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# Speaker angry over MPs' physical fight



As YACAN & stakeholders discuss child rights bill...

## 100 children to attend pre-legislative meeting with MPs



Hon. Catherine Kamara explaining the Child Rights Act to stakeholders

## 2023 elections: Shout Climate urges citizens to choose environmentally friendly leaders



By Alfred Koroma

Speaker of Parliament, Dr Abass Bundu

Following MPs brawl over the laying of the new electoral system regulations in the House of Parliament, the Speaker has expressed dissatisfaction against MPs behaviour on Wednesday, describing it as an affront to the dignity of the House and to his office as Speaker.

Chaotic scene broke out in the Legislative House on Wednesday as the Deputy Minister of Justice, Umaro Napoleon Koroma was about to lay the electoral regulations for next year's General Elections. Video footage shared on social media shows MPs exchanging punches and throwing objects at each other in a noisy and disorderly manner.

Cont. Page 2

## Afrimoney Sierra Leone unveils new brand Ambassador



## CHRDI bemoans MPs misconduct

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# ISSUE

By: Millicent Kargbo, Executive President of the Sierra Leone Association of Women in Journalism (SLAWIJ)

The advancement of digital technology has enabled people to easily communicate, raise awareness, share important information, connect with family members, socialise, and work together. However, as access to the internet continues to expand around the world, the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) that women and girls face offline is now replicated online. When women and girls enter online platforms – ranging from messaging apps like Facebook and WhatsApp, to Twitter, TikTok, and gaming apps – they are frequently faced with digital threats.

The digital threats faced by women online include, among others: harassment (which can include name-calling, as well as repeated negative or threatening comments made to or about a person), cyberbullying, stalking, doxing (which is the act of sharing private information about a person or organization publicly, which could put them at risk), and the non-consensual distribution of images of a person. Besides having the potential for causing serious emotional harm and distress to those affected, such actions can also act to shame women, and silence or discourage them from using online platforms and/or engaging in public discussions – which they have every right to do. While men can face similar types of online violence, women and girls are often the most affected – particularly in Sierra Leone.

A report launched by the Sierra Leone Association of Women in

## Online violence an obstacle to women's empowerment in Sierra Leone

Journalism (SLAWIJ) in July 2022 on "Threats Against Public-Facing Women in Sierra Leone" focused on highlighting the experiences of women human rights defenders and female journalists in the country. Of the women journalists and activists consulted by SLAWIJ as part of the research project, 64% said that they have personally experienced at least one form of threat, harassment, and/or violence against them, either as a result of their role or during the course of their working life. According to those consulted, the three most common threats that are experienced by Public-Facing Women in Sierra Leone include harassment, verbal insults, and verbal threats.

While bullying and harassment remain an age-long challenge for women, SLAWIJ has found that online harassment has taken it to a new level – one where women often feel particularly vulnerable against perpetrators (which can include men as well as other women), and many of those affected are unsure of how or where to seek assistance.

Sierra Leone recently enacted the Cyber Security and Crime Act, 2021, which criminalizes cyberbullying – meaning that, in theory, it should now be much easier to report such cases of online harassment to the police. However, SLAWIJ's report highlighted a number of challenges for women who may wish to pursue a case of cyberbullying and/or online violence in Sierra Leone – including a widespread hesitancy to report cases of violence (due to fear of stigmatization and/or retaliation by perpetrators), as well as a lack of understanding and technical skills necessary to document such incidents. This last challenge is particularly important to note, since

according to SLAWIJ's research, despite the law now being in place, the burden of proof still rests largely on the individuals experiencing the online abuse. For the most part, the state has still not provided law enforcement agencies and personnel with the training and support necessary for them to fully investigate (let alone track or identify) such incidents – meaning that it is up to those affected to personally take responsibility for collecting evidence of the harassment they face. This can be done, for example, by downloading images or taking screenshots that document threatening messages posted online, and saving the contact information of those involved.

Meanwhile, for SLAWIJ's part, since the publication of its report in July, the organisation has been following the social media pages of various public-facing women in Sierra Leone – women who are in leadership roles or other public-facing professions (such as journalism, politics, law, medicine, etc.) – to identify and document cases of online bullying or harassment perpetrated against them. Through this process, it has been observed that there seems to be an increase in online bullying, not

only from men but also from other women. As such, SLAWIJ believes that there is a growing need for the public to be better informed about what constitutes online bullying, what are some of its effects on women and their families, and what types of statements qualify as "bully statements". There is also an opportunity for citizens to learn from strong public-facing women about how they manage online bullying, and continue with their work in the face of such challenges.

If online violence and cyberbullying continues to grow, it is conceivable that more women might disappear from public scenes. This will limit women's participation in public life with serious consequences on women's empowerment. Already, some women have restricted their platforms for fear of negative comments or attacks from the public. Women need a safe space online to thrive and share their work.



## Speaker angry over MPs' physical fight



From Cover

In an angry tone yesterday, a day after the hassle, the Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Abass Bundu stated that the conduct of MPs during Wednesday's sitting will go with severe punishment.

"Consequently, I hereby give notice that the conduct that I observed yesterday (Wednesday) in this Well,

will not go unnoticed, and will not go without consequences. And those consequences will be severe. YES, they will be," the Speaker told MPs during sitting.

"I have exercised patience beyond endurance. What I observed yesterday was an affront to the dignity of this House; an affront to my office as Speaker. And the law will be allowed

to take its consequence," he added.

MPs in Sierra Leone enjoy some privileges which make them immune to certain crimes. However, the Speaker reminded them that the said immunity has a limit.

Quoting Sections 97 and 99 of the Constitution which speak about the responsibilities and privileges of MPs, Dr. Bundu said MPs' privileges are restricted, only to what they say in Parliament and not what they otherwise do.

"It is very clear. You can shout to high-heaven if you like, and you are privileged. But when you go physical and you go violent, I'm sorry, you are not entitled to enjoy any immunity or any protection under the law," he said. Proportional representation or electoral system where party representation reflects electoral support, recently declared by the Electoral Commission for Sierra

Leone, has faced staunch opposition from the All People's Congress, the main opposition party which also commands a slight majority in the House of Parliament.

The commotion that took place among MPs in the House that day is not entirely surprising. Exchange of punches may not have been expected, but stiff resistance against the laying the PR regulations, especially from the main opposition MPs was definitely expected.

Despite the row, the two regulations: the Public Elections (District Block Proportional Representation System) Regulations 2022, and the Public Elections (Local Councils Proportional Representation System) Regulations, 2022 were however laid on the table in the Well Parliament. They will become Laws after 21 days of lying in the House or otherwise annulled by two-thirds of votes cast by MPs before the expiration period.



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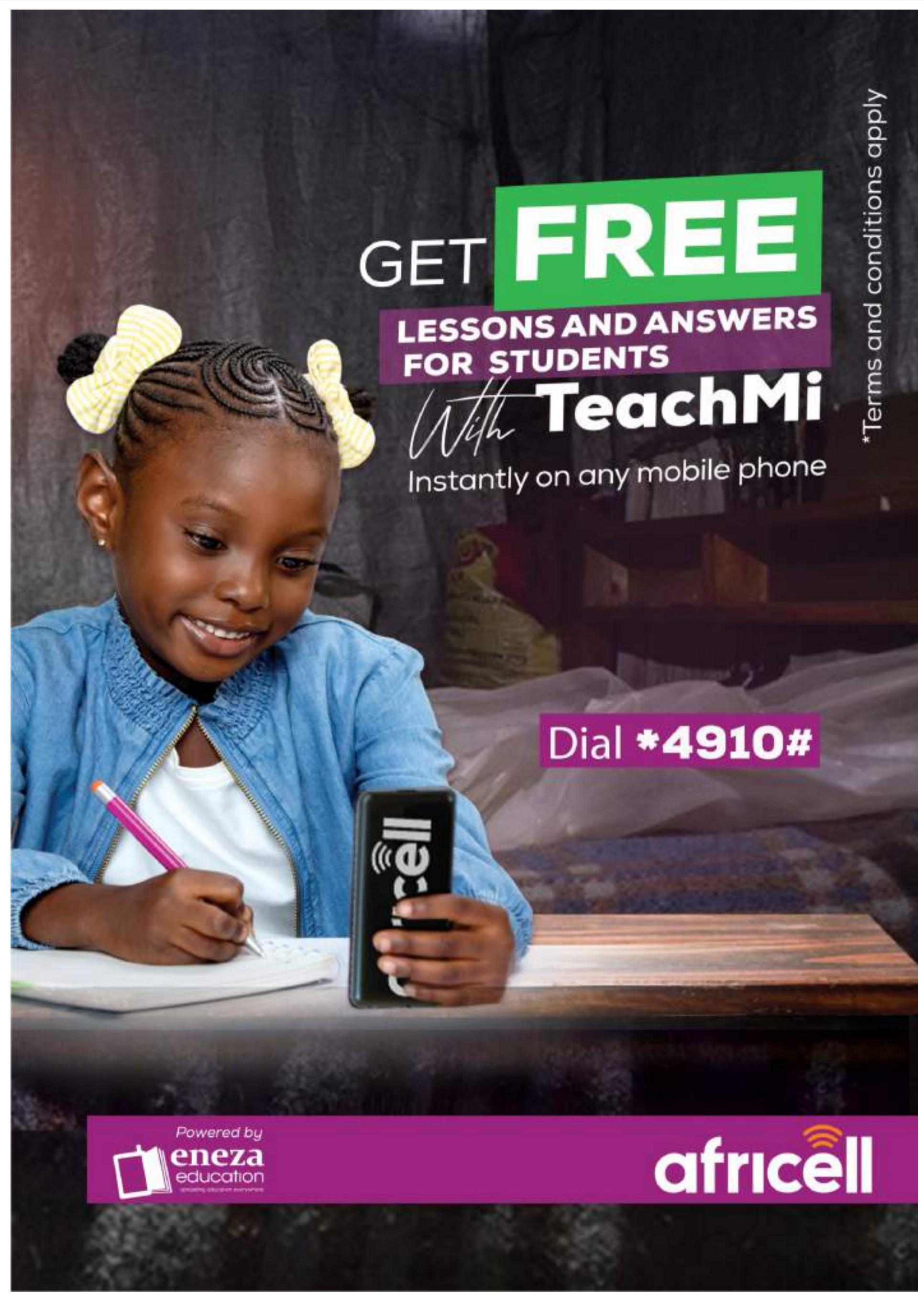
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## LOCAL NEWS

# CHRDI bemoans MPs misconduct

By Yusufu S. Bangura

The Chief Executive Officer for Campaign for Human Rights and Development International (CHRDI), Abdul M. Fatoma on Thursday, November 24, expressed mix feelings about the scuffle that took place on Wednesday among Members of Parliament, stating that MPs who are supposed to be lawmakers were now seen as lawbreakers.

- He was speaking at the Radio Democracy 'Gud Morning Salone Program' in response to the Wednesday physical fight among MPs in the Well of parliament at Tower Hill, in Freetown.

- "MPs who we sent to parliament have the responsibility to play oversight role for government's functioning, but they are the ones behaving lawlessly, an act which would bring them down and the people of this nation would not have trust in them," he said.

- He said the dishonest part of the incident was that the suffering of Sierra Leoneans at this current time is not easy because they are struggling to find something to eat and the cost of basic commodity is going up every day, so MPs needed to advocate for their constituents and not engage in fisticuff.

- Chief Executive Officer for CHRDI said that was not the first time members of parliament were tearing proclamation, adding that while they were discussing the regulations to change the electoral system to proportional representation, members from the ruling Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) and the opposition All People's Congress (APC) party made their contributions to the process.

- He said after making their contributions, the Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Abass Chernor Bundu, told them that all what they have said didn't add any relevance to the

issues being debated.

- He continued that after the speaker had made the above statement, the acting leader of the opposition, Hon. Abdul Kargbo stood up and noted that they needed to clarify some areas in the PR system before it being laid in the Well, but the speaker denied because they had made their contributions and that they should go ahead with the proceedings and instructed the Deputy Minister of Justice, Umaru Napoleon Koroma to go ahead with the introduction and laying of the PR system.

- Fatoma said while in the process, someone from the opposition rushed towards the Mace-the symbol of authority in the House of parliament, thereafter the



Abdul M. Fatoma

parliamentary security went to protect his own men and also the SLPP leadership was not able to control his own men as well. So, if this continues to happen in the future it would seriously affect our country," he said.

- In the absence of the members of the opposition party, the Deputy Minister of Justice finally laid on the table of the house two major Electoral Regulations for the purposes of next year's general elections.

## 2023 elections: Shout Climate urges citizens to choose environmentally friendly leaders

Shout Climate Change Africa (SCCA) and partners will be conducting Perception Survey on Citizens Manifesto on Climate Change in order to ascertain their level of awareness on the negative effect of climate change.

Speaking to this medium, the CEO/Founder of Shout Climate Change Africa, Finnex John Asibor, stated that the purpose of the manifesto document is to give major responsibility to political leaders to embed climate change related concerns into their party manifestos in order to help combat the effect of climate change for a mandatory period of five (5) years as stipulated in the constitution of Sierra Leone, to motivate citizens to vote climate change and environmental protection conscious leaders as a key pointer to national development.

Over the years, Sierra Leone has experienced a lot of disaster incident cases related to climate change as a result of growth in population and Urbanization, and with such program, citizens can have the opportunity to elect their set of leaders that will steer the affairs of the nation for the next five years. Sierra Leoneans need leaders that are environmentally conscious and are



ready to put measures that will combat the dangers posed to climate change and environmental hazard.

The CEO/Founder of SCCA, Finnex John Asibor is therefore calling on all aspiring leaders in the various registered political parties for the forthcoming multi-tier elections to be environmentally conscious to save our nation, lives and heritage.

Citizens must make sure that they don't vote or encourage any leader that is not conscious of climate change and environmental protections.

## Magistrate Ngegba decides fate of Hon. Mohamed Bangura today

By Yusufu S. Bangura



The presiding Magistrate of the Pademba Road Court No.1, Mark Ngegba, will today, Friday, November 25, 2022, deliver his ruling in the matter between AIG Gabriel Tommy and the All People's Congress (APC) Member of Parliament, Hon. Mohamed Bangura and APC Tonkolili District Chairperson, Madam Yabom Sesay.

Magistrate Ngegba's ruling will decide the fate of the 2 APC Stalwarts, whether they would be acquitted and discharged or found guilty of the offences charged and/or sent to High Court.

Both accused have been investigated by

the court for the offences of assault, insulting conduct, threatening language, riotous conduct, and obstruction, all contrary to law.

It could be recalled that on the 8th November, 2022, Magistrate Ngegba waved no case submission for Mohamed Bangura after his Lawyer, Lansana Dumbuya had intimated the Bench that his laptop computer where he did his no case submission was stolen.

The ruling was initially adjourned for Friday 18th November, 2022 but did not happen, but it will come up again for ruling.

## LOCAL NEWS

Hon. Catherine Kamara, member of the Parliamentary Committee on Legislation and Chairperson of the Gender and Women's Committee in Parliament, has promised the Youth and Children Advocacy Network (YACAN) that she would ensure that at least one hundred (100) children attend the pre-legislative meeting in the House of Parliament to discuss the Child Rights Act.

In her brief but very interesting statement, she noted among other things that she had all along been providing support, information and instruction to the architects of the Child Rights Act, adding that the business of Parliament is not to develop laws but to make laws.

She noted that she would do her utmost to ensure that what she believes in becomes reality before the end of the Fifth Parliament of Sierra Leone next year. She further stated that as far as she is concerned, she has been at the forefront of piloting the Child Rights Act in Parliament; defying criticism and antagonism from certain quarters or Members of Parliament.

She urged the YACAN Director and children in general not to relent because according to her, "very soon, we shall have children succeeding us and therefore, "we as Members of Parliament will do all it takes to pass this bill into law."

## As YACAN & stakeholders discuss child rights bill... 100 children to attend pre-legislative meeting with MPs

She added that she is looking forward to having at least one hundred children representing various child rights groups from across the country invited to participate in what she described as the pre-legislative meeting with MPs in the House of Sierra Leone Parliament for them to ask questions and seek knowledge about the process.

The Executive Director of Youth and Child Advocacy Network (YACAN), Hassan Fuad Kanu has pleaded with Members of the Sierra Leone Parliament to speed-up the reading and eventual ratification of the Child Rights Act which was taken to the House of Parliament some years ago. The theme of the meeting was "How Far", meaning how far has our Parliament gone to enacting the sacred and all-important Child Rights Act.

In his overview on the discussion between MPs, children and other stakeholders, he also stated that the process of making the Child Rights Act into a law has been delayed. He went on to state that he is of the view that unless the children of Sierra Leone who would be affected positively or negatively by this law have a chance to participate in its promulgation, then it would be pointless.

He used the opportunity to prevail on his special guests of honor from the House of



Sierra Leone Parliament to do their utmost to ensure that the Child Rights Act becomes law within the shortest possible time.

Speaking earlier, Hon. Mahmoud Ibrahim Kalokoh (Member of the Parliament Legislative Committee) stated that he had all along been part and parcel of the introduction of the Child Rights Act.

He added that he is now making it his duty to ensure that the Child Rights Act is passed into law. He maintained that, despite the fact that there are many stories discrediting the promulgation of this Act, and that when the Child Rights

Act becomes law, the future of children in this country will be assured, he said.

Several other statements were made by representatives from Children's Forum Network (CFN), Don Bosco Fambul and others.

The climax of the event was a questions and answers session that was well coordinated by the Chairman of the event, Fambundeh Ansumana, Deputy Director of National Commission for Children.

The event took place at Don Bosco Fambul, Fort Street in Freetown on Wednesday 23rd November, 2022.

## Afrimoney Sierra Leone unveils new brand Ambassador



Morsay was na di chairperson for di commonwealth business women network salone as dem new brand ambassador

It could be recalled that on Thursday 17th November 2022, Afrimoney at a press conference held at the Africell Sierra Leone headquarters in Wilberforce, Freetown unveiled the chairperson of the commonwealth business women network Sierra Leone Sia Jarieu Bayoh Morsay as their new brand ambassador in the country.

Speaking at the unveiling ceremony, the Director of Afrimoney Martison Obeng-Agyei said as a company they decided to sign Madam Sia Jarieu Bayoh Morsay as brand ambassador taking into consideration the role she had played in

empowering and promoting women in business.

Martison Obeng-Agyei furthered that tapping into the insight of both men and women offer can make products and services more marketable and a business more profitable. In fact, recent research from McKinsey shows that gender-diverse businesses are 15% more likely to outperform financially above the industry median.

Martison Obeng-Agyei continued that actualizing gender diversity in the field of business and workplace will help increase productivity, creativity and improves performance of workers.

Mr. Obeng-Agyei added that the Focal Point, Commonwealth Businesswomen's Network (CBWN) Sierra Leone has been very supportive to women in Sierra Leone over the years by awarded scholarships to over 500 (five hundred) school-going children in deprived communities in Sierra Leone, of which 95% are vulnerable girls. She said that she also sponsored a school-feeding program for 200 orphans, and constructed water-wells in various parts of the country.

Martison said that Africell and Afrimoney by extension has always been enthusiastic in supporting women's empowerment in the country and having Madam Sia Jarieu Bayoh Morsay as their latest brand ambassador is not a novelty in the country.

He concluded that this partnership will help promote women in business especially through the means of digitalization and expertise in the field of business.

On the side of the newly signed ambassador of Afrimoney Madam Sia

Jarieu Bayoh Morsay, extended her thanks and appreciation to Afrimoney for such an epoch-making day in her life as this means achievement, perseverance and not to give up in your dreams amidst the cultural shock she went through by the change of demographic adding that the trajectory is changing gradually as women are making significant progress in leadership and business in the country.

Madam Sia Jarieu Bayoh Morsay continued that the Women of Sierra Leone have long been looking forward to the opportunity of being part of a network that would cater to their felt needs, by way of providing the digital space, expertise and the wherewithal to engage in profitable business endeavors.

Madam Sia furthered that they are focusing on three thematic areas which are talent, trade and training as they have just concluded a financial inclusion training of three hundred and fifty women as anticipated but however it was more than three thousand women that showed up which is a clear demonstration of how eager women are in empowering themselves in fields like cosmetology, catering, financial inclusion training and financial literacy. She concluded that work had already started by incorporating over one thousand women to Afrimoney through their business scheme all across the country so that the more women become part of the family the more help they will benefit from Afrimoney and admonished other women to come on board and support this project as she is highly optimistic in fulfilling her own side of the bargain as she believes in effectiveness and efficiency in work delivery.

For many, the arrival of Africell in the country has been a blessing in elevating not just the telecommunications sector but as well other spheres that are vital to nations building in and outside the country.

Africell's track record of investing, aiding, and empowering the citizenry in the country is unmatched especially in the entertainment industry, education, arts, culture, tourism, health, sports, technology, innovation and creating job opportunities.

Afrimoney which is a subsidiary of the parent company Africell has emulated its positive endeavours in empowering Sierra Leoneans in and out of the country.

Afrimoney don sign Sia Jarieu Bayoh

## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

**Nigeria: Presidential hopeful Peter Obi holds campaign rally**

Labour Party's Presidential candidate Peter Obi (2nd L), flanked by wife Margaret (2nd R) and his running mate Yusuf Datti Baba-Ahmed (R), on Nov 23, 2022. - Copyright © africanews SAMUEL ALABI/AFP or licensors

**P**residential hopeful, and chosen Labour Party candidate, Peter Obi held a campaign rally Wednesday (Nov 23) in Ibadan, south west Nigeria. Large crowds gathered in the Oyo state capital to attend the electoral meeting. Ahead of the February 2023 vote, Obi promised to bring about positive change. "Let me assure you, the government we intend to form will be building a new Nigeria, it will be beginning a Nigeria where Nigerians will be proud to say we are Nigerians because we will secure and unite Nigeria." There was a voter base of 84,004,084 for the 2019

election and the electoral commission hoped to add at least 20 million new voters.

Insecurity, the economy and the fight against corruption will be key election factors.

"Both of us will fight corruption, corruption is killing the future of youth of Nigeria because people are stealing money that could be used to develop Nigeria. I and Baba-Ahamed go and check our history we are wealth creators," Obi told the cheering crowds.

Seventeen other candidates are running for the top job, including Bola Tinubu of the All Progressives Congress party and Rabiu Kwankwaso of the New Nigeria Peoples Party.

**Tanzania begins rationing electricity due to drought**

Samia Suluhu Hassan - Copyright © africanews Patrick Semansky/Copyright 2022 The AP. All rights reserved.

**T**anzania has begun rationing electricity due to a drop in hydroelectric output after a severe drought, the national power company said Wednesday (November 24), with some areas facing nine-hour blackouts.

The East African country can produce nearly 1,695 megawatts of power from hydroelectricity and natural gas, among other sources.

But it is currently facing a shortfall of 300 to 350 megawatts, said Maharafe Chande, managing director of Tanesco, the national power company.

"There are two main reasons for the drop in production: a prolonged drought and ongoing maintenance of certain sites," he told reporters in the economic capital Dar es Salaam.

The site of Kihansi for example, in the region of Morogoro (south-east), has seen its production capacity fall from 180 megawatts to only 17 megawatts.

Tanzania has been trying to increase its hydroelectricity production in recent years, thanks in particular to the construction of the controversial Julius Nyerere Dam in the Selous Reserve, which was supposed to produce around 2,100 megawatts.

Like its neighbors, the country has experienced low rainfall and a delayed rainy season, forcing authorities to impose water rationing in Dar es Salaam last month.

The situation is even more dramatic in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia, which are facing the worst drought in decades.

**Zimbabwe: President calls for peace ahead of general elections**

Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa delivers his State of the Nation Address at the new Parliament building in Mt Hampden, on Nov. 23, 2022. - Copyright © africanews STR/AP

**O**n Wednesday (Nov 23), Zimbabwean president Emmerson Mnangagwa officially opened the Fifth Session of the Ninth Parliament of Zimbabwe.

He delivered his State of the Nation address in a newly built Parliament. The multimillion-dollar building was

gifted by the Asian economic giant China.

Mnangagwa called for peace as the country prepares for general elections.

"Political players seeking the people's mandate during the upcoming 2023 harmonized general elections must

**The four African presidents currently in Qatar for the 2022 World Cup**

Top L- Macky Sall, Top R- Paul Kagame, Down L- Nana Addo, and George Weah - Copyright © africanews AP



**T**he world has gathered for the world's biggest festival in Qatar, the FIFA World Cup 2022 which is witnessing 32 teams from across the world battle it out for the heavyweight undisputed title as the world cup winner.

Like every other four years, the spotlight is on the players, the technical staff, officiating departments, referees, and assistants, not forgetting the various fans who also play a very integral role in the tournament.

In all of this, presidential diplomacy plays a major role.

According to reports, over 20 heads of state were present at the opening event on Sunday (November 20) at Al Bayt stadium where the opening match between host Qatar and Ecuador took place with the host looking to 2-0, Ghanaweb.com reported.

This article narrows down on the number of African presidents that are currently present in Qatar to witness the global event.

Ghana's president Nana Akufo Addo is the latest African president to have arrived in Qatar ahead of the Black Stars' opening game with Portugal.

According to reports, presidents Paul Kagame of Rwanda and Mack Sall of Senegal were officially invited by the Qatari government to take part in the opening event.

Macky Sall was reported to have stayed to witness the Monday, November 21 game between Senegal and Netherlands which the African champions lost after two late goals.

President George Weah had announced his trip to Qatar to spend some nine days. He was at the stadium to watch the game between the United States and Wales. For him, his interest was to watch his American son play at the tournament.

The world cup is still in its initial stages, and it is likely more African presidents and officials will turn up to witness the event.

**Tunisia prickly pear producers predict cacti cosmetics cash-in**

**O**n the road to Zelfen, Tunisia, fields of prickly pear trees stretch as far as the eye can see: this plant is a "godsend" for this deprived region thanks to the anti-wrinkle oil that is extracted from it, which is very popular in cosmetics.

"Here is the capital of the prickly pear," says Mohamed Rochdi Bannani proudly. It is one of the first in Tunisia to have invested in the processing of the seeds of the fruits of this cactus, to produce the precious and expensive oil - 350 euros per liter - increasingly sought after internationally for its anti-aging properties.

Owner of 420 hectares of certified organic fair trade prickly pear trees in Zelfen (central west), he produces 2,000 liters per year of oil from fig seeds, 95% of which is exported.

"This fruit has changed my life and that of the region. It has created wealth in an area where the prickly pear was a symbol of poverty," confided to AFP Mr. Bannani, 52, surveying his field at the end of the harvest period.

Zelfen, in the heart of the governorate of Kasserine characterized by a poverty rate of 33% and 20% unemployment, has found with this fruit a source of local development.

About 30,000 hectares, including 3,000 hectares of organic fig trees, are cultivated in this small town bordering Algeria.

The sector employs more than 5,000 people, according to Boubaker Raddaoui, in charge of the sector for the Market Access Project for Agri-Food and Terroir Products (PAMPAT), supported by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

"Attractiveness"

Tunisia ranks fifth in the world in terms of area cultivated prickly pear for commercial purposes with 117,771 ha, behind Brazil, Mexico, Ethiopia and Morocco.

The North African country,

Nearly 8,000 liters were exported in 2021 for a turnover of 5 million euros, according to PAMPAT, which, since 2013, trains producers and helps them to organize in professional circuits.

"Exports jumped by 50% between 2019 and 2021, which shows us the attractiveness of the sector and the increase in demand from one year to another," Raddaoui said.

The dynamism of the sector is such that the country has gone from five processing companies (mainly focused on oil) in the early 2000s to 55 in 2021, including 11 in the region of Zelfen, organized into cooperatives.

"Before, everyone wanted to leave (the region). Today, it is history thanks to the oil," says Hamza Rochdi, a young farmer who cultivates the 40 hectares of family land.

"Thanks to the growing interest in this fruit, our working conditions have improved," says Hanane Messaoudi, who has been picking figs for seven years and is now paid the minimum wage (nearly 500 dinars per month, about 150 euros).

"Not very demanding"

The prickly pear has the added advantage of not fearing the arid soil, for a country where water is becoming rarer, as in the entire region.

Tunisia has fallen well below the threshold of water shortage, estimated at 1,700 m3 per capita, with only 428 m3 per capita per year, according to the latest official figures dating from 2004.

"The prickly pear is undemanding, adapts to several types of soil and consumes little water. It is an ecological boon," said Raddaoui.

In the footsteps of Zelfen, other regions are interested in this culture, like Nabeul (northeast) and Kairouan (center).

This craze has its limits, however, because of difficulties in entering very dynamic markets such as Japan or South Korea.

For the moment, Mohamed Rochdi Bannani transforms only 20% of his annual production (20,000 tons of fruit) into oil because of "marketing problems. "The markets are not 100% open," he regrets.

In addition, even if it is sold at a high price in the form of cosmetics, "the oil of prickly pear is expensive to produce," notes Salim Benmiled, who created in 2020 a processing plant in Thala, near Zelfen.

Africanews with AFP

maintain and consolidate the current peace, unity, harmony, and love that we have built."

In late October, Zimbabwe's ruling party, ZANU-PF, endorsed the president as the sole party candidate ahead of next year's polls.

80-year-old, Emmerson Mnangagwa, came to power in 2017 after toppling long-time ruler Robert Mugabe in a coup backed by the army.

Speaking before lawmakers, Mnangagwa also reiterated calls for an end to economic sanctions.

"The need for the unconditional removal of sanctions

which have constrained socio-economic growth for decades remains urgent and imperative," he pleaded.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights issued a report in October recommending: the "lifting unilateral sanctions in line with the principles of international law".

As well as "avoiding de-risking policies and over compliance in accordance with the due diligence rule; and engaging in meaningful structured discussions on political reform, the rule of law and human rights."

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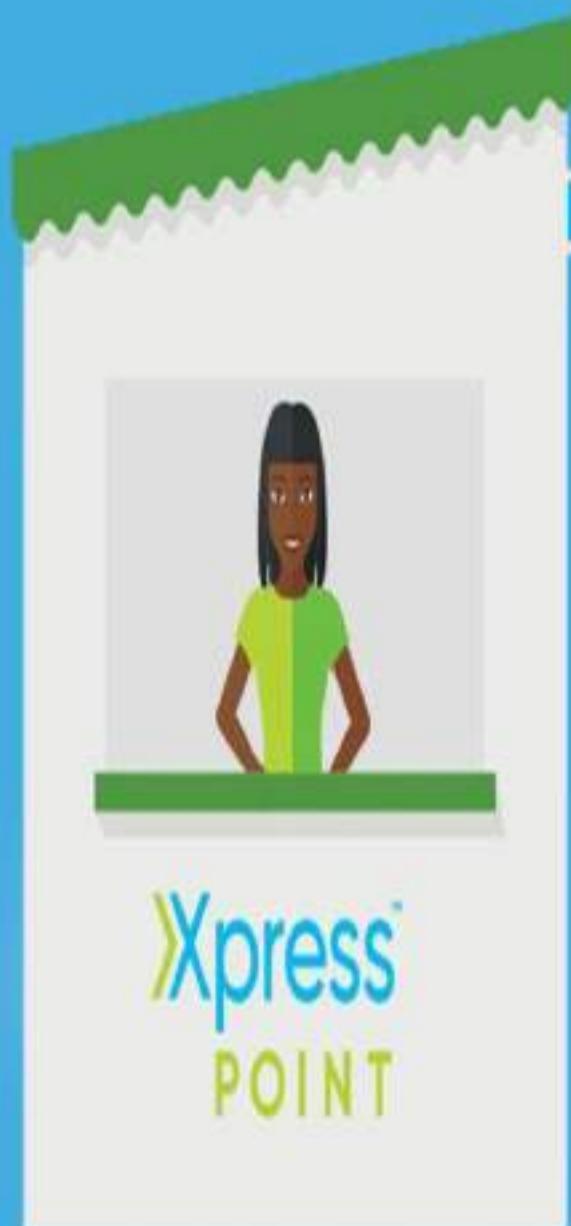
F/T International  
Airport, Lungi

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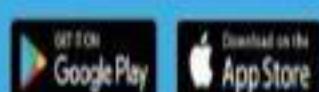


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**Sierra Leone Compact  
Development Unit**  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

## SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE (SPN)

Country	Sierra Leone
Project Name	Sierra Leone Compact Development Program
Procurement Title	Individual Consultant Services for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Consultant
Procurement Ref. Number	SLCDU/CDF/IC/2022/09
Type of Procurement	Consulting Services (Individual Consultant)
Employer	Sierra Leone Compact Development Unit (SLCDU)
Publication Date	November 7, 2022
Submission Deadline	10:00am GMT, November 30, 2022

1. The United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC"), and the Republic of Sierra Leone (the "Government") signed a Compact Development Funding Agreement (as amended or otherwise modified, the "Grant Agreement") on March 3, 2022, pursuant to which MCC agreed to provide a grant of up to **Eleven Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy-Five U.S Dollars (\$11,970,375)** ("MCC Funding") to the Government to facilitate the development and implementation of a proposed Millennium Challenge Compact between the United States of America and Sierra Leone (such processes, collectively, "**Compact Facilitation**").

2. The Government has designated the Sierra Leone Compact Development Unit (**SLCDU**) to oversee and implement the compact development process in accordance with the terms of the Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement requires the Government (including any designee) to ensure that it procures all goods, works and services related to Compact Facilitation in accordance with the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines ("**PPG**"). The Government, acting through the Sierra Leone Compact Development Unit, intends to apply a portion of the MCC Funding to eligible payments under a contract for which this Specific Procurement Notice ("SPN") is issued.

3. Any payments made by the SLCDU under the proposed contract will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement and related documents, including restrictions on the use and distribution of MCC Funding. No party other than the Government and the SLCDU shall derive any rights from the proposed Compact or have any claim to the proceeds of MCC Funding. The Compact Development Funding Agreement and its related documents can be found on the MCC website ([www.mcc.gov](http://www.mcc.gov)).

4. MCC requires that all beneficiaries of MCC Funding, including the MCA Entity and any applicants, Bidders, Suppliers, contractors, Subcontractors, consultants, and sub-consultants under any MCC-funded contracts, observe the highest standards of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contracts. *MCC's Policy on*

*Preventing, Detecting and Remediating Fraud and Corruption in MCC Operations* ("MCC's AFC Policy") is applicable to all procurements and contracts involving MCC Funding and can be found on the MCC website at: <https://www.mcc.gov/resources/doc/policy-fraud-and-corruption>.

5. SLCDU now invites Applications from eligible **Individual Consultants** to provide the consultant services for **GIS Consultant**.

**More details are provided in the Terms of Reference of the Request for Application (RFA).**

6. Location: The location of the assignment is **Freetown, Sierra Leone**.

7. Anticipated Start Date: **January 2023**.

8. Duration of Assignment: **6 Months**

9. Individual Consultants will be selected under the Individual Consultants Selection (ICS) method in accordance with the procedures set out in the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines which are provided on the MCC website ([www.mcc.gov/ppg](http://www.mcc.gov/ppg)). The selection process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.

10. Consultants interested in receiving the RFA and submitting Application should register their interest by sending an e-mail to The Interim Procurement Agent, [Zenobia.Maddy@crownagents.co.uk](mailto:Zenobia.Maddy@crownagents.co.uk), copy to The Procurement Manager SLCDU, [SLCDU.procurement@gmail.com](mailto:SLCDU.procurement@gmail.com) with subject: **(Request for GIS Consultant RFA)** giving full contact details of the Consultant. This will ensure that the Consultants receive updates regarding the RFA.

11. The deadline for submission of Applications is **10:00 am GMT, November 30, 2022**.

Yours sincerely,  
*Ndeye Fatu Koroma*  
National Coordinator, Sierra Leone Compact Development Unit



**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE**  
Environment Protection Agency  
Office of the President  
92 Dundas Street, Freetown



The Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone (EPA-SL) is the Agency responsible for providing adequate environmental protection and other related matters. The EPA-SL continues to grow to meet environmental management challenges and has the following available position.

**ENVIRONMENT OFFICER**

**Closing date: 30th November 2022.**

**Duties**

- To assist in collecting data and information on the environment for the state-of-the-environment report.
- To assist in developing environmental education and awareness-raising programmes in the Agency.
- To assist in organizing schools, farmer base organizations, and civil society groups to take active roles in environmental education and awareness programmes.
- To assist in preparing periodic reports on monitoring exercises and other activities of the Agency.
- To provide input into quarterly and annual reports, work plans, and emerging programmes.
- To assist in the investigation of public complaints and undertake monitoring of activities of establishments as directed by his or her Superiors.
- To regularly provide information on the Agency's programme to proponents, interested stakeholders, and departments.
- To assist in preparing and writing quarterly/annual reports on programme activities and projects.
- To assist in carrying out sensitization and public awareness programmes.
- To assist in the organization of seminars and workshops on national environmental programmes.
- To assist in the review of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.
- To liaise with Non-Governmental Organizations to carry out the Agency's mandate.
- Participate in implementing the Agency's Strategic and Action Plan at the Regional and District levels.
- To assist Local Council Environmental Units in developing their work plans per EPA's mandates.
- Any other duties assigned following the mandate of the Agency.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Degree in Environmental science or Chemistry with a minimum of 2 years' Work experience on environmental issues, especially in Forest management or biodiversity protection and conservation in an environment-related institution, environmental pollution and Waste management.
- Knowledge in research work ;
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Applications;
- Knowledge of the Environment Impact Assessment process.
- Conversant with drafting project proposals and reporting; Strong laboratory management and research.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

**SALARY: Attractive**

Interested candidates should forward applications indicating the position applied for at the top right-hand corner of a sealed envelope, together with credentials and updated Curriculum Vitae, including the name and addresses of three (3) referees, to:

**The Executive Chairman**  
The Environment Protection Agency  
92, Dundas Street, Freetown  
Or email: [hr@epa.gov.sl](mailto:hr@epa.gov.sl).

**Women are strongly encouraged to apply.**



**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE**  
Environment Protection Agency  
Office of the President  
92 Dundas Street, Freetown



The Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone (EPA-SL) is the Agency charged with the responsibility to provide for the effective protection of the environment and for other related matters.

The EPA-SL continues to grow and in order to meet the challenges of the environment management, has the following position available.

**INFORMATION EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION OFFICER**

**Closing date: 30th November 2022.**

**Duties**

- To promote and enforce behavioral change through information, communication and education of the Sierra Leonean population.
- Coordinate environmental education awareness raising activities of the Agency.
- Develop booklets on local and ecological issues
- Perform qualitative research in support of communication activities.
- Develop programmes on environmental education with government ministries, departments, local councils and NGOs.
- Assist in the planning and implementation of formal environmental education in schools.
- Organize environmental educational seminars workshops and facilitate training of local group leaders.
- Develop quarterly news bulletins on behalf of the Agency.
- Assist in the development of environmental management programmes and communication development plans.
- Any other duties assigned in accordance with the mandate of the Agency.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Degree in Mass Communication, Education, English, Law or Political Science
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in a similar capacity.
- Professional experience in environmental management or an educational institution, or community relations or media relations.
- Proficient in Microsoft office applications
- Strong communication skills
- Ability for analytical and strategic thinking and result oriented
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

**SALARY: Attractive**

Interested candidates should forward applications indicating position applied for at the top right-hand corner of a sealed envelope together with credentials and updated Curriculum Vitae, including the name and addresses of three (3) referees, to:

**The Executive Chairman**  
The Environment Protection Agency  
92, Dundas Street, Freetown  
Or email to: [hr@epa.gov.sl](mailto:hr@epa.gov.sl).

**Women are strongly encouraged to apply.**



## 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 17<sup>th</sup> November and Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

BY THIS DEED which is intended to be registered with the Administrator and Registrar General of Sierra Leone made this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-two. I the undersigned SYLVIA KOROMA of 68 Freetown Road Lumley in the Western Area of the Republic of Sierra Leone hereby SOLEMNLY and SINCERELY DECLARE as follows:

1. That I am a Sierra Leonean at present residing at No. 68 Freetown Road, Lumley.
2. That I was previously named called and otherwise described designated and known as SYLVIA BAYOH.
3. That I hereby on my own behalf and for all intents and purposes wholly and totally renounce relinquish and abandon my previous name SYLVIA BAYOH and in its place I henceforth shall be known SYLVIA KOROMA from the date hereof.
4. That I also hereby declare that all times hereafter in all documents deed , records and writings and in all proceedings dealings and transactions both private and public and on all occasion I shall use the name of SYLVIA KOROMA as my real names in place of and in substitutions of my former names of SYLVIA BAYOH.
5. That I hereby expressly authorize and request all persons at all times to designate and address me my heirs and assigns by my real name SYLVIA KOROMA.
6. That I also declare that all documents, instruments and writings bearing my former name shall remain in force and valid.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I the said SYLVIA KOROMA hereunto set my Hand and Seal

This 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED BY the within-named SYLVIA KOROMA

SYLVIA KOROMA

After the foregoing have been read over and explained to her in krio and she said she well perfectly understood the same before affixing her right hand thumb print.



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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	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 BRUGGIE	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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**Spaghetti Jollof. You can use Padi items to cook it and it will taste delicious, promise!**

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**Padi Premium Black Tea**

# ChildFund

ChildFund, a child protection and development international NGO intends to compile and vet all eligible Suppliers, Contractors, consultants and/or Service Providers in order to streamline its procurement processes. The registration is in line with the policy and procedures defined and specified under the procurement procedures of ChildFund International.

*In this regard we are requesting expressions of interest from credible business institutions/houses/companies/individuals, to supply the following services/supplies/works for our Freetown office.*

#### OFFICE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES:

1. Stationery
2. Office furniture/equipment
3. General merchandise (provisions, toiletries, kitchen items)
4. Printing (photocopy, binding, digital & offset, stickers & self-adhesive, vouchers

Clothing etc.)

5. Advertisement (Newspapers etc.)

6. Electrical appliances

7. IT materials (scanners, photocopiers, toners, cartridges Etc.)

#### TRANSPORT AND SERVICES:

8. Vehicle rentals

9. Garage for the maintenance of Toyota vehicles

10. Garage for the maintenance of motor bikes

11. Garage for the cleaning of vehicles

#### ENGINEERING SERVICES:

12. General Construction works (civil)
13. Electrical installation & maintenance
14. Plumbing installation & maintenance
15. Air Condition installation & maintenance
16. Building materials

#### OTHERS:

17. Hotel services
18. Hall rentals

*The following documents must be submitted in the sealed envelope sent to CHILD FUND SIERRA LEONE*

1. Updated business license (FCC and Registrar General)
2. Updated NRA and GST certificate (where applicable)
3. Tax Clearance AND
4. Relevant Experience and references

*Submissions must be hard copies in a sealed envelope addressed to The HR/Admin Specialist ChildFund Sierra Leone 84 Regent road, Hill Station, Freetown.*

*Please indicate on the envelope 'Expression of Interest for the service/supply/work of [name service/supply/work applying for] FY 23 on the right-hand corner of the envelope.*

*The documents will be reviewed and business houses verified, following which a list of pre-qualified suppliers will be determined.*

*Note: Further communications will only be made with these Pre-Qualified Suppliers.*

*Closing date for submission of envelopes; 2pm on Friday 9th December 2022.*

## INT'L SPORTS

### World Cup 2022: Switzerland 1-0 Cameroon - Breel Embolo strike secures win

**S**witzerland's Breel Embolo scored the only goal against Cameroon - the country of his birth - in a hard-fought World Cup Group G opener.

Embolo refused to celebrate when he finished off a slick Swiss attack shortly after half-time.

The Indomitable Lions were unfortunate to lose after an enterprising display at the Al Janoub Stadium in Qatar.

Victory was vital for Switzerland, as both sides still have to face Brazil in the group.

Embolo moved to Switzerland from Cameroon with his family as a six-year-old and pledged his allegiance to the European nation after being granted citizenship in 2014.

At the age of just 18, he set up the Embolo Foundation to support refugee children in Switzerland and disadvantaged children in the country of his birth.

He said before the game it would be "a very special" occasion to play against Cameroon and when he scored, he respectfully raised his arms and closed his eyes.

"I told him, 'Brel, friendship until the start, then they are your opponents,'" said Switzerland coach Murat Yakin. "Football writes such stories but he completed his mission."

"I am very happy with his performance." Embolo's strike ensured victory for a side with high expectations - Yakin has declared his squad "the best Switzerland side ever" and said he expects them to achieve their best return at a World Cup.

Yet they struggled in the first half in the face of a vibrant Cameroon start and ought to have gone behind, with Eric Choupo-Moting, Bryan Mbeumo and Martin Hongla all missing presentable opportunities.

The goal rocked Cameroon and the Swiss had chances to extend their lead, only for Andre Onana to save superbly from Ruben Vargas, while Embolo and substitute Haris Seferovic were denied by last-ditch defending.

The Indomitable Lions have now lost eight successive games at the World Cup finals but Rigobert Song's side impressed at times here.

Head coach Song admitted afterwards their next game against Serbia will be "decisive" if they are to stand any chance of becoming the first Cameroon team to progress beyond the group stage since 1990.

For Switzerland, the win gives them breathing space before their match against group favourites Brazil on Monday.

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

### World Cup: German FA taking FIFA to Court of Arbitration for Sport over OneLove armband ban



**G**ermany players covered their mouths during their team photograph ahead of their opening World Cup match in protest against FIFA's ban on OneLove armbands.

The gesture came after the German football association (DFB) told captain Manuel Neuer not to wear the rainbow armband for the game against Japan on Wednesday following FIFA's warning they would face "massive" sporting sanctions if he wore the armband, which promotes diversity and inclusion.

Germany head coach Hansi Flick said his players wanted to "convey the message that FIFA is silencing us".

They will not face disciplinary action from FIFA for their pre-match gesture.

The DFB is taking FIFA to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) over its ban on OneLove armbands.

A quick decision by CAS ruling against the validity of the ban could mean Neuer would be able to wear the armband for Germany's second group game against Spain on Sunday. A special ad hoc division of CAS set up for this World Cup aims to make decisions within 48 hours of receiving an application.

Germany's interior minister Nancy Faeser, who was sitting close to FIFA president Gianni Infantino in the VIP box, wore a OneLove armband in support of the national team.

The Football Association has declined to comment on whether it will follow Germany's lead and make the 'covered mouth' gesture before England's next match against the United States.

The DFB lost one of its commercial partners on Tuesday when German supermarket chain REWE ended its sponsorship deal over the armband dispute.

REWE chief executive Lionel Souque said: "We stand for diversity and football is diversity. The scandalous behaviour of FIFA is for me as the CEO of a diverse company, as well as a football fan, absolutely unacceptable."

The news came after the DFB said teams planning to wear the OneLove armband during their matches were subjected to "extreme blackmail".

The DFB's media director Steffen Simon told Deutschlandfunk radio that England, who were the first team planning to wear it, had been threatened with multiple sporting sanctions.

"The tournament director went to the English team and talked about multiple rule violations and threatened with massive sporting sanctions without specifying what these would be," he said.

Simon, who did not say if he was referring to Qatari organisers or FIFA in his reference to the tournament director, said the other six nations then decided to "show solidarity" with England and not wear it.

"We lost the armband and it is very painful but we are the same people as before with the same values. We are not impostors who claim they have values and then betray them," he said.

"We were in an extreme situation, in an extreme blackmail and we thought we had to take that decision without wanting to do so."

<https://www.skysports.com/football/news>



### Harry Kane returns to full training after ankle injury scare as England prepare for their second World Cup game



**T**he nation breathed a sigh of relief as Harry Kane returned to full training on Thursday - but James Maddison was still absent ahead of England's second World Cup game against the United States.

Kane suffered an ankle knock during the 6-2 thrashing of Iran that opened England's tournament but the scans came back all-clear and he will be fit to play.

The Three Lions captain trained individually on Wednesday but was passed fit to rejoin the group at Al Wakrah on Thursday.

Kane suffered a knock to his right ankle after a clumsy challenge by Morteza Pouraliganji in England's 6-2 win against Iran on Monday - the national team's biggest ever win at the start of a major tournament.

The Spurs striker, who has a history of ankle problems, did play on for 25 minutes but was seen limping after the game and went for a precautionary scan.

But after he completed a lighter training session on Wednesday, England manager Gareth Southgate confirmed Kane would be fit to face the United States.

"He is good, he has worked a little bit more individually on Wednesday but he will be back in with the team on Thursday and

good for the game," Southgate said on ITV. "We just checked him out, just to see. I think sometimes when you are treating things it is important to know exactly what is there and that was all good."

"It is not so much the ankle. It is more the foot. It was a poor challenge really but I think it is one that fortunately we have got away with reasonably lightly."

Leicester City winger Maddison missed the opener against Iran with a knee complaint and went through his fitness work indoors as the rest of the England squad trained in the Doha heat.

Defender Harry Maguire was able to train after recovering from the illness that forced him off in the Iran game.

Kyle Walker also trained and will be hoping to get his first minutes since undergoing groin surgery in October.

"I'm fit," the right-back said. "I've been training now for two weeks and I feel sharp."

"Can you replicate what you do on a match day? Of course I can't. Me and the physio, me and the fitness coach cannot have an 11v11 against each other."

"We can do as much as we can do before I have to go into training and kick a ball with the lads, so I feel good."

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