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2023 Elections: APC Samura Kamara's legitimacy challenged in Supreme Court

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

Sierra Leone delegation visit China Kingho Group



Former All People's Congress' (APC) Minister of Sports, Paul Kamara and former Deputy Ambassador to the United States, Coleson Turay, have filed three grounds of objections in the matter of the nomination of the candidacy of the 3rd, defendant, Samura Kamara, the Electoral Commissioner, Mohamed K. Konneh, the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone (EC-SL) and the APC as 1st, 2nd, and 4th respondents respectively.

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**Helen Keller Intl.
partners launch
sustainability
plan on neglected
tropical diseases**

**Human trafficking,
smuggling and the
Transnational
Organized Crime Unit**

The risk of children employed in Abattoirs



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LOCAL NEWS Sierra Leone delegation visit China Kingho Group



During a recent high-level visit to the People's Republic of China, the Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation, Professor David Francis and senior government officials paid a visit to the China Kingho Group, a leading Chinese mining corporation on the 17th May 2023.

The delegation comprised of the Foreign Affairs Minister, David Francis, the Minister of Finance, Sheku Fantamadi Bangura, and the Sierra Leone Ambassador to China, Ernest M Ndomahina.

The delegation was welcomed by the China Kingho Group's Chairman, Huo Qinghua and the president Ding Shichao who expressed their enthusiasm for the meeting. During the visit, the foreign minister and his delegation were given a tour of the company's facilities and briefed on the company's

operations in Sierra Leone.

China Kingho Group is a mining company with a global presence and has been operating in various developmental capacity across the globe and the company is known for its commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection practices.

China Kingho Energy Group has grown into a resources and energy group consisting of nearly 50 independent companies and subsidiaries in Kingho Inner Mongolia, Qinghai, Ningxia, Xinjiang and Overseas markets, including Sierra Leone.

During the introduction of China Kingho development to the Sierra Leone Government officials, they were amazed by the transformational development the company is undertaking from resource development to clean energy use. China Kingho Group



started its diversified investment in Sierra Leone's development by going global, developing new businesses and tapping the overseas markets around 2003, thus far, it has become a multinational company. In Sierra Leone, the company primarily engages in iron ore mining, conducting exploration and development of iron ore resource in 3 Large Scale Mining licenses and currently mining and exporting from the New Tonkolili Iron Ore Mine in Ferengbaya.

The Foreign Minister on behalf of the visiting delegation expressed his appreciation for the company's commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection practices, and he applauded the company's efforts to promote local employment and economic development in Sierra Leone.

The visit provided an opportunity for both parties to discuss ideas and strategies for further collaboration in various fields. The Foreign Minister and the delegation expressed their interest in exploring opportunities for Chinese

investment in Sierra Leone's infrastructure development, particularly in the energy, mining and transportation sectors.

In addition to business discussions, the foreign minister and his delegation took part in cultural activities, which deepened the understanding of China's rich history and culture. Overall, the visit was a significant milestone in the diplomatic relationship between China and Sierra Leone. The meeting provided an opportunity for both parties to build on current partnerships and establish new ties for future cooperation, leading to economic growth and development for both nations.

It could be recalled that on the 4th February 2023, Ambassadors from more than 10 African countries also visited the Group. The guests highly recognised the advanced modern industrialization level and the Group's utilization of technology and highly praised the company's foresight in environmental protection.





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LOCAL NEWS

By Alfred Koroma

Mary Kolokoh sensed something shady in a deal for her travelling to Dubai, but the luxury promise she couldn't resist, landed her in a horrible experience. She was sexually exploited, arrested, imprisoned and then repatriated. Promised a job that could earn her \$500 – an equivalent of Le10 millions monthly, the victim's focus was to get out of the country and have a better life. Many young Sierra Leoneans have fallen prey through those promises, trafficked or in some cases smuggled for forced labour, sexual exploitation and subjected to other human rights abuses.

Research findings from APPRIES reveals that 33 percent of young Sierra Leoneans have gone through the experience of being trafficked or smuggled.

To reverse this trend, the Government of Sierra Leone set up the Transnational Organized Crime Unit (TOCU) in the Sierra Leone police to investigate and prosecute cases related to drugs and human trafficking. The move follows the passing into law, the Anti-Human Trafficking Act of 2005.

Despite the move, human smuggling and

Human trafficking, smuggling and the Transnational Organized Crime Unit



The Transnational Organized Crime Unit in Sierra Leone

trafficking crimes remain rife, while less cases are being charged and prosecuted. Victims or their relatives file complaints but how those complaints are being handled does not seem satisfactory to some members of the public. Some sources who have filed complaints to TOCU spoke to me, expressing dissatisfaction with the way their complaints have been handled.

One of them, Mary Kalokoh said she filed complaint to TOCU against an agent in 2021.



The Acting Head of TOCU

The agent she complained, Abdul Sesay was arrested and detained. But she later came to realize that the agent had been set free. The agent is on bail, but Mary said as to whether her case will go further and justice delivered seems unclear.

"I'm not happy, another victim, Musa Tarawally said. "They did not treat my case well. They did not do anything about my complaint."

Abdulai Mansaray who complained an agent for duping him 17 million Leones re-echoed similarly. He said his case was never treated until he abandoned it.

The Sierra Leone Police which has TOCU as one of its units, is a force generally accused by the public of being corrupt and unprofessional. The victims filed their cases two years back when TOCU was being headed by Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), Alhaji Kelfala Bangura who has been transferred at the general duty, Local Unit Command in Tankoro Chiefdom, a remote part in the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone.

Speaking to this medium, founder and Executive Director of Advocacy Network Against Irregular Migration (ANAIM), Sheaku Bangura recalled encountering challenges with TOCU under its former head. He said he sends victims' complaints to TOCU, but whenever he checks to know the progress made on those complaints, he gets no positive response.

"The agent who trafficked Mary was arrested and set free after spending few days in custody. My worry is that as long as he is free, he will dupe other people."

"TOCU now has a new administration. But before the new administration, there were challenges in the leadership of TOCU. I don't want to go deeper into that again," the ANAIM Executive Director said.

Deputy Superintendent of Sierra Leone Police, Emmanuel Abdul Cole is the Acting Head of TOCU. He has worked in the unit for almost nine years as Taskforce, Supervisor, Operations Officer, and Deputy Head, before taking over as Acting Head about five months ago.

I put a question to him about the concerns raised by the victims above with regards the way the police unit has handled their matters. Specifically, Mr. Cole said "Mary's case, we are done with the investigations. We are hoping to charge the matter to court. Musa Tarawally's case is at the same level with Mary."

But the complainants denied having knowledge of their cases being set for court trial. Tarawally disputed Mr. Cole's claim, saying he has no knowledge as to whether his matter is set to be charged to court. Nobody

told me anything, he stated.

Human trafficking and smuggling comes with severe consequences for victims and in most cases costing their lives. In March 2023, five Sierra Leoneans working in Lebanon died from a mysterious fire incident that left two of their companions critically injured in a nine story building.

The UN migration agency rated Africa as the second-deadliest region for migrants, with more than 9,000 migration-related deaths documented since 2014. Most migrants engaged in those perilous adventures in search of better lives, do so ignorantly. They are lured by criminals who have embraced human trafficking and smuggling as a job.

"Every day, we receive complaints of trafficking and smuggling related matters from victims or their relatives," the Acting Head of the organized crime unit said.

Mr. Cole did not provide records of the complaints and data on cases they have handled in recent years, but says they last secured three convictions in 2020, and they have not secured any other since then.

They prosecute cases, he said but sometimes lack of evidence and cooperation of victims and witnesses, cases are discharged.

For some complaints, the police unit makes progress on them quickly because of the victim's cooperation, but in other cases, he said the victims are influenced by their agents to drop their complaints. Once that happens, the victims stop cooperating with the police investigating their complaints. "This is one aspect that causes the delay. Or even hamper the investigation," he added.

The 2021 U.S Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report places Sierra Leone in Tier 2, which means the country has not fully complied with the minimum standards in combating trafficking in persons. According to the report, Sierra Leone remains a source and destination for human trafficking, forced labor and sexual exploitation.

The issue with assessing how Transnational Organized Crime Unit effectively handles human trafficking and smuggling cases stems from the facts that no data is available. In interview, the Acting Head of told me they receive complaints of trafficking daily, although the police unit cannot produce data on the claim.

In a magazine published last year, the Judiciary said it has convicted five cases but says no comprehensive data on trafficking convictions or prosecutions are available.

But the problem is that with all the amount of human trafficking and smuggling cases reported in Sierra Leone, it is surprising to find out that the judiciary of Sierra Leone has prosecuted and convicted only five traffickers in the country since 2020.

TOCU for example, say they receive cases almost on a daily basis, which they claimed to have been seriously investigated and well handled. This however begs the question as to what is the Sierra Leone law enforcement officers doing to punish convicted traffickers for their inhumane crime?

Journalism Centre on Global Trafficking sponsored this story with support from the CeNTHRO, University of Georgia.

2023 Elections: APC Samura Kamara's legitimacy challenged in Supreme Court

From Cover

On behalf of the applicants-Paul Kamara and Coleson Turay, Lawyer C. Pujeh requested the Supreme Court to determine whether or not the Transitional Interim Independent Election Management Committee (TIEMC) had the legal mandate to conduct the National Delegates' Convention held in Makeni on the 17th 18th and 19th days of February 2023, notwithstanding a perpetual injunction dated the 28th day of April 2022.

The applicant are also requesting that the Supreme Court determine whether or not the findings of the Commissions of Inquiry on account of adverse finding of dishonesty against Dr. Samura Kamara ought to have be taken into consideration by the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone his nomination as Presidential Candidate for the June 24th Presidential Elections, with him currently standing criminal trial involving fraud at the High Court of Sierra Leone.

They are craving that Court construct, interpret and determine the legibility of the candidacy of Dr. Samura Kamara Pursuant to Section 35 (4) of the National Constitution of Sierra Leone that "No Political Party shall have as a Leader a Person who is not qualified to be Elected as a Member of Parliament and Section 76 (1) (D) of the said National Constitution that, "No Person shall be qualified as a Member of Parliament if he has been convicted of fraud or dishonesty on the premise of the findings of the Commission of Enquiry on dishonesty against the said 3rd Respondent, among others.

Since 2018, the APC and its flagbearer,



Samura Kamara have been going through one political setback to another.

First, it was an injunction that prevented the party from holding its national delegates' conference in Port Loko in 2021. The injunction was as a result of a court case brought against the party by its very own National Reformation Movement (NRM)-a group of disgruntled young men who wanted reforms within the party.

On 23rd November, 2021, Dr. Samura Kamara was again indicted alongside six others by the Anti-Corruption Commission on various corruption offences relating to the reconstruction of the Sierra Leone United Nations Permanent Representative Chancery Building in New York, a case for which Dr. Samura is still under trial.

Following those ugly developments for the party, another case was also filed in by Alfred Peter Conteh, a member of the party. The case was against the party and its erstwhile executives. And the matter was adjudicated for years before final judgment was given by Justice Adrian Fisher.

As if those were not enough, another matter was also brought against the party by its very own members at the eve of the National Delegate Conference in February this year.

LOCAL NEWS

By Mohamed Special Conteh

Child Labour is a common practice in Sierra Leone. Cow yard is one area where the practice is increasingly becoming prevalent and the problem seems to be overlooked by authorities.

According to a January 26th 2023 report from APRIES (African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery) on Child Trafficking and the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Sierra Leone Pottery, Fishing, Mining, Construction, domestic work and street vending were found to be the most prevalent forms of labour children are exploited in. It was reported that 36.19% of children in the Eastern Region alone has experienced child labour.

However, there are 1000s of children exploited in other reported forms of labour one of which is the slaughterhouses or cow pen commonly known as COW YARD.

In every major town and in all cities in Sierra Leone, a cow yard is found and in most of these places there are children working as a labourers. These children work long hours with little or no breaks which mostly affects their education and development. They are often subjected to physical abuse by their employers. The work they do includes killing and slaughtering animals, handling sharp knives and other dangerous tools, and carrying heavy carcasses. The work environment is unhygienic, and the children are at risk of contracting diseases and infections.

Edward Kamara, (not his real name), an underage boy who is working in a cow yard in Makeni, said he earns Nle,20 per day to support his mother. Edward's mother explained that, raising 5 children as a single parent has been very challenging for her so Edward has been the one fending for the family.

Edward explains his experience. "When I started coming to Cow yard, I felt really bad. I couldn't sleep when I saw the first cow I saw slaughtered."

He recounts the suffering the animals went through when they are slaughtered and how the images he first saw of an animal being slaughtered keeps tormenting him.

Edward like many other children working in cow yards, suffers mental illness when they first started working but after sometime, everything becomes normal for them. Some even felt disappointed if not given the chance to slaughter animals in a day.

I met Lamin, a 14-year-old working in a cow yard in Kabala.

"Before, I was scared but now I like to slaughter because only when we kill animal we make money," he said.

Witnessing the horror of slaughtering and taking the lives of animals becomes normal for these children as

The risk of children employed in Abattoirs



their work comes with blood in their hands every day.

"My heart is emboldened so much that I don't fear blood anymore". Said Lamin. As their work in cow yards expose them to witnessing and participating in killing of animals, can this influence the behaviours of Lamin, Edward and 100s of others around the country working in cow yards?

"I have stabbed my friend before, we all work in this cow yard but he wanted to take advantage of me so I stabbed him," Lamin confesses to stabbing his friend for taking a piece of his meat. Children exposed to such cruelty at a very young age are affected in so many ways and their immediate and longtime behaviours in society can be influenced.

Child labour is a violation of human rights and is illegal under international and national laws. The Government of Sierra Leone has taken steps to address this issue by enacting

laws and policies to protect children from exploitation.

However, the efforts in raising awareness on these laws is minimal and that also affects enforcement and policies and many employers continue to exploit children.

Labour exploitation affects the child's education, growth and development but when a child is exploited in a place where they use knives, machete and sharp objects, over time using these objects can influence their behaviour.

Doctor Sanor, is a psychology Lecturer at the Earnest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology in Makeni, believes there are immediate and longtime effects on children working under such conditions.

"We have what we call nature and nurture. Whatever behaviour one putting on is greatly influenced by the people he or she is interacting with. Having these boys involved in this process has a lot of immediate and long-time effects on their lives," he said.

Some of the immediate effects Doctor Sanor said are, the boys will develop a mind of killing and may not be afraid of killing humans.

He said there are diseases that comes from animals and transfer to humans like Zoonotic that these boys can develop too. The rate of drop outs among such children will be high and being exposed to playing with money at a very tender age even though it is not always theirs, any interruption of that process will lead them to become thieves.

However, the longtime effects doctor Sanor said, "Psychologically, they will develop what is called the internal world of the community as a result of their failure."

With his experience and expertise in psychology, doctor Sanor believes after dropping out of school, those children are going to be a burden to the community and have the tendency as well to abuse substances as a wrong means of relieving their stress.

Frequently, the Sierra Leone police receives complaints of crimes committed by boys under age and some of these are very serious crimes punishable by law.

Regional media officer North East Region, SGT, John Abass Kamara, told this writer how children are engaged in excessive substance abuse and commits crimes such as larceny, sexual penetration of underage girls and many other crimes.

"Young boys involve in assaulting- this include fighting, stabbing and wounding others. Most times, you see regret and remorse in them after they commit the offence," Said SGT, John Abass. T

he police like other citizens sees the vulnerability and innocence of those children whose actions are often influenced by the society/environment they lived.

Do children exposed to blood and killing animals as they work in cow yard have the potential to commit such crimes more frequently than others?

Many people exploiting these children in labour don't know what is wrong in what they are doing. In a survey I did on this report, over 50 people were randomly asked what child labour is and the difference between child labour and child work and not more than 10% knew what child labour is. This clearly shows that there is need for awareness of the child protection policies.

Child Labour is a crime in both international and national laws, I call on those responsible to double their efforts

All names have been changed to protect the identity of the contributors to this report.

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LOCAL NEWS

By Mohamed J Kargbo

The Freetown Waste Transformers, in partner with Freetown City Council (FCC) and Group Special Mobile Association (GSMA), on Wednesday, 17th May, at the Freetown City Council Hall, launched the first digital app for waste collection in Freetown.

In his opening statement, the Environment and Sanitation Officer at FCC, Sheku Kemokai said they were very delighted and in support of the app, which he referred to as a game changer for the council and for Freetownians.

He added that the App will create positive impact in the lives of Freetownians.

He promised that they will work together with the Freetown Waste Transformers in achieving their goal and that it will improve the work of waste collection.

For the Waste Collection Association, Chairman Abubakarr Sidiqq Sesay, said in 2019, the Freetown City Council setup the Waste Collection Management

Freetown Waste Transformers launch 'DortiBox App'



CEO of Freetown waste transformers

including some corporate enterprises and that 800 people were trained with 80 tricycles given to them.

He said since then to now wastes have been collected from about 50,0000 with jobs created for the youth.

He said the DortiBox App is a great initiative and a game changer for them, because at first they had to go round to

collect garbage, but that they can now use the app and contact customers.

He said they were very delighted for the achievement of the Freetown Waste Transformers.

In his remarks, Orange Money representative congratulated the Freetown Waste Transformers and the technicians for the App, adding that they

were very happy for the first digital App meant for waste collection in Sierra Leone.

He said they were committed to the partnership between them and the Freetown Waste Transformers and that they didn't make a mistake by choosing them as one of the app payment platforms.

He said customers can do their payment through Orange Money using their phone or visit the nearest Orange Money operator to do their payment.

In her statement, CEO of Freetown Waste Transformers, Aminata Dumbuya, expressed her delight and disclosed that her organization was founded in 2022 by the Freetown City Council.

She said they recycle waste collect into energy and further stated that there were 80 applicants that applied for the funding of digital application to GSMA.

She said they emerged on the top ten list and were funded, adding that she was excited to launch the first ever digital waste collection app in the country.

SLAJ receives €249 grant from Irish Aid

By Yusufu S Bangura

Ahead of the June 24 elections, the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ), together with their implementing partners, has received 249, 898.73 Euro grant from Irish Aid in order to provide an enabling environment that fosters peaceful, informed and inclusive citizen's participation in election processes nationwide.

The ceremony took place on Wednesday 17th May at Tower Hill in Freetown.

The project is titled: 'Expanding the Democratic Space-Media capacity enhancement to Promote Peaceful Elections, Women's Participation Public Interest and Conflict Mitigation in Sierra Leone's June 24th 2023 election'

Giving an overview of the project, President of SLAJ, Ahmed Sahid Nasralla thanked the Irish Ambassador for the support given to the consortium, stating that the project launched will last for six months and that it started in April and will end in September 2023.

He said during the project, they would address political tensions and divisions, restricted democratic space for ordinary citizens, disinformation and hate speech which is their biggest challenge because the incident that occurred in August 10 last year was as

a result of misinformation.

He further stated that they would address the area of weak electoral laws, low level of economic development of the media, limited professionalism and capacity, strengthening the powers of the Independent Media Commission to enforce the Code of Conduct on elections.

The SLAJ president said the project will cover three areas in the electioneering process- before, during and after the elections.

He added that during the election they will promote peaceful engagement in the electoral process, provide platforms for dialogue on critical issues.

He also said that during the elections, they will make sure that journalists report the critical phases, from voting to counting of ballots and announcement of results.

"This project will target 320 journalists who will be trained on conflict and gender-sensitive reporting. We will recruit and deploy 550 reporters across the country. 250 female journalists will be trained on safety and security in elections. 25 religious leaders will be trained on violence prevention and mitigation strategies and 15 Rapid Response Team members will be deployed in five regional headquarters," he said.

Ireland Ambassador to Sierra Leone, Claire Buckley said the launching of the project marked their first grant



IMC, Chairman (L), SLAJ President (M) & Ireland Ambassador (R) sitting at the high table

partnership with a consortium of key media and faith-based institutions in the country, so she felt good to see media practitioners and religious leaders at the event.

She said the project is one part of Ireland's support to the holding of credible, inclusive and peaceful elections in the coming weeks, adding that the European Union 2018 Election Observation Mission made specific recommendations around strengthening the media to report on elections in an independent, impartial and professional manner.

"It is our hope that this project will contribute to that aim," she said.

She continued that they believe that a free, impartial and independent media is essential for democracy to thrive, that media informs and mobilise citizens for meaningful debates and

hold duty bearers to account.

"It is part of our broader commitment to strengthen citizen's participation in democratic processes and institutions. At a time when the country is experiencing increase tensions influenced by hate speech, fake news, misinformation through social media, the role of the media and religious leaders is critical, so together we can redirect citizens towards free and peaceful exchange of ideas and provide credible and reliable information on the electoral process," she said.

She said they believe the project will contribute to focusing the elections discourse on policy rather than personality, substance rather than regional and tribal rhetoric.

"We hope this project will support effective coverage and overall transparency as well as the integrity of the electoral process," she said.



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LOCAL NEWS

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

As a way of improving and solving neglected tropical diseases in Sierra Leone, Helen Keller Intl, Ministry of Health and Sanitation and partners, have launched the sustainability plan to help eradicate the diseases.

The launch was done on Thursday, 18th May, at the New Brookfields Hotel, Jomo Kenyatta Road in Freetown.

The Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) over the years have affected all the 16 health districts (HDs) in Sierra Leone, putting over 9.5 million people at risk of developing at least one NTD, and mostly debilitating and disproportionately affecting the poor and vulnerable, particularly women and children.

Chief Medical Officer (MoHs), Dr. Matthaw Vandy, said Sierra Leone is endemic for four preventive chemotherapy NTDs Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) or 'bigfut' Onchocerciasis (Oncho) or river blindness, schistosomiasis (SCH) or mansoni, and Soil-transmitted helminthes (STH) or worrum.

He said baseline studies conducted in 2007/08 established that 'bigfut' was prevalent in all 16 districts and that in 2005 river blindness prevalent was classified as hyper-endemic in 14 districts.

He added that 9 million people were no longer at risk for 'bigfut' after achieving the criteria for stopping NTDs in 15 districts.

He added that in 2022/23, out of 4 hotspot districts areas with persistent 'bigfut' achieved the criteria to stop NTDs.

"This means that the prevalence of 'bigfut' has been considerably reduced due to enhanced community engagement," he said.

He said MoHs is committed to help in the implementation of the project and ensuring that people all over the country get the message.

He continued that result of the 2016 impact assessment survey showed a reduction in the prevalence and intensity of schistosomiasis from a baseline of 40.1 to 18.9% in the 9 endemic districts.

Chief Programme Officer, Helen Keller International, Shaw Baker said it has been incredibly inspiring to see the change in the landscape after decade of hiatus, and a delight to directly re-engaged.

"Helen Keller has been engaged in eliminating these diseases for decades. In fact, it is in our DNA. Our co-founder, Helen Keller's world-renowned teacher, Annie Sullivan, went blind from trachoma. Just a few

Helen Keller Intl, partners launch sustainability plan on neglected tropical diseases



Team from the MoHs Helen Keller Intl, and partners

days ago, the World Health Organization announced that a West African neighbor, Mali has been declared free of blinding trachoma – a scourge that was endemic in every district of the country 20 years ago," he said.

He said they measured success by the number of people being reached with mass drug administration to prevent the diseases and the number of people with trachoma getting surgery.

"Today, we are facing a remarkable challenge, how do we communicate the many millions of people now liberated from these debilitating conditions, for generations to come, diseases that have been haunting

humanity for millennia," he said.

He continued that he had the great fortune of spending a few days here in Sierra Leone visiting people and communities affected by lymphatic filariasis and the front-line health workers who have been fighting the disease.

"Nothing makes the success of the two decades of efforts more concrete than their stories, and they also make clear what the next steps are. We gather here to launch this sustainability plan for the elimination of neglected tropical diseases here in Sierra Leone, their experiences make very real what we are committed to sustaining."

Africell supports SLAJ to combat disinformation and misinformation



credibility over the years, and people trust SLAJ for providing accurate information to them. He added that, the Mifis will provide connectivity through loaded unlimited data inside the Mifi. He concluded by assuring that Africell will always support SLAJ as it has been doing because the media is a

The leading telecommunications operator in Sierra Leone, Africell Mobile Compsny has on Tuesday 16th May 2023, donated Mifi's to the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists to help combat disinformation, misinformation.

This will also go a long way in undertaking fact-checking in Sierra Leone.

In his presentation, John Konteh Africell Communications and Media Director said that Africell is always pleased to provide support to SLAJ. He added that, the Mifi will assist in combating disinformation and misinformation. Mr. John Konteh further said that SLAJ has built its

key component in nation-building.

Receiving the Items, Christian Conteh Project Officer of SLAJ said that combating disinformation, and misinformation in Sierra Leone's electoral cycle is very important.

Based on that, he added, SLAJ in partnership with NDI have come together to do fact-checking and pre-debunking misinformation and disinformation before, during, and after the elections. He added that, they have Fact-checkers and regional coordinators all over the country. He continued by stating that, they approached Africell for intervention in the project and their requests were granted. He concluded by thanking Africell for the support.

Summa Group signs contract with Westminster for security services



Summa official and Miss Barrie of Westminster signing the contract

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport and Aviation and the Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority; Westminster Aviation Security Services and SUMMA Airports Limited have on the 25th of April 2023 signed an agreement for the provision of Aviation Security Services at Freetown International Airport (FNA).

Both Parties look forward to a fruitful working relationship and will join forces to ensure that FNA continues to excel in line with the standards and recommended practices stipulated by the International Civil Aviation Authority (ICAO).

The ultra-modern airport was commissioned by the GoSL and SUMMA Airports limited on the 3rd of March 2023.

The event was witnessed by various state dignitaries, representatives from ICAO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). SUMMA Airports Limited have invested \$270 million on this project on a Build Operate and Transfer basis fulfilling one of the strategic flagship projects of the Government.

The facilities include a new passenger terminal, a new VIP/ Presidential terminal, a new Air traffic control tower, a new cargo terminal, a new search and rescue/fire fighting facility, a new car park, the restructuring and resurfacing of the existing runway, a new fuel farm and the establishment of a 1.5 megawatts solar farm

LOCAL NEWS

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The Sierra Leone Life Saving Society, in collaboration with Sierra Leone institution of life-saving paramedic, and emergency management & Centre for sustainable Blue economy development will hosts their first ever virtual conference on recreational boating safety on context of SAR (Search & Rescue) Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

The Sierra Leone Life Saving Society was established in 2017 in Sierra Leone, the Society aim to promote the dissemination of lifesaving, lifeguarding, drowning prevention, water safety and lifesaving sport in Sierra Leone.

The virtual conference was to discuss on recreational boating safety, and how the operation can support the Search and Rescue activities to TMAS engagement in which whenever occurrence of unfortunate incident with the marine environment in Sierra Leone.

The Chief Executive Director of Sierra Leone Life Saving Society, Patrick Olumide Campbell, in an interview with him on the conference, stated that the empowerment of the recreational boat operators will aid and improve SAR activities in all marine environments on how to tackle emergency incidents.

He said awareness of perpetrators of illegal activities such as bottom trawling operators and IUU violators will be easily

Sierra Leone Life-saving society host virtual conference on recreational boating safety in context of SAR



Chief executive of Sierra Leone Life Saving, Patrick Olumide Campbell

report through marine communication system wherein a notable knowledge is transfer through training, workshop and seminars that when such incidents are perceive a certain communication should be effectively established.

"Sierra Leone as a nation had witness such huge numbers of lives and properties lost through drowning and inability of SAR team do actively attack matters as it occur while unregulated and destructive fishing has cost the nation huge sum of millions of dollars that would have been used to improve the nation wealth reserve." He explained

He said due to lack of proper training on communication criminals are making the territorial water in Sierra Leone, unsafe because they used the medium as source to transfer illicit drugs into Sierra Leone that turn young people to drug addict and other vices in the Society.

He added that in the context of Sierra Leone as a case study international partners need to support government institution and organizations on programs that aid effective outcome of recreational boating safety.

He further states that Sierra Leone Life Saving Society as institution that focus on safety issues had organizer series of training, workshop and seminars to the Sierra Leone Government institutions and international organization such as European Delegation in Sierra Leone on First Responder Basic Skills, Conference on Drowning Prevention, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Training of Lifeguards and Harbor Masters in Sierra Leone.

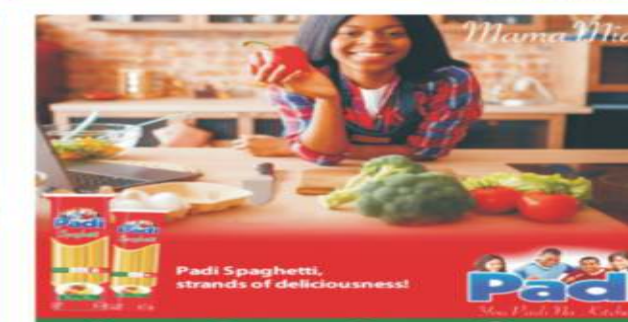
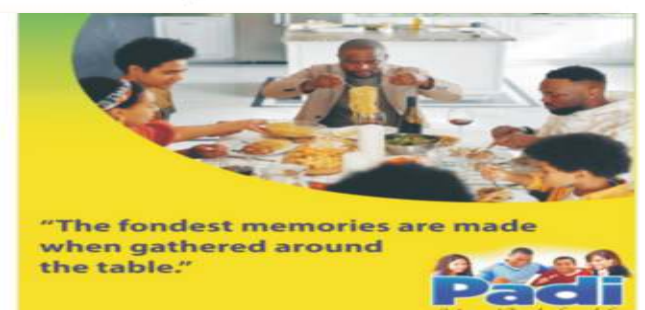
He continued that the Society have involved volunteers young people ranging from local mariners, lifeguards, harbor masters, nurses and other professional such as medical doctors, marine experts and legal practitioners to get trained in and out Sierra Leone gained skills that would be needed in terms of safety

matters.

He said the Sierra Leone Life Saving Society faces series of challenges in effort to perform or get our obligations fulfilled in Sierra Leone, Funding, Technical and professional training for the Society personnel, Government inability to support adequately legislature that would strengthen recreational boating safety in Sierra Leone, Lack of adequate equipment to support both training and operation, and lack of Support on the Institute of Lifesaving infrastructure

He said the Society get it funding from one source that Sirius Microfinance SL Limited owned by an individual to organize training, seminars and workshop and attend international training and meetings depend on the income of the sponsor.

He concluded that the Sierra Leone Life Saving Society wanted to improve their institutional capacity on recreational boating safety in Sierra Leone for the resultant dividends would deliver to our marine environment the protection and security needed that would curb destructive fishing, prevent loss of lives and properties, provide safe marine environment, protect the interest of the international communities on maritime security and improve our SAR ability in Sierra Leone territorial waters and beyond.



A woman with dark curly hair, wearing a purple sweater, is standing at an ATM. She is holding a black smartphone up to the screen of the ATM, which displays a transaction confirmation. The ATM is white with a blue screen and a yellow card reader. The background is a light blue wall with a yellow stripe.

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NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

Kenya: 27 officials suspended on suspicion of diverting contaminated sugar



Officers pose as they inspect a shipment of refined sugar from ... Copyright © africanews JAM STA ROSA/AFP or licensors

Kenya authorities have suspended 27 civil servants on suspicion of misappropriating about 1,000 tonnes of sugar that was declared unfit for consumption, the country's director of public service said on Wednesday.

The shipment of sugar was imported into the country in 2018 and declared expired and "unfit for human consumption" by the Kenya Bureau of Certification (KEBS). It was to be converted into industrial ethanol.

Instead, it was "irregularly diverted and released outside of any procedure" in a "criminal" act, said the Director of Public Service, Felix Koskel, who is also President William Ruto's chief of staff.

According to The Nation, the shipment of 20,000 bags of sugar, valued at more than 160 million shillings (€1.08 million), had been sold to a trader, who repackaged and

resold it.

"It is clear that some officials in the agencies concerned have abdicated their responsibilities, risking public embarrassment," Mr Koskel said, announcing their suspension pending investigations.

Among the officials sanctioned are officials from KEBS, including its head Bernard Njiraini, the tax authority, the police, and the Food and Agriculture Agency.

Kenya is experiencing a sharp rise in the cost of living, especially for food.

The retail price of sugar has just risen by about 30% in a month to over 200 shillings (about €1.30) a kilogram, according to local media.

The government is considering introducing a new tax on locally produced sugar, among other things, as part of a new finance bill aimed at increasing its tax revenues.

Nigeria's doctors stage 5-day walk out

Doctors in Nigeria's public hospitals have kicked off a 5-day strike on Wednesday leaving many without healthcare.

The medical professionals demand better conditions, higher salaries and the payment of arrears owed to some doctors.

The Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors also demands more investment in public facilities.

Medical residents make up the bulk of health care workers

in Nigerian government hospitals.

Critics point to the vast disparity between public hospitals treating most Nigerians and the medical care abroad that is available to the country's elite, including Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, who often travels to the UK for medical care.

Amid Nigeria's current economic crisis, in April, doctors threatened to go on strike. The warning strike could now be extended if talks with the government fail to improve.

Guinea's junta requisitions army in face of protests, threatens to apply anti-terrorism law



Soldiers stand guard outside a meeting led by Colonel Mamady Doumbouya ... Copyright © africanews Sunday Alamba/Copyright 2021 The AP. All rights reserved

The ruling junta in Guinea commandeered the army on Wednesday in the face of fresh opposition protests, and threatened to apply anti-terrorism laws providing for up to life imprisonment against those responsible for a "crisis situation".

An AFP correspondent reported the presence of red berets and army vehicles and armour in the suburbs of the capital Conakry, where the opposition has called for two days of demonstrations on Wednesday and Thursday.

The call for demonstrations appeared to be poorly attended on the streets.

Internet monitoring service NetBlocks said on social networks that access to various platforms had been restricted.

The Minister of Territorial Administration, Mory Condé, said in a statement read on national television on Tuesday evening that the opposition demonstrations are the occasion of a "real urban guerrilla war" where the demonstrators, "with unprecedented violence, are reigning terror" and attacking the security forces with "lethal means".

"We have taken the legal responsibility by requisition (...)

dated 15 May 2023 to request the assistance of the armed forces to support the police and gendarmerie forces who were in difficulty (to) maintain and restore public order," the statement said.

The minister brandished the threat of applying anti-terrorism laws which provide for life imprisonment against anyone who commits an act endangering the lives or freedoms of others with the intention of "intimidating, provoking a situation of terror, creating a feeling of insecurity among the population", exerting pressure on the state or creating "a situation of crisis among the population", according to the articles of the penal code read out on television.

The law applies to anyone who sponsors, finances or encourages such acts, the texts say.

Guinea is ruled by a junta that took power by force in September 2021 under the leadership of Colonel Mamady Doumbouya.

The military agreed under international pressure to hand over to elected civilians by the end of 2024, time to carry out deep reforms, they say.

The junta has arrested a number of opposition leaders and

IMF approves \$3bn loan to Ghana

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Wednesday approved a \$3 billion loan for Ghana, a West African country in the midst of a severe economic crisis, with the first immediate disbursement of about \$600 million.

The programme, endorsed by the IMF board, is spread over 36 months under the Extended Fund Facility.

It aims at "restoring macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability, as well as implementing wide-ranging reforms to build resilience and lay the foundation for stronger and more inclusive growth," commented Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, quoted in an IMF statement. She said that "fiscal consolidation is a central element of the programme" as is "preserving financial sector stability".

Furthermore, "monetary and exchange rate policies under the programme will focus on inflation control and rebuilding foreign exchange reserves".

Finally, "an ambitious programme of structural reforms is being put in place to revitalise private

sector-led growth by improving the business environment, governance, and productivity," added Kristalina Georgieva.

The IMF announced on Friday that Ghana had provided sufficient guarantees to benefit from an aid plan, welcoming the recent promise of its creditor countries, led by France and China, to open negotiations for a restructuring of its debt.

Weakened by the repercussions of the war in Ukraine, Ghana decided to call on the IMF and in December reached a pre-agreement with the institution to obtain 3 billion dollars in loans spread over three years and conditional on the implementation of economic reforms.

A major producer of cocoa and gold, Ghana also has gas and oil reserves, but its debt burden has exploded, as in other sub-Saharan African countries, under the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Ukrainian conflict.

This crisis, the worst in decades, has forced President Nana Akufo-Addo to reverse his past positions by turning to the IMF to stave off the spectre of default raised by some economists.

Tunisian president Saïed meets religious leaders



President Kais Saïed meeting with Tunisian Bishop Ilario Antoniazzi, Chief Rabbi Bitten Haim and Mufti Hichem Ben Mahmoud at the Carthage Palace, 17 mai 2023 - Copyright © africanews -AFP

The deadly shooting outside a synagogue in Djerba that resulted in five deaths, Tunisian president Kais Saïed re-affirmed his country as a place of tolerance during a meeting held on Wednesday with Jewish, Muslim and Christian leaders.

"This is an important historical meeting that attests to the tolerance and coexistence that has characterized Tunisia for centuries", said Tunisian president Kais Saïed, Tunisia's chief rabbi, Haim Bitten, also spoke on behalf of the Jewish community.

"The meeting with the president was excellent. He said

everything he had in his heart. He gave us good explanations. I am convinced that the Jews of Tunisia live like all others Tunisians. He gave us the assurance that what happened (in Djerba, Ed.) will not happen again", said the chief rabbi.

On Wednesday, local media reported that four people linked to the attacker were arrested and placed in custody. The attack against the Ghraba synagogue, the oldest synagogue in Africa took place on the island of Djerba during the annual Jewish pilgrimage on May 9th.

Tanzania: Traders in country's largest market on strike over new tax

The most crowded market in Tanzania, located in the economic capital Dar es Salaam, was paralyzed on Wednesday by the closure of more than a thousand stores for the third consecutive day, in protest against a new tax, which the government will submit to a moratorium.

In an unprecedented move in this East African country, traders in the Kariakoo market have not opened since Monday. In this way, they are able to create a new culture of peace and harmony in the world, and to create a new way of life for the people.

"We pay a lot of taxes but the closure was prompted by the demand to register our stores and pay the new tax on stores," said a shopkeeper at a public meeting with Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, broadcast live on television Wednesday.

The Prime Minister announced a moratorium on the collection of the tax and the creation of a 14-member committee, composed of government members and traders. He also asked the police to "concentrate on the security of people and their property".

At the opening of this meeting, which was also attended by ministers and officials of the tax administration, Kassim

Majaliwa assured to be attentive to the claims of traders.

"It is now time to (...) reopen your stores," said Kassim Majaliwa, applauded by some, while others called for the proposal to be rejected.

"You have a serious request and we are here to listen to your grievances", he told them: "Speak freely, I will defend you (...) Let us be patient and take note of the challenges".

"We are still paying import taxes and we are asked to pay for the same goods once they are in the store. This is double taxation," said Elimringi Goodluck, a trader.

This is the first time that a company has been forced to pay for a product that has been imported into the country.

The country has been led since 2021 by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who broke with the authoritarian policies of her predecessor John Magufuli.

Although inflation is generally contained in the country (+4.3%), the Tanzanian population's purchasing power has been reduced by the rise in food prices (+9.1% over one year) and transport prices (+4.3%), according to official figures published at the beginning of May.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP

launched legal proceedings against others. It has banned all demonstrations since 2022.

The opposition denounces the authoritarian and, in their view, exclusive conduct of the so-called transition period that is supposed to precede the return of civilians. Attempts at dialogue and recent mediation by religious leaders have failed.

The opposition has called for demonstrations on Wednesday and Thursday to demand an end to "whimsical" judicial proceedings, the restoration of the right to demonstrate and the opening of a genuine dialogue under the chairmanship of the Community of West African States.

Previous demonstrations have resulted in several civilian deaths. In a country with a long history of political violence and autocratic regimes, the security forces have long been accused by human rights activists of excessive use of force and impunity.

The Minister of Territorial Administration blames the violence committed during the demonstrations under the junta on "certain individuals from abroad (...) with the support of certain political actors". He did not elaborate.

Former president Alpha Conde, who will be overthrown in 2021, and opposition leader Cellou Dalein Diallo, among others, have been abroad for several months.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Title: Assessment and Solar electrification of the Country Office

Job Summary

As a complementary package, ChildFund Sierra Leone would like to electrify its Country office at 84, Regent Road, Hill Station, Freetown.

The service provider will be responsible for:

- Ø Providing materials as well as the establishment of a reliable hybrid power backup system (Solar and Batteries) and electrical network that offers good voltage and able to support the equipment indicated in the electricity consumption balance table below. The system should have a capacity of at least 12 hours of autonomy.

- Ø Provide the equipment listed in the table below. The entire hybrid system must comply with the ISO 13297:2014 standard, and must comply with the following requirements:
 - No cable or trunking should pass outside the premises.
 - Electrical wiring protection panels must be properly labelled.
 - A plan of the electrical network must be displayed next to the protection panels and in the technical room.
 - The cables must not occupy more than 80% of the capacity of the trunking.
 - All cables and sockets must be labelled.
 - A label should be affixed every 15 meters on the cable to indicate the socket/outlet number.
 - Each cable must correspond to one and only one socket, cable bursting is prohibited.
 - Every office will need 2 outlets/Sockets and the meeting room will need 5.

List and Tech Specs of Items to be provided
300 watts Solar Panel
OUTBACK POWER 80AH MPPT Controller
GEL Battery 12v - 200 Ah
MAGNUM Energy MS Series Power Inverter Chargers (4100w, 24V, 105A)
Metalic Support for the Batteries
Metalic Support for the Solar Panels
Junction Box AEPVCB-8
Electrical cable for panels (2 X 16mm ²)
3 watt,12 volt LED Bulb (for the offices)
5 watt,12 volt LED Bulb (for the meeting room)
trunking with divider 100x50 mm
Electric cable for charge controller (1 X 50 mm ²)
20 KVA Power Regulator (YAMAHA)
Electrical socket recessed in the trunking
VGV 3X1.5 3X2.5 electric cable
Supplies and related services
Installation costs

List of equipment

The current total of electricity consumption per day is estimated at 159.272(w-h/d).

- a. Profile of prospective Firm/Consultant:
 - Experienced solar installation and management firm or engineer with more than three years track records in Sierra Leone.
 - Capable of executing the tasks indicated in the technical description above
 - Availability to execute tasks with high quality work
 - Capable of training users
 - Readily available to carry out assessment
 - Available to provide remote support
 - Can provide one year warranty for the solar panels.

Our office is open from 22 to 26 and 29 to 30 of May 9:00am to 3:00 pm for site survey (site visit).
The deadline for expression of interest is Wednesday 31st May, 2023.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to the Procurement Committee through SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org

Or Hand Delivery at ChildFund's Office: 84 Regent Road, Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Note:

- Successful consultant or firm will be required to read and sign the ChildFund Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
- Upon successful selection, the consultant or firm will be required to sign a contract that will clearly capture the conditions for this work.



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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

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Freetown, Sierra Leone

Tel. No.: (232-78) 874600
No.: (232-76) 102171

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST VEHICLE DONATION - WORLD BANK OFFICE, SIERRA LEONE

The World Bank Group (WBG) invites Expressions of Interest from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) registered to operate in Sierra Leone as a potential recipients in its vehicle donation process.

According to the WBG definition, an NGO is a government-certified, private organization with a charitable purpose; it is not a government entity or a for-profit business.

We have, therefore, set the following criteria as a mandatory requirement to shortlist the potential beneficiary in the vehicle donation process.

To submit your Expression of Interest, kindly address to the World Bank Asset-Disposal Committee, 3-3a Spur Road, Freetown, by **May 31, 2023, 17:00 Hours**, and send us the following documents to support our selection process.

1. A letter from your organization requesting to be shortlisted for the vehicle donation.
2. Copy of your current/valid Certificate of Registration.
3. Audited Financial Statements for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.
4. Indicate if your organization has previously benefited from a transfer or donation, of a vehicle from the World Bank or UN agency.
5. A short description of your organization's mission here in Sierra Leone and how the donation will support your organization's mission and vision.

We look forward to hearing from you by the deadline of May 31, 2023.

Request for Proposals UNICEF

Sierra Leone Admin Services

The United Nations Children's Fund invites individual tenders for the services listed below through a Long-Term Agreement for an initial period of 24 months with possible extension for another 12 months.

Please visit the United Nations Global Market (UNGM) Website and download the tender documents. Please note the dates for the Bid Conference (where applicable) and submission deadline for each tender as stated in the UNGM.

Thank you.

1. Provision of Air Conditioners Maintenance Services for UNICEF Offices in Freetown and Kenema and the Warehouse at Ferry Junction, Freetown.
2. Servicing of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) for Freetown CO, Ferry Junction Warehouse and Kenema Field Office and Biometrics for Freetown Country Office.
3. Provision of Cleaning Services For UNICEF Offices in Freetown and Kenema and the Warehouse at Ferry Junction, Freetown.
4. Servicing of Fire extinguishers for Freetown Country Office, Warehouse at Ferry Junction, Freetown, and Kenema Field Office.

UNICEF Public Notice for Sale of Used Items May 2023

UNICEF intends to dispose of two used Toyota Land Cruisers (Hard Tops). Sealed bids are invited from interested persons.

Conditions

1. **The 2 vehicles** can be inspected at the UNICEF Country Office within the Central Medical Stores Compound, New England, Freetown, on the dates and times stated below.
 - I. Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May from 2pm- 4pm.
 - II. Monday 15th – Thursday 18th May from 2pm-4pm
2. The items will be sold to the bidder with the **highest acceptable bid** on an "as is where is basis".
3. After inspection interested persons may collect **BID FORMS** from UNICEF Offices at Central Medical Stores - Freetown, Caritas/Pastoral Centre, Teko Road – Makeni or 51 Maxwell Kobi Street – Kenema.
4. **An advance payment of 10% of the offer price is required (in the form of a certified cheque in the name of UNICEF Sierra Leone) when sending sealed bids. The certified cheque should be enclosed in the sealed bid. Bank certified checks are bank checks guaranteed by the bank that funds stated on the check are available for payment to UNICEF. This advance is non-refundable for all successful bidders.** The successful bidder will be required to make payment of the remaining 90% within five working days after the offer is given by UNICEF; and to take possession of the items won for immediate removal from the office premises. Unsuccessful bidders will have their cheques returned to them.

5. UNICEF agrees to sign the Sierra Leone Road Safety Authority (SLRSA) Vehicle Transfer Form for transfer of ownership of the vehicle from UNICEF to the successful bidders.
6. UNICEF was exempted from taxes on these vehicles, successful bidders will now be required to pay the applicable taxes to the government through the National Revenue Authority. The taxes will be determined by the National Revenue Authority based on the value and physical condition of the vehicle.
7. Items once sold will not be returned to UNICEF under any circumstances.
8. Sealed bids containing the completed BID FORM and cheque, clearly marked "BID FOR USED UNICEF ITEMS May 2023" on the envelopes' front side and addressed to:

The Secretary, Property Survey Board,
UNICEF Freetown Office,
Central Medical Stores Compound,
New England Freetown

should be dropped in the bid box at the above address not later than 10 am on Monday 22nd May 2023. Bidders in the provinces can drop their sealed bids at the offices in Kenema or Makeni observing the same deadline above.

9. Bidders are responsible for the accuracy of their bids and for meeting all conditions set out in the advertisement, including enclosing the 10% certified cheque in the required format. Non-compliance with any element of the guidelines in the advert for preparation and submission of bids may be grounds for disqualification and declaration of bids as invalid.
10. UNICEF reserves the right to accept or reject any bid AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION.



LONG LIST

Friday 19/05 & Saturday 20/05

Fix No.	Sales 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?		Both Teams Score?		Draw No Bet							
			1 (1)	X (3)	2 (2)	1 (4)	X (6)	2 (5)	1 (7)	X (9)	2 (8)	1 (10)	X (12)	2 (11)	1 (13)	X (15)	2 (14)	1 (16)	X (17)	1 (18)	2 (19)	1 (20)	X (21)	1 (22)	X (24)	2 (23)	O. (25)	Ev. (26)	Yes (27)	No (28)	1 (29)	2 (30)				
1	5/19/2023 13:55	Croatia	SLAVEN	7	2	HAJDUK SPLIT	3.57	3.27	1.78	7.80	4.60	1.20	1.76	3.45	3.10	4.30	2.13	2.46	3.85	2.55	2.18	3.05	1.25	1.74	1.80	1.27	2.90	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.72	1.85	2.49	1.34
2	5/19/2023 13:55	Ukraine	SHAKHTAR DONETSK	1	10	VERES RHINE	1.12	5.86	10.75	1.47	3.75	4.30	-	6.60	21.00	1.54	2.80	9.80	1.37	3.50	10.00	4.30	1.11	2.36	1.42	1.56	2.05	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	2.06	1.58	-	5.60
3	5/19/2023 14:25	Romania	FC HERMANSTADT	4	5	UNIVERSITATEA CLUJ	1.57	3.52	4.40	2.70	3.20	2.02	1.14	4.90	11.00	2.29	2.07	5.20	1.99	2.55	4.70	2.70	1.31	1.61	1.96	1.21	3.30	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.97	1.63	1.22	3.05
4	5/19/2023 14:55	Lithuania	HEGELMANN LITAUEN	6	7	BANGA GARGZDAI	1.32	4.01	5.47	1.98	3.50	2.55	1.08	5.80	12.00	1.80	2.35	5.60	1.61	2.80	5.20	3.45	1.12	2.02	1.46	1.41	2.13	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.63	1.77	1.11	3.60
5	5/19/2023 14:55	Lithuania 2	FK BABRUNGAS PLUNGE	4	7	FC NEPTUNAS KLAIPEDA	2.69	3.08	2.04	5.40	4.30	1.31	1.54	3.80	3.75	3.30	2.10	2.65	2.95	2.46	2.36	3.05	1.17	1.80	1.60	1.31	2.41	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.50	1.95	1.94	1.51
6	5/19/2023 14:55	Lithuania 2	MARIJAMPOLIS CITY FA	2	7	KEDAINIAI NEVEZIS	2.39	2.93	2.34	4.80	3.95	1.39	1.41	3.90	4.70	3.05	2.02	3.00	2.70	2.37	2.65	2.80	1.21	1.66	1.73	1.24	2.65	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.57	1.84	1.71	1.68
7	5/19/2023 15:25	Slovenia 2	NK DOBI	16	11	TRIGLAV KRANJ	2.42	3.03	2.25	4.80	4.00	1.38	1.44	3.90	4.30	3.05	2.08	2.85	2.70	2.44	2.55	3.00	1.18	1.77	1.63	1.29	2.46	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.51	1.93	1.75	1.64
8	5/19/2023 15:55	Poland	ZAGLEBIE LUBIN	11	13	FKS STAL MIELEC	1.81	3.37	3.37	3.10	3.55	1.74	1.22	4.60	7.00	2.46	2.20	4.00	2.19	2.65	3.65	3.35	1.20	1.88	1.67	1.34	2.60	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.62	1.99	1.37	2.40
9	5/19/2023 15:55	Poland 2	CHOJNICZANKA	18	7	ARKA Gdynia	3.52	3.18	1.69	7.80	4.70	1.19	1.81	3.50	2.95	4.10	2.10	2.28	3.65	2.47	2.03	2.95	1.19	1.74	1.65	1.28	2.50	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.60	1.81	2.47	1.29
10	5/19/2023 15:55	Czech Rep 2	VYSOCINA JIHLAVA	13	3	PRIBRAM	2.35	2.88	2.38	4.80	3.90	1.40	1.39	3.90	4.90	3.05	1.99	3.05	2.70	2.34	2.70	2.70	1.23	1.62	1.77	1.22	2.75	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.60	1.80	1.69	1.70
11	5/19/2023 15:55	Estonia	HARIJU JK LAAGRI	10	2	FLORA TALLINN	14.66	7.03	1.06	23.00	6.80	-	5.60	4.30	1.30	12.00	3.15	1.41	13.00	4.10	1.27	5.20	1.07	2.85	1.29	1.79	1.75	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	2.07	1.57	6.20	-
12	5/19/2023 15:55	Cyprus	OLYMPIAKOS NICOSIA	8	5	DOXA KATOKOPIAS	8.01	4.20	1.27	19.00	6.00	-	2.95	3.15	1.91	8.40	2.25	1.83	7.80	2.75	1.61	2.90	1.27	1.69	1.86	1.24	3.05	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	2.31	1.46	4.70	1.07
13	5/19/2023 15:55	Cyprus	AKRITAS CHLORAKAS	7	1	ANORTHOSIS	3.76	3.57	1.67	8.20	4.80	1.18	1.89	3.40	2.80	4.50	2.18	2.34	4.10	2.65	2.06	3.20	1.22	1.82	1.72	1.30	2.75	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.71	1.87	2.70	1.29
14	5/19/2023 16:00	Croatia	SIBENIK	10	4	OSIJEK	2.74	3.08	2.20	5.80	4.00	1.32	1.49	3.60	4.30	3.60	2.00	3.00	3.15	2.42	2.65	2.75	1.31	1.61	1.97	1.21	3.30	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.78	1.79	1.93	1.58
15	5/19/2023 16:05	Austria 2	LIEFERING	11	8	LAFNITZ	1.99	3.42	2.83	3.45	3.75	1.60	1.30	4.40	5.60	2.65	2.25	3.50	2.36	2.70	3.15	3.70	1.16	2.03	1.57	1.41	2.38	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.52	2.17	1.50	2.07
16	5/19/2023 16:05	Austria 2	AMSTETTEN	5	16	AUSTRIA WIEN II	1.83	3.47	3.22	2.95	3.85	1.72	1.24	4.80	6.00	2.36	2.42	3.65	2.16	2.85	3.40	4.40	1.11	2.36	1.41	1.58	2.01	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.41	2.45	1.39	2.32
17	5/19/2023 16:05	Austria 2	BW LINZ	1	4	HORN	1.22	4.89	8.01	1.69	3.55	3.25	-	6.40	16.00	1.69	2.60	7.40	1.51	3.20	7.40	4.00	1.13	2.23	1.47	1.49	2.17	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.85	1.72	1.06	4.80
18	5/19/2023 16:05	Austria 2	DORNBRN	12	7	FAC WIEN	3.13	3.32	1.90	6.40	4.40	1.25	1.66	3.60	3.30	3.80	2.19	2.55	3.40	2.65	2.28	3.40	1.20	1.89	1.66	1.34	2.60	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.60	2.02	2.23	1.42
19	5/19/2023 16:05	Austria 2	ADMIRA	9	6	FIRST VIENNA FC	1.92	3.37	3.03	3.35	3.65	1.64	1.27	4.40	6.20	2.60	2.19	3.75	2.31	2.65	3.35	3.40	1.20	1.90	1.66	1.35	2.60	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.59	2.03	1.44	2.19
20	5/19/2023 16:05	Belarus	FC SLAVIA MOZYR	5	8	FC SLUTSK	1.91	3.08	3.37	3.40	3.50	1.66	1.22	4.50	7.20	2.60	2.08	4.10	2.31	2.47	3.65	2.95	1.27	1.68	1.87	1.25	3.05	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.73	1.84	1.39	2.32
21	5/19/2023 16:10	Hungary	PAKSI	3	5	PUSKAS ACADEMY	2.03	3.27	2.83	3.40	3.95	1.57	1.30	4.50	5.20	2.60	2.36	3.35	2.37	2.75	3.10	4.20	1.12	2.24	1.46	1.53	2.11	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.42	2.41	1.51	2.05
22	5/19/2023 16:25	Bundesliga 2	DARMSTADT	1	11	MAGDEBURG	1.37	4.40	5.28	1.97	3.65	2.50	1.09	5.80	11.00	1.87	2.55	5.40	1.68	3.10	5.20	4.40	1.11	2.42	1.40	1.59	1.99	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.56	2.08	1.14	3.70
23	5/19/2023 16:25	Bundesliga 2	HOLSTEIN KIEL	9	5	ST. PAULI	2.74	3.47	2.04	4.90	4.50	1.33	1.57	4.00	3.45	3.25	2.40	2.60	3.00	2.80	2.38	4.40	1.11	2.36	1.41	1.58	2.01	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.39	2.50	2.00	1.54
24	5/19/2023 16:55	France League 2	GRENOBLE	7	13	RODEZ	2.33	3.03	2.59	4.60	3.70	1.44	1.35	3.90	5.40	3.15	2.00	3.45	2.75	2.41	3.00	2.70	1.31	1.60	1.99	1.21	3.30	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.78	1.79	1.65	1.84
25	5/19/2023 16:55	Portugal 2	BENFICA B	13	2	SC FARENSE	3.08	3.37	1.91	6.00	4.50	1.26	1.65	3.70	3.30	3.70	2.24	2.55	3.35	2.70	2.29	3.60	1.17	1.99	1.59	1.39	2.42	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.54	2.13	2.20	1.44
26	5/19/2023 16:55	Portugal 2	LEIXOES	14	6	VILAFRANQUENSE	2.41	2.98	2.54	4.80	3.80	1.41	1.38	3.85	5.20	3.20	2.00	3.35	2.85	2.40	2.95	2.75	1.31	1.60	1.98	1.21	3.30	3.00	3.00	2.10	1.80	1.72	1.7			



Six to battle ahead of Southern Arena grand opening



A total of six (6) teams will battle in a mini gala ahead of the Grand Opening Ceremony of the Southern Arena scheduled for Sunday May 21st this year. The Stadium opening will be preceded by the interregional mini tournament with each of the five regions represented by a top performing premier league club. The 6,000-seater football stadium constructed by Turkish-based contractors is ready to host Sierra Leone Premier League reigning champions and league leaders Bo Rangers against the final winner between Kambol Eagles, Wusum Stars, Bai Burreh Warriors and East

End Lions in an interregional tournament.

The host- Bo Rangers representing Southern Region are already qualified to play in the grand opening ceremony on the FIFA certified turf of Southern Arena, awaiting to be challenged by the champions among East End Lions from Western Area, Kambol Eagles from Eastern Region, Bai Burreh Warriors from Northwestern Region and Northeastern Region's pride Wusum Stars.

The said tourney will kickstart on Friday May 19 at the Bo Stadium.

Liberia to miss U-20 WAFU tourney again



The Liberia Football Association women's cup, to be hosted in Sierra Leone, has confirmed their team will not be participation in the upcoming women's under-20 team in the West Africa Football Union (WAFU) U-20

women's cup, to be hosted in Sierra Leone.

According to report by Front Page Africa Online, the Liberia Football Association said the team did not

Kei Kamara amongst top Chicago Fire earners after MLS salaries released

Former Leone Stars striker, Kei Kamara is amongst the top 20 earners by the Major League Soccer (MLS) side, Chicago Fire after the league's salaries were released this week.



Despite not amongst the seven figures earners within the club, but the veteran striker is said to be earning US\$220,000.00 as base salary with US\$231,000.00 as Guaranteed Compensation.

annualized over the term of the player's contract, including option years.

Kamara's teammate, Xherdan Shaqiri, is the MLS No1 star in the country in terms of pay with the former Liverpool, Stoke and Bayern Munich winger, earning a guaranteed \$7.350 million- almost as much as the rest of the squad combined.

The club's second highest earner is defender Gastón Giménez \$ 1.6 million followed by Rafael Czichos with \$1.3 and both Kacper Przybylko and Jairo Torres with \$1.1 million respectively.

The 2023 Salary Guide contains salary information for all MLS players under contract as of April 30, 2023. In the Guide, player salaries are broken down into two numbers:

Current Annualized Base Salary, and Annualized Average Guaranteed Compensation

The Annual Average Guaranteed Compensation (Guaranteed Comp) number includes a player's base salary and all signing and guaranteed bonuses

For example, a player earning an annual base salary of \$500,000, whose contract has an initial term of two years with two one-year options and received a \$100,000 signing bonus, his average annual guaranteed compensation would be \$525,000 (base salary plus signing bonus (\$100,000), with the signing bonus divided by the number of years covered by the contract (4)).

The Average Annual Guaranteed Compensation figure also includes any marketing bonus and any agent's fees, both annualized over the term of the contract. The Average Annual Guaranteed Compensation figure does not include Performance Bonuses because there is no guarantee that the player will hit those bonuses.

These figures include compensation from each player's contract with MLS. They do not include any compensation from any contracts with individual teams or their affiliates.

sign up for the WAFU-20 tournament due to technical and financial reasons.

This Liberia side failed to attend the last competition in Cape Verde's 2022 WAFU Zone A due to the government's failure to transport the team and pay the players' allowances.

Already the news has left many football stakeholders in the country in disappointment with the constant absence of the female team from such international competitions.

And Front Page Africa stated that, the president of Liberia Upper Women's Club Senior Professional Female Football Club, Emmett Glassco, said that it is disappointing for Liberian

female football to hear that the country's youth team will not be at the WAFU tournament. "This is very disheartening news about Liberian football that our women U20 team will not be participating in the WAFU tournament. This is sad," Glassco said.

According to him, the reasons the FA gave for not participating in the tournament are not genuine, and he feels that the FA is not saying the real reason behind the team's absence from the youth tournament in Sierra Leone.

The WAFU women's U-20 Tournament is expected to kick off from May 25 to June 11 in Sierra Leone.