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**ALSO INSIDE**

**Sierra Leone female  
photographer bags  
'Best in Fest'  
award in Kigali**



# New Chief Minister to tackle bottlenecks within MDAs

## Pathologist says Providence School teacher's death was homicidal



Deceased, Gillis Edward Ola Johnson



Chief Minister, David Sengeh

By Jariatu S Bangura

The newly appointed Chief Minister, Dr. David M. Sengeh, has assured that after his approval by Parliament, he will tackle the bottlenecks existing between ministers and their deputies and by extension in all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). Whilst responding to questions from Members

of the Appointment Committee in Parliament on how he plans to address perennial issues between ministers and their deputies, David Sengeh said he had noticed that there are bottlenecks in governance, citing none collaboration as one of the key issues that he will focus on in his capacity as chief minister.

Cont. Page 2



## Sierra Leone passport top in the MRU

## QNET issues strong statement against fraud, misrepresentation

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## LOCAL NEWS

By Yusufu S. Bangura

**G**overnment consultant pathologist, Dr. Simeon Owizz Koroma, attached to the Connaught Teaching Hospital Mortuary, has on Friday, July 21st, testified before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of the Pademba Road Court No. 1 on the murder of Gillis Edward Ola Johnson, former teacher of Providence International High School.

He said the teacher's death was as a result of acute hemorrhagic shock due to profuse and torrential bleeding as a consequence of homicidal cut throat which completely severed both right and left jugular arteries.

Dr. Owizz said he is a qualified medical officer specialised in medicine, clinical and forensic pathologist and that he has been a pathologist for over 40 years.

He recalled on the 15th July 2023 when he was asked by the Sierra Leone Police to perform an autopsy on the deceased-60-year-old Gillis Edward Ola Johnson.

He testified the manner and mood relating to the death of the deceased was homicidal, adding that the clinical summary correlated well with the autopsy report.

He said the deceased was identified by his relatives and after the autopsy he wrote a report and issued out a death certificate on the cause of death and gave the original certificate to the deceased relatives and a copy to the Sierra Leone Police.

The autopsy report and cause of death certificate was tendered in court to form part of the evidence.

Pathologist Dr. Owizz Koroma said the deceased body was brought to the Connaught Hospital to ascertain the precise cause of death. The witness further said during the autopsy he found out that the deceased body was physically fit and other organs were all intact at the time of the incident.

Dr. Owizz further said during the autopsy, there were no pre-existing disease processes to cause the deceased to collapse suddenly or to cause his death on that fateful day.

During cross examination by defense

counsel, Eddie Teddy Koroma on behalf of the accused, Dr. Owizz said the deceased died following a brutal, horrific and fatal wounds he received on his neck during the alleged incident which was a barbaric and frenzied attacked executed with maximum intensity.

He also confirmed that at the time of the incident, the deceased was physically fit and that he was 5ft 8inches in height with an estimated weight of 70kg.

He continued that based on his experience, the deceased was not attacked by a group of people and that there was no finger print



Deceased, Gillis Edward Ola Johnson

## QNET issues strong statement against fraud, misrepresentation

**Q**NET, a global lifestyle and wellness company utilizing a direct selling business model, categorically dissociates itself from any fraudulent activities and individuals misrepresenting the company. Recent media reports in Sierra Leone about the arrest of certain individuals accused of defrauding others are deeply concerning. It is crucial to clarify that these individuals are acting independently and do not represent the values and business principles of QNET. As a responsible corporate entity, we are open to collaborating with law enforcement and security agencies to address this matter promptly.

Recently, QNET cooperated with judicial authorities to put an end to the deceptive practices of three individuals in Freetown. They were obtaining money under false pretenses and fraudulently misrepresenting QNET. This decisive action demonstrates our commitment to combat the menace of fraud and misrepresentation.

Mr Biram Fall, Regional General Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, reiterated our ongoing collaboration with security and judicial authorities to address any misrepresentations of QNET. He stated: "We are determined to take strong actions against individuals engaged in false and fraudulent representations for personal gains. It is important to reiterate that QNET is

not a Ponzi or investment scheme, nor are we a travel agency. We do not promise fixed salaries to our Independent Representatives (IRs) or distributors."

Mr Fall added, "We are not involved in any alleged acts of fake promises or travel assistance. We will never ask for money from anyone to provide job opportunities or promise travel assistance. Our business model is based on direct selling, where individuals can register as an IR on our e-commerce platform and promote our products. Successful IRs earn commissions based on their sales of QNET products to new IRs and customers."

QNET strongly encourages individuals to report any misuse of the QNET name, including false promises of fixed income jobs, overseas travels, investment returns, or any other outrageous claims, to [network.integrity@qnet.net](mailto:network.integrity@qnet.net).

In conclusion, QNET remains steadfast in upholding transparency, integrity, and ethical business practices. QNET stands united against fraud and will continue working diligently to protect our valued customers and IRs. QNET's dedication to providing genuine opportunities and quality products remains unwavering.

### About QNET

QNET is one of Asia leading direct-selling companies offering a wide range of health,

test done on the deceased because he is not an expert in that area, adding that he could not tell who committed the act.

However, Magistrate Ngegba remanded the accused to the Male Correctional Centre at Pademba Road and adjourned the matter to Thursday 27th July 2023 for further hearing.

State prosecutor, Umu Sumaray stated that the 17-year-old pupil, Mohamed Arun Conteh, was charged to court on one count of murder contrary to law and that on Saturday 11th March, he murdered his teacher at 54 Victoria Street in Freetown.

wellness and lifestyle products that enable people to live better lives. QNET's grass-roots business model, fueled by e-commerce, has helped empower millions of entrepreneurs in more than 100 countries worldwide.

Since its inception 25 years ago, the company has operated a unique business model that allows individuals, including women, to start their businesses and earn an income by selling the company's products.

QNET is headquartered in Hong Kong and has a presence in more than 25 countries worldwide through subsidiaries, branch offices, agency partnerships, and franchisees. QNET is a member of the Direct Selling Association in several countries, the Hong Kong Health Food Association and the Health Supplements Industry Association of Singapore, among others.

QNET is also active in sports sponsorships around the world. Some more prominent partnerships include being the Direct Selling Partner of Manchester City Football Club and the African Club League Championships of CAF. For more information, please visit QNET at: <https://www.qnet.net/>

## New Chief Minister to tackle bottlenecks within MDAs

From Cover

"My job is to make sure that individuals come onboard to push forward the development of the country and also make sure to achieve the agenda of the President," he said.

He said based on his experience in his previous position as Basic Education Minister wherein he had two deputies, but that he was able to assign responsibilities to each of them without interfering into their work.

He said he only provided leadership to ensure things were done as required.

David Sengh said he was able to manage his deputies well without any problem and that he will implement same in his capacity as chief minister, so that work will be done effectively without any biases attached.

He assured that the deputy ministers will not only serve as representatives whenever their bosses are not around, but will be given explicit roles to play in all MDAs across governance.

He also assured that he will have time to conduct on-the-spot visit to not only the schools, but also other sectors including health, agriculture, mining, and fisheries to get first-hand information and try to



address issues that will arise.

On the issue of documents not signed on time by MDAs, Dr. Sengh assured that they will try to introduce digitalisation mechanism wherein all documents brought in to MDAs are digitalise within the stipulated timeframe and sent to the right offices for signature.

He also assured that he will encourage his colleague ministers to do the right thing rather than holding people's documents unnecessarily.



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# LOCAL NEWS

By IPRP Communications Unit

## IPRP says free education project lacks procurement guidelines

The Independent Procurement Review Panel (IPRP) has on 17th July 2023, in a ruling noted that the evaluation committee of the procuring entity under the Free Education Project / Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School (MBSSE) did not observe stringent procurement guidelines, thereby allowing bidding institutions to progress from technical to financial evaluation stage though certain criterion were not full filed or met.

The Panel further advised the procuring entity to endeavour to do due diligence during their evaluation of bids thereby allowing only those that are qualified to progress from one stage to the other, to avoid misperception.

This is after a complainant filed by Grace Mack Engineering and Construction Services to the Independent Procurement Review Panel (IPRP) on alleged Procurement Irregularities in the procurement process.

Based on the summary of facts, the Free Education Secretariat advertised a bid in September, 2022 in local newspapers, inviting Competitive Expression of Interest (EOI) for construction of classrooms, Admin Blocks and Wash Facilities in Kono District lot 10.

The appellant submitted a bid on 22nd December, 2022 expressing interest to construct classrooms, Admin Blocks, as well as Wash Facilities.

After the expression of interest, the Appellant was invited to a bid opening by the procurement committee of the Respondent. Bids were opened in the

presence of bidders.

During the bid opening, the Complainant alleged that Yorma Engineering and Construction Services did not include Power of Attorney which was a conditional precedent to be full filled.

The Appellant furthered that his entity complied with the said requirement, and after the evaluation process, the respondent in a letter dated on 28th April, 2023 informing the appellant that his entity was unsuccessful in the evaluation process.

The IPRP held a day hearing providing opportunity for both parties in the said matter and the panel holds that:

The Appellant has no case as he flouted the instructions of the ITB and section 21 (1), 21(5) of the Public Procurement Act of 2016.

The Panel finds that the Power of Attorney was included in the bid data sheet and further finds that the Power of Attorney was not a condition for disqualification of bidder.

The appellant had issues with understanding the technical language used in the bid document which led to his inadvertent non compliance with simple instructions especially the aspect of bid instruction that requires bidder to have Higher National Diploma as a qualification for core staff instead of Ordinary National Diploma which the appellant submitted.

The Panel orders that the previous winner be awarded the contract.



Chairman of the Independent Procurement Review Panel Dr. Emmanuel Saffa Abdulai

## ACC assures fiercer, stronger fight against corruption

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Commissioner Francis Ben Kaifala Esq. has stated that he will ensure that the fight against corruption in the country will be fiercer and stronger in the next five years.

The Commissioner was speaking on Thursday July 20, 2023 at a Management Retreat held at The Place Resort, Tokeh, in the Western Rural District, where he described the ACC team as generals in the Military, stating that they are no bad soldiers but there are bad Generals.

He said it is the Generals in the military that develop strategies for a war to be won and as generals for the fight against corruption; they should plan well so that they do not fail the people of Sierra Leone and the people that they are leading.

He said the ACC is at the centre of governance activities in the country and the Commission should ensure that the Government of President Julius Maada Bio succeeds in ensuring a prosperous

Sierra Leone.

He said the retreat was meant for the management of the Commission to develop a solid strategy that will ensure that there is value for money and efficiency in the work of the Commission, noting their plan is to make massive improvement, far more than they have done in the last five years. The ACC Commissioner said 'they are currently sitting at 110 in the Transparency International Index, and that his aim for the next five years is to take the country to double digits in the Index.

He encouraged his team to be innovative and open to new things that will make the fight against corruption better.

Also speaking at the event, the lead facilitator for the Retreat, Dr. Modupeh Taylor-Pearce said his objective is to ensure that the ACC becomes far better than it is now as an institution, noting that disciplined leadership should be at the centre of the operations of the Commission.



## LOCAL NEWS

By Alfred Koroma

Sierra Leone passport has been ranked 74 in the 2023 Henley Passport Index Report, topping other Mano River Union Countries.

The ranking shows Sierra Leone passport is stronger than its neighboring countries and most other African and Asian countries, including Nigeria, Senegal, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Lebanon and India, but weaker than Ghana, Gambia and Morocco etc.

The country improved 10 places up from 83 in 2022. Cote d'Ivoire is next to Sierra Leone with second in the MRU sub region, ranking 79 while the Guinean passport is ranked 80 and the Liberian passport 87.

Singapore tops the list with visa-free access to of 192 countries around the world, repositioning Japan which held the top position in the previous index. Singapore is followed by Germany, Italy and Spain, which have tie on 190 visa-free destinations.

The Henley Passport Index ranks global passports according to the number of

destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. The Index includes 199 different passports and 227 different travel destinations. The ranking is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) which has the reputation of being the world's largest and most accurate database of travel information.

According to the latest index published last week, Sierra Leoneans can now travel to 67 countries without a visa or get a visa on arrival.

The country ranks second in West Africa behind Gambia which ranks the highest in the region with a global ranking of 72. This is followed by Cape Verde (75), Ghana (76), Benin (78), Burkina Faso (79), Cote d'Ivoire (79), Guinea (80), Senegal (81), Togo (81), Niger (82), Guinea Bissau (83), Mali (83), Liberia (87), and Nigeria (91).

The Indian Ocean Island nation of Mauritius remains at the top in Africa, ranked 29 globally. With their passport,



Mauritius citizens can travel to 148 countries visa-free. South Africa (52), Botswana (60), Namibia (64), Lesotho (65), eSwatini (67), Kenya (68), Malawi (69), Tanzania (70), Tunisia (71), and Zambia (71), ranks among the top 10 in Africa.

Somalia, is positioned 100 globally with 35 travelling destinations. That's closer to Afghanistan which is at the bottom of the index, whose nationals can only travel to 27 countries visa-free, worse than Yemen, Pakistan, Syria and Iraq.

## Sierra Leone female photographer bags 'Best in Fest' award in Kigali

26-year-old Banda Musu Hickmatu Bintu Leigh, a photographer, has returned from Rwanda with the 'Best in Fest' award for the photography work she presented at the Women Deliver 2023 Conference that ended last Thursday in Kigali.



Banda Musu Hickmatu Bintu Leigh

According to the Conferences' website, "a tradition of Women Deliver Conferences since 2010, this year's Arts & Film Festival features over 160 inspiring and informative pieces of creative content of all genres submitted by students and independent filmmakers from diverse regions, UN/NGO agencies, and Oscar/Emmy-winning production companies.

Her work, she said, depicts a sad reality that women's voices have been silenced, and they often go unseen in various aspects of society. "The patriarchal system has profoundly impacted women's ability to express themselves and be heard freely," she emphasised and stressed that this has led to women being undervalued and underrepresented in many fields.

A visibly happy Hickmatu said she was overwhelmed with mixed emotions when she heard her name announced at such a physical and online global audience of

about 7000 participants. "I have never won anything in my life," she disclosed.

Furthermore, she said she was excited about the award because "I have been trying so hard to be seen, to be heard and to get societal recognition for the work that I do." She hopes the award will inspire many young Sierra Leonean girls to do what they are passionate about.

Hickmatu holds a BSc in Public Health from Njala University, and her work is centred around Sierra Leonean women, sharing their stories and supporting

## Man in court for alleged Nle 200, 000 overseas travel scam

By Yusufu S. Bangura

31-year-old James Baimba who identified himself as a student from an unknown institution, on Friday 21st July, made his first appearance before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of Pademba Road Court No.1 for allegedly defrauding one Mohamed Ibrahim Conteh.

The accused was charged on two counts of conspiracy to defraud and causing money to be paid by false pretences contrary to Law.

It was alleged that the accused on diverse dates between 1st February 2021 and 29th March, 2022, in Freetown, with intent to defraud, conspired with other persons unknown to defraud Mohamed Ibrahim Conteh the sum of Nine Thousand Three Hundred United States Dollars, equivalent to the sum of Two Hundred and Thirteen Thousand New Leones, on the pretext that he will provide a visa and facilitate his travelling to the United States of America, knowing same to be false.

It was further alleged that the accused on the same date and place unlawfully caused the complainant to pay to one Osman Koroma the

sum of Nine Thousand Three Hundred United States Dollars equivalent to Two Hundred and Thirteen Thousand New Leones (NLE 213) as payment for a visa and facilitation fee for travelling to the United States of America, knowing same to be false.

With both the prosecution and defence counsel present, the charges were read to the accused with no plea taken.

At that stage, the prosecutor asked the magistrate to give him short adjourned date so that he would inform the complainant about the matter.

Before the date, defence counsel, Mohamed Golfa applied for bail for and on behalf of the accused on the grounds that he will not interfere with the prosecution witness and that he has a fixed abode with reliable sureties who were willing and ready to enter in his recognisance.

He further cited Section 79 (2) and (3) of the Criminal Procedure Act No.32 of 1965.

But the presiding Magistrate denied the accused bail, and ordered that he be remanded at the Male Correctional Centre on Pademba Road in Freetown, while he adjourned the matter to 28th July 2023.

systems. She said, "My photo series are almost always of Sierra Leonean women just as they are – forever evolving to supersede local and global stereotypes of 'their limits'."

She was also thankful to Purposeful organization in Sierra Leone for making it possible to attend the Conference. "I almost did not make it to Kigali because I had no means of paying my airfare and other expenses, but thankfully, I reached out to

someone at the organization, and they came to my rescue. For this, I am forever grateful."

The Women Deliver Arts and Film Festival, where Hickmatu had the opportunity to showcase her work, is a special feature of the Women Deliver 2023 Conference. "These finalists tell the stories and show the faces behind Women Deliver's mission of improving the health, rights, and wellbeing of girls and women," according to the website created for the conference.



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**LOCAL NEWS****World safety conference to focus on safety, efficiency**

By Hassan G. Koroma

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has announced that the inaugural World Safety and Operations Conference (WSOC) would take place in Hanoi, Vietnam and the conference will focus on driving Safer and More Efficient Operations.

The conference which is scheduled to take place from 19 to 21 September 2023, with the theme: 'Leadership in Action: Driving Safer and more Efficient Operations' will bring together the previous cabin Ops Safety Conference, the IATA Safety Conference and the Emergency Response Planning and Aircraft Recovery Forums.

Speaking about the conference, IATA's Director General, Willie Walsh, said the borders are open, airports are busy, and flights are full and as they rebuild airline networks and balance sheets, it is vital that all aviation stakeholders maintain the same strong commitment to safe operations that they exercised during the pandemic years.

He said the WSOC is the forum to discuss and debate today's challenges and opportunities to keep the industry on a trajectory of improving safety and



more efficient operations.

President and Chief Executive Officer of Vietnam Airlines, Le Hong Ha, said safety is aviation's highest priority and

is the cornerstone of all Vietnam Airlines' operations and practices, stating that they are excited to be the host airline for this important inaugural conference, bringing together cutting-

edge leaders, regulators and a larger global community to address key topics relating to safety and infrastructure to ensure stronger safety operations in the wider industry.

**NOTIFICATION FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESHIA) STUDY REPORT FOR SUNSHINE MINING COMPANY LIMITED LARGE-SCALE RUTILE AND ZIRCON MINING AT LOWER BANTA AND BAGURWA CHIEFDOMS, MOYAMABA DISTRICT SOUTHERN SIERRA LEONE**

In conformity with the **Sierra Leone Environmental Protection Agency Act 2022**, this advert serves to notify interested and/or affected persons/parties of the **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE** on the Environmental, Social and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA) Study Report conducted for Sunshine Mining Company Limited.

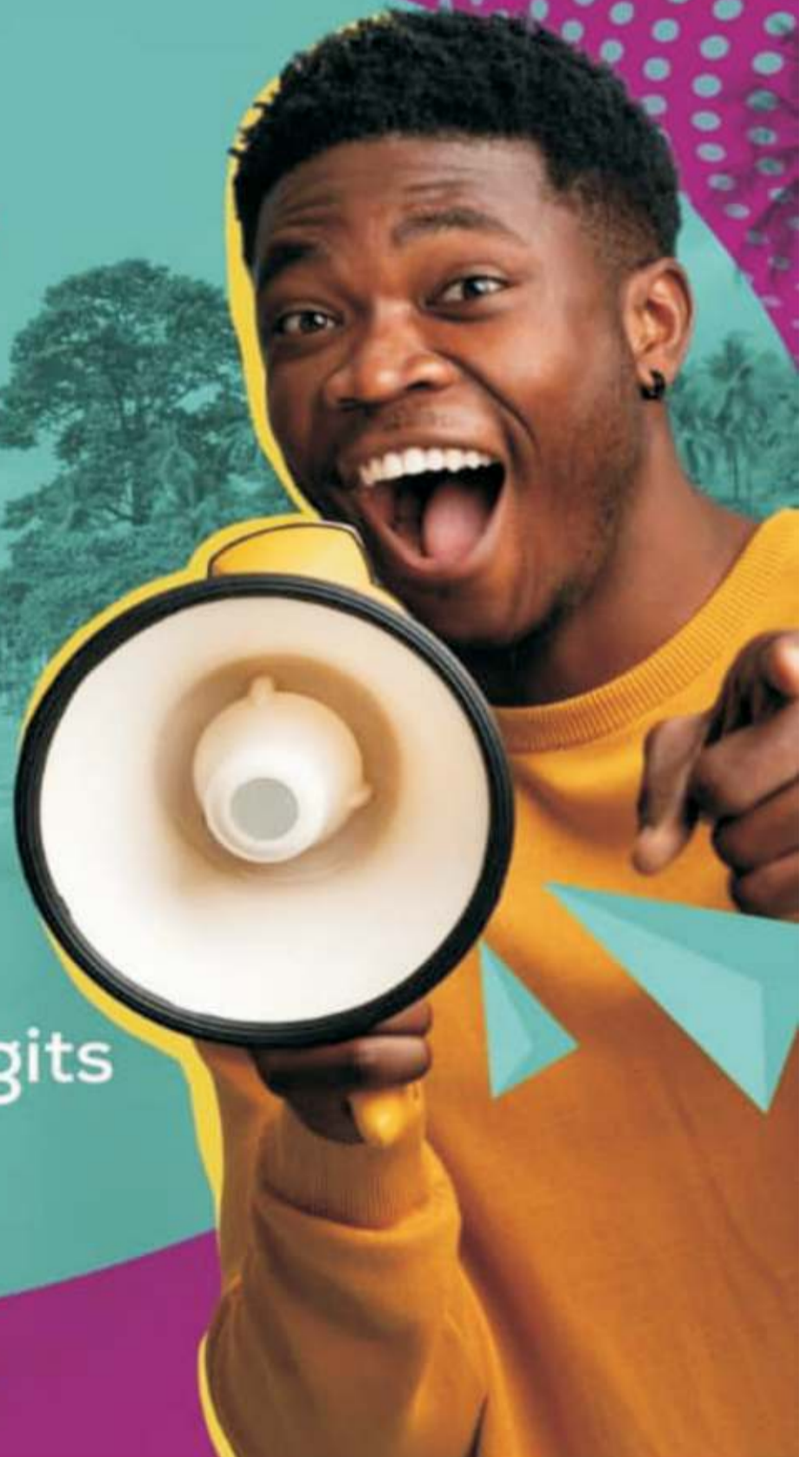
The Environmental, Social and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA) report has been submitted to the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA-SL)**, prior to presentation to the affected and interested stakeholders during the public disclosure processes for discussion.

Environment Protection Agency-SL, Environmental Management Services (SL) Limited, and Sunshine Mining Company Limited are proposing to carry out a stakeholder engagement process at the following locations and dates:



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# Call for Applications for a National Consultant

## Mapping of blended finance to support financial intermediaries and FINTECHs firms in Sierra Leone

Deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) with financial support from the European Union (EU) is implementing a four-year project "Supporting Informal Enterprises Transition Towards Sustainable Growth and Formalization in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Regions". The project aims to unlock the potential of the informal economy for inclusive growth and transformation by developing and supporting the implementation of favourable regulatory conditions and relevant incentives for businesses to formalize. UNDP Sierra Leone is seeking the services of an experienced expert to undertake investment intelligence and identify and map out sources of finance to support financial intermediaries and FINTECHs firms targeting the informal enterprise sector in Sierra Leone.

The assignment will be executed in 18 working days. The consultant will work closely and coordinate with the Sierra Leone UNDP Sierra Leone Country Office and Project Management Unit (PMU) team based in Pretoria. During the execution of the assignment, consultations will be done with key project partners, the European Delegation to Sierra Leone, and the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

### Who Is Eligible to Apply?

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- **Must be a Sierra Leonean National**
- **Possess a minimum of a master's degree in banking and finance, microfinance, development finance, development economics, business management, or a related field**
- **Have 10 or more years of professional experience in the financial sector of an African country**
- **Have practical consulting experience in the development of financial products**
- **Work experience with financial institutions**

such as banks, microfinance, and insurance companies.

Only one submission per person is allowed. Once the application is complete and submitted, revised versions of the application will not be accepted.

The deadline for applications is **06:59 pm on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023**. Proposal should be submitted directly in the portal no later than indicated deadline.

Any request for clarification must be sent in writing via messaging functionality in the portal. UNDP will respond in writing including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry.

**Bidders can download the bid documents from the UNDP Procurement website at:** <https://procurement-notices.undp.org/>

Offers must be submitted directly in the system following this link: <http://supplier.quantum.partneragencies.org> using the profile you may have in the portal. In case you have never registered before, you can register a profile using the registration link shared via the procurement notice and following the instructions in guides available in UNDP website: <https://www.undp.org/procurement/business/resources-for-bidders>. Do not create a new profile if you already have one. Use the forgotten password feature in case you do not remember the password or the username from previous registration.

If you already have a supplier profile, please login to the [Supplier Portal](#), then search for the negotiation using the reference number **UNDP-SLE-00033**, following the instructions in the [user guide](#).

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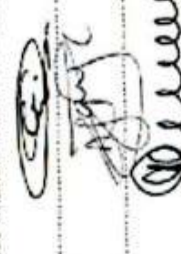
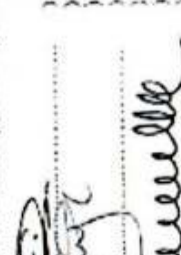
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Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022		Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021	
<b>Statement of financial position</b> <i>In thousands of (new) Lesotho</i>			
	Note	2022	2021
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and balances with banks	16	273,821	75,754
Loans and advances to customers	17	147,450	65,161
Investment securities	18	726,777	404,265
Property and equipment	19	54,798	25,803
Intangible assets	20	7,871	9,715
Tax receivables	14b	809	735
Deferred tax asset	14c	28,828	5,552
Other assets	21		
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>1,240,354</b>	<b>586,965</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Deposit from banks	22b	368,309	48,827
Deposit from customers	22a	656,290	352,274
Deferred tax liability	14c	151	326
Other liabilities	23	51,732	61,490
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>1,076,482</b>	<b>462,917</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Issued capital	24	89,561	89,561
Statutory reserves	25c	37,110	17,216
Retained earnings	25d	36,881	16,986
Other reserves	25a	320	285
<b>Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Bank</b>		<b>163,872</b>	<b>124,748</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>1,240,354</b>	<b>586,965</b>
These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on <b>20-01-2023</b>			
		Directors	
			
		Directors	

Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022		Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021	
<b>Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income</b> <i>In thousands of (new) Lesotho</i>			
	Note	2022	2021
Interest income	8	104,270	56,651
Interest expense	8	(30,124)	(15,992)
<b>Net interest income</b>		<b>74,146</b>	<b>40,659</b>
Net fees and commission income	9	19,397	8,081
Net trading income	10	10,112	5,891
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>103,655</b>	<b>54,631</b>
Other income	11	2,378	3,505
Net impairment loss	12c	(204)	(210)
Personnel expenses	12	(5,067)	(6,223)
Depreciation and amortisation	12b	(7,137)	(6,014)
Other expenses	13	(40,602)	(23,070)
<b>Profit before income tax</b>		<b>53,023</b>	<b>24,615</b>
Income tax expense	14a	(13,234)	(6,115)
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>39,789</b>	<b>18,500</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income, items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss</b>			
Re-measurements of defined benefit asset		47	(39)
Relaxed tax		(12)	10
<b>Other comprehensive income net of tax</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>(29)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>39,824</b>	<b>18,501</b>
The notes on pages 16 to 93 are an integral part of these financial statements			

Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022		Access Bank (SL) Limited Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021	
<b>Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income (continued)</b> <i>In thousands of (new) Lesotho</i>			
	Note	2022	2021
Profit attributable to Equity holders of the Bank		39,789	18,530
Profit for the year		39,789	18,530
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to:</b>			
Equity holders of the Bank		39,824	18,501
Total comprehensive income for the year		39,824	18,501
These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on <b>20-01-2023</b>			
		Directors	
			
		Directors	

**Report of the Directors (continued)**  
Approval of the financial statements

The financial statements of the Bank as indicated above were approved by the Board of Directors on **20-01-2023**

 Director

 Director

**Report of the Independent Auditors' report to the Shareholders of Access Bank (SL) Limited (continued)**  
Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the business activities within the Bank to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Bank's audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Report on other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**  
In accordance with the requirements of Section 13(2) of the Banking Act of Sierra Leone we report that:

- We were able to obtain all the information and explanation required for the efficient performance of our duties; and
- The Bank's transactions were within its powers; and
- The Bank has complied with the relevant provisions of the Banking Act of Sierra Leone.

The Engagement Partner on the audit resulting in the Independent Auditor's report is Derrick L. Kowoloy.

 Chartered Accountant

Date: **20 March 2023**

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# VACANCY NOTICE

**BCM is currently seeking for experienced Candidates for the following positions:**

**HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC x 10**

Qualification and Experience:

- Certificate /Diploma in Mechanical Engineering/ Trade test Certificate
- Minimum five years' experience in servicing heavy duty equipment (CAT), preferably in mining operations.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to repair components
- Able to analyze information and evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems.
- Knowledge in MS word, Excel Hydraulic system, Pneumatic, Cat SIS, Schematic reading and ET will be an added advantage
- Able to analyze information and evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems
- Holder of heavy-duty Sierra Leone driving license
- Performs all the tasks strictly adhering to company safety rules and regulations

**Auto Electrician x 1**

Qualification and Experience:

- Certificate /Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering/ Trade test Certificate
- Minimum five years' experience in servicing heavy industrial equipment, preferably in mining operations.
- Ability to work on CAT, Komatsu, and Toyota equipment

- Knowledge in MS Word, Excel Hydraulic system, Pneumatic, Cat SIS, Schematic reading and ET will be an added advantage
- Able to analyze information and evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems
- Holder of a heavy-duty Sierra Leone driving license
- Perform all tasks strictly adhering to company safety rules and regulations.
- Knowledge in high voltage equipment is an added advantage

**Welder (1 Person)**

Qualification and Experience:

Diploma in Welding/ Trade test Certificate  
Minimum five years' experience in welding and plating, preferably in mining operations. Operate welding and plating equipment safely and to promote safe work habits  
Weld components in flat, vertical, or overhead positions  
Detect faulty operation of equipment or defective materials notify supervisors  
Operate manual or semi-automatic welding equipment to fuse metal segments, using processes like gas tungsten arc, gas metal arc, flux-cored arc, shielded metal arc.  
Recognize, set up, and also operate hand as well as power tools common to the welding trade.  
Lay out, position, align, and also secure parts assemblies prior to assembly, using straightedges, combination squares, calipers, and also rulers  
Analyze engineering drawings, specifications, sketches, work orders, and also material safety data sheets to plan layout, assembly, and also welding operations  
Weld separately or in combination, using aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, and also other alloys  
Determine required equipment welding methods, applying knowledge of metallurgy, geometry, and also welding techniques  
Mark or tag material with proper job number, piece marks, and also other identifying marks as required  
Prepare all material surfaces to be welded.  
Perform all the tasks strictly adhering to company safety rules and regulations.

Interested candidates are requested to forward application including updated CV's to the Human Resource Office, BCM Sierra Leone Ltd via Email: [bcmrecruitments1@gmail.com](mailto:bcmrecruitments1@gmail.com)

**OR to: Kingho Employment Office.**

**These positions can lead to career progressions within the Company for the right motivated person.**

**Qualified Women are encouraged to apply.**

**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for written and practical test.**

**Closing date for all applications is on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2023.**



## Human Rights Defenders Network-SL

**Job Vacancy:** External Consultancy  
**Supervisor:** Programs Manager  
**Starting Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023  
**Ending Date:** 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023  
**Duty Station:** 23 Rasmusson Street, Freetown  
**Located at:** HRDN-SL Secretariat

### ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW:

The Human Rights Defenders Network – Sierra Leone (HRDN-SL) is a coalition of human rights civil society organizations and individuals working for the protection and promotion of human rights in Sierra Leone. HRDN-SL was established in July 2013 pursuant to the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders in 1998 through technical support from the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) based in Geneva and is a member of the West Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (WAHRDN) based in Togo and the Pan African Human Rights Defenders Network based in Uganda.

The Network has a functional secretariat based in Freetown and liaises with regional focal secretariats and Districts Human Rights Defenders Networks (DHRDNs) on activities aimed at promoting and protecting HRDs rights in particular and the citizens in general. As a local Chapter, HRDN-SL seeks to promote the participation of human rights based civil society organizations to research, analyze and pursue strategic interventions through advocacy, campaign to promote and protect human rights defenders in Sierra Leone.

The Human Rights Defenders Network-Sierra Leone (HRDN-SL) with funding from the German government through the German Embassy is seeking to recruit a Consultant with significant experience in anti-corruption campaigns/advocacy, organizational planning and networking. He/she should be well-experienced and highly motivated in strategic programming and have an in-depth knowledge of and familiarity with the National Laws of Sierra Leone particularly the Anti-Corruption Act and UN and African human rights treaties and systems and related fields.

### About the Role

The Consultant will be responsible to give expert advice on combatting corruption using a human rights based approach. He/She will develop rollout strategies, and offer guidance to the network's anti-corruption drive. Establish linkages and engage the Anti-Corruption Commission of Sierra Leone and other Anti-Corruption institutions within and outside Sierra Leone.

### Minimum Requirements

- An advanced degree in development, human rights, administration or related discipline with at least 3 years' post-qualification experience as a Consultant;
- Detecting issues and investigating ways to resolve them;
- Advice or suggest improvements to achieve the objectives of the project;
- Strong strategic thinking, organizational development and leadership skills;
- Excellent communication (verbal and written) and public speaking skills;
- Demonstrated experience in campaign and advocacy particularly in human rights and corruption related initiatives;
- Experience managing staff in a fast-paced, challenging environment;
- Demonstrated ability to lead and work with a multi-cultural and multi-lingual team;
- Excellent language and proficiency in English.

### Terms and Conditions

1. Location: Freetown, with regular travels, mainly within Sierra Leone.
2. Salary: The position will offer a competitive salary (commensurate with experience) within HRDN-SL's salary scale.

### HOW TO APPLY:

Qualified and interested candidates are encouraged to send in their applications with their Curriculum Vitae or Resume, a motivation letter, and three references that are not related to the candidate, with their full contact details to the Programs Manager, Human Rights Defenders Network – Sierra Leone, 23 Rasmusson Street, Brookfields, Freetown. The deadline for the submission of all applications is by close of business on Friday, July 29, 2023. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



## Request for Proposals LTA for General Premises, Building and Electrical Maintenance Works

The United Nations Children's Fund invites tenders for Premises Maintenance, Building and Electrical Works 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.

The Tender Documents can be downloaded at the site below.

GENERAL PREMISES, BUILDING  
AND ELECTRICAL  
MAINTENANCE WORKS  
([ungm.org](http://ungm.org))

There will be a bid conference on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10.30 am at the UNICEF Freetown Conference Room.

The deadline for the submission of bids is at 10 am on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

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## INT'L SPORT

# Samuel Eto'o accused of match-fixing in Cameroon after 'helping second-division champions Victoria United achieve promotion

Barcelona legend Samuel Eto'o has been accused of match-fixing in Cameroon.

According to Camfoot, Eto'o, who is the president of the Cameroonian Football Federation (Fecafoot), allegedly promised to promote second division club Victoria United by manipulating matches.

Victoria United ended up getting promoted, with the federation ruling that the previous season's runner-up Stade de Bertoua was ineligible.

Recordings reportedly emerged in which Eto'o told Victoria's president Valentine Gwain, that he would help the team get promoted by manipulating referees.

Eto'o said: 'There are things we can do, but you have to be very discreet, brother.

'I haven't even had time to get home yet. I'm out, bro. I haven't had time to get home and work with the president (of the Cameroonian referee's association) because I can't call the refs directly and tell them to be careful. But I can work with the president.'

The conversation is said to have



Eto'o went on to explain the importance of having a good relationship with the president of the league.

He said: 'He has the power. From there, he with his commissions will be able to suspend even the president of the referees.

'Our club, Opopo, must go up to the first division, that is

our objective.'

Eto'o, who also played for Inter Milan and Chelsea, scored 56 goals in 114 caps for Cameroon.

He was elected as the president of Fecafoot in December 2021.

Mail Sport have reached out to Eto'o and the Cameroonian FA for comment. The story has also been reported by Mundo Deportivo and L'Equipe.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football>

happened after Victoria lost 1-0 in December 2022, with Gwain interrupting the game to complain about the officiating.

Eto'o was reportedly heard saying: 'Opopo (Victoria United's nickname) must go up to the first division. This is our goal (...) This is our Federation. Victoria United will go up.

'Stay calm, we will grant you the three points and we suspend the referee. But let me at least go back to Cameroon. He arrived on the 3rd (January) at night. So we'll see you in the office on the 4th. Anyway, I'm going to rule out and disqualify this referee'.

## Bruno Fernandes is CONFIRMED as Man United's new first-team captain

Bruno Fernandes has been named as the new captain of Manchester United, the club have confirmed.

Fernandes wore the armband in the prolonged absence of Harry Maguire last season, and Maguire revealed at the weekend that he has been stripped of the captaincy.

United confirmed on their pre-season tour of the US that Fernandes has been officially handed the role, and a statement read: 'Bruno Fernandes has been named as the new club captain of Manchester United. The Portuguese midfielder has already worn the armband for United on numerous occasions and Erik ten Hag has confirmed that he will now lead the team on a permanent basis.'

Fernandes became United's de facto captain last season when Maguire lost his place in the team for long periods, leading the team on 45 occasions. In fact, Fernandes made 37 starts in the Premier League compared to Maguire's nine.

Club sources say that Fernandes impressed manager Erik ten Hag with his leadership qualities, with or without the armband, due to his deep knowledge of the game and strength as a communicator.

The United boss is said to highly value Fernandes's inspirational qualities and passion on the pitch, even though it can be interpreted as petulance at times like when United were hammered 7-0 by Liverpool at Anfield in March.

Ten Hag deserves credit for bringing a number of leaders to Old Trafford since taking over last summer, including Casemiro, Lisandro Martinez and Christian Eriksen. He will rely on those players to support Fernandes, as well as veteran defender Raphael Varane.

But when it came to choosing a new captain, he was never likely to look beyond the Portugal star who has scored 64 goals and contributed 54 assists in 185 games for the club since joining from Sporting Lisbon in 2020 in a deal with up to £67.7million, and also won the Sir Matt Busby Player of the Year award twice.

Ten Hag was happy to let Maguire continue as captain when he arrived from Ajax, but the situation became increasingly awkward with the England defender dropping down the pecking order of centre-backs behind Varane, Martinez, Victor Lindelof and even left-back Luke Shaw.

When United won the Carabao Cup in



February, Maguire came off the bench in the 88th minute to lift the trophy. He didn't even get on the pitch in the FA Cup final three months later, even though Martinez was out through injury.

Maguire faces an uncertain future at United and even more so after losing the captaincy, with Jonny Evans' return to Old Trafford on a short-term contract providing the club with a ready-made replacement if the 30-year-old moves on.

United will listen to offers in the region of £40m for Maguire after Ten Hag informed the player of his decision to change captain when he reported for pre-season training on Sunday.

Maguire posted on social media, saying: 'After discussions with the manager today he has informed me he is changing captain. He outlined his reasons to me and whilst I'm personally extremely disappointed, I will continue to give my all every time I wear the shirt.'

'So I wanted to say a massive thank you to the Manchester United fans for all their brilliant support whilst I've been wearing the armband.'

'Since the day I took on the role, three and half years ago, it's been a huge privilege to lead Manchester United and one of the proudest moments of my career to date.'

'It's one of the greatest honours in club football. I've done everything I possibly could to help United be successful - on and off the field.'

'I will always be grateful to Ole Gunnar Solskjaer for first giving me the responsibility and I wish whoever now takes it on every success and they will have my full support.'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football>

## Manchester City will consider a move for Barcelona's Raphinha if Riyad Mahrez leaves for Saudi

Premier League champions Manchester City will look to bring in another winger if Riyad Mahrez departs this summer.

Barcelona's former Leeds United flyer Raphinha one of the names that have been considered.

Mahrez is attracting attention from Saudi Arabian side Al-Ahli, who have already had a bid turned down for the winger, MailSport revealed.

While the £18million offer was not enough for Man City to sell the Algerian, they are planning for life without him.

Raphinha is being considered, should Mahrez leave, as his profile appeals to Pep Guardiola.

Deco, the former agent of Raphinha, is the current director of football at Barcelona and could be involved in negotiations for his former client to return to England.

Barcelona reportedly need to raise funds by the end of August in order to register their new signings.

Selling Raphinha would be good for their finances if they can find a suitor for the Brazilian.

Therefore, Barca are ready to listen to offers for the former Leeds man and will be hoping that Man City make their move.

It remains to be seen as to whether



Mahrez will depart, but if he does make the switch to Saudi Arabia, Raphinha is thought to be the priority replacement.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football>






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