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# 2023 presidential elections: The KKY, Bio alliance

By Alusine Sesay & Ishmael Dumbuya

After five years of arms-length relationship, leader of the National Grand Coalition (NGC), Dr. Kandeh Kollah Yumkellah and President Julius Maada Bio of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP), on Wednesday, April 12, met at state House where the two discussed a possibility of forming an alliance close to the June presidential elections.

**What the two leaders say?** After the meeting with President Bio at State House, Dr. Yumkellah posted on his twitter page that, "After a year of dialogue, we have reached a crucial turning point in our country's political history, where we prioritised peace and set aside personal ambitions for a better Sierra Leone."

Cont. Page 4



President Bio and KKY exchanging bitter-sweet smiles



Dr. Babatunde Ahonsi, the UN Resident Coordinator

### Ahead of 24<sup>th</sup> June elections... UN frowns at toxic ethno-regional, political, religious divisions

## My party is poised to win the June 24 elections

-Dr Samura Kamara tells ECOWAS/AU Joint Mission

**TEES Shopping Centre, NASSIT settle differences out of court**

**ECSL frowns at low quality voter Ids, vows to engage contractors**  
-ECSL Boss

**IOM records deadliest quarter for migrants since 2017**

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## LOCAL NEWS TEES Shopping Centre, NASSIT settle differences out of court

One of the most successful indigenous business entities that has admirably displayed innovative and sterling initiatives in the manufacturing sector that produces qualitative garments TEES Shopping Centre, situated on 100b Wilkinson Road, Freetown and the National Social Security Insurance Trust (NASSIT) have been ordered by a Magistrate to settle their differences and report back to her.

The Magistrate's order came in the wake of an allegation that the Company was in defiance of according NASSIT access to conduct an inspection for payment of NASSIT dues to be determined.

However, while the Magistrate was reviewing the matter, she discovered that TEES Shopping Centre has never prevented NASSIT from doing so and therefore came to the conclusion that the two should conduct the inspection and settle their differences, an order both have carried out.

Lamentably, an unfounded account reported, short of accuracy, presented the insinuation that the company is adamantly trying to shy away from honouring its statutory obligation of honouring NASSIT inspection.

Established by a former Cabinet

Minister, Alhaji Musa Tarawally, TEES Shopping Centre has been widely acclaimed as a shining example of an indigenous investment.

Specialized in the manufacturing of high classed Made in Sierra Leone garments and wears of quality textiles, which are marketed in and out of the country, the company is set to produce garments for institutions on a massive scale and now expanding its production facility internationally.

One admirable aspect of the former Cabinet Minister's investment is bringing experts, especially from Asia who have the requisite expertise in the production of these high classed garments of all shapes and in turn transferring knowledge to Sierra Leoneans with the expectation of building their capacity and reducing the need to import foreigners.

In a snap telephone chat, the erudite and versatile entrepreneur stated that other Governments like Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Ghana, Togo Benin and Niger, support private sector investors to achieve such meaningful and job creating manufacturing projects, making them part of National Development Projects.

He underscored how our Government and institutions must be seen



supporting such type of national development projects undertaken by a patriotic Sierra Leonean adding that he also plans to start cotton plantation that will further employ and create livelihood opportunities for over 25,000 Sierra Leoneans in five years.

In a country where former politicians have hardly demonstrated the culture of making meaningful investments that should contribute to national development, the bold step taken by Alhaji Musa Tarawally in establishing this manufacturing has been widely commended. In the long term it will generate substantial revenue and foreign exchange for our country.

There is a school of thought that expresses the view that there should

be certain incentives that should be put in place to motivate people like former Cabinet Ministers and Civil Servants to make meaningful investments in various sectors. They argued that such could dispel the notion that funds meant for investments were acquired through surreptitious means, maintaining that such could be a reason that is holding them back from doing so.

It must be noted that TEES Shopping Centre is a Limited Liability Company with shareholders, meaning that it has a form of legal protection for shareholders and its owner that prevents them from being held personally responsible for any debts or financial losses. Therefore, Hon. Musa Tarawally shouldn't be personally held responsible.

## ECSL frowns at low quality voter IDs, vows to engage contractors

-ECSL Boss

By Yusufu S. Bangura

Chairman of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL), Mohamed Kenewui Konneh, has told newsmen that they will engage the vendor that printed the voter registration cards to know why 90% of the photos are printed in black and white instead of coloured photos that were agreed on.

**What happened?** On Tuesday, April 11, the ECSL organised a press conference at their head office, Tower Hill in Freetown. The purpose of the conference was to update the press on issues relating to the quality of the photos of the voter registration cards.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February the ECSL boss announced that distribution of voter registration cards will commence on Friday 7 April and end on 26 April. The distribution is taking place in all 3,630 centers across the country at the same time.

**What the Chief Electoral Commissioner says** : Commissioner Konneh said within 4 days about 1,500,112 cards have been collected nationwide and the above figure accounts for about 80% of centres reported.

He said based on the same parameter of centres reported, 2,324 photo fewer cards have been



ECSL Chief Electoral Commissioner (M) updating the media about the Voter's ID cards

identified and collected, adding that for those whose photos got missing would have their photos retaken to ensure it appears on the final voter register.

He further said 243 cards with mismatched photos were identified, 3176 misplaced registrations found, adding that photos of mismatched registrants are being taken using the mobile application and attestation issued in line with procedure and misplaced registrants are also being relocated to their correct registration centres using the mobile tablet.

Konneh said the new Voter Registration Cards have new unique voter ID numbers and these

numbers are different from the old voter ID numbers which will prevent counterfeiting of the new voter registration cards.

He pointed out that since the launching of the Voters ID, there has been misinformation on social media relating to the quality of the ID cards. He confirmed that some have even alleged that the ID cards were printed in Sierra Leone and it cost the government about \$5.5 million while some claim \$10 million.

"As a commission, we operate on the principle of Transparency, and therefore we think even though they are not fact, we have to break this to the public to inform them about the fact of the

voter registration card" he stated.

**The bigger picture:** Konneh said the card itself is a Temporal Card for voting and they are not going to be used in place of a National ID card, adding that it is an inbuilt laminated card with an invisible ink that is sensitive to any fraud.

The Chief Electoral Commissioner said the new voter registration cards have several Layers of Security which are invisible Ink, securitized Hologram Foil, micro text, Guilloche and barcode to verify voter number.

He pointed out that the printing of Voter Registration Cards went through the correct National Public Procurement Authority (NPPA) which laid down the procedures and international restricted bidding process was done.

He further pointed out that bids were invited from 9 companies and 2 companies responded, adding that after the bid opening and evaluation exercises, Constat/Inform Lykos successfully won and was awarded the contract.

He added that the final contract price for the voter registration cards is USD 1,433,950 United State Dollar with 0.42 cent per card.

"The Commission would like to encourage the public to collect their voter registration cards for the remaining days in order to complete the process. We also remain committed to the principles of accountability and credibility and our constitutional duty to conduct credible and inclusive elections," he promised.



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## LOCAL NEWS

**D**r. Babatunde Ahonsi, the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) in Sierra Leone, yesterday stressed the need for toxic ethno-regional, political, and religious divisions not to be tolerated in Sierra Leone.

He was the keynote speaker at the launch of the "Youth in Politics and Peacebuilding" project funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund and to be implemented by the Catholic Relief Service (CRS) in partnership with CARITAS.

Speaking at the ceremony held at the Peace Museum, formerly the Special Court for Sierra Leone facilities in Freetown Wednesday, Dr Ahonsi said that the project is particularly relevant to the context of Sierra Leone, as it addresses young people, female and male politics, and peacebuilding.

He stated that young people have a key role to play in the present and future of democracy in the country and that engaging them in democratic processes and allowing them to participate,

safely and constructively, in politics are core aspects of any effort to sustain democracy.

"Investing in the capacity, agency, and leadership of young political leaders will strengthen their ability to collaboratively lead peace efforts and use their skills to tackle other concerns that affect their lives, particularly in these challenging national and international times," said the UN Chief.

Dr Ahonsi further mentioned that it was good news that the project has included increasing young women's participation in governance and decision-making processes among its main goals, and "it will invest in advocacy activities against Gender-Based Violence and harmful customary practices that put young women at risk and undermine young women's socio-economic development."

He referenced the 2022 Global Gender Gap Report, which revealed that persistent gender gaps exist in political participation while making the point

Ahead of 24<sup>th</sup> June elections...

## UN frowns at toxic ethno-regional, political, religious divisions

above.

Dr Ahonsi said he was glad that the project addresses the need to strengthen dialogue at all levels of society, including community stakeholders, traditional leaders, the Inter-Religious Council, the Sierra Leone Police, the Office of National Security, city and district councils, chiefdom youth councils, and political party structures.

Also, he reiterated the commitment of the UN to supporting national institutions and the people of Sierra Leone in preventing violent conflicts, particularly ahead of the June national elections, that could reverse the important gains of peace and democracy that this country has made so commendably in the past years.

The 24-month-long Youth in Politics and Peacebuilding project, from the overview done by CRS Project Director Dennis Momoh, is estimated at close to 2 million dollars targeting 11,604 persons aged 18-25 in Kenema, Bo, Port Loko, Western Urban and Rural areas.



Dr. Babatunde Ahonsi, the UN Resident Coordinator

Statements in support of the initiative were also made by the CRS Country Rep, the CARITAS Director, the Youth Commissioner, the Inter-Religious Council, the President of CARITAS and the Director of NGO Affairs at the Ministry of Planning and Development.

## 2023 presidential elections: The KKY, Bio Alliance

From Cover

Dr.Kandeh Yumkella again tweeted that "Together we will make a difference.Let's continue to work towards a brighter future for Sierra Leone.Wae we put Salone fos,paopa Salone go betteh (When we prioritised Sierra Leone, the country will be better off at all cost).

President Bio also posted on his twitter page that " Today,Wednesday,12-04-2023,together with the Vice President,Dr.Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh,I met with the distinguish Hon.Dr.Kandeh Yumkella and the National Grand Coalition (NGC) party at the State House,Freetown.We discussed various developments and governance issues facing our beloved nation. We exchanged ideas on ways of promoting our government's people-oriented policies. We agreed on the need to build a progressive alliance to advance transformative development and strengthened national cohesion. Together we will move Sierra Leone towards the right direction for our current and future generations."

**Why NGC was formed?** The National Grand Coalition party was formed in 2018 after some disagreement among members of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party in regards to who should lead the party to the 2018 presidential elections. While President Bio had an entrenched grass root support base within the party, Dr.Yumkella who wanted to contest for the flagbearer position of the SLPP, was vehemently rejected by the grass root hence the formation of the NGC.

In the 2018 elections, NGC gained secured parliamentary seats, one District Chairman, and took control of Kambia District Council. The Party was attributed 6% of the total nationwide votes cast, by the National Electoral Commission.

**Strange Development:** A few months ago, senior executive members within the NGC

party came out plain and expressed their positions that they will be resigning from the party. Kandeh Kolleh Yumkella, Dennis Bright, and Arthur Pierce are among the executive members who tendered their resignation from the party with a bid to forming an alliance with the current administration of President Bio.

Couple of weeks ago supporters of the ruling Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) celebrated what they had viewed as the restoration of political stability within the party following the peace accord and signing of a Communiqué by SLPP flag bearer aspirants. But it is now absolutely clear that some signatories of that agreement are reneging from what was agreed. The Communiqué among other things stated that all court matters should be withdrawn and settled in-house.

**Faces within the NGC:** There are two distinct NGCs—the real vibrant opposition force commandeered by the very eloquent, genuine and phenomenal opposition politician, Dr. Dennis Bright, who has won tremendous respect for keeping the SLPP's feet under the fire, and the SLPP satellite and puppet NGC controlled by Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, who is operating under the shadow of President Maada Bio. Positioned as Sierra Leone's new third political force after winning five parliamentary seats in the 2018 elections, propelling Yumkella into the forefront of national politics, today the National Grand Coalition party is anything but a grand coalition, leaving serious questions unanswered about the future of not only the party itself—but the future of Dr. Yumkella himself.



President Bio and KKY exchanging bitter-sweet smiles

**Disagreement:** Senior members confirmed that Dr.Dennis Bright felt uncomfortable with the direction that Dr. Kandeh Yumkella was taking the party to. He felt that Yumkella was only interested in cutting a deal for himself by negotiating a future role in the SLPP government led by President Bio after June 24<sup>th</sup> elections. That has been denied by supporters and allies of Kandeh Yumkella. On the other hand, Dr. Dennis Bright was accused of pushing for an NGC alliance with the All People's Congress Party, APC, a position that was opposed by Kandeh Yumkella. All said and done, the NGC party finds itself in a serious political instability.

**Back to his root:** Seemingly, it's no secret that Dr. Kandeh Yumkella is on his way to his family party, the SLPP. With the exit of Yumkella from the NGC; there will be no obvious successor to him.

KKY has already defected to the SLPP, his

birth party. As the saying goes; "blood is thicker than water".

Dr. Yumkella to a large extent is refusing to untie himself from the umbilical cord of the SLPP. He is perceived as a man who has set himself up to be the eternal foil to the opposition APC, to steal the party's votes in his native Kambia District to always give his party, the SLPP, the edge during elections. He may have had genuine intentions forming the NGC after he was chased out of the SLPP, but Yumkella has shown no inclination to really upend his first love, the SLPP.

**The bigger picture:** While it is largely perceived that Dr.Yumkella has lost political grounds in his strong hold of Kambia, his alliance with President Bio will send some shock waves within the camp of the main opposition APC. Should the alliance works well and the SLPP emerges victorious in the June,2023 presidential election, it is probable that Dr.Yumkella would be the SLPP flagbearer come 2028.



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## LOCAL NEWS My party is poised to win the June 24 elections

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

The joint Pre-election Assessment Mission of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU), on April 12 met with the leadership of the All People's Congress (APC) at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Freetown.

**What Samura told ECOWAS?** During the meeting, leader and presidential candidate of the APC, Dr. Samura Kamara told the joint AU/ECOWAS delegation that his party was poised to win the June 24 election and that all he and his party wanted was a level playing field. He expressed grave concerns relating to Elections Management and threats to the peace, safety and credibility of the polls.

The APC presidential candidate therefore urged the regional and continental bodies to support Sierra Leone to hold multi-party elections that are free, peaceful, transparent, and credible and whose outcome should reflect the will of the electorates.

Dr. Samura Kamara reiterated the need for a level playing field so that political parties and citizens can fully participate in the democratic process.

The APC Running mate, Hon Chernor Maju Bah, spoke on the challenges relating to the legal framework and the lack of consensus building on constitutional processes and procedures.

**Why are they in Sierra Leone?** The Joint ECOWAS/AU mission was headed by the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Goodluck Jonathan, who is deputized by the ECOWAS Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace & Security (CPAPS) and Ambassador Dr. Abdel-Fattau Moussa.

Ambassador Moussa said the Mission was a follow up on several other engagements ECOWAS and the AU have had with elections stakeholders in Sierra Leone. The CPAPS further said they were in the country to further understand the challenges facing political parties as the country heads closer to the multi-tier elections.

-Dr Samura Kamara tells ECOWAS/AU Joint Mission



Dr. Samura Kamara and his APC Comrades at Radisson Blu Hotel

## IOM records deadliest quarter for migrants since 2017

By Alfred Koroma



The International Organization for Migration (IOM)'s recorded 441 migrant deaths between January and March this year, making it the deadliest first quarter on record since 2017.

According to the UN Agency, the 441 deaths documented in the first three months of 2023 are likely an undercount of the true number of lives lost in the Central Mediterranean. And the fates of more than 300 people aboard vessels in the sea remain unclear.

Increasing loss of life on the world's most dangerous maritime crossing comes amidst reports of delays in State-led rescue responses and hindrance to the operations of NGO search and rescue (SaR) vessels in the central Mediterranean, IOM reports.

The organization also blames delays in State-led rescues on the Central Mediterranean as the route factor in at least six incidents that led to the deaths of about 127 people this year, the complete absence of response to a seventh case claimed the lives of at least

73 migrants.

"The persisting humanitarian crisis in the central Mediterranean is intolerable," IOM Director General, António Vitorino said. "With more than 20,000 deaths recorded on this route since 2014, I fear that these deaths have been normalized. States must respond. Delays and gaps in State-led SAR are costing human lives." Despite the rising number of deaths, more migrants are

taking the venture to reach Europe. During the Easter weekend, IOM report that over 3,000 migrants reached Italy, bringing the total number of arrivals for this year to 31,192 people.

And in the meantime, IOM says rescue efforts by NGO-led SAR have "markedly diminished" in recent times. The UN Migration Agency also reported that on 25 March, the Libyan Coast Guard fired shots in the air as an NGO rescue ship, Ocean King, was

responding to a report of a rubber boat in distress. The following day, another vessel, the Louise Michel, was detained in Italy after rescuing 180 people, reminiscent of the situation of the Geo Barents, which was detained in February and subsequently released. Also on Tuesday, a vessel carrying roughly 800 people was rescued more than 200 kilometers southeast of Sicily by the Italian Coast Guard with the assistance of a commercial vessel. The Coast Guard also rescued another ship with around 400 migrants that had been adrift for two days between Italy and Malta, the UN Migration Agency said, stating that not all migrants from these ships have reached safety and disembarked in Italy yet.

IOM Director General has called on States to work together to reduce loss of life along migration routes. "Saving lives at sea is a legal obligation for States," Vitorino stated. "We need to see proactive State-led coordination in search and rescue efforts. Guided by the spirit of responsibility-sharing and solidarity."

IOM further called for concerted action to dismantle criminal smuggling networks and to prosecute those responsible for profiting from the desperation of migrants and refugees by facilitating dangerous journeys.

The UN Agency says its Missing Migrants Project continues investigations into several reports of invisible shipwrecks- cases in which boats are reported missing, where there are no records of survivors or rescue operations by SAR.



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## LOCAL NEWS MoHs, partners launch 3 reports on alcohol, procurement guidelines

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHs) and partners on Wednesday, 12th April, 2023, launched the National Alcohol Policy, National Assistive Technology Procurement Guidelines, and the National Assistive Technology Procurement Guideline of Sierra Leone. The launch took place at the Miatta Conference Car Park in Freetown. Deputy Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Mustapha Kabba, while making the keynote address, said that the launch of the 3 NCD documents was a step in the right direction, as for far too long the health system has been focusing on communicable diseases to salivate suffering, morbidity and deaths while paying less attention to issues around procurement guidelines. He said the assistive technology,

according to WHO, enables and promotes inclusion and participation, especially for persons with disabilities, aging population, and people with non-communicable diseases.

He added that the National Alcohol Policy is aligned with the World Health Organization's Global Strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol and the global alcohol action plan adopted by the world health assembly in 2010 and 2022 respectively.

He continued that the three documents were developed based on international standard set out by WHO to ensure that stakeholders and providers of assistive and services are informed by research, evidence, and best practices

"I hope that these documents will not only be launched and kept in our offices, but with our collective efforts, we can ensure

that they are implemented to ensure that the intended people benefit from the contents of these documents," he said

Country Director of Clinton Health Access Initiative (CCHAI), Silvestre Suh, said it's not news to them that persons with disabilities face multiple challenges.

He said according to WHO, an estimated 1.3 billion people experience significant disabilities worldwide.

He said the figure represents 16% of the world population or 1 in 6 of any person, adding that the WHO estimate further suggests that some persons with disabilities die 20 years earlier than those without disabilities and have twice the risk of developing condition such as depression, asthma, diabetes, stroke, obesity, or poor oral health.

"As a trusted partner to the MoHs and other line ministries, CHAI is happy to be part of this journey that ensures that



Deputy Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Mustapha Kabba at the launch

people with disabilities have equitable access to AT in Sierra Leone. We commit to continue supporting the MoHs with the implementation and the design of other life-saving interventions" he stated

The adopted in 2015 by the government of the world, the 2030 Agenda contains 17 sustainable development goals with 169 targets, the 17 SOGs cover all three aspects of sustainable human development the social environmental and economic dimension

## Three on remand for alleged murder Accused on remand for alleged fraudulent conversion

By Mohamed J Kargbo

Mohamed Samura and two others made another appearance before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of Court No1 on Pademba Road in Freetown and they were remanded to the Male Correctional Centre.

All three accused persons are charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit a crime and murder contrary to law.

According to the charge sheet, all three accused persons, Mohamed Samura, Mohamed Lamin Dumbuya and Hardy Momodu Evetyn Jabbie, on 27th February 2023, at Woodland Estate, Freetown, conspired together with other persons unknown, to murder Samuel Abu Bakarr Kargbo alias Wanie.

It was also alleged that all three accused on the same date and place, murdered Abu Bakarr Kargbo alias Wanie.

Mathew Gibao Karim Vagahun, Detective Police Inspector attached to the Homicide Syndicate, Criminal Investigations Department (CID) headquarters on Pademba Road in Freetown, recognised all 3 accused persons and also one Desmond Johnson the complainant.

He said on Monday, 27 February, 2023, he was on duty at the Homicide Unit when he received a transfer case from Congo Cross Police Station in respect of murder for the first accused person.

He said Detective Assistant Commissioner of Police Joseph Lahai left for the scene of crime at No. 8 Old Signal Hill Road, Freetown (Wood Land Estate).

He said on arrival, the team discovered a black facing cap and pistol pouch belonging to the deceased and that the

said exhibits were collected by the Scene of Crime Officer while they returned to the CID.

He said the items were handed over to the exhibit clerk for safe keeping.

He said on that same day himself and D/Inspector Kasigbama interviewed the first accused person, and that he was cautioned and questioned in Krio.

He said the accused responded in Krio while he (the witness) recorded it in English, and that at the end of the interview he read the statement to the accused, who admitted it to be true and correct.

He said the process was witnessed by D/Inspector Tamba Kasigbama and he recorded it.

He said on the 20 February, 2023, a request of post-mortem was sent to Dr. Simeon Owizz Koroma for examination and that on the 2nd of March 2023, the second accused person was brought from Kambia by Officers of Kambia in respect of the matter.

He said he and D/Inspector Kasigbama interviewed him. His statement was tendered in court.

He said on March 3rd, he witnessed the post-mortem examination of the deceased at the Connaught Mortuary.

At the conclusion of the examination, a copy of the cause of death handed over to him which he produced and tendered He said on the 4th of March 2023, based on the information given to the team by the first accused, in respect of Tamba Moriba, Detective Chief Superintendent Cecilia Cole left for the scene to Tamba Moriba to conduct a search.

He said they conducted a search on the premises of Tamba Moriba where they found items of police interest.

He said on the 6th of March 2023, a team of investigators including

By Mohamed J Kargbo

On April 12, 2023, at the Magistrates' Court No2, Pademba Road, Magistrate Isata Tucker remanded one Mohamed Conteh to the Male Correctional Centre on Pademba Road for alleged fraudulent conversion.

The accused person is standing trial on a count charge of fraudulent conversion contrary to Section 20(i) (iv) (a) of the Larceny Act of 1916.

The indictment was read out to him by the court registrar, but the accused was ordered not to say anything against the allegation put against him.

It was alleged that on 27th February 2023, at Abayomie Cole Drive, Hill Station in Freetown, the accused fraudulently converted to his own use or benefit, certain property-a black Milla tank valued fifteen million five hundred old Leones, 4 conduit pipes valued two million two hundred old Leones, one hundred circuit boxes valued eleven thousand new Leones, metal door valued four million five hundred thousand old Leones, four iron scaffold valued one million four hundred thousand old Leones, all to the total value of thirty four

himself, left for Angola Drive Goderich, Freetown, to one Peter Sesay, to conduct a search and found a safe.

He said on their way returning the 3rd accused person identified himself as one of the occupants downstairs and that the safe which the team took along belongs to him.

He said from that point they asked him to join them to CID Headquarters where he was interviewed.

He said during the course of investigation police sent a letter of

million one hundred and fifty thousand old Leones, entrusted to him by one Alhaji Hassan Kamara for the purpose of safe keeping

In his testimony, Alhaji Hassan Kamara recognised the accused as his caretaker at his building site at Hill Station.

He also said that on the above said date he went to the said site and noticed that the Milla tank was missing and that he enquired about the whereabouts of the accused but that he was not around at that time.

He told the court that he reported the matter to the Akon Police Station where he was accompanied by a police officer to the site.

He said when they arrived they met the accused at the site, but he ran away when he saw them and left the store opened.

"We entered into the store and found out that other above said items have got missing too," he testified, adding that he went to the station and made statement and that after about two weeks the accused was apprehended and was taken to the police station.

The matter was adjourned to the 20th of April 2023 for further hearing.

notification to the Director and Ambassador at Large at Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the 3rd accused, who is a British Citizen.

He said on the 22nd March, 2023, the 1st accused person was charged with the offence of conspiracy to commit a crime to wit murder.

He said on the 23rd March 2023, both the 2nd and 3rd accused, were charged with the same offence.

The matter was adjourned to the 14 of April 2023 for further hearing.



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## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

## EU condemns Chad's "regrettable" expulsion of German ambassador



Chad's transitional President Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno waves to the press ... - Copyright © africanews LUDOVIC MARIN/AFP or licensors

The decision of the Chadian government to expel the German ambassador is "regrettable" and constitutes "a particularly hostile gesture," a spokeswoman for the head of European diplomacy Josep Borrell said Wednesday.

The Chadian government had announced Friday evening the expulsion of the German ambassador "for discourteous attitude" and "disrespect of diplomatic customs". It had not given details on the facts.

In reaction to this expulsion deemed "unjustified", the German government announced on Tuesday the expulsion of the Chadian ambassador to Berlin, Mariam Ali Moussa.

"The decision of the transitional authorities of Chad to expel the German ambassador is regrettable. It is a particularly hostile gesture in view of the long-standing partnership and commitment of the EU and its member states to Chad, including in the context of the ongoing transition," EU diplomatic service spokeswoman Nabila Massrali said in a statement. Jan Christian Gordon Kricke had been German ambassador to Chad since July 2021.

A Chadian government source told AFP on condition of anonymity that the authorities accused the diplomat of "interfering too much" in the "governance of the country", as well as "comments tending to divide the Chadians".

The German Foreign Ministry said that "Ambassador Kricke had carried out his duties in an exemplary manner and was committed to human rights and the rapid transition to a civilian government in Chad.

"The European Union reiterates the importance of a rapid return to constitutional order and a time-limited transition that guarantees respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. An inclusive process supported by all civil and political actors is essential to ensure the credibility and legitimacy of the ongoing process and thus the success of the transition," Nabila Massrali said Wednesday.

"The EU will continue to insist on these points, which are important conditions for its partnership with Chad," she added.

General Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno became head of Chad in April 2021, following the death of his father, Idriss Déby Itno, who was killed on the front line against rebels after having ruled this vast Sahelian country for 30 years.

Mahamat Déby promised Chadians and the international community that he would return power to civilians through "free and democratic elections" and that he would not run for president.

In October, a national dialogue boycotted by a large part of the opposition and civil society designated Mr. Déby president of a "transition" extended by two years towards "transparent" elections.

## Darfur: 24 dead in tribal clashes

The Sudanese government has announced that it will take the first step towards the creation of a new state in the country's western region of Darfur, which is bordered by Chad and the Central African Republic, by the end of the year.

"There have been 24 deaths since late Saturday on both sides," said Mohammed Hussein Timane, a member of the local council of Foro Baranga, a town in West Darfur state, 185 km from the capital, El-Geneina. By Monday evening, local authorities had declared a nightly curfew and a state of emergency for one month throughout the state.

Calm has since returned but many security forces are still deployed, said Timane.

The UN has reported 50 houses burned down in Foro Baranga and "about 4,000 families, or 20,000 people, displaced.

Darfur is often the scene of tribal violence, among other things caused by territorial disputes and difficulties in accessing water.

A 2003 civil war between the regime of Omar al-Bashir, which falls in 2019, and insurgents from ethnic minorities left an estimated 300,000 people dead and nearly 2.5



Burnt utensils in the village of al-Twail Saadoun, 85 km south of the city .... - Copyright © africanews ASHRAF SHAZLY/AFP or licensors

million displaced, according to the United Nations.

Experts say tribal conflicts have exploded in Sudan due to the security vacuum created by the coup led by army chief Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhane in October 2021, sounding the death knell for the fragile transition that began after Bashir's removal.

Tribal conflicts killed more than 900 people, injured 1,000 and displaced nearly 300,000 in 2022, according to the UN.

## Shocking prison break fugitive returned to S. Africa

A South African fugitive who faked his own death in a prison break that embarrassed the authorities has been extradited from Tanzania, the government said on Thursday.

Thabo Bester, convicted of rape and murder, escaped from a privately-run prison in Bloemfontein in May last year – but South African police only found out last month.

Bester was believed to have died after setting himself on fire behind bars, but in late March police said DNA tests revealed the charred remains found in his cell belonged to someone else.

Dubbed the "Facebook rapist", Bester – who was sentenced to life in prison for rape, robbery and murder in 2012 – lured victims on the social media platform before raping and robbing them. He killed at least one victim.

On Saturday, South African Justice Minister Ronald Lamola announced that Bester had been arrested by Tanzanian authorities on Friday night along with a woman, a

Mozambican national with whom he is reportedly romantically involved.

On Thursday, Lamola said the pair had been extradited to South Africa.

"We can confirm that these fugitives have been returned to South Africa" from Tanzania, Lamola told a press conference in Cape Town.

"Mr Thabo Bester has been readmitted into the Kgosi Mampuru central maximum correctional facility", Lamola said, thanking the Tanzanian government.

The woman was under arrest pending a court appearance later on Thursday, he said.

Bester and the woman landed at a privately-owned airport north of Johannesburg in the early hours of Thursday morning.

The father of the woman was earlier this week charged with murder in connection with the man found dead in Bester's cell.

## Legendary photographer raises awareness about respect for nature

Nature photographer Sūha Derbent, who has traveled to more than 80 countries, from Scandinavia to Madagascar, Sri Lanka to Canada, met with art lovers at the exhibition titled "Harmony".

The exhibition reflecting the nature of Africa and human portraits was opened to visitors at the Maximum Uniq Hall in Istanbul, Turkey.

In a statement to journalists, the wildlife photographer who has been traveling the world for 40 years said he wanted to raise awareness about respect for nature.

Stressing that he considers all living beings in nature as equal, Mr. Derbent continued: "We must accept that we are not more important than the

creatures of nature.

Sūha Derbent pointed out that Africa is also paying the price of global climate change and said, "We don't find animals as easily as before. In the past, the rainy and dry seasons were clear, but now they are mixed up. I have been traveling in Africa for many years and documenting all these changes."

Derbent, who has more than 2 million photographs in his personal archive and is the author of the books "Kenya's Wild Side" and "Face to Face," has published his travel articles and photographs in numerous local and foreign newspapers and magazines.

The exhibition will open on May 19.

## Netflix to expand its operations in Africa, building on its success



The Netflix logo - Copyright © africanews AP Photo

Netflix said Wednesday it plans to expand its operations in Africa, building on the success of shows and series like the South African series "Blood and Water".

The online video-streaming giant said it has invested the equivalent of €160 million in film content production in Africa since it began working on the continent in 2016. "The expansion of our operations here is a good thing for Netflix," the company said in a report.

Its operations in Africa have focused on South Africa, Kenya, and Nigeria, creating more than 12,000 jobs, according to the company. "This is a start, we plan to reach more countries on the continent," Shola Sanni, Netflix's policy director for sub-Saharan Africa, said at a press conference in Johannesburg.

Currently, South Africa is the site's top African contributor, with more than 170 films, series, and documentaries. In 2020, "Blood and Water," a

series centered on a Cape Town teenager who investigates her sister who was abducted at birth, had even placed first in the United States.

"We'll build on these milestones to grow our business while continuing to invest in supporting local creative economies and giving more and more African storytellers an amplified voice on the global stage," the company promises.

In recent years, Netflix has relied on diversifying its production outside the U.S., achieving big scores with series like Spain's "La casa de papel" and the South Korean dystopian drama "Squid Game," a Golden Globe-winning global hit.

In 2021, the company has partnered with Unesco to fund six short films by young African directors. "It's time for mainstream platforms to realize the richness and value of our stories," one of those winners, South African filmmaker Gcobisa Yako, told AFP on Wednesday on the sidelines of the press conference.

## Ghana approves second malaria vaccine - opening way to protecting children

Ghana – one of the first countries to vaccinate against malaria through the pilot malaria vaccine implementation programme (MVIP), supported by Gavi – has granted full national licensure to the R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine, developed by the University of Oxford and manufactured and scaled up by the Serum Institute of India (SII). This second vaccine comes alongside the RTS,S vaccine, which was prequalified by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2022 following a recommendation for its wider use in 2021. According to the WHO's 2022 world malaria report, the disease killed 619,000 people in 2021 – with 96% of those deaths in the WHO African region, making malaria one of Africa's biggest killers. Alongside existing interventions, this vaccine will help save more lives.

Ghana's Food and Drugs Authority (FDA Ghana) has assessed trial data and approved the vaccine for use in children aged 5 to 36 months, the age group at highest risk of death from malaria. R21 has a three-dose primary series with a fourth (booster) dose a year later.

R21's dossier for pre-qualification has been accepted for review by the WHO, and we expect that phase III results will be published soon. Should the WHO recommend the vaccine's wider use, Gavi and UNICEF could move to begin funding and procuring doses immediately upon the vaccine's pre-qualification. Gavi

has already approved funding for a malaria vaccine programme and is ready to support adoption of R21 alongside RTS,S.

Gavi additionally welcomes SII's announcement of a technology transfer deal to produce the vaccine in Ghana, upon completion of a factory in Accra – which will complement Gavi's own work with partners including the African Union to support African vaccine manufacturing.

Dr. Derrick Sim, Managing Director, Vaccine Markets & Health Security at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, commented on Ghana's decision:

Ghana, as the first country to approve the R21 vaccine, shows how close the world is to having a second approved vaccine to fight malaria. Gavi is ready to provide funding for R21. What is important now is to ensure trial data are submitted for a timely SAGE evaluation and eventual WHO decision on prequalification. It is also crucial that SII honours public commitments to keep the cost of the vaccine to US\$ 3 or less, to enable more people to be protected.

More than 1 million vulnerable children have been reached with the malaria vaccine through the MVIP pilots so far in 2019. Find out more about the malaria vaccine implementation programme. Credit: africanews with AP



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**Head Office:** 2 Howe Street, Freetown,  
PMB 1237, Freetown, Sierra Leone  
Mobile: 077 713533, 077630832, 088 635750



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: ASSISTANT MANAGER, LIFE DEPARTMENT

### Introduction of the Corporation

WAICA Re is one of the fastest growing reinsurance companies in Africa. WAICA Re is headquartered in Freetown (Sierra Leone) and operates through four (4) Regional Offices across Africa namely Lagos (Nigeria), Accra (Ghana), Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire), Tunis (Tunisia) and Dubai (United Arab Emirates). It also has four (4) Subsidiary Companies namely, WAICA Re Zimbabwe Limited in Harare (Zimbabwe), WAICA Re Kenya in Nairobi (Kenya), an investments company namely WAICA Re Capital, Accra (Ghana) and WAICA Re (United Kingdom). WAICA Re announces the vacancy of the position of Assistant Manager, Life to be based in Nigeria.

### Job purpose

The Assistant Manager, Life role is responsible for assisting with the coordination of the operations of life technical department including, marketing, claim administration, and retro activities of the entire life portfolio to ensure the organisation reaps good returns from the life business. The role further includes exploring new markets to enable growth, client relationship management, product development and provision of operational processes that support efficient service delivery. Working with the Head Life, the role will ensure the growth in market share in the company in a profitable manner.

### Job duties and responsibilities

- Assisting the Head Life to maximize profits with prudent underwriting measures through developing sales strategies that matches customer requirements and promoting life assurance Reassurance products and services.
- Liaising with the Head Life to identify new production opportunities through research of new and existing markets and product design.
- Identify Life training underwriting needs, claim administration and reinsurance and technical support for cedants.
- Conduct life trainings in all our regions of operation and beyond.
- Responsible for the design of life promotional activities in our operational countries.
- Responsible for new and renewal premium in the company on assigned life accounts.
- Data Management of life schemes.
- Assist in the formulation of life underwriting manual for underwriting and claim administration.
- Evaluating and analyzing the risks involved in reasuring lives and establishing pricing for accepted assurable life risks to determine the likelihood and magnitude of mortality and morbidity risks for all

the reasuring schemes.

- Verification of all life reinsurance underwriting documentation with a standard premium obtainable by best practice.
- Implementation of all work processes within the specified time frame.
- Reassurance premium quotation on standard, or sub-standard lives with relevant loadings on mortality related risks.
- Rendition of statutory retro returns as at when due.
- Ensuring the attainment of the collection KPI for assigned accounts.
- Liaising with the Finance department to ensure that claims processing is done accurately and settled in a timely manner.
- Formulates all necessary reports as requested by Head Life to aide decision making.
- Command of the Life Reinsurance system including but not limited to keeping records of business offered, declined and accepted in the Life software.

### Candidate Profile

#### Qualifications

- A Degree in Insurance or related field

#### Professional qualifications

- CII

#### Experience

- At least 8 years' experience in Life insurance of which 4 years are at Managerial level.
- Knowledge of Life Underwriting is a must.**
- Experience of data management and producing Management Information relative to both Life information using a software.**
- Experience with a Reinsurance company in the Life department is an added advantage.**
- Ability to speak both French and English shall be an added advantage.**
- Fair Medical examination and interpretation of medical report.**

#### Competencies

- Good analytical skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Working knowledge of MS Office
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work under minimal supervision
- Ability to work and meet deadlines
- Proactive and result oriented

#### Application Procedure

Interested Candidates for this role shall be required send an Application letter and a CV to [vacancies@waicare.com](mailto:vacancies@waicare.com)

Closing date for application: 25 April 2023



Independent Procurement Review Panel  
3 Wellington Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone  
Email: [www.IPRP.gov.sl](http://www.IPRP.gov.sl)



11<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED PROCUREMENT IRREGULARITIES AGAINST THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

The Independent Procurement Review Panel (IPRP), on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, commenced investigation into complaint filed by **FAYIA UNITY GARAGE**, on 32 Steward Street, Freetown (the Appellant) against the **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION** (Respondent) on allegations of procurement irregularities bordering on the **AWARD OF FRAMEWORK CONTRACT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLY FOR SPARE PARTS AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES (LOT-1) PROCUREMENT NO: MoFAIC/ ADM/ FWC /2022/ 002/**.

The IPRP is a creature of section 65(1) of the Public Procurement Act No. 10 of 2016. The IPRP is charged with the responsibility to review complaints/ appeals from dissatisfied bidders, private contractors about decisions of a procuring entity in procurement process.

Furthermore, the procurement process of Sierra Leone is governed by the Public Procurement Act No.10 2016 and the Regulations Statutory Instrument No .15 of 2020.

The proceedings of the IPRP is underway and outcome will be made public.

For further enquires on this and other IPRP matters, please contact the Public Relations officer, on **23275166461 / 232/080-855375** or via email [iprpanel218@gmail.com](mailto:iprpanel218@gmail.com)

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# **TENDER NOTICE**

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is a global nonprofit organization providing high-quality HIV care and services to those in need. We generate new, innovative ways of treating and addressing barriers to care for our clients through a network of pharmacies, thrift stores, health, and wellness centers.

AHF is requesting tenders from construction enterprises/companies for the construction/rehabilitation of Waterloo and Makeni clinics respectively as follows.

Sn.	Lot no.	Location	Bid Security	Duration of Work
1	1	Waterloo	Nle200,000	4 months
2	2	Makeni	Nle30,000	2 months

The following documents are essential.

1. An updated NASSIT Clearance.
2. An updated Tax clearance.
3. An updated work certificate from Ministry of Works.
4. Local Council certificate.
5. Copy of business registration certificate.
6. Bid security from a recognized commercial bank in Sierra Leone as indicated above.
7. Completion certificate of at least two of similar work performance.

AHF has the right to award contracts to reliable and good contractors and does not award based on lowest bidding.

Bids must be clearly marked and delivered to the address below.

6 Carlton Carew Drive, off Wilkinson Road, Freetown

The bidding document can be obtained at our office address above with no cost.

Closing date of receipt of application is Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

# LAND FOR SALE

**A (2 ½) PLOT OF LAND  
SITUATED AT KINGSTON  
TOWN, HASTINGS, FREETOWN  
IS CURRENTLY FOR SALE.  
INTERESTED PERSONS CAN  
CONTACT THIS NUMBER  
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FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

**We All Na Wan Family  
Present**

**Happy Hour Banging**

**"Kam get am nice"**

**26<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - 7:00Pm**

**Venue: Edward Street, By Sanders Street.**



**Sierra Leone Agribusiness & Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)**  
**Ministry of Agriculture (MOF) Building**  
**Moyamba, Sierra Leone**

SPECIFI



**IFC PROCUREMENT NOTICE (SPN)**

**Invitation for Bids [IFB]**  
**Goods**  
**(One-Envelope Bidding Process)**

**IFB Number:** MAF/SLARIS/VEH/ICB/001/2023  
**Purchaser:** Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)  
**Project:** Sierra Leone Agribusiness & Rice Value Chain Support  
**Contract title:** Project (SLARIS)  
**Country:** Supply & Delivery of Vehicles & Motorcycles for SLARIS  
**Loan No. / Grant No.:** Sierra Leone  
 2100155040116  
**Procurement Method:** International Competitive Bidding (ICB)  
**OCBI / LCB No.:** MAF/SLARIS/VEH/ICB/001/2022  
**Issued on:** 12 APRIL 2023

1. *The Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has received a Grant from the African Development Fund (AfDB) hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice value Chain Support Project (SLARIS), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the supply and delivery of vehicles and motorcycles for the Project Implementing Unit (PMU) and its Implementing partners (IPs). For this contract, the SLARIS shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank's Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing, except for those payments, which the contract provides to be made through letter of credit.*

2. The SLARIS Project Management Unit (PMU) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply and delivery of vehicles and motorcycles for the Project Implementing Unit (PMU) and its Implementing partners (IPs) as follows:

No	Description	Qty	Bid Security Amount (NSLL)	Delivery Period After Award
1	Station Wagon – Hard Top	2	432,000.00	sixty (60) days after signing of Contract.
2	Pickup Van	7		
3	Seven (7) Ton Delivery Truck	2		
4	Motorcycles	3		<i>*This shall be a mandatory evaluation criterion for this requirement</i>

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International), (OCBI) method as specified in the Bank's Procurement Framework<sup>2</sup> Rules and Procedure for the Procurement of Goods and Works, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.

4. Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the office of the Project Manager, Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice value Chain Support Project (SLARIS), MoA Building, Moyamba, between 9.00AM and 3PM on week days (Monday to Friday only – excluding public holidays). Email: [kakuaboy@gmail.com](mailto:kakuaboy@gmail.com) and [chriskebbie84@gmail.com](mailto:chriskebbie84@gmail.com). Tel: +232 76 364800, +232 79 453004.

5. The bidding document in the English language may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **SLL 1, 500.00** (one thousand, five hundred new leones) or in a convertible currency. All payments for the purchase of the Bidding document should be made to the SLARIS Bank Account with details below:

<b>Bank Name:</b>	Rokel Commercial Bank
<b>Account Name:</b>	Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)
<b>Account No.:</b>	02-01-1011970
<b>BBan No.:</b>	002001002101197079
<b>Address:</b>	25/27 Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone
<b>Ref.:</b>	MAF/SLARIS/VEH/ICB/001/2023 - Vehicles and Motorcycles for SLARIS

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 12:00 noon on **Tuesday, 23 May 2023**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened will take place at 12:15 Pm in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below:

**Sierra Leone Agribusiness & Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)**  
**Ministry of Agriculture (MAF) Building**  
**Moyamba, Sierra Leone**  
 Email: [chriskebbie84@gmail.com](mailto:chriskebbie84@gmail.com) with copy to  
[kakuaboy@gmail.com](mailto:kakuaboy@gmail.com) with  
 Tel: +232 79 453004 or +232 76 364800  
**Ref: MAF/SLARIS/VEH/ICB/001/2023 - Vehicles and Motorcycles for SLARIS**

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a **Bid security of Four Hundred & Thirty-two Thousand New Leones (NSLL 432,000.00)** or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency.

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

9. *The address(es) referred to above (are):*

*Att: The Project Manager*  
**Sierra Leone Agribusiness & Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)**  
**Ministry of Agriculture (MAF) Building**  
**Moyamba, Sierra Leone**  
 Email: [chriskebbie84@gmail.com](mailto:chriskebbie84@gmail.com) with copy to [kakuaboy@gmail.com](mailto:kakuaboy@gmail.com)  
 Tel: +232 79 453004 or +232 76 364800  
**Ref: MAF/SLARIS/VEH/ICB/001/2023 - Vehicles and Motorcycles for SLARIS**

84 Regent Road  
 Hill Station, Freetown-Sierra Leone  
 PMB 910  
 (025) 237-722  
[www.ChildFund.org](http://www.ChildFund.org)

ChildFund.

**1. Overview of ChildFund:**

ChildFund International is a child-focused international development organization that works throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources and institutions they need to grow up safe, healthy, educated and skilled, wherever they are. Delivered through over 250 local implementing partner organizations, ChildFund's programs address the underlying conditions that prevent any child or youth from achieving their full potential. We place a special emphasis on child protection throughout our approach because violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect can reverse developmental gains in an instant. Last year, we reached 13.6 million children and family members in 24 countries.

ChildFund has had a presence in Sierra Leone since 1<sup>st</sup> July 1985. Key program interventions in 1985 were in primary education and school infrastructure. This was later diversified to include health, youth programs, food security and income-generating projects with associated small loans for investment in small business development.

**Project Summary:**

With funding from Korea International Cooperation Agency and in partnership with ChildFund Korea, ChildFund Sierra Leone will be implementing a project Titled: Increase access to secondary education for Out-of-school girls in the Western area of Sierra Leone from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 in six schools in western urban and rural districts of Sierra Leone.

**Project Impact**

- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDGs 4)

**Project outcome:**

- Increase access to secondary education for out-of-school girls in the Western area of Sierra Leone

**Output:**

- Out-of-school girls have access to the inclusive and safe learning environment
- Out-of-school girls are supported to continue their education
- Community is meaningfully engaged in the protection of marginalized children and enrolling them in schools

ChildFund Sierra Leone is seeking an expression of interest from suitable service providers for the following services:

**1. Contents of construction per school (2 schools in total)**

- Two blocks of three (3) classrooms
- one (1) Teacher's office
- store
- 1 ramp and 1 railing

**2. Fabrication of classroom furniture (Table and chair)**

- 70 sets \* 6 classrooms

**3. Construction of Toilets: Contents of construction per school**

- 2 sets of sex-separated VIP latrines with menstrual hygiene for girls and urinal for boys (3 drop holes per set) i.e. one set of two sex-separated latrines per school

**4. Construction of hand wash facilities:**

- 2 Water Tanks: 10,000 litres water tanks (1 per school)

**5. Boreholes:**

- Two Mechanized solar-powered boreholes with elevated towers and six taps for each borehole with water piped to the toilets

ChildFund invites prospective service providers to reply to this Expression of Interest (EOI) and submit their offers no later than 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Interested and qualified service providers are invited to ChildFund Sierra Leone Office at 84 Regent Road, Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone to collect the full bid document. Contractors/ service providers can also request further clarifications by email through [SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org)

**Submission of Bids must be by one of the following methods.**

Hard copy submission in the tender box on or before 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 by 4:30 pm at ChildFund Sierra Leone office at the above-stated address.  
 or via email to [SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org) on or before 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 by 4:30 pm

**Please follow the submission instruction as per the bid document.**

**NOTE: LATE TENDERS WILL BE REJECTED**



**Bake some festive treats this Christmas!**

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You Padi Na Kitchen

**Ready, Steady, Bake!**

**Padi**  
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**"The fondest memories are made when gathered around the table."**

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

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**ARE YOU**

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**Padi, sharing is caring**

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**Mama Mia!**

**Padi Spaghetti, strands of deliciousness!**

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**Daddy you are my best Padi!**

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**Spread the love!**

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**I followed my heart and it led me to the kitchen.**

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen

**Truly Natural & Healthy**

**Good Morning Padi**  
Premium Black Tea  
Finest Ceylon Blend

**Padi**  
You Padi Na Kitchen



Friday 14/04 & Saturday 15/04

LONG LIST

Set 17298

Table with columns: Fix No., Close, Competition, Home Team, Away Team, Normal, Handicap [0:1], Handicap [1:0], First Half Result, Second Half Result, Wire 1.5, Wire 2.5, Wire 3.5, Half With Most Goals, Odd or Even?, Draw No Bet. Rows 1-50.

(\* All bets subject to Mercury International rules. In case of discrepancy terminal data prevails. Canceled fixtures pay 1:1. Bets placed after kickoff are void. Minimum 2 selections per bet.



## Guild of Editors - Sierra Leone

C/O MRCG 145 Circular Road, Freetown.

Email: [editorsguild94@gmail.com](mailto:editorsguild94@gmail.com) Mobi: +23276653596

### Public Notice

## Increase in Advert Pricing for Newspapers

24<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

The general public is hereby informed that the Guild of Newspaper Editors - Sierra Leone (GoNE-SL) has reviewed the advert pricing for newspapers as follows:

#### Black & White

No.	Description	Old Price (NLe)	New Price (NLe)
1	Quarter Page (¼)	700	800
2	Half (½)	800	1,200
3	Full Page	1,000	1,500
4	Centre Spread	2,000	3,000

#### Coloured

No.	Description	Old Price (NLe)	New Price (NLe)
1	Full Page	2,500	3,000
2	Centre Spread	5,000	6,000

The cover price remains the same.

Please note that the new pricing takes effect on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023.

Your cooperation is highly solicited.

Signed:  
Donald Theo-Harding  
Chairman, GoNE-SL.

Bankers: Union Trust Bank A/C No: 01-210-25968-01

SIERRA LEONE BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

Motto: Victory in Solidarity

48 Jenner Wright Road Uggun Freetown

Tel: +232 76038022/+232 76644843/ +232 76640182/+232 76640565

Email: [sierralionebroadcasters22@gmail.com](mailto:sierralionebroadcasters22@gmail.com)



PRESS RELEASE

### INCREASE IN COST OF RADIO COMMERCIALS

Mile 91 Town, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The National Executive and General Membership of the Sierra Leone Broadcasters Association (SiLBA) wish to inform the public that the Association has unanimously resolved to increase the cost of radio commercials.

The decision was reached at a national consultation meeting held at Mile 91 Town, Tonkolili District, on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023, as part of the efforts to meet the current inflation rates and other statutory obligations in the country.

This decision will enhance quality in service delivery and sustainability in the operations of radio stations across the country.

It should be recalled that this is the only increment in commercials announced by radio stations in 12 years.

The Association therefore craves the understanding and patronage of the public.

The new commercial quotation which will take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 shall be as follow:

#### FREETOWN

1. Jingle - Jingle slot - NLe 35.00 per minute
2. Public notice - NLe 30.00 per 50 words
3. (a) Cost for 30 minutes airtime, between NLe 750.00 and NLe 1,250.00 (Depending on the coverage of the Radio station)
- (b) Cost for 1hr airtime, between NLe 1,500.00 and NLe 2,500.00 (Depending on the coverage of the Radio station)

#### PROVINCIAL

1. Jingle - Jingle slot - NLe 20.00 per minute
2. Public notice - NLe 20.00 per 50 words
3. (a) Cost for 30 minute airtime: between NLe 500.00 and NLe 750.00 (Depending on the coverage of the particular Radio station)
- (b) Cost for 1hr airtime: between NLe 1,000.00 and NLe 1,500.00 (Depending on the coverage of the particular Radio station)

SiLBA regrets any inconvenience this may cause.

END

Signed:

Daniel M. Amara  
Secretary General

Approved By:

Stanley Bangura Jr.  
Chairman

## Sierra Leone Premier League's second round to face uncertainty



The second phase of the Sierra Leone Premier League could face a serious halt and uncertainty of the league's climax due to lack of funding.

According to the Chairman of Mighty Blackpool Football Club, Rodney Michael, on his daily advice on his official Twitter account, the Football Association, the country's Premier League Board and the clubs agreed to kick-start the second phase of the league with the condition that without any sponsorship in three weeks, the clubs won't honour any fixtures.

"@SLFA\_sl @SLPLBoard and PL CLUBS agree to commence 2nd rounds of 2022/23 season tomorrow but on provision, sponsorship is available within 3 weeks or league will halt. @PresidentBio and @NSASierraLeone @mof\_sl @ibrahimnyelenk2

take note," reads Michael's tweet, which also tagged President of the Republic, H.E Maada Bio, the National Sports Authority, Ministry of Finance and the Sports Minister, Ibrahim Nyelenkeh.

The league is expected to climax on the 16th of July 2023 with over 152 matches expected to play across the three months.

Michael's Mighty Blackpool side who are in second place with 35 points from 17 matches-four points behind Bo Rangers-will host Kambol Eagles in their first match of the second phase before taking on Lamboi FC away in Lungi.

The Tass Tass Boys will have to face Central Parade now Wilberforce Strikers before travelling to the current table topper, Bo Rangers on 29th April 2023.

## Lamboi FC Ibrahim Kamara tops Premier League scoring chart

Ibrahim Kamara moved to the top of the Sierra Leone Premier League scoring chart last Wednesday by adding his 8th and 9th goals of the season in a great 2-3 come-back victory for Lamboi FC over East End Tigers.

Kamara's stunning 89th-minute strike stole the show for the home side who had to come from two goals down to beat the Tigers at Trade Center.

It was the host who took the lead after just 5 minutes of play through Joseph Kamara before Ibrahim Keita doubled their lead, but the visitors inform striker and hot-prospect, Ibrahim Kamara reduced the deficit before Sulaiman Turay restores parity.

The show of consistency by Kamara was proven again, with just two minutes plus additional time to play, the young forward struck again to register his second brace in the league after helping Lamboi's to a 3-1 win against Wusum Stars on March 11.

Kamara now moved ahead of both Abu Komeh of Bo Rangers and Alie Conteh of FC Kallon who are with 7 goals apiece.

Diamond Stars duo, Ibrahim Wotay and Mohamed Fofonah both completed the scoring chart top five with 5 goals each.

The win against Tigers was Lamboi's sixth of the season from 17 matches and have drawn four, and lost seven which leaves them with places in the log with 22 points, while East End Tigers are at the foot of the table with 13 thirteen points.



Next up for the newcomers, Lamboi FC is another promoted side, Luawa FC. Mighty Blackpool, FC Johansen, and Diamond Stars are their remaining fixtures in April.

## Former Bengals WR Mohamed Sanu using his platform to give back to Sierra Leone

There have been a lot of wide receivers that have worn orange and black stripes over the years. Some of their names will live on, like Chad Johnson, A.J. Green, and, hopefully, Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins. Others will fade as time passes.

One name that is sure to live on, is Mohamed Sanu, who played for the Bengals from 2012 through the 2015 season. He didn't put up the biggest numbers, but he played an important role in rebuilding the team's culture through the early 2010s and helped the Bengals reach the playoffs all four years he was on the team.

A renaissance man out of Rutgers University, where he began his career as a safety before switching to wide receiver, Sanu was selected in the third round of the 2012 NFL Draft by the Bengals. He actually received a prank call during the second round, informing him that he would be selected by a team, but fell to the third where he received a real call, this time from former Bengals coach Marvin Lewis. Sanu left the Bengals in free agency after the 2015 season and went on to play the next few years for the Atlanta Falcons, helping them reach Super Bowl LI. He also played for the Patriots, Lions, 49ers, and Dolphins.

It's the work he's doing now, though, that is most important to him.

Sanu, along with his mother, Aminata Koroma, a native of Sierra Leone, have partnered with Develop Africa, a non-profit aimed at empowering the people of Africa by "breaking the cycle of poverty." They're doing this by building a three-story community center in the capital of the country, Freetown.

"There are a lot of talented people that are intelligent people as well that live in Sierra Leone," Sanu said over the phone on Wednesday. "They don't have the means to study or have access to the internet or even a computer. Building this computer lab and community center will be big for the area and the town. It's just going to help those youths tremendously."

In the 1990s, the Dallas Cowboys became America's Team because of new ownership (Jerry Jones) and new blood on the sideline (Jimmy Johnson). Dallas' success building a roster and eventually winning championships was large enough for everyone to take credit for, but.... Welcome to Texas, where every ego is bigger. To this day, Jones and Johnson can't make peace longer than a few nights at the bar before a war of words starts all over again. The first floor will be individual workspaces where people can run their businesses. The second floor will be a banquet hall for big events like graduations, weddings, and educational and leadership events. The third, and possibly most important floor, is a state-of-the-art computer lab to provide training for children and adults.

According to Develop Africa's Go Fund Me page for the project, one-third of the educated workforce in the country is unqualified. That coupled with a shortage of textbooks, the literacy rate among those aged 15 to 24 fell below 60%. For those older than 24 years old, it's actually lower. Many of the issues stem from a devastating civil war that raged from 1991 to 2002, and the West African nation is still struggling to rebuild from the destruction it caused.

Sanu was born in New Jersey but lived in Freetown, Sierra Leone as a young child, and has spent time there as an adult. Despite the obvious difference between the two countries, Sanu says the people in Sierra Leone are similar to those living in the United States.

"All humans are the same," he said. "We just speak different languages, and we think some different things, but we all care for the people we love. We want to protect them and provide for them."

The goal of the community center will be to help the underprivileged people of Sierra Leone educate themselves and pull themselves out of



poverty with the help of tools they haven't had access to.

He said the country is in need of educated professionals, which hasn't always been possible in the past due to the lack of an educational infrastructure.

"They need educated people to help their own," he said. "Doctors and lawyers. They need those higher-learning tools to get the education you need to be a doctor or a lawyer. Those are needed there."

Sanu credits his mother with his drive to help others. He said she had the ambition and willpower to get him and his siblings to America, where she worked two jobs to provide for her children.

"This is something I wanted to do with my mom to help her," he said. "I know she's been working her tail off. She's always been one to give back and this is something she felt like would be one of the most impactful ways to give back..... She's a big part of the reason why I'm successful in my career as a football player. She defied a lot of odds and changed our lives. She found a way to come to America and get her green card and get citizenship and having us here to give us the ability to chase dreams we wouldn't be able to have in Sierra Leone."

Sanu and I were also able to talk about football and the Bengals specifically. When I asked him about what the major difference he sees between the Bengals team he played on versus the team he watches now, he said it all comes down to being under control.

"I would definitely consider myself a Bengals fan," he said. "I always pull for the teams I played on, and I have a special place for Cincinnati in my heart. The Bengals took a chance on me in the draft, and I'll be grateful for that forever."

"The team plays with more controlled swagger than what we played with. I feel like we played with a lot of swagger, but sometimes we couldn't control it. We had a lot of different personalities on the team and I love each and every one of those guys and that's what made them great, but today it's like these younger kids, they gel differently than we did. Joe Burrow is a great leader, and they got a great skill group on offense and defense. It's like they have a great synergy there."

He may be referring to the home playoff loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers when he said his team couldn't always control their swagger. Late personal foul penalties from Adam Jones and Vontaze Burfict infamously led to a meltdown that handed the team their fourth-straight Wild Card weekend loss.

When asked where he enjoyed playing more between the Bengals and Atlanta Falcons, the two teams he spent the majority of his career on, he said the Falcons. Sanu clarified this was just because much of his time with the Bengals was learning to play in the NFL and how to fine-tune himself as a professional wide receiver. He was able to loosen up, have more fun with the Falcons and "play how he wanted to play."

Sanu, now a father of two, caught his last pass in the NFL while playing for the 49ers in 2021. He finished his career with 435 receptions for 4,871 yards, 27 receiving touchdowns, two rushing touchdowns, and four touchdowns as a passer.