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# Report reveals unequal treatment of military women in peace operations



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Lansana  
Dumbuya  
enjoys  
grassroot  
approval**



Chief of Defense, Lt. General Peter K. Lavahun

By Alfred Koroma

A n assessment report of women in Peace keeping operations has revealed that female

members of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) deployed in peace keeping operations are given fewer opportunities than their male counterparts.

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Minister of MTIHE making the disclosure during the event

**We now have 3million  
children going to school**

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**COMMENTARY**

By Katie Gberie

**D**r. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden is a proud member of the opposition APC, very controversial in Sierra Leone's political landscape, with critical piercing eyes, and with a stout heart. Yet, though a hard nut herself very difficult to crack, she has realized the super power and diverse acumen in Dr. Fatima Maada Bio, another hard knot very difficult to untie, focused, persuasive, generous, with the ability to break the ceiling of the chauvinistic world where men have played the piper, and at the same time singing the song.

The shrewd and astute leadership Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has provided for the modern African woman on the African Continent clearly signifies that women are determined to take their space on decision making that affects the lives of humanity in general.

It has not come as a surprise to most women, especially Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden. She saw in the Lioness Dr. Fatima Maada Bio the agility and courage to challenge injustice, discrimination, and a character full of vigor, and the tenacity to fight for a place for women in the world.

Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has expanded on the records of the freedom fighter Winnie Mandela, who stood behind the South African apartheid with her last blood, projecting a situation that a woman can be reliable in leadership, and in the struggle for freedom for all. Dr. Fatima Maada Bio also shares the same pinnacle with the current Vice President of United States, the first woman to become Vice President of the greatest nation on earth, with a civilization of over 800 years old. And concurrently, Kamala Harris is the First Black woman in the history of United States to have attained that position of a Vice President of the greatest power.

First Lady of Sierra Leone Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has provided the emblem of respect on the African Continent, agitating for equal opportunity, and a future that will embrace the prowess and strength of a woman, thereby changing the trajectory forever in the whole world. Her peculiar and effective actions are insinuating that the situation for male domination should never be as usual. She has traversed the ECOWAS region as First Lady of Sierra Leone, carrying the touch of liberation for women and girls.

Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has been used as the spear to hit and unveil the strength of African women of today. First Lady of Sierra Leone navigated her way through the African Union, where she was recognized as the Champion of Sanitation. It was difficult for most men to understand that Fatima Maada Bio has the sting for not just laurels, but indeed with the fervent intent of locating a place for women in the transformation of the New Africa.

But all of these have not come as a surprise to Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden. Dr. Blyden has the courage to appreciate the good in her fellow woman, a spec which is extremely lacking in human nature, let alone in a woman's world. Most women are scared of supporting, or celebrating

# Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden acknowledges the super power in Dr. Fatima Maada Bio

their fellow woman riding on high horses of success.

Most people are very proud of the stance of Dr. Sylvia Blyden, who has a very good spirit to come out in our Sierra Leonean society from the opposition APC to support Dr. Fatima Maada Bio for her revolutionary work. First, Dr. Fatima Maada Bio liberated the Sierra Leonean girls from rape, early marriage, by soliciting for stringent measures against sexual offenses. She pushed amidst all stumbling blocks in a very dark society, for a Special Court to ensure the liberation of women.

The eagle heart in Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has brought Sierra Leone on the spot light, especially the UN Resolution passed recently, where she succeeded in convincing World Leaders to realize the suffering of women. She stood in the World Podium, articulating with consciousness the ordeals women are going through in the male dominated world. She succeeded in captivating world leaders at the UN, realizing that she was not only representing the African Continent, but women all over the world. For this, Dr. Sylvia Blyden has every reason to support Fatima Maada Bio, her self a giant in her own way, and who can not be cooked in a small pot. She is one of the educated women that has been challenging the status quo of men in the political front in our country. But it was a good move for her to shove off the negative veil in the faces of other women, realizing that there is a need to come closer and support the Lioness Fatima Maada Bio, quietly capitalizing that after all, Dr. Fatima Maada Bio is fighting a fight she should have undertaken had she ever got the opportunity. Dr. Blyden stood by Dr. Fatima Bio when she was making Sierra Leone proud in New York, both waving the Green, White and Blue. In their midst were Ambassador Sidique Abou-Bakarr Wai, Sierra Leone's Ambassador to United States, and the country's Permanent Representative at the United Nations, Alhaji Fanday Turay.

The pageantry of Dr. Fatima Maada Bio has been spotted at the Vatican in Rome -Italy, shaking hands with the papacy -The Catholic Pope - the highest Order in Christianity.

The Pope came to realize the vitality in Dr. Fatima Maada Bio, her honesty and sincerity of purpose in her enterprise, reminding the Christian World of the Queen of Sheba that left an indelible mark in the history of Christianity. Dr. Fatima Maada Bio was honored by the Pope, as a First Lady of Sierra Leone, an epitome of liberation for women. In all of these pleasantries, Dr. Sylvia Blyden showed love and affection for her younger sister, as she fondly refers to Dr. Fatima Maada Bio. She was so proud that Dr. Fatima Maada Bio was representing Sierra Leone, and making Sierra Leone great. Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden is very much so aware that Dr. Fatima Maada Bio is attracting the world to Sierra Leone.



First Lady of Sierra Leone was also honored in Rome by a Survival led Network- Global Collaborative, supporting to heal childhood trauma. She was recognized for her commitment in championing relentlessly the Protection and Healing of Child Dignity.

In another engagement, Dr. Fatima Maada Bio took a turn on the Royal Palace of the United Kingdom, the grace of the Commonwealth that has brought Sierra Leone's First Lady to the fore, with so much respect for her knack in promoting gender equality, and supporting her husband Rtd Brigadier Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone in ensuring security and peace for the people of Sierra Leone. With all of these high accolades, Dr. Sylvia Blyden has continued to pat her younger sisters back for the endowment Allah has showered on Fatima Maada Bio.

Dr. Blyden kept her heart melting when she joined Dr. Fatima Maada Bio at the construction site for the 500 beds hospital for the people of Sierra Leone at the 34 Military hospital. Dr. Blyden was seen shedding genuine smiles for the strength of Dr. Fatima Bio, the first First Lady to have climbed up that type of stairs in the history of Sierra Leone. The emotions of Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden was easily spotted exhibiting pride for the work Dr. Fatima Bio has done for the people of Sierra Leone. The

infrastructure is huge, and when completed and handed over to the State, it will also serve the Sub-Region. Fatima Maada Bio is serving as the greatest Ambassador in the history of Sierra Leone, laying bare where Sierra Leone is, and what Sierra Leone wants to look like under the leadership of her husband Dr. Julius Maada Bio. She is telling the story of Sierra Leone, giving out a picture of a country with so much hope. And on her side is a friend and sister Dr. Sylvia Olayinka Blyden who is giving little attention to scornful eyes, and and people with mono focal lenses.

Is Dr. Fatima Maada Bio making Sierra Leone great - yes. Is Fatima Bio bringing laurels for Sierra Leone -yes. Is Fatima Maada Bio bringing huge trophies and prize's for our beloved country Sierra Leone - yes. Is Dr. Fatima Bio according the Presidency the expected humility -yes. Is Fatima Bio determined to share her pageantry and recognition with her fellow women of all level in Sierra Leone - yes. Is Fatima Maada Bio a role model for the future generation of liberated women - yes. Truly, most people have come to the realization that Fatima Maada Bio is an iconic character, ready to take Sierra Leone and the New Direction of her husband President Brigadier Rtd Maada Bio to the history books as the transformers of Modern Sierra Leone.



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## LOCAL NEWS

A vast majority of the All People's Congress (APC) party grassroot on Saturday organized a carnival as a show of their unflinching support and approval of the candidacy of one of Sierra Leone's finest lawyers, Lansana Dumbuya, for secretary general position of the party.

In his address to the mammoth crowd, Lawyer Lansana Dumbuya, who is undoubtedly the leading candidate for the APC Secretary General Position, called for unity within the party to ensure victory come 2023.

"We should put our differences aside and focus on the bigger picture—bringing the party back to power in 2023. I believe in the grassroot because you are in the majority and you are the ones who should go out in your numbers to make the party wins the

# For APC Secretary-General: Lawyer Lansana Dumbuya enjoys grassroot approval

election," he urged.

He recognized the work of the former executive, who, he said did extremely well in maintaining the party thus far. Hammering home the importance of the secretary general position, he said the secretary general is the pivot around which all activities of the party revolve and it needs a mature personality him to hold the enviable position.

"Secretary General Position is not meant for an amateur, but someone with the required experience. It is meant for somebody who is ready to sacrifice his all to ensure that the party maintains integrity. I have done all and have all it takes to be the secretary general of the great APC party," he said.

## Growth of 5.7% in West African Economic and Monetary Union in 2022



The eight member countries of the union are Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso - Copyright © africanews AFP.

The growth rate within the countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), amounted to 5.7% in 2022, down 0.4% compared to 2021, announced Monday the leaders of this organization meeting in Abidjan.

The eight member countries of UEMOA (Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso) have not been spared by "the deep crises that affect the whole world", in particular "the consequences of the war in Ukraine", at the same time as "our economies were recovering from the shock" of the crisis related to Covid, said Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara. In addition to the growth rate, which has slowed from 6.1% in 2021 to 5.7% in 2022, inflation within the union has risen from 3.6% to 7.5% in 2022, Mr Ouattara said, adding that its member countries had nevertheless shown "resilience".

Noting that the security situation was "worrying" because of "the increasing number of terrorist attacks" in several UEMOA countries, in particular Burkina Faso and Mali, he pointed out that some of the expenditure that should have been allocated "to education and health" had been allocated "to defence

and security".

The Abidjan summit was held the day after the Abuja summit of the fifteen member countries of ECOWAS, to which the UEMOA belong, which decided to create a regional force to intervene not only against jihadism but also in the event of a coup d'état, as the region has experienced several over the past two years.

Several West African countries are suffering from the spread of jihadism from northern Mali to central Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, and southwards to the Gulf of Guinea.

The national armies are largely powerless and cooperate with external actors, the UN, France and Russia. Insecurity is a major factor in the military coups that have shaken the region since 2020 in Mali, Burkina Faso and, for other reasons, Guinea.

"ECOWAS leaders have decided to recalibrate our security architecture," Omar Touray, chairman of the ECOWAS commission, said in Abuja. They are "determined to establish a regional force that will intervene when needed, whether it is for security, terrorism or restoring constitutional order in member states," he said.

## Report reveals unequal treatment of military women in peace operations

From Cover

The report dubbed as the Measuring Opportunities for Women in Peace Operations (MOWIP) assessment of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) or named MOWIP-RSLAF Barrier Assessment Report disclosed a number of challenges and barriers female military officers face while serving in peace keeping operations.

It says no women serve in senior leadership roles in those operations. Men take on more leadership roles than women, even across similar ranks. The highest-ranking women are majors (equivalent to UN OR-4), a rank below the rank of a lieutenant colonel.

Barracks and toilet facilities are not separate for men and women, and RSLAF has no proper mechanisms to report harassment and other misconduct.

The institution lacks childcare facilities and accommodations for new mothers, pregnant women, and female officers are not provided uniforms that accommodate their bodies during pregnancy. MOWIP-RSLAF Barrier Assessment Report disclosed.

The assessment which was done to examine RSLAF's ability to deploy women and ensure their meaningful participation in UN peace keeping operations however recommends



measures to address the challenges. It recommends that RSLAF establish positive measures to promote women's inclusion and reinforce their performance through courses and trainings that facilitate access to promotions.

The report also suggests that RSLAF conduct a gendered needs assessment, develop spaces, facilities, policies for nursing mothers and pregnant women and address the specific health challenges of women which is making their retention difficult, recommending investment in training female medical practitioners who could be deployed with contingents in the future.

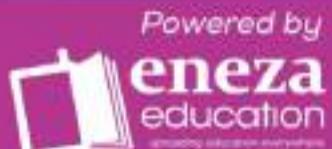


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# ANALYSIS

By Alfred Koroma

**P**arliamentary debate on the 2023 Budget ended on Friday last week. The approval process of the budget has now moved to the appropriation committee stage where MPs would have to scrutinize individual MDAs' allocations and decide on whether to add or deduct them. This is the last financial year budget the fifth Parliament would have to approve before its session ends next year. During last week debate, MPs from all sides of the House had their overall view of the 2023 financial year budget. Thanks to the National Grand Coalition leader, Hon. Kandeh Kolleh Yumkella who made a fairly critical review of it. For most MPs, the debate was just about the usual APC versus SLPP playfulness, ignoring the issues that matters most. Which brings us to a quick view at the presentation made by one of the ruling party MPs, Hon. Hindolo Moiwo Gevao, representing Constituency 003.

In his debate, Hon. Gevao lauds the budget that it has captivated the difficulty the globe is going through today. In the West African Sub region, he said, Sierra Leone stands third as far as the management of state economy is concerned.

But the MP did not cite from which index he was speaking. However, indicators on the ground do not correspond with the economic

## 2023 Budget debate: Picking truth from the facts of Hon. Ngavao's presentation

management he emphasized. It is obvious Sierra Leone's economy is not doing well. Inflation is rising. And that is felt by the extreme hardship and high cost of living variant to the picture the he was painting.

On energy the MP went on to say "... for the past ten years; hardly did we go in the city for one week without blackout." But "now... we can go for at least six, seven, eight months without having a single day of blackout."

"Government has increased energy supply... almost every chiefdom headquarter, has 24-hour electricity."

Immediate humming and murmuring broke out in the Well when Gevao made the statement above. The feedback made it apparent that the MP was not saying the truth on behalf of the people. It is a fact that some major district headquarter towns in Sierra Leone now have electricity, but not as the MP exaggerated. The truth is energy supply in the country remain inconsistent.

As Hon. Gevao was in fact pouring his doom appraisals, some communities in Freetown were in total blackout. In Thunder Hill Community and many others, electricity is currently rationed—one-in-one-out.

Again, it appears the MP had mistaken districts headquarter towns for chiefdoms when he said "almost every chiefdom headquarter, has 24 hours electricity." Except for that reason, but to say every chiefdom headquarter town



Hon. Hindolo Moiwo Gevao of Constituency 003, Kailahun District

in Sierra Leone now enjoys 24 hours electricity was a blatant disinformation to the public.

However, his eulogy on the budget

allocation to the education sector cannot be disputed entirely. But on agriculture, citizens are yet to get the benefit of the much hailed Torma Bum rice project,

## LOCAL NEWS

By Yusufu S. Bangura

**M**inister of Technical and Higher Education (MTHE), Prof Alpha Tejan Wurie, has disclosed that through the initiative of President Julius Maada Bio, they now have three million children going to school for both primary and secondary schools.

He made the above disclosure during the national annual celebration of the Education Week at the Freetown International Conference Centre, Bintumani hotel, Aberdeen in Freetown. The theme for this year's celebration is 'Education Transformation For All' because everyone needs to be educated no matter what the statues of that individual.

"Since 2018 when President Bio took office and he promised to give Free Quality School Education (FQSE), we now have three million children going to school and we have paid examination fees for pupils whereas 140,000 pupils took the National Primary School Education. 120,000 took the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) and this year we have 160,000 pupils who took the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) exams because the president is paying for them to take the public exams," he said.

He said since he was appointed as Minister of MTHE he has seen people that have enough vision to visualize education and the country is now going through revelation in the educational landscape. He said they have had technical input in the education sector as they have made great improvement in so many areas when it comes to better learning, adding that they have moved the education act from 2005 to 2021, just to have quality education in the country.

Minister Wurie said that early childhood education is important for children to have proper foundation and that President Bio has supported the free quality education

## We now have 3million children going to school

-Prof Alpha wurie

by providing transportation and school feeding program for pupils to have access to education.

He continued that they were now looking at radical inclusion which has increased the number of pupils going to school as pregnant girls now attend school, but that does not encourage them to have pregnant because it would lead them to sexual transmitted diseases, "so I urge you all not to have sexual intercourse with any man. He said starting next year, they would have senior secondary technical vocational exams and that they would work with National Council for Technical Vocational Awards in doing one exam equivalent to Technical Higher Education for the transformation to be unique.

"If we want to continue the education transformation for all, people have to believe that skills and technical education is going to be much more vital to us as a people to grow, develop than our normal Grammar school type education. So, I encourage you to take technical education serious. We are also going to establish community technical colleges," he said.

Also speaking at the event, Deputy Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSSE), Emily Kadiatu Gogra said the event was organised for them to look at what they have done and what they have not yet done in terms of the Free Quality Education since 2018 to date. She said they also organised the event for their partners to know what they have been doing and for them to be part of the education process, adding that they also want the children to be part of the process for them to see themselves in the education affairs.

She continued that the government has done well in the education sector since the establishment of the FQSE in 2018, but that they still needed more people to support the President's dream, so they want to assess if partners have been



Minister of MTHE making the disclosure during the event

supporting the education process. Minister Gogra said she would rate the education process to 90% because there have been great success as subsidies have been paid to government assisted schools, adding that they now have education policies which have been renewed like the radical inclusion.

She added that they now have sexuality comprehensive education, reviewed the education act and they have made the education sector plan.

"We are here as a team to assess and to see that the 22% given to education has been used wisely. We also see improvement in early childhood education where children have access to school and we have about 17% of those children moving to 24% that have access to education. We now have improvement in both primary and

secondary sector whereas pupils get requirement for universities especially this 2022," she said.

She said they now have girls that top public exams than before and added that even though they have improved the education sector, they still have some challenges like timely payment of subsidies, recruitment of trained and qualified teachers especially in the rural areas, but notwithstanding it is a progress as they were moving steadily to address those problems.

She further stated that they also have education financing gaps and that they want those gaps to be addressed, therefore they needed trained and qualified teachers for pupils to have better learning and she informed everyone that the deaf and blind now take the public exams.



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NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

## Nigeria: Abuja-Kaduna train service resumes after deadly attack



A police officer walks past a train at the train station in Abuja, Nigeria, Monday, Dec. 5, 2022 - Copyright © africanews Chinedu Asadu/Copyright 2022 The AP. All rights reserved

Rail service in Nigeria's capital city resumed on Monday (Dec. 5), eight months after assailants attacked a train with explosives and gunfire, killing seven people and abducting dozens of passengers.

Only a handful of passengers and armed security personnel were aboard the first trip from Abuja to neighboring Kaduna state.

"Coming early this morning, I actually want to observe what is happening. Just like 30 minutes after my arrival, we saw a team of military men with 2 armored tankers and other vehicles, about 5 of them parading all these places, so I said this is what am actually expecting the Federal Government to do," a passenger said.

"No fear at all, I mean life is about risk, so every day we wake up we know we are already born into risks and we just have to take life as it happens," added a business entrepreneur before he boarded the train.

Insecurity challenges

Authorities have blamed the brazen attack in March on the armed groups who have been kidnapping people for ransom in northwestern Nigeria.

The military is battling a 13-year jihadist insurgency in the northeast, criminal militias in the northwest and separatist tensions in the country's southeast.

Pascal Nnorli, general manager of the Abuja-Kaduna train service, said that officials had succeeded in getting the release of the abducted passengers and had stepped up security on the route.

"Insecurity is getting higher and higher on a daily basis in Nigeria, it is not peculiar to rail operations but we shall continue to do our best," he said.

Operators of the train had planned to restart the Abuja-Kaduna service much earlier, but the families of the hostages insisted on their release first.

The train service is a key means of transport for many in Nigeria's capital, a city of 3.6 million, because the major

## Vigil in DRC as government raises death toll from violence

Congo's government dramatically increased the death toll from a massacre last week they blamed on M23 rebels, saying Monday that 270 people had been killed in an attack that broke a fragile cease-fire agreement.

M23's chairman challenged the figure and accused Congo's government of creating a diversion from other atrocities in the region that he says have been committed by government soldiers and their allies.

Government spokesman Patrick Muyaya said Monday that the government was opening an official inquiry into what happened in Kishishe, a village located about 70 kilometers (43 miles) from the regional capital of Goma.

He said the country's justice minister went to The Hague in the Netherlands and referred the matter to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court "so that he can investigate the massacres in Kishishe," Muyaya added.

In Goma, members of social movements and residents of the city gathered in a vigil to remember the victims of the conflict.

Carrying banners reading "Kishishe is not a butchery" and singing "Kishishe oh, Kishishe oh" they also demanded attention of the international community to put an end to the conflict between the M23 rebel group, Rwanda and Congo, that has killed dozens and displaced tens of thousands.

"We say enough is enough, we are tired of it, we don't want war because we are here for peace, the Congolese are looking for peace," said Amani Jordan standing next to a Congolese flag with dozens of candles around.

"We are here because our compatriots have been killed by the M23 terrorists," said Nadia Nyamushya also participating in the vigil.

"As young Congolese, we have said to ourselves: get together to share with our friends and mourn our own (people)."

The Congolese government initially accused the M23 rebels and Rwandan defence forces of killing 50 people in Kishishe.

Rwanda's government has repeatedly denied backing the M23 rebels.

There was no immediate corroboration of that government figure or the new toll of at least 270 dead due to insecurity in the area but Muyaya said the information had come from local civil society groups.

However, M23 chairman Bertrand Bisimwa said the death toll figure had been inflated by a tribal militia leader and that only eight people had been killed by stray bullets during the clashes last Tuesday in Kishishe.

Last month at a summit in Angola, the leaders attending it had warned that if M23 did not respect the cease-fire and relinquish control of the towns it held, an East African regional force would make them do so.

A contingent of more than 900 Kenyan troops already has deployed to eastern Congo as part of the regional force agreed to in June and South Sudan has said it is sending 750 personnel too.

The force will eventually include two battalions from Uganda and two from Burundi as well.

M23 was not included in the talks in Angola but its leaders had said they would abide by it.

Meanwhile in Nairobi, the Third Inter-Congolese Dialogue continues, leaders of the East African Community have been gathering for several days trying to find a solution to the crisis in DRC.

The M23 rose to prominence a decade ago when its fighters seized Goma, the largest city in Congo's east, which sits along the border with Rwanda.

After a peace agreement, many of M23's fighters were integrated into the national military.

Then the group re-emerged just over a year ago, saying the government had failed to live up to its promises under the peace deal.

By June, M23 had seized the strategic town of Bunanga near the border with Uganda.

It later took control of two more major towns — Rutshuru and Kiwanja.

## Ghana to swap local debt in fight to regain economic stability



## Tanzania cancelled Independence Day celebrations



FILE - In this Tuesday, March 16, 2021, file photo, Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks ... - Copyright © africanews AP/Copyright 2021 The AP. All rights reserved.

Tanzania's president, Samia Suluhu Hassan, has cancelled Independence Day celebrations scheduled for Friday, November 9 and has directed that the budget instead be used to build dormitories for children with special needs.

The 61st Independence Day event was to cost \$445,000, but the money will be used to build eight dormitories in primary schools around the country.

Tanzania's minister of state, George Simbachawene, on Monday said the money had been disbursed. He said the East African country will celebrate Independence Day by

having public dialogues on development.

Usually, Independence Day celebrations are marked with pomp and state banquets.

This is not, however, the first time Tanzania has cancelled the celebrations.

In 2015, then-President John Magufuli cancelled celebrations and diverted funds towards the building of a road in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam.

In 2020, he did the same and directed that the budget be used to buy medical facilities.

## Guinea's ex-dictator Camara's appearance in 2009 massacre trial shortened



Moussa "Dadis" Camara speaks upon his arrival from exile in Conakry, Guinea, on 22 December 2021 - Copyright © africanews Diallo Abdoul Aziz/Copyright 2021 The AP. All rights reserved

The most anticipated moment since the opening of the September 2009 massacre trial in Guinea, the appearance of Moussa Dadis Camara, came to a halt on Monday when the court accepted the former dictator's request for a postponement on health grounds.

The moment of the appearance arrived late morning when President Ibrahima Sory Tounkara said: "Mr Moussa Dadis Camara, come to the bar, please.

Less than 12 minutes later, the same president pronounced the postponement of the case to December 12, 2022, with these words: "You have one week Mr Camara, the hearing is adjourned."

In the meantime, the 57-year-old former autocrat, who used to make those who suffered his wrath tremble, obsequiously pleaded for the adjournment, citing his health.

"With all due respect to your august court - I have already informed the director of the prison guard, the chief medical officer of the prison guard - for a very long time I have been suffering," said Captain Camara after taking the stand with an unsteady gait and in civilian clothes, he who never took off his uniform.

"I am not above the law," he said, "but in all sincerity, I

don't feel at the moment that I am in a state to testify.

The main defendant in this historic trial vaguely referred to "malaria I had, a total weakening", and suggested that he preferred not to elaborate.

"The court cannot force you to say or do what you do not want to do (...) If you say you cannot (testify), the court will follow you," the president said before announcing the adjournment.

Captain Camara has been on trial since September 28, 2022, along with a dozen former military and government officials, for the massacre that took place 13 years earlier to the day.

Captain Camara, who came to power in a coup nine months earlier, was president on the day and on the following days when the red berets of his guard, soldiers, police and militia killed dozens of people in and around a stadium in Conakry who had gathered to dissuade him from running for president in January 2010. Dozens of women were raped, individuals were kidnapped and tortured, and many bodies were disposed of.

He was exiled to Burkina Faso a few months after the massacre and was imprisoned after returning for the trial.

Africanews with AFP

Ghana asked investors to exchange around \$9 billion in domestic debt for new bonds on Monday (Dec. 5) to ease a crunch in payments as the government negotiates an IMF bailout during its worse economic crisis in decades.

Finance Minister Kenneth Ofori-Atta said the debt exchange starting Monday would seek to exchange around 137 billion cedis or \$9.7 billion in current debt for four new bonds maturing between 2027 and 2037.

"This is a key requirement to allow Ghana's economy to recover as fast as possible from this crisis. This is also a key requirement to secure IMF support," he told a press briefing.

The West African state is in talks for up to \$3 billion in credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help shore up its public finances.

Inflation is running at more than 40 percent and the national currency, the cedi, has lost 50 percent in value this year, helping to push up debt by \$6 billion in 2022.

As part of IMF negotiations, Ghana's government is seeking to make its debt more sustainable after facing warnings about the risks of default.

Inflation to return to single digits

Current debt servicing payments are absorbing more than half of the government's revenues and 70 percent of its tax revenues, pressuring government spending.

With the debt operation and IMF deal to be concluded soon, the minister said he expected the economy to stabilise next year and inflation to return to single digits.

Ghana, a top cocoa and gold producer, has oil and gas reserves but its debt payments are high and its revenues weak. Like the rest of the world, it has been hit by economic fallout from the global pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

Ofori-Atta said the government had worked to minimise the swap impact on investors holding government bonds, especially small investors and other vulnerable groups.

There will be no "haircuts" on the bonds' principal, he said.

Ofori-Atta added the government recognised banks and financial institutions hold a large amount of local government debt, but regulatory agencies and the central bank would help ease the impact on them.

"The alternative would be a far worse economic crisis with protracted closure from international markets including imported goods and services and further domestic economic instability," he said.

A foreign debt restructuring programme would be presented later, Ofori-Atta promised.

President Nana Akufo-Addo and his economic team have come under growing pressure over the crisis, after the government earlier this year did a U-turn and said it would go to the IMF for help.

Lawmakers have moved to censure Ofori-Atta over his economic performance and parliament is still reviewing that motion.

Last month, Akufo-Addo fired the government's junior finance minister, Charles Adu Boahen, over corruption allegations.

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## LOCAL NEWS

The Director of the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank, Dirk Reinermann, on Monday, 6th December 2022, paid a courtesy visit to the Hon. Vice President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Dr. Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh and the Hon. Minister of Finance Dennis K. Vandi.

In both meetings, Dirk Reinermann stated that his visit underscores World Bank support for Sierra Leone through IDA20 and Sustainable Development Financing Policy and thanked the government of Sierra Leone for the collaboration and partnership throughout the years with Bank.

"As the world grapples with overlapping crises, the World Bank is committed to standing by Sierra Leone as it charts a course to recovery and resilience. Our partnership has taken on a renewed importance amid these new and unprecedented challenges" he added.

Dirk Reinermann continued that the World Bank is stepping up to meet growing needs in client countries like Sierra Leone. Stating that exactly one year ago, the Bank concluded a historic replenishment of its fund for low-income countries through its 20th cycle known as IDA20.

He noted that the International Development Association (IDA) has stepped up its support to 74 countries with a \$93 billion package to help them respond to the multiple ongoing crises and build a greener, more resilient, and more inclusive future.

This package according to Director Reinermann, will support IDA countries during the next three years providing financing to help the most vulnerable countries restore their trajectory towards the 2030 development goals and ultimately reducing extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity.

He informed the government

# IDA Director of Resource Mobilisation engages government on World Bank's sustainable development financing policy

that debt sustainability, for moving this agenda forward particularly in IDA countries, and complying with the wishes deteriorated during the pandemic and worsened due to the current conflict in Ukraine –with rising inflation, soaring energy and food prices and more.

Noting that the new

Sustainable Development Finance Policy (SDFP) will incentivise countries to borrow sustainably and promote coordination among IDA and other creditors to support countries' efforts to drive sustainable financing.

This policy also helps countries undertake policy performance actions on debt transparency, fiscal sustainability and debt management.

"It is in the context that we are here to strengthen partnerships among Sierra Leone's creditors;

and to facilitate information sharing, a greater understanding of the country's developmental goals, and the need to address debt-related risks" he stated.

In his statement, Minister of Finance Dennis k Vandi welcomed the team to Sierra Leone and thanked the Bank for hosting the second creditor outreach event in Africa, in Sierra Leone.

"I congratulate the World Bank

Leone's share of the IDA resources is small compared to our development needs.

"As you know, our development needs have increased in the light of recent exposure to multiple crises. We are faced with the challenges of protecting livelihoods due to food prices shock and expanding jobs and earning opportunities, improving access to energy and water, and at the same time reducing debt vulnerabilities and restoring macroeconomic stability" he added.

Minster Vandi reiterates the government's commitment to drive through fiscal consolidation, and deepen domestic revenue mobilization to ease pressure on public debt build-up. He further stated that even though public debt challenges and vulnerabilities triggered by the multiple crises are affecting particularly less diversified and less resilient economies like ours, he commits to a transparent and accountable public debt management approach.

The Hon Vice President Dr Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh thank the World Bank and IDA for financing government Human Capital development programmes and projects in Education, Health, Cash transfer and Agriculture.

He appreciated the efforts of the Bank for the landmark mobilization of a substantial amount of resources for the IDA 20 cycle.

However, he stated that Sierra

Vice President Juldeh reaffirms the government's commitment to implementing the reforms under the World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) to leverage increased concessional resources from the World Bank and other sources.

He also expressed appreciation, on behalf of the Government and people of Sierra Leone for the support provided by the Bank towards the socio-economic development of Sierra Leone.

"We remain committed to implementing good economic policies including prudent debt management as well as governance reforms he added.

## Commercial sex worker charged for wounding

By Jeneba A. Conteh

**V**ictoria Davies, a commercial sex worker, has been dragged to court by Abibatu Kamara for allegedly wounding and assaulting her.

The accused on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, appeared before Magistrate Alpha Rashid Jalloh of Court No.4 on Pademba Road in Freetown, on three counts of wounding with intent contrary to Section 18 of the Offences Against the Person's Act

1861, wounding contrary to Section 20 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 and assault occasioning actual bodily harm contrary to Section 47 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.

According to the particulars of offence, the accused on Saturday, her, no plea was taken and the 26th November 2022, at Sunny Side Night Club, Lumley Beach, Aberdeen in Freetown, wounded Abibatu Kamara with intent to do her grievous bodily harm. It was also alleged that the

accused on the same date and place maliciously wounded Abibatu Kamara and that on the same date and place, she assaulted Abibatu Kamara in a manner thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm.

When the charges were read to her, no plea was taken and the accused was not represented by any defense counsel.

She was remanded without bail until the 12th December 2022.



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## LOCAL NEWS

**S**ierra Leone's Ambassador to Belgium Ambassador Samuel Tamba Musa arrived in Luanda, Angola for the 10th Summit of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) of Heads of State and Government slated for the 6th- 10th December.

The Ambassador who doubles as Head of Delegation will represent President Julius Maada Bio, in his capacity as member of the OACPS Committee of Ambassadors in Brussels facilitating the deliberation. The Ambassador is accompanied by the First Secretary of the Sierra Leone Embassy in Brussels, Mr. Saifu George, who doubles as the expert on OACPS issues.

The Summit will be held under the Theme, "3 Continents, 3 Oceans, 1 Common Destiny: Building a resilient and sustainable OACPS".

The 10th Summit marks the first physical meeting of OACPS Heads of State and Government since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the entry into force of the revised Georgetown Agreement in April 2020. It will conclude with the adoption of a declaration by Heads of State and Government/Representatives.

# Sierra Leone's Ambassador to Belgium arrives in Angola for the 10th OACPS Heads of State summit

The Summit is important for Sierra Leone in many ways as it will provide an opportunity for the exchange of views on key topics for the sustainable development of the 79 Member States of the OACPS and address issues related to trade among the Member States and key partners; a Women's Forum on the Blue economy; and a Youth Forum and a Diaspora Forum.

The main objectives of the OACPS are sustainable development of its Member States and their gradual integration into the global economy, which entails making poverty reduction a matter of priority and establishing a new, fairer and more equitable world order. Also, the coordination of the activities of the OACPS is in the framework of the implementation of the ACPS-EC Partnership and the establishment and consolidation of peace and stability in a free and democratic society.

The 10th OACPS Summit was preceded by 115th OACPS Council of Ministers meeting held in Brussels on 27th and 28th November which was attended virtually by the Minister of Planning



and Economic Development Dr. Francis Kaikai and the 45th joint OACPS-EU Ministerial Meeting also held in-person in Brussels on 29th November.

The Ministerial meetings witnessed the exchange of views on strengthening partnership including the EU-OACPS Partnership Agreement (post-Cotonou) which is due to be signed after the negotiated text was initiated by both

parties in April 2021. The 9th OACPS Summit was held in December 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. The former President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta will therefore be the outgoing President of the Summit while the president of Angola, João Lourenço the current host, will be the President of the 10th Summit and President of the OACP.

## Internal Affairs Ministry, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency destroy dangerous drugs

By Ishmael Dumbuya



**T**he Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency has on Monday, December 5, destroyed a huge quantity of prohibited drugs worth over 1946.1 kg that have been in the custody of police and the court.

Speaking during the event, Minister of Internal Affairs, David Panda Noah, said he was pleased to see the president's manifesto promises a vision for human capital development, which means humans are a country's most significant assets.

He established that the rampant intake of drugs by individuals, especially Kush is sending the youth to the dark.

The minister pointed out that the framework of the destruction of

narcotics is their determination as a nation to combat drug trafficking and reduce drug intake and to put an end to the menace that is causing a series of health problems, disorderliness, and other unlawful activities by thousands of individual users in the country.

He emphasized that the entities involved need to do more in the fight against drug abuse, noting that if they do not step up as a nation to put an end to illicit drug trafficking and abuse, it will continue to destroy families, communities and the country as a whole.

The minister concluded by urging everyone to come together and make Sierra Leone a drug free state.

## Two accused remanded for alleged robbery

By Mohamed J Kargbo

**O**n December 5, 2022, at the Magistrate Court No:2, Pademba Road in Freetown, Magistrate Seillu Tucker remanded Alpha Mansaray and Abdul Rahaman Fofanah at the Male Correctional Centre. They were arrested on Thursday, 6 September, 2022, by Detective Sergeant 16955 Kamara L.

The accused's are standing trial on 12 count offences contrary to the laws of Sierra Leone, which were put to them by the court clerk.

It was alleged that the accused on 18 August 2022 at Angola Town Goderich in Freetown conspired with unknown persons to commit felony to wit:

It was alleged that the accused on the same date and place conspired with unknown persons to rob the complaint of his valuable property worth NLG 182,000.

It was further alleged on count two that the accused on the above date and place, committed the offence of wounded with intent and were charged with three counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm contrary to the Offences Against the Person Act of 1861.

The police said that on the above date

and place in Freetown, the accused assaulted wounded Mohamed A.Kamara in a manner that caused him grievous bodily harm.

It was also alleged that diverse dates in Freetown, the accused assaulted Sajah Bendu in a manner thereby causing her grievous bodily harm.

Asp Hawa Bah led the prosecution wherein she brought in a witness to testify in court.

Testifying in court, Inspector Saidu Kamara attached to the Lumley Police Division as an exhibit officer, said on August 18, 2022, he was on duty when DP 16996 handed over to him exhibits including one black damage safe, a green waist bag, a face mask, a wooden handle cutlass, a black pistol, an iron cross bar, a pair of sneakers, and a trousers.

He said he received the items and registered them against the serial number 68/2022 and that they have been under police custody.

He tendered them in court to form part of the court record.

The accused were remanded at the Male Correctional Centre at Pademba Road in Freetown.

The matter was adjourned to the 13 December 2022 for further hearing.

## Commercial sex worker charged for wounding

By Jeneba A. Conteh

**V**ictoria Davies, a commercial sex worker, has been dragged to court by Abibatu Kamara for allegedly wounding and assaulting her.

The accused on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, appeared before Magistrate Alpha Rashid Jalloh of Court No.4 on Pademba Road in Freetown, on three counts of wounding with intent contrary to Section 18 of the Offences Against the Person's Act 1861, wounding contrary to Section 20 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 and assault occasioning actual bodily harm contrary to Section 47 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.

According to the particulars of offence, the accused on Saturday, 26th November 2022, at Sunny Side Night Club, Lumley Beach, Aberdeen in Freetown, wounded Abibatu Kamara with intent to do her grievous bodily harm.

It was also alleged that the accused on the same date and place maliciously wounded Abibatu Kamara and that on the same date and place, she assaulted Abibatu Kamara in a manner thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm.

When the charges were read to her, no plea was taken and the accused was not represented by any defense counsel.

She was remanded without bail until the 12th December 2022.

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## LOCAL NEWS

# World Bank \$100 Million to strengthen transparency, accountability

The World Bank Group Board of Executive Directors today approved the Second Inclusive and Sustainable Growth Development Policy Financing (DPF) – a \$100 million grant which will support the Government of Sierra Leone to improve natural resource governance, enhance inclusiveness, and strengthen accountability and transparency in public finance. This DPF, the second in a series of three operations, builds on a programmatic reform plan to support sustainable, robust, and inclusive growth in the country.

"Sierra Leone's capabilities to eradicate extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity rest on sustained macroeconomic stability, robust growth, and a solid enabling environment for leveraging its abundant natural resources. This financing will help address immediate fiscal challenges, while improving overall governance to build resilience and enhance the delivery of services to the people of Sierra Leone," said Abdu Muwonge, World Bank Country Manager for Sierra Leone.

Sustainable and inclusive growth has been constrained by the country's exposure to multi-dimensional exogenous shocks (economic, epidemic, climactic), pervasive governance weaknesses, and limited fiscal space and fiscal risks, which inhibit the ability to promote pro-poor growth through public investment. Sierra Leone's economy has been affected by back-to-back crises, which have aggravated inflationary and fiscal pressures, and

increased the risks to debt sustainability. The reforms supported by this operation will help address several critical developmental challenges while also helping to meet increased financing needs of the Government.

"Ongoing structural reforms, including those supported by this operation in input markets such as land, labor, and natural resource management will support sustainability and resilience in the economy. The World Bank will

continue to support the Government's commitment to tackle crucial structural reforms to promote inclusive growth," said Smriti Seth, World Bank Senior Economist and Task Team Leader. The DPF is aligned with the Government's Medium-Term National Development Plan (MTNDP 2019-2023). Mining reforms supported by the operation will help improve revenue collection, while reforms in auditing and state-owned enterprises' governance will help control expenditures, easing

fiscal pressures and creating space for growth-promoting investment.

This program builds on the strong foundation established by the first operation in this series, which initiated landmark legislative reforms, including promoting decentralized and inclusive land management, strengthening governance and licensing practices in the mining sector, and promoting gender inclusivity in education and employment.

## ECOWAS agrees to establish peacekeeping force against jihadism

By Alfred Koroma

Leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have on Sunday agreed to establish a new regional peacekeeping force to fight jihadism.

Many countries in the West African region have for the past two years faced instability due to several coups and some of its countries including Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, and southwards to the Gulf of Guinea affected with a wave of jihadism. Establishing a regional force is seen a respond to those challenges and to bring back constitutional order.

"The leaders are determined to establish a regional force that will intervene in the event of need, whether this is in the area of security, terrorism (or to) ... restore constitutional order in member countries," a communique from the leaders said.

Leaders of the Economic Community of



West African States (ECOWAS) have decided to act to "take care of our own security in the region," Omar Aliou Touray, president of the ECOWAS commission, is quoted by DW Africa saying during an annual summit in the Nigerian capital of Abuja.

But the 15-member political and economic bloc is yet to provide more details on how the force would be constituted but added that the region's defense chiefs would convene next month to chalk out how it would operate. DW Africa report.

# Invitation for Bids Mott MacDonald SL Limited

**Procurement Number: MMSL/SSEIP/1088.24**

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited, has allocated funds from FCDO for the procurement of 62,320 (or more) printed SSS syllabuses for the new SSS curriculum being introduced in academic year 2023/24 and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders.

Mott MacDonald Limited (MM) has been appointed by the Foreign Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO) to deliver the Sierra Leone Secondary Education Improvement Programme (SSEIP - also known as Leh Wi Lan). This programme supports the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education to improve learning outcomes for boys and girls at secondary level and to increase the enrolment, retention and well-being of girls and children with disabilities.

The programme requires at least 62,320 SSS Syllabuses to be printed with the following print specifications:

- Printing and binding
- Printing of text (black and white, A4 80 gsm paper, minimum 85% brightness and opacity)
- Printing of covers (black and white, 300 gsm card with matt finish)
- 20 pages per copy
- 76 different books of 820 copies each
- Double sided, saddle stitch

Bids should be submitted for printing 76 syllabus document of average estimated length 20 pages each for 820 SSS.

Bidding is open to all suppliers who can demonstrate the capacity and experience to deliver 62,320 printed SSS syllabuses.

Interested bidders may obtain further information, view samples of the documents to be printed and inspect the bidding document at the address below between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday from 5th to 15th December 2022. Bidding documents can be collected for free at the address below.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before Friday 16th December 2022 at 9.30am. All bids must be accompanied by:

- Valid business registration certificate
- Valid NASSIT clearance certificate
- Valid tax clearance certificate
- References, indicating the supplier's experience to deliver similar products to reputable organizations - corporations, INGOs and Government

Bids will be opened on Friday 16th December 2022 at 09.45 am., in the presence of bidders and/or representatives at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

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# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**A**bt Associates, a major American business and government research, technical assistance, and consulting company, manages the USAID-funded VectorLink Project. VectorLink will support the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and USAID to plan and implement an integrated vector control approach with the overall goal of reducing the burden of malaria. Abt has implemented indoor residual spraying (IRS) for PMI since 2011, delivering high-quality IRS programs and gathering the most comprehensive vector control entomological data in the world. Under this contract, Abt will expand entomological monitoring to guide programs focused on insecticide-treated mosquito nets and IRS and continue to assist PMI in reducing the burden of malaria through IRS and capacity building in 24 African countries where malaria is endemic. Abt also will continue to support PMI in IRS monitoring and evaluation as well as environmental compliance.

Abt associates Inc., received funds from USAID, to implement the Programme: "Vectorlink Project" in Five (5) different districts of Sierra Leone. Part of the funds has been allocated for the Procurement of various Services. We hereby invite all legally constituted companies, or business or enterprises that can provide these goods and services, to Request for RFQ in their areas of Specialization.

## Schedule of RFQ:

Lot Number	Description of items
Lot 1	Printing Services
Lot 2	Stationery Items
Lot 3	Transportation Services
Lot 4	Cleaning Items
Lot 5	Lodging Services
Lot 6	Miscellaneous Items
Lot 7	IRS Cards

Interested bidders must request the RFQ clearly stating their area of interest via email to [SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com), between the hours of **8:00am and 5:30pm** from **5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2022** and you may seek any clarification via email to [SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com).. Please note that all clarifications will be made to potential bidders latest **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**.

Bidders are required to submit their respective bids not later than **December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, at **13:00pm**. And bids can be dropped in the bid box in our office at 41W1 Derrick Drive, Off Spur Road, or via email to [SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@pmivectorlink.com). E-mail submissions must not be of file size above 2mb in PDF format.



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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 KRAJAN	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	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	REGGINA	2.04	19.00	80.00	3.75	5.80	14.00	26.00	20.00	12.00



## World Hope International celebrates disability day with sports event

**W**orld Hope International last Saturday December 3, 2022, joined the rest globe in celebrating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities with a one day sports event for disable children at the Murray Town School field-the Monjasa Park Artificial Turf in Freetown.

Over 100 children who were accompanied by their parents and guardians participated in several sports and entertainment activities which is organised by World Hope's Enable the Children program in collaboration with FANT-Sierra Leone, Shining Stars Amputees and other partners.

Program Director for World Hope's Enable the Children program, Anna Vines, a Physiotherapist which provides home-based therapy for children with disabilities, in celebrating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2022 in the country they've organized a one-day sports event which attracts around 100 children with disabilities. "We've gathered them together to give them chance to showcase their talents by competing against each other and also just to have lot of fun so it's an opportunity for their parents to courage, see how much their children can do and to be with their companion to give each another courage and also have a real good time. It's a real opportunity for the children to have fun, but it's also an opportunity for the children to showcase their talents like the way Juan Jackson who is representing Sierra Leone was spotted in one of our event," she said.

The former Mercy Ships' Rehabilitation Coordinator in Sierra Leone revealed that they hope to be in the provinces in the future to help other organizations which look after children with disabilities to be able to take part in this

type of event. In his statement, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Paralympics Committee of Sierra Leone (NPC-SLE), Alexandra Thulah expressed happiness to witness such event noting that the event tells how the celebrating international day of the disable is now done practically in order for the children to feel it's an important day to them.

"World Hope, this is not just a celebration but you've put hope in these children, you've put smile not just in their faces but you've made their hearts very happy because it's not easy living with disability in a country like Sierra Leone but activities like this will make us believe that inside our disabilities there is ability. It's this same activity we identified one fine athlete as Paralympics movement, which is Juan Jackson who represented Sierra Leone in Tunisia, she came with medal, we took her to Japan in the Paralympics Games she brought laurels to the country because the position she took in Africa worth celebrating and one of our super star Kei Kamara took her for further education in the United States of America. I think World Hope this is not a mistake you are organizing this type of activities it's good to show how abilities are in people with disabilities. I am very happy today that we have some from the political wing because recreation is part of the act itself and I think we need to improve in that aspect, recreation is one of the area we need to improve on because if we allow the disable people to have recreation they might showcase something in them that will take them to another level and it will reduce the pressure not just on the parents but the government as a whole," the CEO affirmed.

## Bo Ranger to begin title defence against Real Republicans



**C**hampions, Bo Rangers will begin their Sierra Leone Premier League title defence against Real Republicans on Friday 09 December 2022 when they host new comers, Real Republicans at the Bo City, South Region.

Coach Jose Solomon side, who won the 2022 title for the first time in the club history, will start the new campaign at the Bo City Stadium in what will be promoted Real Republicans

side first competitive match at the top tier Sierra Leone football league after decades of missing out.

Rangers will then take on Old Edwardians FC in their first away game of the season in Makeni before hosting Luawa FC on Christmas Eve and will wrap-up their 2022 fixtures with an away journey to Port Loko where they will face Bai Bureh Warriors.

Coach Solomon side will face a mouth-



## Swimmers to benefit from CANA training camp



**S**ierra Leone Swimmers are set to benefit from the African Swimming Federation (CANA) with a training camp for swimmers that intend to participate in upcoming international competitions.

According to the Sierra Leone Swimming, Diving and Water Polo Association (SLSDWA), the Camping will be hosted from 22- 29 January 2023, in the City of Mbombela in South Africa where athletes will be provided with the opportunity for two (2) pool sessions per day, gym sessions and a series of lectures on various topics to assist with their preparations for the major competitions.

"This training scholarship will also serve as a major boost to prepare our swimmers for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. CANA will provide the financial support for accommodation, meals, and local transport for two athletes per country to participate at

the camp while the Sierra Leone Swimming, Diving and Water Polo Association will be responsible for providing air tickets and allowances for the athletes," the SLSDWA media department stated.

Responding to the CANA Secretary General Dr Mohamed Diop via email message, Mohamed Abdul Turay the NOC Presidential hopeful and President of the Sierra Leone Swimming, Diving and Water Polo Association thanked CANA for their continuous support towards the Sierra Leone Swimming, Diving, and Water Polo Association.

"We are currently faced with a serious challenge in terms of facilities to train our athletes as the only Olympic sized pool in Sierra Leone is under renovation and will be completed in 2024. This scholarship is timely and our swimmers will make the best of it," he ended.

watering clash in Januray when they travel to Freetown and face a new look East End Lions side on the 27 January 2023.

Meanwhile, another newcomer, Lambol FC will welcome the 2019 Champions East End Lions in their opening fixture at the Lungi Central field on Saturday 10th December 2022, with the Lungi boys will desperate to get off to a perfect start.

FC Johansen will opened their campaign against Ports Authority on Saturday at the Parade ground, while Central Parade travel to

Magburaka for their first encounter of the season against East End Tigers, and Bai Bureh Warrior will battle FC Kallon in Port Loko on Saturday.

Kamboi Eagles will play host to new boys Luawa FC in Kenema Town field on Sunday, and Mighty Blackpool will host Old Edwardians at the Parade ground on Sunday.

Freetownians SLIFA who have invested on new players will travel to Makeni to battle with Wusum Stars at the Wusum ground in Makeni.