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NEWSPAPER

Vol. 17, No 140250942

Thursday, July 27, 2023

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Kailahun PC MP: High tariff, interrupted power supply characterise rural electrification project

Attempted coup in Niger: ECOWAS promises tougher action



P. C Cyril Foray Gondor II says his subjects deserve better service

By Jariatu S. Bangura

Paramount Chief Member of Parliament from Kailahun District has complained that the rural renewable energy project is characterised by series of challenges including high tariff and interrupted power supply in many areas.

P. C Cyril Foray Gondor II from the Upper Bambara Chiefdom, informed the Minister of Energy about complaints he has been receiving from his subjects with the regards the project.

He lamented that the tariff is too high for his subjects who cannot afford to pay and access electricity when needed.

Cont. Page 3

Mental health advisor calls on youth to desist from taking 'Kush'

The 73-year-old writing BECE

Fight against intake of 'Kush': Social Welfare Minister assures multi-sectoral approach

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PONDER MY THOUGHTS

By Andrew Keili

Many have been waiting with bated breath to see whether President Bio would match his rhetoric of dramatic change with action in his choice of Ministers. A new thirty-six-year-old Chief Minister, a Cabinet comprising mainly young, highly educated people, a significant number in their 30s and 40s came as a surprise to many as was the significant female representation and finely balanced regional and ethnic composition.

The house clearing has been a massacre, with senior Ministers hitherto considered untouchable, many of them close associates of the President and party loyalists shown the door. The President's supporters have referred to the radical change as "an infusion of youth and dynamism to bring about transformational change".

Allow me to ponder the changes.

The outcasts and the survivors

Some old hands stayed in place to provide continuity—probably a show of confidence based on their past performance. These include Kanja Sesay at Energy, Turad Senesi at Lands, Tamba Lamina at Internal Affairs (hopefully armed with a solution to the "Tom and Jerry" fight between the Ministry and the Freetown Mayor), Austin Demby at Health, Mohamed Fatamadi Bangura at Finance, Attorney General, Mohamed Lamin Tarawali and Mohamed Orman Bangura at the Youth Ministry. Others like Mohamed Rado Swarray and Nabeela Tunis changed Portfolios to Labour and Tourism respectively and Melrose Karminty was upgraded to be Minister of Social Welfare. Frances Piagie Alghali as Deputy at the Foreign Ministry will undoubtedly build on her stellar performance as Minister of State at the VP's office, where she will be replaced by former Gender and Children's Affairs Minister, Manty Tarawali, who many expected would stay to steer the implementation of the GEWE Act she championed. Julius Mattai, the Director General of NMA becomes the new Mines Minister, the fourth in the Bio Presidency, whilst the former incumbent Musa Timothy Kabba moves to the Foreign Affairs Ministry. All Deputy Ministers in both Education Ministries stayed in place—Sarjoh Aziz Kamara in Higher Education and Mamusu Massaquoi and Emily Gogra in Basic Education where Conrad Sackey who was at the TEC is now Minister, ensuring continuity.

Though some Ministers and advisers in the view of many deserved to go, there are however some that have been let go that performed credibly. One is left wondering what combination of factors led to their departure.....Unduly long periods on the frontline? Political falling out? Need to make way for new blood? We will never know.

Strong female warriors

Some new and experienced Ministers include Hannah Sao-Kpato Max Kyne, the new Minister of Water Resources and Sanitation, who excelled as head of NACSA and the very competent Kenye Ballay, Minister of Development and Economic Planning, who acquitted herself well as head of SAPA before earning further laurels in the development sphere internationally. The appointment of the peripatetic and hyperactive Haja Isata Abdulai Kamara (formerly, Resident Minister, North West and recently Deputy Minister at the Trade Ministry) has been lauded. One supporter stated – "I hope she starts chasing those errant fishing vessels soon!"

Uncertainties about carrying the flagship programme

There have been questions asked about Dr. Henry Kpaka heading the government's new flagship programme of Agriculture at the Agriculture Ministry. While some hail his impressive academic credentials and considerable experience in the sector locally and abroad, others say his recent involvement in the sector as an adviser did not yield tangible dividends. He however now has the opportunity of proving the naysayers wrong.

When the hunter becomes the hunted

The appointments of Chernoh Bah and Isata Mahoi as Minister of Information and Civic Education and Minister of Gender and Children's Affairs respectively have been applauded by many, who consider them highly qualified to perform their functions. They have also been avid and articulate proponents for change as model representatives of civil society. They are expected to perform well but should note that "the hunter has now become the hunted" and should therefore take any criticisms in their stride.

Surprise, surprise: Whacha going on?

Augusta Jame Teima at the Sports Ministry is a surprising appointment as she was Chairman of the of the NDA party. Though some government supporters say this is indicative of the government's commitment to inclusivity, other people ask why the NGC which is in a formal, highly publicised alliance has been left out in the cold. The retention of the Western Area Ministry headed by Adenkule King, which many consider a non-Ministry for various reasons also comes as a surprise. Well, what can I say about Denis Sandi, the new Minister of Works? A political survivor known for membership of multiple parties, he was until recently the ill-fated Minister of Lands, but obviously his political obituary was written much too hastily. There is a silent TV programme called "No comment" whose title I would like to invoke as an excuse for me not to

comment. The hordes of people who were glad to see his back at the Lands Ministry may legitimately ask, as Vamboi the comedian would- "Whacha going on?"

The combative, battle tested loyalists

And lest I forget, I would like to congratulate our new Resident Minister East, Gbessay Jusu Ngobeh aka Chalkie for his new job. Time will tell what this colourful, larger than life, garrulous Resident Minister will bring to the table. He is one of three Resident Ministers with a long history (from pre-presidency) of fierce loyalty to President Bio—the others being Mohamed Alie in the South and Abu Abu Koroma in the North. They make the other Resident Minister North West, the urbane Umaru Bon Wurie appear like a Boy Scout!

The nice guys

There are high expectations of Ibrahim Alpha Sesay (Tex) at the Trade Ministry and Ernest Ndomahina at NACSA, both of whom have had considerable professional experience. The articulate Alhaji Alpha Kanu's appointment as Presidential Spokesman does not come as a surprise as he is also well liked by the President. He holds the distinction of being Presidential spokesman for the two major political parties. Congratulations to Solomon Jamiru the new Press Secretary, who always articulates the government's position very well and with candour. He is widely regarded as competent and trustworthy.

There are however criticisms of the cabinet which have been aired by both government critics and supporters. These include the relative inexperience of some of the appointees, perceived misplacement of some members considering their professional bent, the near absence of people with private sector experience, poor representation of true green-blooded SLPP supporters who may also be young and brilliant, the bloated nature of the cabinet, and the perceived inordinate influence of "hidden hands" close to the President. Whilst some of these may not matter much or may be mere sour grapes, it behooves government to be mindful of what others say.

The truth of the matter however is that it is difficult for any President to make such appointments when there are so many considerations, some of which we may not be privy to. Besides, it is the President's prerogative to hire and fire as he takes full responsibility for his government's performance. Only he can rationalize his decisions. I borrow the words of the hymn writer and say: "Blind unbelief is sure to err and scan his work in vain. Bio is his own interpreter and he will make it plain". Notwithstanding the appointments, there are a few issues, which, though

clear to some of us may need to be better articulated to detractors and to a wider populace.

1. Better clarifying the role of the Chief Minister and his monitoring, supervisory, coordination and other responsibilities.
2. Clarifying the roles, responsibilities and limits of authority of Dr Kandeh Yumkella in his new appointment as Chairman, Presidential Initiative for Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Food Security and giving this very competent man support in his new role.
3. Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the Minister of Communication, Technology and Innovation and how her job relates to other allied institutions;
4. Clarifying interrelationship between ministries and parastatals and Agencies under their Ministries. This has been a long running problem. Many of them are still under the National Commission of Privatisation which continues to be headed by SLPP Chairman Dr. Prince Harding or under obdurate Boards.

Also the elephants in the room are the matters of ensuring that the elections-related squabbles with our development partners and the non-participation of the opposition APC are deftly and satisfactorily handled.

The new Ministers have a lot of work on their hands. Their work may be hampered by a host of factors including inadequate financial resources, poor human capacities in some MDAs and political adversaries and fifth columnists. They come into the job when Sierra Leone continues to face considerable financial problems with a big balance of payments deficit requiring the performance of the Real Sector to improve markedly. The government cannot continue to be a "spend-spend" one, dishing out limited resources. Revenues from the Agriculture, mining, tourism and other services sectors, fisheries and manufacturing sectors need to improve significantly. The markedly big boost in our energy supplies is a few years down the line. Dialogue with the private sector needs to improve and I am glad to note the new Chief Minister has already started embarking on this.

Our new Ministers, young and not so young need to inculcate positive attributes like patriotism, honesty, integrity, humility, collegiality etc. which are not necessarily age-dependent to be successful. My prayer for them as they embark on this arduous journey is based on the serenity prayer- "God grant them the serenity to accept the things they cannot change, courage to change the things they can, and the wisdom to know the difference".

Hearty congratulations to all appointees. The cabinet is finally out of the cabinet. Now what?

Ponder my thoughts.



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LOCAL NEWS

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

Following news of an attempted coup d'état on the early hours of Wednesday July 26th, 2022 in Niger, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has denounced in the strongest terms the attempt to seize power by force and called on the coup plotters to free the democratically-elected President of the Republic immediately without any condition.

It was reported by the Reuters News Agency that soldiers from Niger's presidential guard have blockaded the presidential palace in the capital Niamey. According to security sources, access to ministries next to the palace has also been blocked, and it was not clear if President Mohamed Bazoum was inside.

In their July 26 press release, ECOWAS promised that it will together with the International community hold all those involved in the plot responsible for the security and safety of the President, his family, members of the government and the general public.

This ECOWAS press statement will certainly be regarded by political observers as mere ink on paper. In fact, critics have long described the ECOWAS community as a toothless bull dog that does not bite.

West Africa's current wave of coups began in August 2020, after former Malian President, Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, was arrested at gunpoint by government forces.

Military leaders have toppled the governments of Mali, Chad,



Guinea, and Burkina Faso and no serious action was taken by ECOWAS that could possibly prevent a re-occurrence of such ugly development.

In 2022, Burkina Faso's residents woke up to gunfire with an army captain eventually announcing that the military ruler, Paul-Henri Damiba, had been deposed and the constitution suspended. The takeover was the second in year 2022 in Burkina Faso.

In January 2022, Damiba, also a soldier, announced that he had deposed President Roch Kabore, suspended the constitution, dissolved the government and the national assembly, and closed the country's borders.

In April 2021, Chad recorded its coup following the death of President Idriss Deby. Rather than follow the constitutional provision that mandates the speaker of the parliament to hold office for 40 days in the case of the

death of the president, the army said it was dissolving the Chadian parliament, suspending the constitution and naming Deby's son, Mahamat Kaka, interim president of the country.

In September 2021, Guinea's President Alpha Condé was ousted by the military led by Mamady Doumbouya because of what the army called rampant corruption, disregard for human rights and economic mismanagement.

With all the above mentioned coups, ECOWAS has not been able to take any serious action to restrain military personnel from repeating the anti-democratic process.

Although the newly appointed Chairperson of the ECOWAS, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu asserted that West Africa sub-region would no longer witness military coup during his tenure, but critics and observers would be keenly watching to see if Tinubu's statement will come to past.

Kailahun PC MP: High tariff, interrupted power supply characterise rural electrification project

From Cover

He claimed that the service provider for the Upper Bambara Chiefdom is not living to the expectation of the ministry and the rural people, as far as he is concerned.

He also complained about the interrupted supply of electricity especially at night when people need it most and that some communities go for months without energy.

He stated that they have met with some stakeholders at Power Gen management on numerous occasions, but that the issue remain unsolved.

He said although they did train some community members on how to handle the operation of the sites, but that they could not handle the issues because they are not trained electricians.

Although he complained about the inefficiency of the project, the Paramount Chief Member of Parliament urged that the project be extended to other areas within the chiefdom.

Responding to the claims made by beneficiaries through their paramount chief, Country Manager



for Power Gen, Hassan Suma said they have common issues affecting most of the sites they are operating.

He said the project is a partnership with the Government of Sierra Leone under the Rural Renewable Energy, funded by DFID and implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Service (UNOPS).

He said they were contracted as a private company to invest in the power generation aspect and that they have been the biggest operation in the country.

"Sometimes, it is sad but we also try to understand them, whereas some people have understand, whilst others do not. They want to use their power to the best of their ability. Because of their relationship with the President or the Minister of Energy, they will call them directly without getting to hear from us," he stated.

Youth gets 6 months imprisonment for fraud

By Mohamed J Kargbo

Magistrate Wilbri John of Court No.7, on Pademba Road has sentenced 20-year-old Amadu Kargbo to six months imprisonment at the Male Correctional Centre after finding him guilty for fraudulent conversion.

The convict was standing on a count charge to wit fraudulent conversion contrary to Section of 20 (1) (iv) (a) of the Larceny Act 1916.

Whiles the charge sheet was read out and explained to him by the

court registrar, the convict pleaded guilty.

According to the particulars of offense, on Monday 5th June 2023, Amadu Kargbo at No. 26b Grassfield, Lumley, fraudulently converted to his personal use or benefit, one silver aluminum leather value Two Thousand Five Hundred new Leones, (2,500), recorded as the property of Issa Bangura, entrusted to him by the same Issa Bangura for safe keeping.

The accused person was unrepresented in court and no plea mitigation was made on his behalf

LOCAL NEWS

By Yusufu S. Bangura

Presidential Advisor on Mental Health at the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Dr. Carol Labor, has yesterday called on youth across the country to stop taking harmful drugs, especially 'Kush' which leads to mental health disorder.

She made the call on Wednesday, 26th July, while on the popular Radio Democracy 'Gud Morning Salone' programme.

"I am advising young people to say no to Kush intake because they don't know the long term effect of it. If they continue to take it, it will greatly affect them and their unborn children. Drug addiction will damage their brain and lead to mental health disorder which will also affect the development of the nation," she said.

Sierra Leone is currently grappling with an increasing number of young people becoming addicted to a substance known as Kush or K2. Abuse of drugs has already killed a good number of youth.

For the past months now, the social

Mental health advisor calls on youth to desist from taking 'Kush'

media is awash with photos and video clips depicting young people, including security officers, caught in embarrassing situations after intoxicating themselves with the substance.

Madam Labour said they were developing a framework for mental health wellbeing for Sierra Leoneans and have established a Presidential Taskforce on mental health chaired by the Vice President.

She said they were taking mental health as public health issue, stating that Kush is rampant in communities because it offers youth a mirage of a perfect life since many live in poverty and despair.

"When people take it, they present themselves in a very strange way. For example, they can be walking in the middle of the street and suddenly become sleepy standing up," she said.



Mental Health Advisor at the MOHS, Dr. Carol Labor

She added that they will do a massive public health education campaign at national level by training people for them to be aware about mental health and how they should recognise mental health signs and symptoms, behaviour, disorder and how to treat people with mental health.

She said they were putting things in place to treat mental health, albeit the ministry of youth has trained people on mental health.

She said they wanted to bring everyone on board to dialogue on how to establish SOPs and guidelines to know how to treat mental health disorder.

The 73-year-old writing BECE

By Alfred Koroma

A 73-year old man is writing the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) in the Rose of Sharon School, Makeni, Northern Sierra Leone.

The septuagenarian health described the examination as drilling, but says they answer what they know and leave what they don't know.

Mohamed Lamin Turay, who turned 73 today July 27, first made headlines when he took the National Primary School Examination in the same School three years ago, at the time, he was 70.

He is trying to get educated because he believes education is the Umbrella of the world and that those who are not under that umbrella have the potentials end as 'scavengers.'

Turay is a cement mason, a carpenter, welder and a wheelbarrow (Umolanke) pusher.



Mohamed Lamin Turay, 73 is one of 2023 BECE Candidates

He believes being educated at his age would drive him some economic benefits to help take care of his old age and save him from having to rely on his children for support.

"After this BECE, if I pass, I will continue at SS1 in my school and try to complete unto WASSCE level," the 73-year old BECE Candidate told State Broadcaster, SLBC, expressing his mood at the beginning of the exam and what failure would look like to him.

"Since I have not taken the exam before, I was frightened," he said, "but when they enlightened me, I did not fair again. I have hope to pass. If I did not pass I have wasted my father's (President Bio's) money."

Turay's quest for education started long ago. He first took entrance examination in 1967 but did not have the chance to further his education. He was among the three who passed the exam out of twenty students – 17 failed," the old man recalled.

When President Bio introduced the Free Quality Education, Turay said he thought about grabbing the opportunity. So he ran to the head of Rose of Sharon School and told him his intention to go school. At first, he said the school head was amazed, asking whether the old man was joking. "But I told him I'm serious. So he asked me for entrance fee and I gave him."

"To those who think they are old to learn, I'm now 73 on July 27. They see me when I wear uniform. Some provoke me. Some say that man knows what he is doing, he said.

Although he seems to be the oldest, Turay is not the only Sierra Leonean to have made headlines for taking the adventure of getting formal education in Sierra Leone at old aged. In the ongoing BECE, 65 years old woman identified as Margret is also writing the exam.



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The Tender Documents can be downloaded at the site below.

GENERAL PREMISES, BUILDING
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There will be a bid conference on Friday 21st July at 10.30 am at the UNICEF Freetown Conference Room.

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

Fight against intake of 'Kush': Social Welfare Minister assures multi-sectoral approach

By Jariatu S. Bangura



The newly approved Minister of Social Welfare Ministry, Melrose Karmity, has assured Sierra Leoneans of a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the increase in the intake of Kush by youth in the country.

She said the social challenges in the country are enormous to the extent that a real patriot will not want to see such, hence the need for multi-sectoral approach in addressing the issues.

She promised to work with the Internal Affairs Ministry to help tackle the intake of the drug in the country.

"I felt a lot of gratitude to President Bio

for choosing me out of over seven million Sierra Leoneans. I took it as a call to duty and I always had the feeling to serve my people because it is a fulfilment for me and the greater good," she said.

She reiterated that she will work with other partners to improve the lives of vulnerable Sierra Leoneans and also perform as expected, stating that the real lives of people lies in the Ministry of Social Welfare.

She promised that she will overcome challenges with the help of all stakeholders and ensures to work collaboratively.



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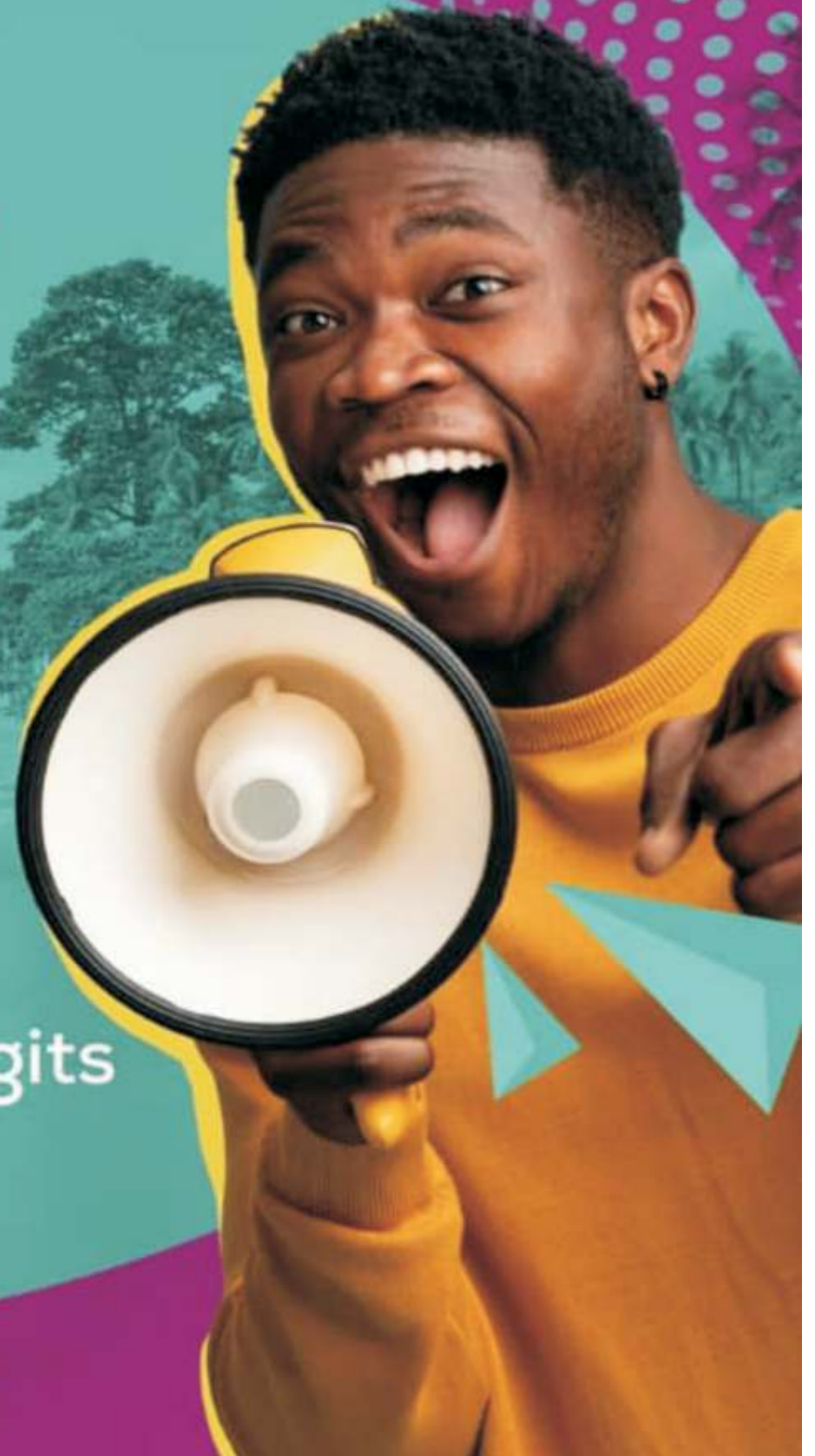
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3 Wellington Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone
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17th July, 2023

MEDIA RELEASE

IPRP CONCLUDES INVESTIGATION INTO COMPLAINT BROUGHT AGAINST THE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT SECRETARIAT AND GRACE MACK ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

The Independent Procurement Review Panel (IPRP) has concluded the matter **between the Free Education Project Secretariat under the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School Education (RESPONDENT) MBSSE and Grace Mack Engineering and Construction Freetown, (Appellant).**

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:

Pursuant to section 64 (1) of the Public Procurement Act 2016, the Appellant lodged an appeal with the Respondent asking for review of the decision. The Respondent called the Appellant to a debriefing in which the issues raised therein, were discussed but not the satisfaction of the Appellant.

Conclusions:

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

Ø The Appellant had issues in 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 require bidders to have HND as a qualification for one of its core staff instead of OND, validity as well as bid security validity.

Ø The Complainant ESHS Management Strategies and implementation plan was not detailed and ranked him

partially responsive as well as mobilization schedule not provided and ranked partially non – responsive. However, claimed he submitted methodology instead of mobilization schedule. Under technical requirement, the complainant was ranked non- responsive as site organization was not provided.

Ø The Evaluation Committee of the Procuring Entity did not observe stringent procurement guidelines thereby allowing bidding institutions to progress from technical to financial evaluation stage though certain criterion were not fully met.

Ø The Panel finds that the complainant did not meet the qualification condition for HND but submitted an OND and was considered partially responsive. In procurement either the bidder is responsive or none – responsive. Rating of bidder partially responsive was merely at the discretion of the procuring entity without recourse to the law governing public procurement laws of Sierra Leone.

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

Ø The Panel having listened passionately to both parties, with further factual review of the complaint, the Panel finds 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.

Ø The Free Education Project Secretariat should endeavor to do due diligence during their evaluation of bids thereby allowing bidder (s) (is or are) qualified to progress to the next stage in a bid to prevent confusion.

The Independent Procurement Review Panel is a creation of section 65 (1) of the National Public Procurement (NPPA) No.10 of 2016. The IPRP is charged with the responsibility to review complains/appeals from dissatisfied bidders about decision of a procuring entity.

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

For further enquiries on this and other IPRP matters, please contact **the Public Relations Officer**, on +232-75 166461/ 080- 855375 or via email iprpanal218@gmail.com




The advertisement features a woman with dark curly hair wearing a purple sweater, standing at an ATM and holding a smartphone to the screen. The ATM is a light grey machine with a blue screen and a keypad. Above the ATM, a white sign displays the Union Trust Bank logo and name. To the right of the ATM, a blue box lists four benefits of the cardless service. At the bottom, the title 'ATM Cardless Transaction' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a blue outline. The background is a light blue gradient.

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The advertisement features a woman with long dark hair, wearing an orange long-sleeved top and blue jeans, sitting on a white stool with wooden legs. She is smiling and gesturing with her hands. Behind her is a large, stylized smartphone frame containing the Ecobank MOBILE logo. To the right of the frame, the text "SEAMLESS CONVENIENCE WITH" is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Below this text is another Ecobank MOBILE logo. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Download the Ecobank Mobile App" with the Google Play logo, and "Download on the App Store" with the Apple logo. In the bottom left corner, the website "ecobank.com" is displayed. In the bottom right corner, the Ecobank logo is shown with the tagline "The Pan African Bank".

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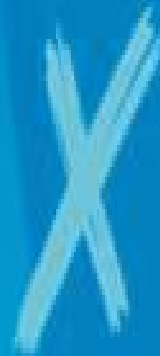


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INT'L SPORT

Tottenham are searching for new strikers as uncertainty deepens around Harry Kane's future at the club.

Kane has made it clear to Daniel Levy that he has no intention of signing a new deal this summer and, although open to all options, is prepared to accept a move to Bayern Munich rather than leave next year for free if that was considered best for his club.

The Spurs chairman, meanwhile, is stepping up routine contingency plans by pricing up alternatives, including interest in Arthur Cabral of Fiorentina.

Brazilian Cabral, 25, is robust, mobile, strong in the air with two good feet. He has scored 19 goals in 64 appearances since moving to Italy from Basel, where he scored 65 in 106.

Ange Postecoglou, however, is still planning for the season with Kane up front in his team.

The new Spurs boss said there was no point wasting time on things beyond his control and would have contingency plans in place for all positions as a matter of routine, because he could lose any of his players to serious injury at any moment.

Postecoglou was speaking at a Q&A with business leaders from western Australia, where his team are on pre-season tour and

where he is a homecoming hero after landing his move to the Premier League from Celtic.

'I certainly hope so,' he replied, when asked if Kane would be leading the line for his team next season. 'It's one of those things where, when you're in this role, I've learned that you've got to deal with the certainties that are before you.'

'If you start thinking about what happens if this happens and that happens, there are too many things that can be floating in the air at any time, where you lose focus on what's the most important thing.'

'The most important thing for me right now is to build a team that is going to be successful in the Premier League. If I wait to see what an outcome is before I start that process I'm going to lose valuable time.'

Kane will not sign a new Spurs deal this summer but remains open to all options, including leaving if Spurs decide they would prefer to cash in now rather than see him leave for free next year.

Many more clubs would be interested in a move for the England captain next year when his contract expires and he would probably earn more.

'He's with the club at the moment,' said

Tottenham prepare for life after Harry Kane with England captain still refusing to sign a new deal



Postecoglou. 'He's a legend of the football club already. If he retired today they'd still probably build a statue for him. He's a fantastic guy, a fantastic professional, but with everything in life there are always uncertainties there.'

'I don't try to predict. You always have contingencies in your head, not just about Harry but about any player, because, knock on wood, someone could get injured

on the eve of the season and you've got to be ready as a manager for all possibilities. It's one of the attractions of the role I guess, to be able to work with people like Harry and Sonny (Son Heung-min) and the guys who are already premier footballers in their own right but also for the club. Hopefully, I get to work with Harry a lot longer.'

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

Arnaut Danjuma: Everton in talks to sign winger on loan from Villarreal



Everton are in talks to sign Dutch winger Arnaut Danjuma on a season-long loan deal from La Liga side Villarreal.

The 26-year-old looked like heading to Goodison Park in January after reportedly agreeing a deal, but instead joined Tottenham for six months.

Danjuma struggled for game time at Spurs, scoring twice in 12 games but never completing a full 90 minutes.

The Toffees have now rekindled their interest and Danjuma would become their second summer signing.

Sean Dyche has so far completed a free transfer move for 38-year-old full-back Ashley Young.

Former Bournemouth winger Danjuma is

one of a number of options Everton are considering to bolster their forward line, having narrowly avoided relegation last season.

The finished 17th in the Premier League table, two points above the drop zone, and scored just 34 goals in 38 league games.

Dominic Calvert-Lewin is the only senior striker at the club and BBC Sport understands there is interest in Leeds winger Wilfred Gnonto and Ajax forward Brian Brobbey.

Gnonto impressed for a Leeds side that went down, netting six goals across 45 games in all competitions.

Brobbey scored 13 league goals in 32 appearances for Ajax as they finished third in the Dutch Eredivisie.

<https://www.bbc.com/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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Published by Concord Times Communications, 44, Edwards Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone www.slconcordtimes.com

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