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Supreme Court throws out petition against APC Samura Kamara

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

LRMG brightens Telu Bongor Town with solar light



The Supreme Court of Sierra Leone has stuck-out petition against the presidential candidate of the main opposition All People's Congress (APC) party, Dr. Samura Kamara and the Chief Electoral Commissioner, on the grounds of Non-compliance with Rule 90(1) of the Supreme Court Rules, Public Notice No.1 of 1982. The Supreme Court in its ruling stated that the 1st applicant, Paul M. Kamara and the 2nd applicant, Alimany Coleson Turay, didn't comply with Rule 90 (1) of the Supreme Court Rules, Public Notice No. 1 of 1982.



Dr. Samura Kamara has been cleared to run as president candidate

Cont. Page 5

Political parties pledge to protect children's right

ACC declares EAP's 'Mother Land' project fraudulent



Our new manifesto is meant to correct our mistakes

-JJ Saffa

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LOCAL NEWS LRMG brightens Telu Bongor Town with solar light



In a ground-breaking move that underscores the importance of corporate social responsibility, Leone Rock Metal Group, a leading player in the mining industry, has embarked on an ambitious solar lighting installation project to alleviate the energy crisis faced by Telu Bongor Town in Bo District, Southern Province.

The laudable initiative undertaken by the company, aims to provide reliable and environmentally friendly lighting solutions to improve the lives of residents in Telu Bongor Town.

On Sunday, May 28, 2023, officials from LRMG installed 16 solar lights worth millions of old Leones to the Telu Bongor Town in Bo District, Southern Province. The event, attended by The Paramount Chief, PC Michael Foday Kai, the outgoing Hon. Member of Parliament, Consistency 081; Joseph W. Lamin; Youth Representatives, LRMG personnel, and esteemed guests, witnessed the ground breaking occasion, characterized by heartfelt speeches, mainly from the beneficiaries of this transformative initiative.

The solar lights were installed in strategic locations throughout the

town, including streets, schools, and public spaces. The lights will provide much-needed illumination at night, making it safer for people to move around and reducing the risk of accidents. The lights will also help improve the town's security, as they will deter criminals.

LRMG is to be commended for its commitment to corporate social responsibility and for its investment in the future of Telu Bongo Town.

Ahaji Suba Conteh, LRMG's Public Relations Assistant: "We believe in harnessing our resources and expertise to contribute to the well-being of communities by providing access to sustainable energy. We aim to positively impact Telu Bongor Town by enhancing educational opportunities, empowering women, as well-lit streets and public spaces, reducing the risk of accidents and promoting a sense of security."

Paramount Chief; PC Micheal Foday Kai: "We have lived in darkness for far too long, but today we celebrate a new era of light and hope."

Hon. Member of Parliament Consistency 081; Joseph W. Lamin: "The solar light installation project is timely. Telu Bongo Town had been grappling with limited access to

electricity, hindering progress and hampering the villagers' daily activities after sunset. With the installation of the solar lights, however, the village will be illuminated, transforming the night into a time of productivity and connectivity."

This pioneering endeavour

championed by LRMG in Telu Bongor serves as a shining example for other communities facing similar challenges. As solar power continues to gain traction worldwide, this initiative by LRMG offers hope and pave the way for a brighter, greener future..



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LOCAL NEWS

By Yusufu S. Bangura

Ahead of June 24th general elections, representatives from different political parties have pledged to protect children's right and uphold the four pillars therein as documented in the Children's Manifesto for Political Elections.

They made the pledge on Wednesday 31st May during the official launch of the Children's Manifesto by Save the Children at the Family Kingdom, Aberdeen in Freetown.

Political parties present during the launching includes the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP), the National Grand Coalition (NGC), the People's Democratic Party (PDP), the People's Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC), the Revolutionary United Front Party (RUFFP), the United National People's Party (UNPP), the Alliance Democratic Party (ADP), and the Citizens Democratic Party (CDP), among others.

During their commitments, they promised to include the Children's Manifesto in their parties' manifestos because they as politicians also have children and that they will make sure that children are protected from all harms during and after elections.

They further called on organisations working on children

Political parties pledge to protect children's right



Representatives from different political parties making their pledges

rights to keep the good work and continue protecting children for a better tomorrow and called on the next government to pass the Child Right Bill into law.

While presenting the Children's Manifesto to political parties, President of Children's Forum Network, Mahmoud Barrie said in a world where children are often seen as passive bystanders in the political realm, it is time for politicians to recognise their voice, aspirations and rights.

He said the introduction of the Children's Manifesto for Political Elections in Sierra Leone seeks to

empower the future generation by placing their needs and perspectives at the forefront of political agendas.

"We affirm our rights to express an opinion, to be listened to and to participate in decisions which affect our welfare, as provided in Section 31 of the Child Rights Act of 2007, in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC)," he said.

He further said children are not just the citizens of tomorrow, but they are vital members of the society today.

He added that they as children deserve to be active participants in shaping the country they will inherit, so by providing children with a platform to express their concerns, hopes and dreams, they can foster a more inclusive and responsive political landscape that truly represents the needs of all citizens in the next five years.

The President went on to state that before they launched the Manifesto, they participated in focus group discussions in 13 out of the 16 districts across the country, noting that during their discussions they highlighted the problems they experience in the homes, communities and the country and proffered ways that the next government should address them.

They also shared their insights into how elections-related violence affects their lives and with demands to prevent and mitigate the impact of such violence.

He said the Children's Manifesto for Political Elections is built on four key principles which are health and well-being, protection of children, education and empowerment, and participation.

In the area of health and well-being, Barrie said the physical and mental well-being of children must be safeguarded through comprehensive healthcare systems, nutrition programs and support for healthy lifestyles.

In the area of protection, he mentioned that children should be protected from all forms of harm, including violence, discrimination and exploitation, but rather there should be policies that focus on creating safe and nurturing environments that allow children to grow, learn and thrive.

In the area of education and empowerment, he noted that every child deserves access to quality education that equips them with the skills, knowledge and opportunities necessary to reach their full potential because education should be inclusive, equitable and responsive to the diverse needs of children.

In the area of participation, he said children have the right to be heard, respected and included in matters concerning their lives because their opinions should be valued and considered by policymakers and ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes.

"A country can only be on the path of sustainable development when it puts children, the most vulnerable segment of the population first since they are the greatest human resources potential for development. Citizens should therefore vote in the best interest of the children of mama Salone because a better Sierra Leone for children makes a better Sierra Leone for everyone," he said.

The launching attracted representatives from Ministry of Social Welfare as well as from Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs.

Supreme Court throws out petition against APC Samura Kamara

From Cover

"The originating notice of motion filed on the 17th May, 2023 by the said applicant, Paul M. Kamara and Rev. Alimany Coleson Turay against the Chief Electoral Commissioner, Dr Samura Kamara and the APC party, is hereby deemed to have been struck out pursuant to rule 90 (3) of the aforementioned supreme court rules," the Supreme Court rules.

It could be recalled that a petition was filed at the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone by Paul M. Kamara and Alimany Coleson Turay against the nomination of the candidacy of Dr. Samura Kamara and requested the interpretation and determination of Section 35(4) and 76 (1) (D) of the National Constitution of 1991 Act No. 6 of 1991.

The petitioners had also asked the court to interpret and determine the legibility of the candidacy of Dr. Samura Kamara pursuant to Section 35 (4) of the National Constitution which provides 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 Samura Kamara.

They had also asked the court 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.

LOCAL NEWS Our new manifesto is meant to correct our mistakes

-JJ Saffa

Chairman of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) Manifesto Committee, who doubles as the Chief Minister and supervisor of government ministries, has noted that, like any student who passes with a resounding grade in an exam, albeit not securing hundred percent, the SLPP government is proud of its achievements in the past five years in governance and that their manifesto is meant to correct the mistakes they did for which they couldn't score hundred percent. As a way of popularising the manifesto dubbed 'The New Direction: Consolidating and

Accelerating Transformation", Jacob Jusu Saffa was on Tuesday addressing senior journalists and civil society activists at the New Brookfield's Hotel in Freetown.

The manifesto prioritises five areas including Feed Salone, which is geared towards boosting agriculture, ensuring food sufficiency and reducing poverty, Human Capital Development, Youth Employment, Tech and Infrastructural programme and Revamping the Public Service architecture.

Addressing journalists and civil society activists, Saffa reflected on the

gains by the New Direction administration in the past five years in areas including education, which was their flagship programme, health, energy, among several others.

Among the five selected areas prioritised in the new manifesto, he said agriculture will be their flagship programme if elected into office for the second term, adding food poverty is a serious economic issue which they would handle through mass production and ensure food sufficiency.

He cited youth unemployment as a serious security threat and that they would deal with that issue though the



creation of a considerable number of employment opportunities for youth through technical and vocational trainings.

ACC declares EAP's 'Mother Land' project fraudulent

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has stated that they have concluded investigations into the EAP Group of Companies and Motherland City project and detected fraud in the process and that they have handed over the suspected persons to the Sierra Leone Police for further investigations.

According to a press statement from the ACC, based on the interviewing and recording statements from over twenty Persons of Interest, analysing the records of accounts, concerning the Chairman and EAP Group of Companies, they confirmed that the process was fraud and obtaining money by false pretenses.

The ACC instituted an investigation against one Nigerian, Edward Alex Olubode Philips and his EAP Group of Companies on allegations of fraudulent activities in Sierra Leone, with him purporting to build affordable houses for interested clients/customers for a project titled "Motherland City/ Estate", at York Village in the Western Rural District. The ACC reiterated that the matter has been referred to the Sierra Leone Police to carry out full and thorough criminal investigations that fall within their responsibility and mandate and promised to provide the police with the detailed findings they have and collaborate with them to ensure full closure.

The release states that police will conclude and decide how to proceed with the matter, including any possible charges, adding that they have also notified the Police of the request from their counterparts, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Nigeria to have the suspect returned to Nigeria to face sentencing in a prosecution that he escaped from, having been convicted.

The Commission stated that, the



Company had collected huge sums of deposits from members of the public/clients at home and abroad regarding affordable housing scheme and that the suspect who served as Chairman of the company used fictitious names to open Bank Accounts at several Commercial Banks in Sierra Leone to facilitate the running of the Company and also to engage in potential money laundering activities.

They also stated that suspect Edward Alexander Olubode Philips is the major Shareholder of the Company, and the other shareholder with a minority interest is one Professor Ricky White who is said to be residing in the United States of America.

Mrs. Mabinty Philips, wife of Dr. Philips-Chairman of the EAP Group of Companies served as the Vice President of the said company.

According to the Commission, their findings further revealed that Edward A.O. Philips is the holder of a Sierra Leonean passport issued to him on 11th March 2021, by the Immigration Department and was also established that between 2017 and 2021, Edward A.O. Philips was issued four (4) Sierra Leonean passports by the Immigration Department, and that the passport dockets which will give a clear history about the four (4) Sierra Leonean passports issued in favour of Edward

A.O. Philips within the said period could not be traced at the Immigration Department due to apparent destruction by his collaborators within.

The Commission further that, through the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Nigeria, they learnt that Edward A.O. Philips is a Nigerian citizen and convict known as Olufunmilade Adeyemi who escaped criminal charges by the EFCC for real estate fraud in July 2018, disclosing that the suspect is also a holder of a Ghanaian passport with serial number G1517140 with the name Moses Alexander, and also known in Dubai as Alex Moses and he also is a qualified lawyer having passed Lagos Bar in 1999.

The Commission said the primary alleged objective of the EAP Group of Companies was to engage in the construction of houses for its clients at the York Village which otherwise would have been known as the Motherland City Project and the Company entered into several agreements/contracts with various persons for the construction of houses ranging from two bedrooms at Two Hundred and Sixty (New) Leones (NLe:260,000) and three bedrooms at Three Hundred and Sixty (New) Leones (NLe: 360,000) basic flat;

Economy two bedrooms at Seven Hundred and Twenty (New) Leones (NLe:720,000) and three bedrooms flat at One Million and Eighty (New) Leones (NLe:1,080,000); and Premium two bedrooms at One Million Eight Hundred (New) Leones (NLe:1,800,000) and Economy three bedrooms flat at Two Million, One Hundred and Sixty (New) Leones (NLe:2,160,000) respectively and the modes of payments to EAP Group of Companies were through bank deposits and cash payments in instalments to last for over a period of twenty years or less depending on the income level or mode of payment of interested clients.

The Commission also indicated that at the commencement of the investigation, visitation to the project site at York village was made and that no construction works had commenced by the EAP Group of Companies on the proposed Motherland City Project, but excavation work could be seen.

"That as at 31st March 2023, the investigations recorded Three Hundred and Sixteen (316) persons who claimed to have entered into agreement with the EAP Group of Companies for the construction of houses of different categories. The total amount of money received from clients as against the aforementioned is Three Million, Seven Hundred and Twenty Six Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy Five (New) Leones (NLe:3,726,675) and Eighteen Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy Five United States Dollars (USD\$ 18,575) respectively. That there is no evidence of any funds committed to the project by the company itself or any donor, other than a facility of One Million, Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand (New) Leones (NLe:1,450,000) obtained from a local Bank by the company in late January 2023 and that paid by clients," the Commission stated.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Local Consultant to Support Valuation of Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Liability for Large Scale Mining in Sierra Leone

Procurement Number: EPASL/NRM/RFP/007/2023
Date of First Issue: 26th May, 2023

The Environment Protection Agency – Sierra Leone has allocated some funds and is therefore hiring the services of an individual Local Consultant to support the Conduct of Valuation of Mine Rehabilitation and Closure Liability for all Large Scale Mining projects in Sierra Leone.

One of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) criteria for mining projects is that mining companies must submit a mine rehabilitation and closure plan as part of their Environmental Management Plan. The rehabilitation and closure plan must be costed based on the anticipated liability (in terms of a new project) or current environmental footprint for existing projects.

Mine rehabilitation and closure bond systems have been provided for in the Mines and Minerals Act of 2009 and the Environmental (Mines and Minerals) Regulation 2013. The bond is a financial agreement or arrangement between a mining company and the Environment Protection Agency to provide financial surety in the form of money or other acceptable forms of security against the potential environmental impacts and land disturbance that result from mining activities. To activate the bond, an understanding of an estimate of the rehabilitation and closure liabilities is needed. This is because the Agency utilizes liability estimates to decide on the amount or nature of bank guarantee, insurance bond, or cash deposit that should be presented to the Agency. This is done to guarantee that in case the mining company fails to fulfil its obligations for closure, sufficient funds are accessible to the Agency for the purpose of site rehabilitation and closure. Also, the methodology for computing the quantum of financial provision for closure assumes that the Government will employ a third party to undertake the necessary rehabilitation and remedial work should the mining operation close prematurely. According to World Bank (2008), it is an increasingly common requirement for the closure plan to contain details of the estimated cost of rehabilitation and for a financial surety to be established at the same time. It further states that, the purpose of the financial surety is to ensure that there will be sufficient funds available to pay for site rehabilitation and post-closure monitoring and maintenance at any stage in the life of the project, including early or temporary closure.

The estimates of liability for mine rehabilitation and closure, which can be used as a financial assurance, are generally required by the EPA at the start-up of mining operations. However, this has not been in practice, given that the framework has not been set to allow the operationalization of the mine rehabilitation bond scheme.

SCOPE OF WORK

For this assessment, twenty-three large-scale mining companies in active operations will be targeted.

Recognizing that there is a high prospect of new mining companies being established and the potential expansion of existing mining operations, it is imperative to establish appropriate provisions to accommodate these circumstances, such as developing a rehabilitation and closure cost estimation model that can be utilized when necessary. Also, the involvement of a local/National consultant is aimed at building their capacity for future assessment as required by the Local Content Policy and Legislation.

The Local Consultant will provide the following technical support to the international Consultant:

- Support the review of all the updated/existing mine rehabilitation and closure plans to assess their completeness and feasibility.
- Participate in the physical site visits to all the large-scale mining concessions to inspect the current condition of the mine site and associated facilities.
- Take part in assessing the environmental risks and impacts associated with the mining project and evaluate the potential remediation costs.
- Provide support in all other tasks assigned to the International Consultant accordingly or as may be necessary.

DELEVERABLES

The Local Consultant will provide full time support to the International Consultant in delivering the following:

1. A comprehensive report outlining the findings of the valuation, including a detailed breakdown of the estimated costs of mine rehabilitation and closure liability for the Twenty-Three Large-Scale mining companies.
2. A financial model that accurately estimates the total cost of mine rehabilitation and closure liability.

QUALIFICATION

The National/Local Consultant will have the following qualifications:

1. A degree in either mining Engineering, Environmental Sciences, or a related field.
2. At least two years of experience in Environmental and Social Impact assessment processes.
3. Experience in mine rehabilitation and closure planning.
4. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal.
5. Knowledge of relevant local Mining and Environmental Regulations and Guidelines.

Evaluation method and criteria

Technical Criteria weight 70%
Financial Criteria weight 30%.

Only consultant obtaining a minimum of 70% of the total technical points (49 points) would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

1. Technical Capacity and Related Qualifications of the Lead Consultant		Points
1.	A degree in either mining Engineering, Environmental Sciences, or a related field	10
2.	At least two years of experience in Environmental and Social Impact assessment processes.	20
3.	Experience in mine rehabilitation and closure planning.	15
4.	Excellent and strong Communication Skills, both written and verbal	15
5.	Knowledge of relevant local Mining and Environmental Regulations and Guidelines	10
Total Possible Points		70

1. Submitting Proposal.

The costs of preparing a proposal are the sole responsibility of bidding suppliers. All proposals and supporting documentation submitted with the proposal become the property of Environment Protection Agency – Sierra Leone. Proposals must be prepared according to the Proposal Preparation Guidelines.

The consultant is requested to prepare and submit their technical and financial proposal to be submitted to the address not later than 22nd June 2023 at (2:00 Pm)

Note: The consultant shall be ranked and the first ranked on the list shall be selected for the proposed assignment given that, their fee rates are within the budget. The selection process will be based on the Least Cost Selection.

Service Required: EPA-SL has received fund from a donor and is therefore hiring the services of an International Consultant to Conduct a Validation of Mine Rehabilitation and Liability for Larger Scale Mining in Sierra and is therefore inviting Individual Local consultant who can provide a statement of capability and experience indicating that they are qualified to perform the service (description of similar assignment, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.) to submit Technical and financial proposals for the assignment. The Technical Proposals will be publicly opened on

[22nd June 2023] at [2:00 pm], in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below.

This advertisement is open to all international Consultant

worldwide.

Kindly submit the following documents;

- Technical proposal
- Financial Proposal
- A Cover Letter
- Curriculum Vitae of consultant
- Individual Profile
- Samples of previous work

Duration, Timeline, and Location

The Local Consultant will collaborate with the International Consultant(s) throughout the duration of the project. The timeline of the valuation exercise will be One month from the date of the signature of the contract.

Duty Station: Home-based consultant and shall be resident in Freetown.

Interested consultant may obtain further information and collect the terms of reference (TOR) at the address below or send emails between [9am to 4pm Mondays to Fridays].

All proposals along with relevant documents must be submitted in soft copy form via email to the following: gevaob@yahoo.com; bondi.gevaob@epa.gov.sl; shekkannh@gmail.com; lsatu.kamara@epa.gov.sl

Proposals received after the closing date and time

will not be considered.

WOMEN ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY
All proposal may be delivered in hard copies to the address below.

Executive Chairperson
Environment Protection Agency-SL;
2nd Floor
92 Dundas Street
Freetown-Sierra Leone

LOCAL NEWS

Interswitch congratulates Bank of Sierra Leone on launch of National Payment Switch



Interswitch, Africa's leading digital payments and commerce company, congratulates the Bank of Sierra Leone on the successful launch of its National Payment Switch.

The Bank of Sierra Leone's National Payment Switch, which was launched on May 3rd, 2023 by the President, Julius Maada Bio serves as a centralized platform that promotes financial inclusion, digital innovation, and economic growth across the country. It enables interoperability among various payment service providers, allowing individuals, businesses, and government entities to transact seamlessly, thereby expanding financial services to every corner of Sierra Leone.

The National Payment Switch fosters swift and secure transactions across Sierra Leone, leverages the power of technology to ease the rapidly increasing financial transactions within and across the Sierra Leone borders, in seconds through a single interface. The NPS facilitates interconnection and interoperability among the channels of various players in the financial landscape such as commercial banks, microfinance institutions, mobile money operators, and financial technology firms.

Akeem Lawal, MD Payment Processing and Switching at Interswitch PurePay, while congratulating the people and government of Sierra Leone on the launch of the National Payment Switch described it as a brilliant initiative stating that it would improve financial inclusion and cross-border payments which is a step in the right direction to deepen the growth of the payment ecosystem in Africa.

Lawal stated that "This innovative integration will unlock a myriad of

benefits for the Sierra Leonean citizens, businesses, and the entire nation. The National Payment Switch is a testament to the government's commitment to embracing digital transformation and advancing the financial well-being of every Sierra Leonean. We are confident that this landmark initiative will propel Sierra Leone and its financial service sector towards a more inclusive, efficient, and prosperous future."

Transactions conducted through the National Payment Switch are safeguarded against fraud and unauthorized access, instilling customer trust and confidence. The switch streamlines payment processing, reducing transaction settlement times and enhancing the overall efficiency of the payment ecosystem. It stimulates economic growth by enabling individuals and businesses at all levels to transact efficiently, expand their customer base, and unlock new opportunities for innovation and investment.

The National Payment Switch represents a significant milestone in Sierra Leone's journey towards a more inclusive digital economy. The Bank of Sierra Leone remains dedicated to closely collaborating with industry stakeholders to drive the integration of the payment switch, promote digital payments adoption, enhance financial inclusion, and foster economic growth across the nation and beyond.

"We will love to congratulate our partner banks – Sierra Leone Commercial Bank, United Bank for Africa Ltd, Guaranty Trust Bank - who have successfully been integrated onto the National Payment Switch, we are honoured to be part of their milestone achievements and we look forward to greater feats together" Lawal concludes.



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LOCAL NEWS Freetown Terminal boosts 36 students with scholarship

By Jariatu S. Bangura

In order to help boost the educational sector, the Freetown Terminal Limited (FTL) yesterday, May 31st, dished out 170m Old Leones to thirty-six (36) students resident at Moa Wharf and Seaside Communities attending various universities and colleges.

The annual tertiary education scholarship scheme has benefited lots of students that have performed well in their academic pursuits, including the less privileged as a way of giving back to those living around the community the company operates.

General Manager of Freetown Terminal Limited, Nicolas Escalin, congratulated the beneficiary students for receiving the scholarship and stated that education is key to their success.

"You should serve as ambassadors to those who do not have such an opportunity. Please make good use of it and do more to benefit," he admonished the beneficiaries.

Human Resource Manager of the company, Claurinda Morgan, said there are no two ways to education and that beneficiaries should not let

go of the opportunity given to them.

"You must make good use of the opportunity. It is not easy to get such support," she said and advised young women to be self-sufficient.

She urged the female students not to always be dependent on men for their needs, adding that "You have to open your purse and take your own money. I also want to urge male students to apply same. Put your shoulders to the wheels. If you fail, you'll not get it again.

Abdulai Alimamy Kargbo, one of the beneficiaries, thanked FTL for such support, which he described as a blessing from God. He promised that they will live up to expectations.

Also, Mamusu Idriss-Bangura, a Final Year Student said it's an opportunity for them to have received such a timing scholarship support from FTL. She advised her colleagues to make good use of the opportunity.

Chairman of Seaside Community, Lamin Koroma said FTL has done a lot for them and advised the beneficiaries to make good use of the opportunity given to them. "You need to produce good results and make the communities you represent proud," he said.



He said the selection process was transparent but also pleaded that those that were not part of the scheme be considered in the next set because some of them are less privileged

students.

The company also provided similar support to primary and secondary school pupils.

Skye Bank Manager's murder trial: Lawyers seek Supreme Court interpretation

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The defense lawyer for the former Managing Director of Skye Bank Sierra Leone Limited, Ikubolaje Nicol, has filed a motion at the Supreme Court, seeking an interpretation for an application made by the state counsel, Ahmed James Maxwell (AJM) Bockarie for a trial by judge alone.

Justice Adrian Fisher has informed the defense lawyer and state lawyer, Ahmed James Maxwell (AJM) Bockarie, that he has to rule on the motion whether he will grant the application for the defense to seek interpretation at the Supreme Court or not.

The application made by the Principal State Counsel, Ahmed James Maxwell Bockarie for a trial by judge alone instead by a Judge and jury, was objected to by the Defense Counsel, Roland Wright.

The 46-year-old accused was arrested on the 23rd November, 2022 in Freetown by the Police as a suspect on allegation of the murder of Sinnah Kai Kargbo, a 26-year-old female Banker believed to be his fiancée and employed by same Bank; and both attached to Freetown Head office.

The then suspect was after Police investigation charged to court on

three counts Preliminary Investigation (PI) conducted at Pademba Road Magistrate Court in Freetown.

Ikubolaje Nicol was later committed without bail for trial at the High Court and has been on remand at the maximum Male Correctional Centre on Pademba Road.

The accused made his first appearance at the opening of the May 2023 High Court Criminal session presided by Justice Ansumana Ivan Sesay, a Court of Appeal Judge; and with the leave of the Court, his matter was mentioned by the lead defense counsel, Roland Wright.

In the particulars of offence, the State alleged that the accused Ikubolaje Nicol on the 15th October, 2022 and on diverse days between that day and the 16th October, 2022 at Leicester Village in Freetown, Western Rural Area, conspired with other persons unknown to murder Sinnah Kai Kargbo.

Ikubola Nicol was on the 16th October, 2022, at the above address alleged to have murdered the twenty six (26) year old Sinnah Kai Kargbo, who he past the night with. However, Justice Fisher has adjourned the matter to Friday 2nd June, 2023, for ruling on the motion filed by the defense lawyer.

King's Empire SL to host House of Star Tv reality show

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay



Members from the King's Empire Sierra Leone Ltd

A group known as Kings' Empire Sierra Leone Limited is poised to host their maiden edition of the house of stars reality TV show this year.

That development was disclosed on Wednesday, 31st May, at the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs Conference Room on Kingharman Road Freetown.

Chief Executive Officer of Kings' Empire, Valentine Mak King, disclosed that organisation

wants to address the overwhelming challenges and numerous opportunities of the country's entertainment industry.

He added that they will use over five hundred thousand United States Dollars to organise the show and that they have already put structures in place for the show to start in October, 2023.

"The show is expected to start in October and ends in December

2023 and we are expecting of over 20 participants from various sectors within the entertainment industry, ranging from musicians, movie stars, DJs, comedians, models, fashion designers, social media influencers, bloggers, dancers, sport men and sport women," he said

He said the show will be primarily focused on entertainment and encouraged all entertainers to grab the opportunity and enrol and buy the form so that they could be part.

He said the first runner up will take home the prize of a three-bedroom flat, a car, household equipment plus fifteen million old Leones cash.

He said the show will select very the best of participants from different entertainment industries.

He urged Sierra Leone private and government institution to support the show, adding that House of starts TV Show will give a face-lift in the entertainment industry.

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NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

Many countries facing food security issues are also big tobacco growing economies - WHO warns

Tobacco farming is booming in some African countries. Big producers include Zimbabwe and Malawi. However, as the world marks on May 31st the "No tobacco day", the world health organization sounded the alarm on the increase in tobacco farming land at the expense of food crops.

Zimbabwe is Africa's largest tobacco producer. The size of the tobacco crop increased despite increased fertiliser prices caused by the war in Ukraine, Zimbabwean officials say.

"There are more than 350 million people having hunger and food insecurity issues, and many of the countries where these issues are a concern are also big tobacco growing economies. In Africa, for example, in the last 15 years. The growing of tobacco has gone up by nearly 20%," Dr. Vinayak Mohan Prasad Programme Manager, Tobacco Control, WHO Senior Advisor Focus said.

The number of people facing acute food insecurity rose to 258 million in 58 countries in 2022, according to the latest Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC).

Dr. Prasad says that food insecurity is growing in countries that should be able to feed their own people.

"There are countries now which are requesting for food because of the various crises. The access to food is limited and many of these countries are well endowed with enough land - fertile land, water to grow food for many other countries. And so it's ironic that they are ending up importing food from other countries."

Industrial tactics'

Currently, China funds the bulk of production and buys the lion's share of Zimbabwe's tobacco.

Once harvested, tobacco leaves are dried and prepared and will go on to make products such as cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco and pipe tobacco.

"The largest growers of tobacco continue to be China, India, Brazil. But growing of tobacco has increased many fold in Africa in the last couple of years. Big ones are Malawi, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zambia and to some extent Uganda, Kenya and other eastern African countries. And then on the western side is Cote d'Ivoire, which is also a big grower of tobacco. Down south is Mozambique. And some tobacco plants are grown in Angola and South Africa. So, it's nearly 124 countries in the world that grow some form of tobacco," explains the Programme Manager, Tobacco Control, WHO Senior Advisor Focus.

The WTO Secretariat estimated that Zimbabwe exported unmanufactured tobacco worth 741 million dollars in 2020.

The southern African country now wants to make its tobacco industry more lucrative by manufacturing more cigarettes at home and limiting foreign funding of farmers.

Despite the financial gains, the WHO Senior Advisor called out the industry's influence,



In this file photo dated Jan. 16, 1998, laborers tend to tobacco crops on a white-owned tobacco farm near Centenary, 80 miles (129 kilometers) north west of Harare. Copyright © africanews DENIS FARRELL/AP1998

denouncing the effects of tobacco growing.

"The industrial tactics, tobacco industry tactics to push tobacco farming as economically viable, most profitable crop. And then leading to countries providing millions of dollars of subsidies; to promote tobacco. So, the farmer gets into a poverty trap after some time. The government is into subsidies and the onus understanding is that these crops are good for the economy", Vinayak Mohan Prasad said.

According to a study published by Tobacco Control, a journal on tobacco research in 2021, Zimbabwean tobacco farmers, close to 60% of farmers said they were in debt. The sample involved of 381 farmers.

Rebound and spotlight

Tobacco is on a rebound in this southern African nation where production plummeted from a high of about 240 million kilograms (265,000 tons) in 1998, according to government figures, to less than 50 million kilograms (60,000 tons) a decade later following the eviction of several thousand white farmers who accounted for the majority of growers.

In recent years Zimbabwe has rapidly increased the size of its crop, regaining its spot as one of the world's top five exporters of tobacco, peaking at 261 million kilograms (288,000 tons) in 2019.

Zimbabwe expects to harvest 230 million kilograms (254,000 tons) of the golden leaf this season, up from 212 million kilograms (234,000 tons) last year, according to officials.

At auction premium prices are paid for the "golden leaf" that is exported around the world.

"Tobacco growing leads to not only harming the environment, it leads to deforestation. 5% of deforestation is just because of tobacco growing," Prasad explains.

According to WHO, Tobacco farming causes harm to the farmers themselves.

More than 1 million child labourers are estimated to be working on tobacco farms, missing their opportunity for an education adds Prasad.

"More than 1 million children are in the farm because tobacco requires a lot of labour. Nearly 9-10 months of working on the in the field, women and children get sucked into the farms. So, all of that health effects, environmental effects and an erroneous understanding that tobacco growing is actually very remunerative it but it's not. So we want to spotlight all this," he explains.

Burkina PM vows no deal with jihadists, hints at election delay

Burkina Faso's prime minister on Tuesday ruled out negotiations with jihadist insurgents who control swathes of the country, while suggesting that security risks could delay the country's return to civilian rule.

"We will never negotiate, either over Burkina Faso's territorial integrity or its sovereignty," Apollinaire Kyelem de Tambela told the Transitional Legislative Assembly.

Burkina Faso has been ruled since 2022 by a junta led by Captain Ibrahim Traore, who has promised a return to democracy with presidential elections by July 2024.

But de Tambela suggested that attacks could see that timeframe pushed back.

"We cannot organise elections without security. If you have a magic wand to ensure we can hold elections as soon as possible, we'd do it," de Tambela told the representatives.

"If we organised elections now, while part of our territory is inaccessible, they'll say that whoever is elected has been wrongly elected," he said.

He added that the government aimed to double the number of volunteers for the VDP civil defence militia to 100,000 as part of Traore's pledge to recapture the 40 percent of the country's territory

seized since 2015 by jihadists affiliated with Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State group.

"The only negotiations that matter with these armed bandits are those taking place on the battlefield," de Tambela told the Transitional Legislative Assembly.

Also Tuesday, regional officials said an armed convoy was targeted Saturday near Bourasso close to the Malian border, with another local source saying most victims were VDP members.

"The attack caused the death of around 20 people, mainly VDP," the source said, requesting anonymity.

The regional government did not give a death toll, but claimed that 18 insurgents had been wounded and captured.

A security source confirmed the attack on the convoy, adding that air support called in afterwards had "neutralised" around 30 insurgents.

The source also said some 20 people were killed in the same region on Sunday, when suspected jihadists attacked Ouakara, a village around 100 kilometres (60 miles) from Bourasso.

One resident told AFP that the toll could rise. "Many people have left the village for Nouna or

African Union's Security Council meets to discuss Sudan

A Sudanese diplomatic source announced on Wednesday that the army had suspended talks with rival paramilitary force, RSF, over a ceasefire and access to aid. Since April 15th that fighting has erupted in Sudan between government forces and paramilitary group, Rapid Support Forces.

In early May negotiations produced a declaration of commitments to protect civilians and two short-term ceasefire deals, although these suffered repeated violations.

Speaking in Saudi Arabia where talks are taking

place, a government official accused the paramilitary forces of repeated violations of previous ceasefires.

Despite the extension of a previous ceasefire, fighting resumed on Tuesday in the capital, Khartoum, and in the Darfur region.

The African Union's Peace and Security Council meets this Wednesday at the headquarters in Addis Ababa to discuss the next steps regarding the situation in Sudan, including the implementation of the AU roadmap for the resolution of the conflict.

13 lives lost from toxic porridge consumption in Namibia

Thirteen individuals tragically lost their lives within a three-day period, while four others are currently in critical condition after consuming suspected poisonous food in Namibia.

According to local media, all the affected individuals were part of a household consisting of 22 people in Kayova village, situated in the northeastern region of Kavango.

The majority of the deceased were children who were reportedly in dire need of nourishment.

The health ministry, as cited by the state broadcaster NBC, revealed that the family had consumed porridge prepared with pearl millet flour and fermented sediment derived from a homemade beverage.

In response to the devastating incident, the ministry swiftly dispatched a team of professionals



In this Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013 photo, bodies of victims in a plane crash ... - Copyright © africanews Olavi Haikera/AP to offer psychological support and counseling to the grieving family.

Additionally, samples of the porridge have been sent to South Africa for testing, aiming to determine the presence of food poisoning.

The authorities are actively investigating the incident, and the affected family is receiving comprehensive assistance to cope with this heart-wrenching situation.

C.Africa president calls referendum on new constitution

President Faustin Archange Touadera of the Central African Republic said Tuesday that he would call a referendum on a new constitution that would allow him to seek a new term.

"I have decided... to submit this project for a new constitution to a referendum," he said in an address to the nation posted on Facebook, without saying when the vote would take place.

Touadera's opponents have already accused him of seeking to extend his rule despite constitutional limits.

Touadera was elected in 2016 and was returned

for a second term in 2020, despite widespread accusations of electoral flaws.

In October, he removed the country's top judge, Daniele Darlan, in what critics denounced as a "constitutional coup d'etat" after she opposed presidential decrees aimed at revising the constitution.

Currently a president can serve only two terms.

"There won't be a third term, but the count will be set back to zero, so anyone can seek a new term, including Touadera if he wants," the president's main advisor, Fidele Gouandjika, told AFP after the announcement.

Adulterated alcohol kills seven people in Morocco

Seven people have died after consuming adulterated alcohol in Meknes, central Morocco, Moroccan news agency MAP reported on Tuesday, adding that police have arrested two suspects.

An investigation was launched after seven people died after consuming adulterated alcohol suspected of having been purchased from a grocery shop, a police source in the city of Meknes told MAP, adding that an eighth person was intoxicated.

Investigations led to the arrest of a 67-year-old shopkeeper and his 17-year-old apprentice, suspected of possessing and selling adulterated alcoholic products that had caused the death of consumers, according to the same source.

The police also seized around ten empty bottles

containing medical alcohol "which caused the death of the victims".

This is not the first time such a tragedy has occurred in Morocco, but also in Tunisia and Algeria.

A total of 19 people died last September in Ksar El Kebir, a town in the north of the kingdom, after consuming adulterated alcohol.

In July 2021, around twenty people died after drinking adulterated alcohol in Oujda, in eastern Morocco.

In theory, Moroccan law prohibits the sale of alcohol to Muslims - 99% of the population of Morocco, where Islam is the state religion.

In practice, however, alcohol is readily available in bars, restaurants, and licensed shops, which sell it behind opaque glass or thick curtains.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP

Dedougou, because the terrorists gave them a 72-hour deadline to leave the village," the resident said.

- "Whatever the cost" -

Since taking power, Traore has ousted the French military force deployed to help battle the jihadists in several Sahel nations, and is suspected instead of eyeing Russian military help.

After a series of bloody attacks since the start of this year, the junta announced in April a general mobilisation for the armed forces.

Since 2015, the violence has seen more than 10,000 killed -- both civilians and military -- according to NGOs, and displaced some two million people.

De Tambela said Tuesday that "thanks to our efforts" more than 20,000 households, representing more than 125,000 people, "have returned to their regions," without giving further detail.

"We will defend our territory and our populations whatever the cost," he declared.

The VDP -- Volunteers for the Defence of the Fatherland (VDP) -- comprises civilian volunteers who are given two weeks' military training.

They then work alongside the army, typically carrying out surveillance, information-gathering or escort duties.

The force is one of the cornerstones of Traore's anti-jihadist strategy.

But since its inception in December 2019, the VDP has suffered hundreds of casualties, especially in ambushes or roadside bombings.

Despite the high losses, the authorities launched a successful recruitment drive last year for the force.

Around 90,000 people signed up in response to a call for patriotism, far exceeding the target of 50,000.

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REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
SIERRA LEONE ROADS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTANCY SERVICES)



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTANCY SERVICES)

**MANO RIVER UNION
ROAD DEVELOPMENT &
TRANSPORT
FACILITATION
PROGRAMME
(MRU/RDTPF) PHASE III**

**HIV/AIDS, MALARIA, EBOLA, COVID-19 & GENDER
SENSITIZATION
AWARENESS CONSULTANCY SERVICES**

Sector: Transport

Financing Agreement Reference: ADF Grant No:
2100155041471

Project ID No.: P-Z1-DB0-143

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) has received funds from the African Development Bank (AfDB) towards the cost of the Upgrading of the Mano River Union Road Development & Transport Facilitation Programme (MRU/RDTPF) Phase III: Upgrading of Kailahun – Koindu – Guinea - Liberia border Roads Lot I: Kailahun – Buedu 25Km and intends to apply part of the proceeds for payments under the contract for the provision of HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Ebola, COVID-19 & Gender Sensitization Awareness Consultancy Services.

The service will involve the design and implementation of communication and public awareness programs for the prevention and management of HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Ebola, COVID-19 & Gender Sensitization Awareness within the project area throughout the duration of the project. The consultancy is expected to incorporate an awareness campaign strategy that will, motivate and educate Contractor and Consultant Personnel and the local communities and authorities about the need to reduce the risk of (transmission) of HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Ebola, COVID-19 & Gender Sensitization Awareness and to promote early diagnosis, counselling as well as to assist affected individuals to access treatment to recover from the associated diseases listed. The Project components include: (i) Upgrading of Climate Resilience Road and Bridge including new studies; (ii) Integrated Support; (iii) Transport and Trade Facilitation; and (iv) Programme Management. The Project will be implemented for 24 months plus 12 months for defects liability period.

The HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Ebola, COVID-19 & Gender Sensitization Awareness Consultancy Services shall be carried out intermittently over the entire twenty-four (24) months construction period. The assignment has been divided into seven stages: (i) **Inception Report & Baseline Study** (ii) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign **No.1** (iii) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign **No.2** (iv) Information, Education and Communication (IEC)

Campaign **No.3** (v) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign **No.4** (vi) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign **No.5** and (vii) Final Report/ Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign **No.6**. Each phase shall be carried out for a period of eight (8) weeks intermittently along the two (2) road corridors (Kailahun – Buedu) & (Koindu - Yenga i.e., Makona River axis).

The Sierra Leone Roads Authority now invites eligible local consultants (firms) to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants **must** provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (i) information detailing the company's existence and areas of expertise (ii) list of similar assignments and experience in similar conditions, (iii) list of overall permanent and temporary staff in fields related to the assignment (iv) evidence of past performance (v) any other relevant information. Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "**Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group Funded Operations**" (**BPM**), dated **October 2015**", which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. The MPW is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM GMT.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 30th June 2023 at 13:00 GMT and mention "Expression of Interest for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Ebola, COVID-19 & Gender Sensitization Awareness Consultancy Services for the Mano River Union Road Development & Transport Facilitation Programme (MRU/RDTPF) Phase III: Upgrading of Regional Integrated Roads Project In Sierra Leone and the Construction of Bridge over Makona River". **Interested consultants have the option to submit their EOIs in PDF format by email.**

Mano River Union Road Development & Transport
Facilitation Programme
Attn: Ing. Amara Kanneh, Director General
Sierra Leone Roads Authority
PMB 1324 Kissy
Freetown,
Sierra Leone
Telephone: +
Email: saloneroads@gmail.com and
lavaliepi@yahoo.com



MANO RIVER UNION ROAD DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORT FACILITATION PROGRAMME (MRU/RDTPF) PHASE III: UPGRADING OF REGIONAL INTEGRATED ROADS PROJECT IN SIERRA LEONE :- KAILAHUN – KOINDU – GUINEA – LIBERIA BORDER ROADS PROJECT IN SIERRA LEONE: KAILAHUN – BUEDU 25KM

MONITORING & EVALUATION SERVICES

Sector: Transport

Financing Agreement Reference: ADF Loan No:

Project ID No.: P-Z1-DB0-

The Government of Sierra Leone has received funds from the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group, towards the cost of the Upgrading of the Mano River Union Road Development & Transport Facilitation Programme (MRU/RDTPF) Phase III: Upgrading of Kailahun – Koindu – Guinea – Liberia Border Roads Lot I: Kailahun – Buedu and the Construction of the 276m Bridge over Makona River and intends to apply part of the proceeds for payments under the contract for the provision of Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) consultancy services.

The service will be characterized by firstly to carry out an assessment of the status and operation of the Monitoring and Evaluation and Management Information Systems Department at the Sierra Leone Roads Authority to determine their standard operating procedures. The M&E Department will facilitate the continuation of periodic monitoring and evaluation of activities that would be implemented under the SLRA projects. The Project components include: (i) Upgrading of Climate Resilience Road and Bridge including new studies; (ii) Integrated Support; (iii) Transport and Trade Facilitation; and (iv) Programme Management. The Project will be implemented for 24 months plus 12 months for defects liability period.

The services included under this Consultancy will be for Monitoring & Evaluation Services. The services under this assignment will include by not be limited to: (i) assessing the impact of the ongoing Upgrading of Regional Integrated Roads in Sierra Leone; Kailahun – Koindu – Guinea – Liberia Border Roads Lot I Kailahun – Buedu 25Km and the Construction of 276m Bridge over Makona River at Yenga, and establish the baseline situation/values for MRU/RDTPF Phase III for the impact indicators of the project such as: traffic volumes, travel time saved, vehicle operating costs, transport costs, rural access index, awareness of road safety and road accidents, among others; (ii) monitor the indicators during project implementation (construction period) and (iii) undertake impact assessment at the end of the project to evaluate the impact of the project on the intended beneficiaries with reference to the identified baseline indicators.

The Monitoring & Evaluation Services shall be carried out intermittently over the entire twenty-four (24) months construction period. The Services will be carried out in four

(4) phases: Phase I: Assessment of M&E Structure and operations at the Sierra Leone Roads Authority (SLRA), and Definition of Survey Methodology, Baseline Survey & Evaluation & Update of the Kailahun – Buedu Road Project 25Km, Phase II: Establishment of Indicators Values for MRU Phase III Mid Term Review (these activities will be done concurrently); Phase III: Capacity Building and M & E Support; Phase IV: Carrying-out Impact Assessment & Endline Survey (Project Completion and Post-Construction Surveys).

The SLRA now invites eligible consultants (firms) to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants **must** provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (i) information detailing the company's existence and areas of expertise (ii) list of similar assignments and experience in similar conditions, (iii) list of overall permanent and temporary staff in fields related to the assignment (iv) evidence of past performance (v) any other relevant information. Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "**Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group Funded Operations**" (**BPM**), dated **October 2015**", which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. The SLRA is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monrovia Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 20th June 2023 at 14:00 GMT and mention "Expression of Interest for Monitoring & Evaluation Services for the Mano River Union Road Development & Transport Facilitation Programme (MRU/RDTPF) Phase III: Upgrading of Regional Integrated Roads Project in Sierra Leone". **Interested consultants have the option to submit their EOIs in PDF format by email.**

Mano River Union Road Development & Transport
Facilitation Programme
Attn: Ing. Amara Kanneh, Director General
Sierra Leone Roads Authority
PMB 1324 Kissy
Freetown,
Sierra Leone
Telephone: +
Email: saloneroads@gmail.com and
lavaliepi@yahoo.com

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Fix No.	Sales Close	Competition	Home Team	Score	Away Team	1/1 (1)	1/X (2)	1/2 (3)	X/1 (4)	X/X (5)	X/2 (6)	2/1 (7)	2/X (8)	2/2 (9)
1	5/31/2023 14:55	Latvia	VALMIERA FC	3 v 4	FK METTA / LU	1.66	19.00	70.00	3.60	7.80	15.00	18.00	18.00	11.00
2	5/31/2023 14:55	Czech Rep 3	FC SLOVACKO B	0 v 0	FK HODONIN	2.47	13.00	35.00	4.40	5.60	8.00	21.00	14.00	5.60
3	5/31/2023 14:55	Poland 4	CZARNI POLANIEC	0 v 0	KS WIAZOWNICA	3.35	12.00	27.00	5.40	5.00	6.00	25.00	12.00	3.95
4	5/31/2023 14:55	Algeria	RC ARBAA	11 v 9	ASO CHLEF	3.05	15.00	60.00	4.50	3.95	8.20	35.00	16.00	7.00
5	5/31/2023 14:55	Algeria	MAGRA	14 v 1	CR BELOUIZDAD	14.00	23.00	35.00	14.00	4.60	3.55	99.00	21.00	2.15
6	5/31/2023 14:55	Algeria	PARADOU	15 v 6	EL BAYADH	2.46	17.00	70.00	4.00	4.30	11.00	30.00	18.00	9.60
7	5/31/2023 14:55	Finland Cup	AC OULU	0 v 0	HAKA VALKEAKOSKI	3.00	13.00	35.00	4.80	4.70	6.80	24.00	13.00	4.80
8	5/31/2023 15:25	Czech Rep 3	MFK VITKOVICE	0 v 0	SK UNICOV	13.00	21.00	18.00	20.00	9.20	3.50	90.00	22.00	1.51
9	5/31/2023 15:25	Finland Cup	FC KTP KOTKA	0 v 0	IF GNISTAN	2.08	14.00	45.00	4.00	6.00	10.00	20.00	15.00	7.40
10	5/31/2023 15:25	Finland Cup	TAMPEREEN ILVES	0 v 0	KAPA KAPYLAN PALLO	1.83	16.00	60.00	3.70	6.40	13.00	20.00	17.00	9.80
11	5/31/2023 15:25	Finland Cup	FC JAZZ	0 v 0	VASA IFK	2.20	13.00	40.00	4.20	5.60	9.60	20.00	14.00	6.80
12	5/31/2023 15:25	Finland Cup	JAPS	0 v 0	EKENAS	2.85	13.00	29.00	5.00	5.60	6.80	22.00	13.00	4.50
13	5/31/2023 15:55	Armenia	FC SHIRAK GYUMRI	7 v 9	FC NOAH YEREVAN	3.65	13.00	35.00	5.20	4.00	5.80	30.00	13.00	4.30
14	5/31/2023 15:55	Georgia 2	DINAMO-2 TBILISI	6 v 3	SIONI BOLNISI	3.80	12.00	24.00	6.00	5.40	5.40	26.00	12.00	3.30
15	5/31/2023 15:55	Bulgaria	FK SPARTAK 1918 VARNA	6 v 5	FK SEPTEMVRI SOFIA	3.10	14.00	35.00	5.00	5.20	7.60	26.00	14.00	5.40
16	5/31/2023 15:55	Bulgaria	BOTEV VRATSA	1 v 4	FK HEBAR PAZARDZHIK	7.80	17.00	29.00	9.20	4.60	4.20	60.00	16.00	2.65
17	5/31/2023 15:55	Bulgaria	BEROE STARA	2 v 3	PIRIN BLAGOEVRAD	2.85	16.00	50.00	4.40	4.40	8.60	30.00	16.00	7.20
18	5/31/2023 15:55	Egypt	NATIONAL BANK EGYPT	13 v 16	EL DAKLYEH	3.05	15.00	60.00	4.50	4.00	8.20	35.00	16.00	7.00
19	5/31/2023 16:55	Sweden 2	LANDSKRONA	8 v 9	TRELLEBORGS	3.10	14.00	35.00	5.20	5.20	7.60	26.00	14.00	5.20
20	5/31/2023 16:55	Sweden 2	GEFLE IF	11 v 7	SUNDSVALL	3.95	13.00	30.00	6.00	4.90	6.20	30.00	13.00	4.20
21	5/31/2023 16:55	Sweden 2	BRAGE	12 v 6	OSTERSUNDS	3.45	14.00	35.00	5.40	4.90	6.80	29.00	14.00	4.90
22	5/31/2023 16:55	Sweden 2	UTSIKTENS BK	1 v 13	OREBRO	3.45	14.00	35.00	5.40	4.90	6.80	28.00	14.00	4.90
23	5/31/2023 16:55	Algeria	BISKRA	12 v 2	CONSTANTINE	5.40	16.00	45.00	6.20	3.50	5.00	50.00	16.00	4.00
24	5/31/2023 16:55	Algeria	ES SETIF	4 v 13	JS KABYLIE	3.00	16.00	60.00	4.40	3.95	8.20	35.00	17.00	7.40
25	5/31/2023 16:55	Algeria	ORAN	10 v 16	HB CHELGHOUIM LAID	1.53	30.00	99.00	3.40	8.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	27.00
26	5/31/2023 16:55	Turkey 2	EYUPSPOR	0 v 0	BODRUMSPOR	2.95	14.00	40.00	4.80	5.20	8.00	26.00	15.00	5.80
27	5/31/2023 17:25	U20 World Cup	COLOMBIA	0 v 0	SLOVAKIA	1.98	20.00	80.00	3.75	6.20	14.00	25.00	21.00	12.00
28	5/31/2023 17:25	U20 World Cup	BRAZIL	0 v 0	TUNISIA	1.42	40.00	99.00	3.45	11.00	40.00	27.00	35.00	30.00
29	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL ADALAH FC	14 v 10	AL ETTIFAQ	2.28	14.00	40.00	4.10	5.60	9.00	21.00	14.00	6.40
30	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL KHALEEJ SAHAT FC	15 v 11	ABHA CLUB	2.17	15.00	45.00	3.95	5.60	9.60	21.00	15.00	7.20
31	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL WEHDA	12 v 13	AL FAYHA FC	4.20	13.00	25.00	6.20	4.90	5.20	29.00	12.00	3.25
32	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL HILAL (KSA)	3 v 9	AL RAED FC	1.51	21.00	90.00	3.55	9.00	20.00	18.00	20.00	14.00
33	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL ITTIHAD JEDDAH	1 v 8	AL TAI	1.56	20.00	80.00	3.55	8.40	18.00	19.00	20.00	13.00
34	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL NASSR	2 v 6	AL FATEH	1.60	20.00	80.00	3.55	8.00	17.00	19.00	20.00	12.00
35	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	AL TAAWOUN	5 v 16	AL BATIN	1.96	16.00	50.00	3.75	6.20	11.00	20.00	16.00	8.40
36	5/31/2023 17:55	Saudi Arabia	DAMAC	7 v 4	AL SHABAB FC	6.60	14.00	19.00	9.40	6.20	4.20	40.00	14.00	2.18
37	5/31/2023 18:25	Egypt	MOKAWLOON AL ARAB	5 v 11	ISMAILY SC	3.80	15.00	45.00	5.20	3.70	6.80	40.00	15.00	5.40
38	5/31/2023 18:55	UEFA Europa League	SEVILLA	0 v 0	AS ROMA	4.50	15.00	45.00	5.80	3.90	6.20	40.00	15.00	4.80
39	5/31/2023 20:55	U20 World Cup	ARGENTINA	0 v 0	NIGERIA	2.21	17.00	60.00	4.10	6.20	11.00	23.00	17.00	8.60
40	5/31/2023 20:55	U20 World Cup	ENGLAND	0 v 0	ITALY	3.20	15.00	45.00	4.80	4.60	7.40	30.00	15.00	5.80



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Rodney Michael helps fire FK Mornar to play-off win

Sierra Leone attacking the Montenegrin league. Midfielder, Rodney Michael, was on the firing club in February opened his end, scoring his first goal and account in the 65th minute just rendering an assist as his FK after he made another assist in Mornar secured a 2-0 first-leg helping Milivoje Raičević score playoff victory over FK Berane in their opening goal of the match.



The win was a crucial victory for Michael and his side as they strived to stay in the top flight and Mornar is safe for now as the battle to avoid the drop zone. Michael and his side will face FK Berane again in the second leg of the playoff final on Saturday.

Paris Olympics torch relay will involve 10,000 runners



After the flame is lit in the traditional ceremony in Olympia, Greece, it will arrive by sea in Marseille aboard the three-master Belem on May 8.

From there it will travel across France on its way to the Olympic opening ceremony in the capital on July 26.

There has been speculation that the Olympic flame will be placed on the Eiffel Tower, but the president of the organising committee, Tony Estanguet, told a press conference the final destination had not been

decided. "The Eiffel Tower has not been decided as the lighting location for the cauldron," he said.

A novelty this time is "collective relays", which could be groups of up to 24 people, with one carrying the torch.

There will be 3,000 collective and 7,000 individual torchbearers, including equal numbers of men and women aged 15 and over.

Each torchbearer will carry the flame for around 4 minutes over a distance of 200 metres.

A third of the torchbearers will be selected by the organising committee and the sports bodies, another third by relay sponsors Coca-Cola and French bank BPCE, another third by other Olympic partners, and the final 10 percent by the regions hosting the relay.

The International Olympic Committee forbids elected officials

and religious figures carrying the flame.

Some French departments refused to take part, deeming the 180,000-euro (\$193,000) cost prohibitive.

The organisers said there would be "an itinerant bubble" of security around the flame provided by the French gendarmes, police and local security forces.

The Paralympic torch relay, which will arrive in Paris on August 28 for the opening of the Paralympic Games, will involve 1,000 torchbearers, and will be shorter.

The record for most torch bearers is 20,000 ahead of the Beijing summer Games in 2008. That relay passed through 19 countries, where it was carried by more than 1,300 bearers, before reaching China. It covered a total of 85,000 miles on its 130-day journey.

For the last Summer Olympics in Japan in 2021, the Olympic torch relay was banned from public thoroughfares in many departments, including Tokyo, because of Covid. For the same reason the relay ahead of the 2022 Winter Games was reduced to three stages in Beijing.

At the London Olympics in 2013, 8,000 people relayed the flame.