Bindi, said Sierra Leone has a significant production of palm oil, adding that the production has gone to a level that the country should be looking at industrialization.

He said they have a few partners in the country that have moved to industrialization and that the problem the country is facing is how they could be able to process the product after they have harvested it.

He pleaded with the IFAD team to look into their demands in helping them with machines that will help them be able to produce palm oil.

NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

Burkina Faso: at least 14 dead in two attacks in the north



Fighters of the Islamic group of Mujao stand guard near the Gao airport as Burkina Faso. - Copyright © africanews ROMARIC OLLO HEN/AFP

At least fourteen people, including eight civilian army replacements, were killed Monday in two separate attacks by jihadist groups in northern Burkina Faso, security and local sources told AFP on Tuesday.

"Armed individuals attacked in the early hours of Monday the village of Safi, located in the Boala commune, near Kaya (central north). The Volunteers for the Defense of the Fatherland (VDP, civilian auxiliaries to the army) who were directly targeted lost eight members," a security source told AFP.

Several other elements were also injured in the attack, the same source said.

A local VDP official, contacted in Kaya, confirmed the attack, citing a toll of 7 dead, 10 wounded and significant material damage.

"On the same day, near Markoye, in the northeastern province of Oudalan, armed individuals killed six civilians and took away vehicles and other property," the security source added.

"The terrorists kidnapped three young people on the Salmoissi-Markoye road, who was later found dead in the bush during the day (Monday)," said a relative of the victims contacted by AFP.

"They stripped several people who fell on them on the

axis, and took away vehicles," added this source.

Since 2015, Burkina Faso has been regularly plunged into mourning by increasingly frequent jihadist attacks that have killed thousands and forced some two million people to flee their homes.

These attacks have increased in recent months, mainly in the north and east of the country.

Captain Ibrahim Traoré, who led a military coup on September 30 against Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba, was sworn in as president of the transitional government by the Constitutional Council on October 21.

This was the second coup d'état in Burkina Faso in eight months, and each time the coup leaders cited a deteriorating security situation.

On January 24, soldiers led by Lieutenant-Colonel Damiba overthrew President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, who was accused of laxity in the face of jihadist attacks.

On October 25, the new government launched the recruitment of 50,000 Volunteers for the Defense of the Fatherland (VDP), civilian auxiliaries to the army, who are to "reinforce the ranks of the army in the fight against terrorism."

Sahel Security Summit: W.Africa, European partners bolster ties against jihadist threat



Nana Akufo-Addo, Ghana's President - Copyright © africanews NIPAH DENNIS/AFP or licensors

West African nations met with European leaders on Tuesday for talks on "homegrown" ways to prevent jihadist conflict in the Sahel threatening to "engulf" countries on the Gulf of Guinea.

Coastal states Ghana, Benin, Togo and Ivory Coast face increasing threats and attacks from Islamist militants across their northern borders with Burkina Faso and Niger.

The summit in Ghana's capital Accra also comes as more Western nations have withdrawn peacekeepers from Mali after its military junta strengthened cooperation with Russia.

Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo said worsening Sahel security was "threatening to engulf the entire West African region".

"Terrorist groups, emboldened by their apparent success in the region are looking (for) new operational grounds, a development that has triggered a southward drift of the menace," he said.

Under the so-called Accra Initiative, heads of state from the Gulf of Guinea and leaders from Niger and Burkina Faso met in Ghana with representatives from the West African bloc ECOWAS, the EU, Britain and France. Akufo-Addo called for a "home-grown initiative" to answer the threat as well as a comprehensive approach involving economic and social development to tackle the roots of jihadism.

"We remain firm in our commitment to shoulder a greater part of the responsibility."

- Sahel spill over -

The Sahel conflict began in northern Mali in 2012, spread to Burkina Faso and Niger in 2015 and now states on the Gulf of Guinea are suffering sporadic attacks. Ghana has beefed up security along its northern frontier and has so far escaped any cross-border attacks.

But Benin and Togo in particular have faced threats from across their northern borders with Burkina Faso. Benin has recorded 20 incursions since 2021 while Togo has suffered at least five attacks, including two deadly assaults, since November 2021.

"For years we have been talking about the risk of contagion of the terrorist threat from the Sahel to the coastal states. Today this is not a risk anymore, it is a reality," EU Council president Charles Michel told the summit.

French and other peacekeeping missions had been operating in Mali for almost a decade as a bulwark against the spread of violence.

But after two coups in Mali, the military junta increased cooperation with Moscow and allowed what Western countries call Russian mercenaries into the country. That prompted France to pull out its troops deployed under its Barkhane anti-jihadist mission. Britain and Germany last week said they would also end peacekeeping missions.

British Armed Forces Minister James Heappey last week said the UK would be "rebalancing" its deployment though he did not give details about what form that would take.

He said Accra Initiative countries would likely need different capabilities than the British long-range reconnaissance forces currently in Mali.

"The United Kingdom's armed forces already enjoy great relationships with many of the countries within the Accra Initiative and we stand ready to build on that," he said in Accra.

"But this is a regional problem that you have here in West Africa and it's right that you seek to provide the solution." Across the three Sahel nations, thousands of people have been killed, more than two million displaced and devastating damage has been inflicted to three of the poorest economies in the world.

Aid worker killed in ambush by armed group in Mozambique



Mozambican soldiers patrol in front of a burned truck carrying the inscription ... - Copyright © africanews SIMON WOHLFAHRT/AFP or licensors

A humanitarian worker for the French NGO Solidarités International was killed in an ambush by an armed group in northern Mozambique, which has been plagued by jihadist violence for more than five years, the organization said Tuesday.

Solidarités International "is shocked by the news of the death of one of their colleagues, a victim of an attack by an armed group" on Sunday on a road in the district of Muidumbe in the direction of Palma, in the province of Cabo Delgado, wrote the NGO in a statement.

The impoverished, Muslim-majority northern province bordering Tanzania has been plagued by jihadist violence that has killed more than 4,400 people, including nearly 2,000 civilians, since October 2017, according to the NGO ADED, which collects data in conflict zones. The violence has also caused one million people to flee, according to the UN.

The victim aged about 30 years was a Mozambican national, a spokeswoman for the Paris-based organization, which operates in 23 countries, told AFP.

Other people were killed, she added, not having more details at this stage.

The generally well-informed Mozambican news website Zitamar reported a total of five dead, including the head of operations of the Palma police, his wife and nephew, as well as the aid worker.

The aid worker was on his way back to Palma from the provincial capital Pemba after a weekend break when his car was targeted, Solidarités International said.

In March 2021, a carefully planned murderous raid devastated the port city of Palma, population 75,000. The natural gas megaproject of the French group TotalEnergies, only a few kilometers away, was stopped dead in its tracks.

Solidarités International, regularly present in Mozambique and back since last year, was preparing distributions of food in the region.

"The murder of our colleague and the civilians traveling with him shocks and disgusts us," said the director of the NGO, Kevin Goldberg, quoted in the statement.

DRC: Two die from lightning strikes at displaced persons camp

Two people died from lightning strikes on Monday in a displaced persons camp in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

More than 260,000 people have been forced to flee their homes due to recent fighting between government forces and M23 rebels, according to assessments by the United Nations.

The camp Kanyaruchinya, just north of Goma city, is only 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the frontlines of the fighting. One of the victims was a pregnant woman who had stepped out from her tent when she was struck. Another was a young child.

The bodies of the victims have been brought to the provincial morgue in Goma to await the funeral. Grieving families of the victims asked for help from the

government.

"May the government help us with assistance because we are suffering a lot, the displaced are suffering, we have no food, and the suffering is getting worse every day," said Byamungu Sigrezambo, father of one of the victims.

Other displaced people living in this site remain worried about tough living conditions.

The fresh fighting between the M23 rebels and the Congolese army and its allies in the territory of Rutshuru, has forced tens of thousands to take refuge in informal sites in Kanyaruchinya and in the surrounding localities. Aid workers said an urgent international response is needed and are looking for 50-million US dollars to fund its work here for the next six months.

Ramaphosa urges more climate funding in UK address



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa speaks at the Houses of Parliament during a state visit, in London, Tuesday Nov. 22, 2022. - Copyright © africanews Toby Melville/WPA Rota

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on Tuesday (Nov 22) addressed serving British lawmakers.

He urged rich nations to fund climate action in poorer countries during an address to United Kingdom's parliament.

Ramaphosa said there was "a responsibility of the more industrialised nations of the world to contribute substantial resources to low and medium income countries to fund their climate actions."

"This should not be seen as charity," he insisted. "It is compensation for the harm done and the harm yet to be done to people in developing economies as a consequence of the industrialisation that wealthy countries have had over many years."

Ramaphosa received a standing ovation from the audience who consisted of serving MPs as well as members of the, upper chamber, the Lords. His comments come days after the end of the UN climate conference COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt).

"We are pleased that the final outcomes of COP-27 hold

out the promise of concerted action to address climate change. It was Nelson Mandela who espoused the vision of a global community of nations that strives by all means available to improve the human condition", Ramaphosa said.

The president of Africa's most industrialised nation also called for the UK to push for more "representative and more inclusive international bodies" such as the United Nations Security Council and global financial institutions. Earlier he was welcomed during a ceremony by King Charles III and Camilla, Queen Consort and also met William and Kate, the Prince and Princess of Wales.

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak also attended the ceremony, in addition to Foreign Secretary James Cleverly and Home Secretary Suella Braverman. The visit was organized before the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The last state visit by a South African leader was in 1996, when Nelson Mandela was honored two years after he became South Africa's first Black president.

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LOCAL NEWS

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The Vice President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Donald Brown, has noted that he was very pleased with what he had seen so far in Bo and Kenema, and stated that what was interesting about the field trip was to see so many groups which various rural communities can benefit from. A field trip was undertaken by IFAD, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Agriculture Value Chain Development (ADVP), Financial Service Association (FSA), and the APEX bank to assess the impact of the IFAD project in Sierra Leone.

Donald Brown said in his discussion with some farmers, he understood how they access loans and were able to invest through the loan they received from community banks.

He added that a certain man who owns a metal workshop told him that his business had grown through the loan he received from the community bank and that he can now boast of having thirty workers.

He further stated that the community banks have been helping different groups including Commercial Motorbike Riders Union, teachers union and some farmers, with loans.

He added that very often in rural areas, it can be very difficult for farmers to access loan, and if someone does, the person has to go to Kenema in the southern part of the country, Bo District or mostly Freetown, capital.

He said bringing the community banks and financial association to the villages, there was more access to loan for rural dwellers.

He said one of the beneficiary teachers told him that he was able to purchase a motorbike that he uses to go and teach everyday.

Vice President Donald Brown told

IFAD Vice President impressed with project's impact



The VP IFAD Brown and PC Mariama Jaward Tarmia III Niawa Chiefdom and one beneficiary

strengthen more financial institutions in rural communities for them to help beneficiaries in those local communities. He said they have been supporting smallholder farmers in rural areas to improve on their livelihood, adding that they also supports financial services so that people in rural communities can access loan to invest and improve their livelihood.

He called on the government to pay teachers' salaries through the community banks or financial services association, so that teachers will not waste a day to travel to Bo or Kenema to collect salary.

He said his general assessment so far has been amazing in respect of the direct impact they have seen on people's livelihood and that a lot of rural inhabitants have benefitted from the IFAD project.

He noted that they just do not provide the money, but also try to build institutions and strengthen financial institutions, so that they can be sustainable after the project finishes.

He added that they also wanted to build the capacity of farmer groups to organize and be able to interact better with businesses, and called on beneficiaries to be cooperative with big

businesses in Freetown, so that they too can improve their businesses.

He said that there was more need to strengthen institutions, thus noting that one gap in Sierra Leone is that the country was just coming from the shocks of Ebola, Covid-19, coupled with the war in Ukraine, which has affected the global economy.

He said they needed to improve revenue in rural areas and other parts of the country, disclosing that government has not been able to release the counterpart funding to augment the implementation of the project.

He said if the counterpart funding from the government are late the project will not be successful, noting that they needed the government to be able to release their funds on time.

He said although iron ore is one part of the economy in the country, but that 61% of country's GDP comes from agriculture.

"We need to improve and commercialise agriculture because that will impact the majority of people that are working in rural areas," he said.

Chief of Nyawa Chiefdom, Kenema District, PC Mariama Jaward Tarmia

III, said with support from IFAD, the Financial Service Association has been doing amazingly well in supporting their subjects over the years.

She said the association has been supporting women farmers with loans and helping them in agriculture and other businesses they are engaged in.

She said when she assumed power as chief of Nyawa Chiefdom, FSA almost wanted to fall, but with the support of donors, particularly IFAD and ADVP, they came together with the community to bring the FSA back in operations.

She maintained that communities have benefited a lot from the support from the FSA and IFAD, and said the little challenges they are facing with his people is for them to pay the loan.

Hassan S.Kamara, one of the beneficiaries, who is a blacksmith, said FSA has done a lot for him and his household.

He said before he joined FSA, he was only using local machines and that with the help of FSA and IFAD, he can now boast of thirty workers and has built three houses in various parts of Kenema, Blama and Nyawa village.

Female Sierra Leonean engineer shortlisted for international engineering innovation Prize



Margaret Yainkain Mansaray, a Sierra Leonean, has been shortlisted for the African Prize for Engineering.

She was shortlisted among fifteen talented African entrepreneurs from Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation was founded by the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2014, and it is Africa's biggest prize dedicated to developing African innovators and helping them to maximise their impact. It gives commercialisation support to

ambitious African innovators developing scalable engineering solutions to address local challenges, demonstrating the importance of engineering as an enabler of improved quality of life and economic development.

Mansaray, according to a release from the Royal Academy of Engineering, was shortlisted for inventing the Smart Green Stove, an efficient non-electric cooking device designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and health risks, slashing energy use by 70%.

She is the first Sierra Leonean to be shortlisted for the prestigious prize since 2014 and the only female among the

shortlisted African innovators.

According to the organisers, the shortlist will be followed by an eight-month period of tailored training and mentoring, which would culminate in a showcase event where a winner would be selected to receive £25,000, along with three runners-up, who are each awarded £10,000.

"One shortlisted innovator with receive an award of £5,000 as 'The One to Watch'."

A shortlist of 15 African entrepreneurs and their pioneering technologies aimed at environmental rehabilitation, education, and human health and safety have been selected for the 2023 Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation, founded by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

The 2023 shortlist represents ten African countries, including for the first time Angola and Sierra Leone, and demonstrates the importance of engineering as an enabler of improved quality of life and sustained economic development.

This year's shortlisted entrepreneurs join the Academy's 134-strong Africa Prize alumni network, which includes innovators who have achieved significant commercial success and social impact across the continent following their participation in the Prize.

Launched in 2014, the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation is awarded annually by the Royal Academy of Engineering to ambitious African innovators creating local and scalable solutions to pan-African and international challenges.

Innovators shortlisted for the Africa Prize will benefit from a unique package of support including business incubation, mentoring, fundraising and communications. The package also includes access to the Academy's global network of high-profile and highly experienced engineers and business experts in the UK and Africa.

Four finalists will be chosen to pitch their innovations and business plans to Africa Prize judges at an event in Accra, Ghana on 6 July 2023. The winner will receive £25,000, and three runners up will win £10,000 each. An additional One-to-Watch award of £5,000 will be given to the most promising entrepreneur from the remaining shortlist.

The innovations shortlisted in 2023 tackle challenges central to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, including clean water and sanitation, sustainable cities and communities, good health and wellbeing, and clean energy, good health and wellbeing, and quality education.

The Africa Prize is generously supported by the UK's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and The Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund.

LOCAL NEWS

The Parliament of Sierra Leone on Friday 18th November 2022, enacted the Bill entitled "The National Council for Civic Education and Democracy Act, 2022," for the purpose of continuous nationwide civic education on the roles and responsibilities of citizens, patriotism and nationalism. The Act also seeks to provide development communication for government and partner programmes to the people of Sierra Leone.

Presenting the bill to Parliament, the Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Dr. Francis Kaikai thanked the House for what he described as "a positive reception to the bill."

He assured the Members of Parliament that the bill presented to them is well researched to promote national development. Dr. Kaikai acknowledged NaCCED's contribution in the popularization of the Medium Term National Development plan nationwide, stating that "the plan has been truly nationally owned not only by Parliament but also by the people of Sierra Leone. Dr. Kaikai informed the House that Civics has been reintroduced as a stand-alone subject at Primary to Junior Secondary School levels. He further notified the Members of Parliament that the Civic textbooks have been printed and distributed to all government and government-assisted schools, and over three thousand (3,000) teachers trained to teach the subject.

"Truly, civic education is on course again in Sierra Leone after the breakdown from the 1980s. I want to assure you that this bill is good for the citizens and for good governance in Sierra Leone," he said. The Minister of Planning expressed appreciation of the support and political will from all sides of the political spectrum within

Parliament enacts the National Council for Civic Education and Democracy Act, 2022

and outside Parliament. "I can speak on behalf of the Cabinet that this bill received resounding support from the President and all Cabinet Ministers," he confirmed. "I am happy that we all agree that there should be a true meaning of the words nationalism, patriotism, democracy and this bill clearly complements everything that we do, even within this House, and in promoting our development programmes and aspirations," he ended.

The Chairman for Planning and Economic Development Committee in Parliament, Honorable Musa Fofanah, while making his submission on the bill stated that "for the committee, this bill is very critical and we want to believe that the benefit of this bill cannot be over emphasized."

Honorable Fofanah stated that if the bill is fully supported and passed into law, it would help the country actualize its civic education dream. "There is a lot of disconnect between our civic education and our national agenda. We believe it is because of this disconnect that we have lots of political differences here and there," he bemoaned. Honorable Fofanah believes that functional civic engagement fosters understanding of the political development for national cohesion as required by the National Medium Term Plan cluster 4. He further commended NaCCED Chairman, Mr. Kalilu Totangi for his contribution and intervention through community civic engagement during the 2021 Mid Term Population and Housing Census exercise. "I want to say that the civic commission will benefit this country in our national research because they have been helping MDA's in terms of sensitization around their responsibilities and the responsibilities of our constituents," he added.

The Leader of the Opposition, Honorable Chornor Maju Bah,



NaCCED chairperson, Kalilu Totangi in Parliament

described the bill as "timely and relevant and a must for citizens." "In most countries in the world civic education is a mandatory subject in all schools and we should not be an exception," he emphasized. He stated that the duty of citizens goes simultaneously with their rights, noting that, "most times we talk about our rights without mentioning our responsibilities." He thanked the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, and NaCCED for pushing the bill forward and assured them that "Parliament is a willing partner in this very important drive." The Leader of Government Business, Honorable Mathew Sahr Nyuma endorsed the bill stating that debating and enacting it "is a responsibility they owe this country".

He said although education is a fundamental human development index, the practicalization of civic responsibility is key. "We have had so many good governance programs promoting good citizenship, but we believe that the direction set by this bill is the right trajectory". Referencing a provision in the document that looks at the application

which states "This Act shall apply to all matters pertaining to operation and transactions carried out in or connected with formal and non-formal civic education, community engagement, nationalism and patriotism and awareness raising throughout Sierra Leone," Honorable Nyuma believes that the bill is timely because the 2023 general and presidential elections are only months away. He advised that the disposition of the institution should be apolitical and politicians and the general public should see it at such. "This should not carry any form of political bickering or being a political platform. It should be a platform for every Sierra Leonean to change our attitude," he advised. "We are a post war country, we really need this to change the narrative of our country and to also strengthen our democracy," he concluded.

Parliamentarians from across the aisle passionately delved into the details of the bill, and amended a few sections.

The bill was therefore enacted, with Presidential assent being the next and final stage.

SLP receives kits to detect harmful drugs

By Yusufu S. Bangura



Some of the test kits SLP received from the UNDP

The Sierra Leone Police (SLP) has received test kits from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that would be used to detect harmful drugs taken by youth across the country.

SLP received the kits on Tuesday, 22nd November, at the police headquarters, George Street in Freetown.

Director of Crime Service at the Criminal Investigations Department headquarters (CID) in Freetown, Commissioner Ibrahim Joseph Lahai, made the disclosure to pressmen on Tuesday.

The Director of Crime Service said they are responsible for the day-to-day monitoring of crimes across the country, adding that their concerns recently was about the narcotic drug rise in the country

and that people have become victims of drug addicts.

He said they were very much concerned about the country's future, so they as custodians of the law, their task are to handle the menaces quickly.

"I want everyone to know that this fight is not a one man fight, but for everyone. In that light we have established Anti-Drug

Unit at the regional command, Freetown West and it would be established across the country to make sure that this country is drug-free," he noted.

He said the intake of 'Kush' by youths has been a topic of discussion, adding that the manufacturers, importers, suppliers and distributors of the product would be targeted and brought to book.

Skye Bank GM remanded

By Jeneba A Conteh

46-year-old Ikubolaje Nicol, General Manager at Skye Bank, made his first appearance before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of the Pademba Road Court No.1 in Freetown.

He was before the principal magistrate on three count charges to wit conspiracy to murder, contrary to Section 4 of the Offences Against the Person's Act of 1861, murder and perverting the cause of justice contrary to law.

According to the particulars of offence, on diverse dates between the 15th to 16th October 2022 at Leicester Village in Freetown, the accused conspired with other persons unknown to murder Sinnah Kai Kargbo and that at the same place

and date, knowing fully well the circumstances leading to the death of Sinnah Kai Kargbo on October 17, 2022 and other days, thereafter fabricated evidence with intent to pervert the cause of justice.

The charges were read and explained to the accused person, but no plea was taken. Easmon N.B Ngakui, Aruna Jalloh, H.M Bockarie, Yusuf Isaac Sesay, and two others are representing the state in the matter.

The lead state prosecutor Easmon N.B Ngakui said they'll not wait for the defence counsel, Roland Wright and sought for a short adjournment date. However, Magistrate Ngegba said the offences are serious and refused bail and adjourned the matter to the 30th November 2022 for further hearing.



UNICEF Public Notice for Sale of Used Items November 2022

UNICEF intends to dispose of two used Toyota Hilux Pick up 4x4 vehicles and one used Toyota Hiace Minibus. Sealed bids are invited from interested persons.

Conditions

1. The 3 vehicles can be inspected at the UNICEF Country Office within the Central Medical Stores Compound, New England, Freetown, on Thursday 17th November and Monday 21st – Thursday 24th November, from 2pm- 4pm on these stated days.
 2. During inspection standard COVID-19 procedures will be followed including temperature checking, hand washing, and regulating number of persons entering the premises.
 3. The items will be sold to the bidder with the **highest acceptable bid** on an "as is where is basis".
 4. After inspection interested persons may collect **BID FORMS** from UNICEF Offices at Central Medical Stores - Freetown, Caritas/Pastoral Centre, Teko Road – Makeni or 51 Maxwell Kobi Street – Kenema.
 5. An advance payment of 10% of the offer price is required (in the form of a certified cheque in the name of UNICEF Sierra Leone) when sending sealed bids. The certified cheque should be enclosed in the sealed bid. *Bank certified checks are bank checks guaranteed by the bank that funds stated on the check are available for payment to UNICEF. This advance is non-refundable for all successful bidders.* The successful bidder will be required to make payment of the remaining 90% within five working days after the offer is given by UNICEF; and to take possession of the items won for immediate removal from the office premises. Unsuccessful bidders will have their cheques returned to them.
 6. UNICEF agrees to sign the Sierra Leone Road Safety Authority (SLRSA) Vehicle Transfer Form for transfer of ownership of the vehicle from UNICEF to the successful bidders.
 7. UNICEF was exempted from taxes on these vehicles, successful bidders will now be required to pay the applicable taxes to the government through the National Revenue Authority. The taxes will be determined by the National Revenue Authority based on the value and physical condition of the vehicle.
 8. Items once sold will not be returned to UNICEF under any circumstances.
 9. Sealed bids containing the completed BID FORM and cheque, clearly marked "BID FOR USED UNICEF ITEMS November 2022" on the envelopes' front side and addressed to:

The Secretary, Property Survey Board,
UNICEF Freetown Office,
Central Medical Stores Compound,
New England Freetown
- should be dropped in the bid box at the above address not later than 10 am on **Monday 28th November 2022**. Bidders in the provinces can drop their sealed bids at the offices in Kenema or Makeni observing the same deadline above.
10. Bidders are responsible for the accuracy of their bids and for meeting all conditions set out in the advertisement, including enclosing the 10% certified cheque in the required format. Non-compliance with any element of the guidelines in the advert for preparation and submission of bids may be grounds for disqualification and declaration of bids as invalid.
 11. UNICEF reserves the right to accept or reject any bid AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION.



THE SIERRA LEONE POLICE WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!



MOHAMED ALIE JALLOH

NAME: MOHAMED ALIE JALLOH
ADDRESS: NO. 18 THORONKA DRIVE, IMATT, FREETOWN
OFFENCE: EMBEZZLEMENT
OCCUPATION: EMPLOYEE
NATIONALITY: SIERRA LEONEAN
AGE: ADULT
WARRANT OF ARREST: CID HQ (EFFU) C/R NO: 1998/2022

SUMMARY OF OFFENCE

SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER MOHAMED ALIE JALLOH HAS BEEN DECLARED WANTED BY THE SIERRA LEONE POLICE FOR A CASE OF EMBEZZLEMENT WHICH INVOLVED THE SUM OF THREE HUNDRED AND SEVEN MILLION, AND NINETY NINE THOUSAND AND TWENTY LEONES (LE 307,099,020)

IF SEEN, PLEASE CONTACT CID HEADQUARTERS PADEMBA ROAD FREETOW, THE NEAREST POLICE STATION OR CALL ANY OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS: 077-214-246 / 088-494-170 OR 030-039-616. A HANDSOME REWARD WILL BE GIVEN TO ANYONE WHO GIVES INFORMATION THAT WOULD LEAD TO THE ARREST OF MOHAMED ALIE JALLOH



EXTERNAL JOB VACANCY

Sierra Diamonds Limited is looking for a qualified candidate for the following position:

Position: Security Supervisor	Location: Tongo Field, Sierra Leone
Department: Security	Reports to: Security Manager
Hours: 44 per week	Contract Type: Fixed Term

Key deliverables:

- Supervising a team of Security Personnel/contractors and providing first line management to the operational shift to ensure that all duties are carried out properly; Undertaking regular internal and external foot patrols of a site; Protecting client's property against loss, theft, damage and waste.

Key Duties Include:

- Conducting regular floor walks throughout a shift to ensure the smooth running of security operations; Making sure that Security Officers are performing their duties to the appropriate standard;
- Identify and conduct training courses to keep staff properly trained for their areas of responsibility;
- Develop knowledge and capability in others – share knowledge, skills and experience to raise competency;
- Detecting, resolving and reporting any security breaches; investigating security breaches and incidents;
- Supervise sites, DMS and FRP Plant access control;
- Supervise Sort rooms and other Sorting activities;
- Keeping Sort room registers and handling incidents and report writing;
- Assist with training programs and audit procedures.

Skills and Qualifications required:

- Excellent communication skills (Verbal and written);
- Effective people management skills & good team building skills;
- Being thorough and accurate in all record keeping and documentation;
- Dealing professionally with any incidents of verbal abusive & threatening behaviour;
- 4 years' experience in security or similar industry with effective leadership capability;
- 2 Years' experience of working in a mining environment will be desirable;
- 2 Years' experience as a security site supervisor, or trainer;
- Ability to interact cordially and communicate with other team members;
- Effective oral and written communication skills;

How to apply:

To apply for this role, please submit your updated CV and copies of certificates to any of the following addresses depending on your location: For the attention of:

The Human Resources Department
Sierra Diamonds Limited
Tongo Camp Site, Tongo Field

The Human Resources Department
3 Cole Street, Murray Town, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Or

sdl.recruitment@newfieldresources.com.au

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Closing Date: Wednesday 7th December 2022

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Fix No.	Sales Close	Competition	Home Team	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	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	AROUCIA	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	REGGINA	2.04	19.00	80.00	3.75	5.80	14.00	26.00	20.00	12.00



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
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INT'L SPORTS

Manchester United's owners the Glazer family say they are considering selling the club as they "explore strategic alternatives".

The Americans bought the club for £790m (\$1.34bn) in 2005.

Their move follows years of protest from fans against the ownership.

A statement from the club said the board will "consider all strategic alternatives, including new investment into the club, a sale, or other transactions involving the company".

It added that the process "will include an assessment of several initiatives to strengthen the club, including stadium and infrastructure redevelopment, and expansion of the club's commercial operations on a global scale" to enhance "the long-term success of the club's men's, women's and academy teams, and bringing benefits to fans and other stakeholders".

In 2012, the Glazers sold 10% of their holding via a stock listing and have sold further shares in the following years.

"As we seek to continue building on the club's history of success, the board has authorised a thorough evaluation of strategic alternatives," said executive co-chairmen and directors Avram Glazer and Joel Glazer.

"We will evaluate all options to ensure that we best serve our fans and that Manchester United maximises the significant growth opportunities available to the club today and in the future.

"Throughout this process we will remain fully focused on serving the best interests of our fans, shareholders, and various stakeholders."

The Glazer family have owned NFL side Tampa Bay Buccaneers since 1995 and Avram Glazer bought a team in the new United Arab Emirates Twenty20 cricket league in 2021.

Joel and Avram took over the day-to-day

Manchester United owners Glazers consider selling Premier League club

running of United after their father Malcolm suffered a stroke in April 2006. Billionaire Malcolm died aged 85 in 2014.

American investment firm Raine Group, who handled Chelsea's £4.25bn sale in May, is exclusively advising United.

The statement from the club added: "There can be no assurance that the review being undertaken will result in any transaction involving the company."

"Manchester United does not intend to make further announcements regarding the review unless and until the board has approved a specific transaction or other course of action requiring a formal announcement."

United, who are fifth in the Premier League, have not won the title since 2013 and have not won a trophy since claiming the Europa League and EFL Cup in 2017.

There have been multiple protests against the Glazers' ownership in recent years, including one in May 2021 that caused United's home league match against Liverpool to be postponed.

Thousands of supporters marched to Old Trafford in protest before the same fixture this season, in August.

United was part of the failed European Super League project that rapidly collapsed in April 2021. Manchester United co-chairman Joel Glazer later apologised for the unrest it caused.

He has since attended fans' forums in the wake of supporter unrest and pledged to make shares available to the club's followers.

According to Transfermarkt, United have a net spend of 1.36bn euros (£1.18bn) on transfers under the Glazers, with only Manchester City having a higher figure in that period.

Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo, who left Manchester United with immediate effect on Tuesday, criticised the club ownership in a controversial interview last



week - including saying the Glazer family "don't care about the club" on the sporting side.

The move to sell United comes after Liverpool chairman Tom Werner said Fenway Sports Group was "exploring a sale".

A Bloomberg report in August 2022 said the Glazer family were willing to sell a minority stake in the club.

British billionaire Sir Jim Ratcliffe said he would be interested in buying United but then stated in October that the Glazer family had told him they did not want to sell.

There has never been any real dispute that the Glazers see Manchester United as a financial investment.

To a greater or lesser degree - co-chairmen Joel and Avram being the most invested - they are interested in the football side but the main aim is to make money, which they have succeeded at.

To that end, a few issues have conspired to make the Glazers think now is a good time to test the water with regard to an exit.

First, the European Super League plan was killed off. Whilst Barcelona, Juventus and Real Madrid are adamant it will get

clearance through the courts, in its original form, it is done - and with it, the riches that would have come from it.

Then, Saudi Arabia's backing of Newcastle creates more competition within the Premier League and, eventually, Europe.

Added to the huge investment required on an Old Trafford refit - and improvements at the club's Carrington training ground - running a competitive United, in the short-term, is going to be very costly.

To that end, the £4.25bn Chelsea was sold for in the summer starts to look very attractive.

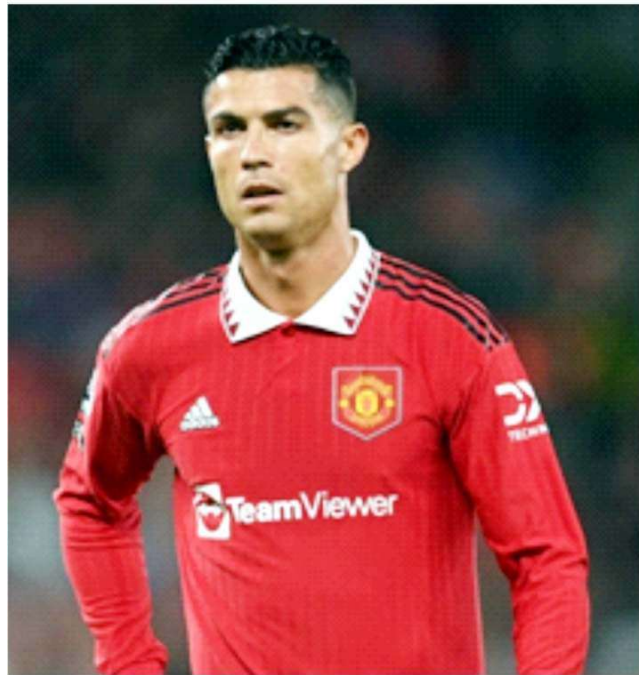
The Glazers have not been popular owners since the day they bought United in 2005.

If they are to leave, most fans would welcome it. However, given the likely selling price, their dream of ownership may be unrealistic.

And, even if a boyhood supporter fan Sir Jim Ratcliffe follows up his summer plan to attempt to buy the club, he is unlikely to be the only interested party. In the short-term, the future at Old Trafford may just bring more uncertainty.

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football>

Cristiano Ronaldo is hit with a £50,000 fine and a two-match ban after he smashed a fan's phone



Cristiano Ronaldo has reportedly been hit with a £50,000 fine and a two-match ban by the FA after smashing a fan's phone earlier this year.

Following Manchester United's defeat to Everton at Goodison Park last season, Ronaldo appeared to slap the hand of Jacob Harding as he stormed down the tunnel, damaging the boy's phone.

The FA have now concluded their investigation, and handed Ronaldo a hefty fine as well as a suspension, as reported by The Mirror.

While the investigation was ongoing last month, it was reported that Ronaldo would accept an improper conduct charge from the FA, but was determined to fight the threat of a potential ban.

Now that he has been given a suspension, it remains to be seen whether he will dispute the punishment handed down.

The charge comes just a day after he ended his second spell at United following his bombshell interview with Piers Morgan where he criticised the club.

United announced that Ronaldo's contract had been terminated by 'mutual consent' on Tuesday evening.

After his actions at Goodison Park in April,

Ronaldo posted an apology to his Instagram page.

'It's never easy to deal with emotions in difficult moments such as the one we are facing,' he wrote.

'Nevertheless, we always have to be respectful, patient and set the example for all the youngsters who love the beautiful game.'

'I would like to apologise for my outburst and, if possible, I would like to invite this supporter to watch a game at Old Trafford as a sign of fair play and sportsmanship.'

The 37-year-old was interviewed by police in relation to alleged assault and criminal damage and received a caution for his behaviour.

Ronaldo also looked to apologise to Harding in person, but the mother of the 14-year-old autistic boy Sarah Kelly refused, leading to a 10-minute phone call, with Kelly later branding the superstar as 'arrogant'.

'He asked me if I would like to come down and meet his family,' she told The Mirror. He said, "I'm not a bad dad". I said to him, "I never said you were a bad dad".

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/sportsnews>



Cricket: Sylvester Okpe to lead Nigeria, as Sierra Leone opponent announces 14-man squad

Sylvester Okpe will lead the Nigerian Yellow Greens as captain as they continue their preparations for the International Cricket Council (ICC) ICC T20 World Cup Sub Regional Qualifier B' in Rwanda later this month. The Nigerians, who are already in a pre-tournament tour to Zimbabwe where they are expected to play senior franchise teams and other national set-ups will be up against Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Cameroon, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, and Mozambique for a place in the next round. In a statement issued by Musa Ehizoje, Public Relations Officer of the federation, 20 players were invited to camp in October before the final 14 were named. "The team is a blend of youths with experience and familiar faces in the mix. Chimezie Onwuzilike returns to the team while the likes of Isaac Okpe, Onikoyi Ademola, Sesan Adedeji, Peter Aho, and Prosper Useni also make the cut. Captain Okpe, says the goal of the team ahead of the forthcoming ICC T20 Sub-Regional Qualifier is beyond the World Cup ticket. He told The PUNCH newspaper in Nigeria that the objective of the team remains unflinching. The tournament is scheduled for Rwanda from Nov. 28 to Dec. 8 in Rwanda as Nigeria is drawn in group B' alongside Tanzania, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Eswatini, The Gambia and Cameroon. The top two teams in the tournament will progress to the next phase of qualification. The full list; Sylvester Okpe-Captain, Ashmit Shresta, Adedeji Sesan, Sulaimon Runsewe, Chimeze Onwuzilike, Ademola Onikoyi, Isaac Okpe, Akhere Isesele, Peter Aho, Taiwo Mohammed, Ridwan Kareem, Joshua Asia, Chiemelie Udekwe, Prosper Useni



NOC-SLE sets date for elective congress



The National Olympic Committee of Sierra Leone (NOC-SLE) has set the date for its elective congress that will see the election of a new Executive Committee. A new administration that will run the Committee for the next Commonwealth Games and Olympic year will be elected at the Olymp-African Centre, Goderich in Freetown on December 10, 2022. This was part of the resolution of the NOC-SLE mini-congress hosted at the same venue last Saturday, where Association presidents and representatives celebrate several issues including the Committee

Constitution. Meanwhile, Associations are expected to send their potential delegates for the congress a few weeks before the elective congress dates while nominations for executive posi...

[8:00 am, 23/11/2022] Moris: Cricket: Sylvester Okpe to lead Nigeria, as Sierra Leone opponent announces 14-man squad

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