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# Today is August 10, a day to remember

## ONS: security is on high alert



APC National Secretary General

## APC threatens disciplinary action against flouting MPs



August 10 protest

By Alfred Koroma

As the political atmosphere of June 24 election lingers around, let's reflect our minds into the messy occurrence of August 10, 2022.

Exactly today in 2022, Sierra Leone broke

into a chaotic occurrence that senselessly made away with the lives of our fellow citizens. That's after some individuals, disguised under the cost of living crisis, decided to throw the country into a pandemonium by igniting a fatal anti-government protest, planned and orchestrated through social media.

Cont. Page 2

## FBC student named Ambassador for 2023 AfriCaribbean Festival

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## LOCAL NEWS

# Today is August 10, a day to remember

The protest started with a three-day sit-at-home strike action and ended violently. The protesters in different parts of the country, attacked and killed police officers in uniforms, burned down police stations and destroyed other state properties.

On the part of government, this was a painful loss.

The police in turn retaliated badly, teargassing the protesters and firing live bullets, killing several civilians. Again, this was all a loss to the nation as whole – as innocent citizens who had no business in the entire saga reportedly lost their lives.

The chaos forced the President who was out of the country to cut short his trip abroad and returned at a time when Sierra Leoneans were anticipating to hear from their President.

Upon his return, President Bio condemned the violence in a speech delivered to the nation, promised crack down and heightened security presence in streets within the country.

Notice of the protest which could have been prevented had gone viral on social media reaching authorities

days before it took place.

But there was a show of dereliction of duty on the side of the security sector, especially the military. Although their presence in the streets coupled with Vice President's declaration of state of emergency later halted the tension.

This was followed by a major shakeup in the military. Immediately after President Bio finished delivering his speech that Friday night, on 12 of August, he sacked three military officers and instantly promoted seven to new ranks.

Here, some citizens lost their jobs. And those military officers who got promoted gained.

Days later, the President further set up a special Investigative Committee (SIC) to look into the entire saga, which report came out earlier this year.

The findings reveals the protest was notoriously incited by a Holland based social media commentator, Will Kamara, nicknamed Adebayor in association of the leadership of the main opposition party, the All Peoples Congress (APC).



At subnational level, the Committee finds the ringleaders of the insurrection were all active members APC, especially in Lungi, Port Loko, Kamakwei, and Makeni.

The committee reported that children were recruited to participate in the riot; used as human shields by the adult rioters.

What happened in August 10, 2022 that killed 37 Sierra Leoneans dead is too brutal to repeat. This was a wrangle caused by nothing else but the very selfish political atmosphere that still revolves around us after the recent general election.

That protesters could attack national

infrastructures – burn down numerous police stations and barrack locations, as well as government buses that form part of the national transport infrastructure, is a lost to the State, an enormous loss of sense of patriotism.

And that six Police officers could be attacked and killed by civilians, and 21 civilians murdered in a protest, means nobody gained.

The chanting of the protesters itself 'Bio must go' tells us even the plotters of the protest did not gain. President Bio still seats at State House which was not the objective of the protesters.

## APC threatens disciplinary action against flouting MPs

By Yusufu S. Bangura

The National Secretary General of the main opposition All People's Congress (APC) party, Lansana Dumbuya has stated that the party will institute disciplinary action against anyone that goes against any lawful order of the party, including those Members of Parliament who have taken oath in parliament.

Dumbuya was responding to an interview on the popular Radio Democracy 98.1 'Gud morning Salone' program, while speaking on the issue of the APC elected Members of Parliament (MPs) that have taken their seats in parliament.

The Secretary General said APC is a responsible institution and one of the biggest political parties in the country, adding that they will protect the democracy of the country as they came from an election that was largely rigged, an election that both national and international bodies have faulted. He said after the elections, the



APC National Secretary General

tallying system was seriously compromised and the result did not reflect the will and wishes of the people, therefore the party has a discussion session with members and they agreed not to participate in any governance issues for now.

While speaking on the statement of Hon Alfred Ayodele Thompson, who claimed that he

was under duress from the party's leadership to sign the abstinence resolution, Dumbuya said "it completely dishonest for him to say that kind of words in the Well of Parliament because I know him personally and he knows that it is not true. In fact, I was not even there when he went to sign the document in his own volition because he was not under gun point for him to sign the document," he said.

Dumbuya said he does not understand the dishonesty of some MPs because if someone wants to be part of parliamentary sitting, he or she must be honest because he or she is a Member of Parliament.

"This parliament is like no other parliament in this country, because this is a parliament where political parties send representatives to represent them and during the election, voters did not vote for individual MPs. Therefore, the names of Alfred Thompson and Mohamed Bangura were not on the ballot

paper, but rather the party symbol so the government and the speaker of this parliament are biting more than they cannot chew," said Dumbuya.

He said the APC party is an institution that could take disciplinary action against anyone.

He said the party has a disciplinary and grievance committee created by the 2002 Constitution that came into force on the 7th of March 2002.

He also said the 2002 constitution stated that 'anyone that goes against any lawful order of the party will be disciplined by the party and it also gives disciplinary measures such as the expulsion of party stalwart.

Dumbuya said in the case of Thompson and Bangura he doesn't know the disciplinary action the committee will take against them because he is not part of the committee.

He said once the disciplinary committee takes action against them, they will send those actions to parliament and parliament cannot go against it.





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## LOCAL NEWS

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

The AfriCaribbean Festival has proudly announced the appointment of Rebecca Gbla as the Ambassador for its 2023 edition.

Rebecca Gbla who is a renowned Sierra Leonean student, a professional dancer, model, aspiring actress and sports enthusiasts has officially signed the contract, solidifying her role as the face of the festival.

The AfriCaribbean Festival is known for its colourful and captivating showcases of music, dance, arts cuisine, and traditions will kick off on De28, 2023 and run until January 2n 2024, in Freetown Sierra Leone.

Rebecca Gbla, is a 19 year student at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, has earned accolades both locally and internationally, her remarkable achievements and contributions to various fields combined with her passion for promoting culture and diversity, make her an ideal representative for the festival.

Her impressive list of titles includes Miss AWMS 2018 and Miss FBC

# FBC student named Ambassador for 2023 AfriCaribbean Festival



2021. Beyond her beauty and talent, Rebecca's dedication to empowering youth and advocating for positive social change has made her respected figure in the community.

"I am extremely honored to be appointed as the ambassador for the AfriCaribbean Festival 2023," said

Rebecca Gbla. She added that the festival is not just a celebration of our rich African and Caribbean Heritage and that it is also an opportunity to promote unity and understanding among diverse cultures. "I am thrilled to be a part of this wonderful initiative," she said. Danna Labour, Co-Founder of AfriCaribbean Festival said the Festival has always been about engaging young people

and empowering them through social responsibility that gives them exposure in their area of passion. He added that with Rebecca Gbla as the Ambassador, they aim to inspire and reach more Sierra Leonean audience across the continent.

With Rebecca Gbla as Ambassador, the organisers believe the festival will be an even more engaging and memorable experience for attendees. Festival Organising Committee said that they believe Rebecca's influence and passion for culture will help reach new heights and bring greater awareness to the richness of African and Caribbean heritage.

## ONS: security is on high alert

By Ishmael Dumbuya

Deputy Director, Strategic Communications, Office of National Security (ONS), Abdul Karim Will, has told Radio Democracy that in the wake of claims about an attempted coup allegedly orchestrated by some military personnel, police and some civilians, the security sector is on top of any security threat that might surface in the country.

According to Deputy Director Will, the threat assessment they have undertaken lately indicates that the country is very peaceful, adding that ONS is ready to repel any act of violence or coup attempt.

He added that security threat is always imminent in every nation, but the ability of the security sector to clamp down or militate against such threat is of utmost significance and priority. He went on to state that the misuse of social media is also a contributory factor that tends to undermine the security of the state, citing misinformation as

well as sharing propaganda across the country.

He further stated that quite recently; the ONS engaged civil society organizations in order to highlight the roles they can play in abolishing such threats.

It could be recalled that lately, there have been rumours of attempted coup involving some military personnel and former Chief Superintendent of Police, Mohamed Turay aka Yeatey Yeatey, who according to the Inspector General of Police, Fayia Sellu, has been extradited from the Republic of Liberia to Sierra Leone.

According to the IG Sellu, five military personnel and three police officers suspected of having a hand in the alleged aborted coup are on the run and that police have launched manhunt for them.

The extradition of Yeatey Yeatey came after the Government of Sierra Leone requested from the Liberian Government to arrest and send him to Sierra Leone to face allegation of subversion.

## Kush: Police testifies in alleged unlawful possession matter

By Jeneba A Conteh

PC 1861 Juliet Mattie testified in court in relation to the alleged unlawful possession of 'Kush' matter which is before Magistrate Sahar Kekura at the Ross Road Court No .1 in Freetown

38-year-old Momoh Koroma made another appearance before Magistrate Sahr Kekura on two count charges ranging from unlawful possession of cannabis sativa contrary to section 8 (a) of the National Drugs Control Act 2008.

It was alleged that, on Monday, 1st May, 2023 at No.115 Bai Bureh Road, Kissy in Freetown, the accused was found in possession of thirty-four raps of 'Kush' weighed 12.5 grams, without lawful authority.

When the charges were read and explained to the accused person, he pleaded not guilty.

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Osman M. Bangura, led the prosecution witness Number , DPC 11443, Juliet Mattia, attached to the Regional Investigation Department, Freetown East.

She recognised the accused person in the dock and recalled

on the 1st May, 2023.

She said she was on duty at Ross Road Police Station when a team of Anti-Drugs personnel arrested and brought the accused person.

She said the matter was allocated to her for investigation.

The witness said the accused person was brought with thirty four raps of a substance suspected to be Kush, which was handed over to the exhibit clerk.

The witness said on the 1st of May 2023 herself and DPC 14958 Kamara MA contemporaneously interviewed the accused person.

The statement was produced and tendered in court to form part of the court records.

She said on the 23rd May, 2023, herself and DPC 14985 Kamara E charged the accused person with the offence he was standing trial.

The charge statement was produced and tendered in court to form part of the court records. The accused person was unrepresented and he didn't cross examine the witness

The matter was adjourned to the 16th August 2023 for further hearing.



## LOCAL NEWS

**T**abita Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter (TPI-SL) has reacted and refuted claims made in a press release said to be issued by Lamido Issa Bi Amadou, Secretary General of Tabital Pulaaku International (TPI), making rounds in social media suggesting that Tabital Pulaaku is led in Sierra Leone by Abdul Razak Bah.

“Without prejudice to the authenticity of this press release the Directors/Executives of TPI-SL wish the Fullah community in Sierra Leone to note that Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter under the leadership of Alhaji Amadu Juldeh Sowe is duly registered and validly existing as a legal entity in Sierra Leone, in accordance with the Company's Act of 2009,” a release from Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter states.

The release states that Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter was set out as a corporate entity solely to perform charitable objects and not a profit making business as seem to be suggested by persons unaware of the position of the laws of Sierra Leone.

“The object of registering a corporate entity was and has always been to assure that the entity can acquire assets (landed property or other properties) for the furtherance of its objectives. Prior to the registration we sought legal advice from competent legal practitioners which informed that if we wanted to own property, we required corporate status otherwise the property would have to be owned by the current members which would create complications if these members

# Tabital Pulaaku Sierra Leone chapter dismisses claims

eventually die,” the release continues

The releases further notes that Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter is the national association of Sierra Leone that forms one of the associations constituting the federation of national associations that came together to form the federation, Tabital Pulaaku International.

“This is acknowledged as a matter of fact in the press release of TPI that: “The Tabital Pulaaku associations of the member countries constitute the basic organs of Tabital Pulaaku International. Even when Lamido Issa Bi Amadou, said to have signed the press releases inquiring of the authorities in Sierra Leone as to the status, validity and authority of TPI-SL to operate in Sierra Leone, the relevant authorities in the country promptly and unequivocally confirmed our status as a charitable organisation and having the authority to operate in Sierra Leone.”

The release states that registration with the TPI federations and renewals is done on an annual basis. “We have re-confirmed from the outgoing Horeejor (President), Alhaji Alpha Amadu Jalloh and the Secretary General, Dr. Abdul Rahman Bah of TPI as at the time they left office no association called Tabital Pulaaku Sierra Leone was registered with TPI under the leadership of anyone in Sierra Leone. The new TPI executive

acknowledges that they only came in after a general assembly of 10th September 2022. It is therefore of grave concern that the new Executive of TPI in the Federal Republic of Nigeria would now state in their supposed press release unequivocally that there has been a renewal of the registration of this ‘Tabital Pulaaku Sierra Leone’. Such unfortunate statements by TPI are unhelpful and unwarranted; they continue to undermine the peace and unity we have always sought to preserve, by sowing unnecessary seeds of discord in a community which takes pride in being peaceful and united.”

Members of Tabital Pulaaku states that in TPI's press release the other entity it seeks to recognise in Sierra Leone is described as Tabita Pulaaku Sierra Leone and not by our appropriate and valid name, Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter.

“We have taken advice on the issue of the name use which categorically and unequivocally confirm that no other entity can use the name Tabital Pulaaku irrespective of any additions or omission without the knowledge and/or consent of our Directors/Executive of the national association, Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter. These actions are contrary to the provisions of the laws of Sierra Leone and even TPI's Constitution. That TPI does not, by its very Constitution and as acknowledged in the press releases have the

mandate, right, power or authority to appoint an executive to Tabital Pulaaku International who is not a member of a national chapter with two years standing. That TPI does not have the mandate, right, power or authority to determine who shall be the leaders in Sierra Leone of Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter; that is the sole prerogative of the over 10,000 strong membership of Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter and no other,” the release continues.

“While we shall seek to always have constructive engagements with all we shall respect our commitment to hold all concerned to respect the letter of the laws that bind and govern us and not bow to the whim of a few who seek to sow discord. We remain and shall continue to pursue and preach peace, unity, love and progress to all Pulaaku in Sierra Leone and around the world. We urge all to adhere to the principles that bind us together. Members of the Elders and Senior members of the Fullah Community in Sierra Leone would confirm that the Directors/Executives of Tabital Pulaaku International Sierra Leone Chapter has always welcomed and been amenable to peace and unity to prevail. We urge our over 10,000 strong members all over the country to remain calm, while noting that the purported press release from TPI would not affect any of our operations and all structures should be law abiding and continue with our work of helping our people and transforming lives.”

## Man jailed for destroying campaign billboards

By Jeneba A Conteh

**S**amuel Trap, on Monday August 7, 2023, made his final appearance before Magistrate Hadiru Daboh and was sentenced to 4 months in prison for malicious damages.

The accused was before the court on one count of malicious damage contrary to Section 51 of the Malicious Damage Act 1861.

It was alleged that the accused on Friday, 24th March, 2023, at

Bai Bureh Road, Ferry Junction in Freetown, maliciously damaged nine (9) billboards, each valued one thousand new Leones (1,000,000), all to the total value of nine thousand new Leones (9,000,000), property of the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP).

The first factual prosecution witness, John Gbondo Margai, identified himself as a cleaning agent and identified the accused person in the matter.

He said on the 24th March 2023, he was at kissy when he received a call from one Josphine Abu, who informed him that she had seen some of the boys that were involved in the demolition of President Bio's billboards.

He said upon the information he made a phone call at the Ross Road Police Station and that the accused persons were arrested at the scene with a razor blade in his hand.

He said the accused used the razor blade to damage the billboards.

According to the magistrate, the accused pleaded not guilty to the crime, and as such, the burden to prove him guilty of the offense charged rests on the shoulders of the prosecution.

He said the prosecution called in four witnesses and that one was a factual witness.





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## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

## Niger's ousted president running low on food under house arrest 2 weeks after coup

Niger's deposed president is running out of food and experiencing other increasingly dire conditions two weeks after he was ousted in a military coup and put under house arrest, an advisor told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

President Mohamed Bazoum, the West African nation's democratically elected leader, has been held at the presidential palace in Niamey with his wife and son since mutinous soldiers moved against him on July 26.

The family is living without electricity and only has rice and canned goods left to eat, the advisor said. Bazoum remains in good health for now and will never resign, according to the advisor, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the sensitive situation with the media.

Bazoum's political party issued a statement confirming the president's living conditions and said the family also was without running water.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with Bazoum on Tuesday about recent diplomatic efforts, a spokesman said, and Blinken "emphasized that the safety and security of President Bazoum and his family are paramount." This week, Niger's new military junta took steps to entrench itself in power and rejected international efforts to mediate.

New Prime Minister announced

On Monday, the junta named a new prime minister, civilian economist Ali Mahaman Lamine Zeine. Zeine is a former economy and finance minister who left office after a previous coup in 2010 toppled the government at the time. He later worked at the African Development Bank.

"The establishment of a government is significant and signals, at least to the population, that they have a plan in place, with support from across the government," Aneliese Bernard, a former U.S. State Department official who specialized in African affairs and is now director of Strategic Stabilization Advisors, a risk advisory group.

Junta refuse mediation teams

The junta also refused to admit mediation teams from the United Nations, the African Union, and West African regional bloc ECOWAS, citing "evident reasons of security in this atmosphere of menace," according to a letter seen by The Associated Press.

ECOWAS had threatened to use military force if the junta didn't reinstate Bazoum by Sunday, a deadline that the junta ignored and which passed without action from ECOWAS. The bloc is expected to meet again Thursday to discuss the



Niger's President Mohamed Bazoum holds a press conference with Ivorian President - Copyright © africanews SIA KAMBOU/AFP or licensors

situation.

It's been exactly two weeks since soldiers first detained Bazoum and seized power, claiming they could do a better job at protecting the nation from jihadi violence. Groups linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group have ravaged the Sahel region, a vast expanse south of the Sahara Desert that includes part of Niger.

Most analysts and diplomats said the stated justification for the coup did not hold weight and the takeover resulted from a power struggle between the president and the head of his presidential guard, Gen. Abdourahmane Tchiani, who now says he runs the country.

The coup comes as a blow to many countries in the West, which saw Niger as one of the last democratic partners in the region they could work with to beat back the extremist threat. It's also an important supplier of uranium.

Impact of coup

Niger's partners have threatened to cut off hundreds of millions of dollars in military assistance if it does not return to constitutional rule.

While the crisis drags on, Niger's 25 million people are bearing the brunt. It's one of the poorest countries in the world, and many Nigeriens live hand to mouth and say they're too focused on finding food for their families to pay much attention to the escalating crisis.

Harsh economic and travel sanctions imposed by ECOWAS since the coup have caused food prices to rise by up to 5%, say traders. Erkmann Tchiboze, a shop owner from neighboring Benin who works in Niger's capital, Niamey, said it's been hard to get anything into the country to stock his shop near the airport.

## Morocco: more than 50 migrants intercepted in the Atlantic



Moroccans stand on the seafloor as they check the area where a boat carrying migrants - Copyright © africanews FADEL SENNA/AFP

The Moroccan navy intercepted more than fifty migrants from sub-Saharan Africa off the southern coast of Morocco on Tuesday, amid a growing number of deadly illegal crossing attempts to Spain, a Moroccan military source said.

"A Royal Navy unit on patrol off Tan-Tan on Tuesday assisted 56 would-be irregular migrants from sub-Saharan Africa aboard a makeshift boat," the military source was quoted by the MAP news agency as saying.

The migrants "received first aid on board, before being transported safe and sound to the port of Tan-Tan, then handed over to the gendarmerie for the usual administrative procedures", it added.

On Monday, the Moroccan coastguard announced that it had recovered the bodies of five Senegalese migrants and rescued 189 others

whose boats had capsized on Saturday off Guergueret, a town in Western Sahara, in the far south of Morocco.

At least 13 Senegalese migrants perished in mid-July when their pirogue sank off the Moroccan coast, according to local Senegalese authorities. On July 25, the Moroccan Human Rights Association (AMDH) reported the death of five Moroccan migrants in a shipwreck off the coast of Western Sahara.

A few days earlier, six Moroccan would-be emigrants had drowned while attempting to cross to Spain off the coast of Nador province (northern Morocco), according to local authorities and the AMDH.

Located at the north-western tip of Africa, Morocco is a transit country for many migrants seeking to reach Europe from its Atlantic or Mediterranean coasts.

NGOs regularly report fatal shipwrecks in Moroccan, Spanish, and international waters, with unofficial figures numbering dozens, if not hundreds, of deaths.

Moroccan authorities claim to have foiled 26,000 attempts at irregular emigration during the first five months of 2023.

Another migration route from North Africa, the central Mediterranean -- between the coasts of Libya and Tunisia, and Italy -- is the world's most dangerous, with more than 20,000 deaths since 2014, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

"There is still room for mediation efforts in Niger", declared European commission spokesman Peter Stano during a press conference in Brussels on Tuesday.

Even though, efforts by ECOWAS and the United States to parlay with Niger's new rulers made no headway ahead of a regional summit to null options that include military intervention.

"At this stage, as I said, the European Union, we still believe that there is a there is a space, there is a room for a mediation effort. So, we will not go beyond and speculate. Very important to bear in mind, there is an extraordinary meeting of the ECOWAS (West Africa's regional bloc). ECOWAS is the main actor, the main regional actor in this. Whatever ECOWAS decides, will then be implemented. And the European Union has declared strong support for decisions and actions and efforts of ECOWAS to find a solution to this situation," stated Peter Stano.

In addition to the economic blockade imposed by ECOWAS, several countries and international organizations have expressed misgivings about their financial aid.

France, followed by Germany, was one of the first countries to announce the suspension of its official development assistance.

"All activities currently are suspended, meaning financial assistance, meaning civilian mission, the cooperation in security issues. So basically, we are not working together with the current illegitimate authorities in Niger," added the European Commission spokesperson.

ECOWAS had given the mutinous soldiers until Sunday to release and reinstall Mr. Bazoum, otherwise it threatened to use force.

It is not immediately clear what ECOWAS leaders will do now. There was no sign of any military build-up at Niger's border with Nigeria, the likely point of entry by land.

## World Bank says no new funding to Uganda over anti-gay law

The World Bank said it will not consider new loans to Uganda after the East African country earlier this year enacted an anti-gay bill that rights groups and others have condemned.

The World Bank had deployed a team to Uganda after the law was enacted in May and determined that additional measures were necessary to ensure projects align with the bank's environmental and social standards.

"No new public financing to Uganda will be presented to our Board of Executive Directors until the efficacy of the additional measures has been tested," the World Bank Group said in a statement on Tuesday.

"Our goal is to protect sexual and gender minorities from discrimination and exclusion in the projects we finance. These measures are currently under discussion with the authorities," it added.

The anti-gay legislation, which prescribes the death penalty for some homosexual acts, was signed into law in May. It has widespread support

at home, and Ugandan officials have been defiant amid concern that partners such as the World Bank and others might withdraw resources over the legislation. Some officials have suggested that the funding threats are inappropriate.

It was not immediately possible to get a comment from Ugandan finance authorities, who for months have been trying to secure new funding from the country's top multilateral lender.

The World Bank statement noted that despite the latest decision it remains "committed to helping all Ugandans - without exception - escape poverty, access vital services, and improve their lives."

The U.N. Human Rights Office has said the Ugandan law is "draconian and discriminatory," describing it as "a recipe for systematic violations of the rights" of LGBTQ+ people and others. The U.S. has warned of economic consequences.

Activists and some academics have challenged the law in court, but it remains unclear when hearings will begin.

Homosexuality is criminalized in more than 30 of Africa's 54 countries.

## Antony Blinken: "Wagner takes advantage of the situation in Niger"

The head of the American diplomacy

Antony Blinken warned in an interview published on Tuesday that Wagner was taking advantage of the instability caused by the coup in Niger, the group of Russian mercenaries having already moved closer to neighboring Mali.

The US secretary of state tells the BBC he does not believe Wagner - who initiated a failed rebellion attempt against Moscow in June - was behind the coup that ousted the president elected Mohamed Bazoum from office.

"I think what happened, and what continues to happen in Niger, was not orchestrated by Russia or Wagner," Blinken said. "But insofar as they take advantage of it - and this is a repetition of what has happened in other countries, where they have brought only bad things in their wake - it is not a good thing," he added.

"Wherever Wagner went: death, destruction, and exploitation followed," he added.

In Africa, Wagner offers a catalog of services to struggling plans. In Mali, in the Central African Republic, it protects the power in place, offers military training, even legal advice to rewrite the mining code or the Constitution.



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken at a press conference - Copyright © africanews Boureima Hama/AP

In exchange, the group practices predation and pays itself on local resources, in particular gold mines and other minerals.

"The whole of the central Sahel region could come under Russian influence via the Wagner group whose brutal terrorism has been clearly exposed in Ukraine," wrote President-elect Mohamed Bazoum in an op-ed published Thursday in the Washington Post.

From the capital Niamey, Antony Blinken's deputy said yesterday that "the people who took this decision (of the coup) understand very well the risks to their sovereignty posed by an invitation from Wagner".

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP



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### Public Notice

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

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3	Full Page	1,000	1,500
4	Centre Spread	2,000	3,000

#### Coloured

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

The cover price remains the same.

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

Your cooperation is highly solicited.

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

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

SIERRA LEONE BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION  
Motto: Victory in Solidarity  
48 Jenner Wright Road Uppon Freetown  
Tel: +232 76638022/+232 76648943/+232 76640162/+232 76648585  
Email: [sierralionebroadcasters22@gmail.com](mailto:sierralionebroadcasters22@gmail.com)



#### PRESS RELEASE INCREASE IN COST OF RADIO COMMERCIALS Mile 91 Town, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### FREETOWN

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

#### PROVINCIAL

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

SILBA regrets any inconvenience this may cause.

END

Signed:

Daniel M. Amara  
Secretary General

Approved By:

Stanley Bangura Jr  
Chairman



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

Country: Sierra Leone

Project: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

SUBJECT: SMALL MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SMES) COACH SPECIALIST ON COOPERATIVE UNION WITH CLEAR MILESTONES  
Reference No. SLE-2000001544-0003-CS-ICS

The Government of Sierra Leone has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Adaption Fund (AF), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and Toni Blair Institute (TBI) towards the cost of Agriculture Value Chain Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the recruitment of consultant as **Small Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) Coach Specialist on cooperative Union with clear Milestones**

The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with the **Agriculture Value Chain Development Project**

The main objective of this consultancy service is **to increase on Market Access/ Market Linkages for the project beneficiaries for a profitable Business Arrangement with private sector.**

The specific objective include:

- To Train and coach Agribusiness staff as Agribusiness performing coached for cooperative union.
- To develop comprehensive skill master coaching curriculum or manual for improving performance of value chains along Cooperative Unions (CU) through strong FBOs and market buyers
- To develop minimum key performance parameters for FBOs and CUs around operations (MT), profitability, FBO/farmer outreach, FBO dividends, strong Governance (leadership representative and annual change, gender & youth inclusive, enacted strategic business plans

The attention of interested consultants is drawn to IFAD's Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy and the Revised IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption its Activities and Operations accessible at the IFAD website: [www.ifad.org](http://www.ifad.org). The latter sets forth IFAD's provisions on prohibited practices. IFAD further strives to ensure a safe working environment free of harassment, including sexual harassment, and free of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in its activities and operations as detailed in its IFAD Policy to Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse accessible at the IFAD website.

Interested consultants shall not have any actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest. Consultants with an actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest shall be disqualified unless otherwise explicitly approved by the Fund. Consultants are considered to have a conflict of interest if they a) have a relationship that provides them with undue or undisclosed information about or influence over the selection process and the execution of the contract, or b) have a business or family relationship with a member of the client's board of directors or its personnel, the Fund or its personnel, or any other individual that was, has been or might reasonably be directly or indirectly involved in any part of (i) the preparation of the REOI, (ii) the selection process for this procurement, or (iii) execution of the contract. Consultants have an ongoing obligation to disclose any situation of actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest during preparation of the EOI, the selection process or the contract execution. Failure to properly disclose any of said situations may lead to appropriate actions, including the disqualification of the consultant, the termination of the contract and any other as appropriate under the IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Projects and Operations.

The **Agriculture Value Chain Development Project**, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security now invites eligible Individual consultants ("consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services in the form of a curriculum vitae (CV). A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual consultant selection (ICS) method set out in IFAD Project Procurement Handbook that can be accessed via the IFAD website at [www.ifad.org/project-procurement](http://www.ifad.org/project-procurement). Interviews will not be conducted as part of the selection process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

1. **Qualification:** At least a Master's in Business Development, Entrepreneurship, Agricultural Economic or related discipline from a recognized university. = **35 marks**
2. **Experience:**
  - i. At least ten years working experience in recognized organizations in the field of policy, strategy development and/or managing similar systems = **30 marks**
  - ii. At least 10 years of professional and combine experience in corporate and practical entrepreneurship, teaching and training /workshop content and preparation of manuals and guide across different organizations outside Sierra Leone = **35 marks**

Clarifications may be requested by e-mail not later than 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023, so that responses can be issued to all consultants not later than 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023.  
The address for requesting clarifications is: Email: [avdppmu@gmail.com](mailto:avdppmu@gmail.com)

Expressions of interest in the form of Curriculum Vitae must be delivered by e-mail or hard copy to the following address on or before 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 at 16:00 GMT.

Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

23 Torwama Road, Freetown  
[avdppmu@gmail.com](mailto:avdppmu@gmail.com)



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**Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning  
Sierra Leone Land Administration Project (P177031)**



WORLD BANK

**Request for Bid  
For the procurement of service to design, supply and install  
Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), Rovers  
And related trainings.**

*Purchaser: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning*

*Project: Sierra Leone Land Administration Project*

*Contract title: Procurement of service to design, supply and install  
Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), Rovers, and  
related trainings.*

*Country: Sierra Leone*

*Loan No. P177031*

*RFB No: SL-MLHCP-352059-NC-RFB*

*Issued on: 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.*

US Dollars Bank Account details:

Bank Name: Sierra Leone Commercial Bank

Bank Address: 29/31 Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown

Account Name: Sierra Leone Land Administration Project

Account Number: 003001103735412192

Correspondence Bank Details through CROWN AGENTS  
BANK:

Correspondent Bank Details

Intermediary Bank

Citibank N.A

SWIFT BIC CITIUS33

In favour of our correspondent bank:

Crown Agents Bank

SWIFT BIC: CRASGB2L

For the credit of:

Sierra Leone Commercial Bank Limited

SWIFT BIC: SLCBSLFR

Account No. 33445101

LEONE Bank Account details:

SLE ACCOUNT NUMBER: 003001103735112171

ACCOUNT NAME: SIERRA LEONE LAND  
ADMINISTRATION PROJECT

BANK NAME: SIERRA LEONE COMMERCIAL BANK

ADDRESS: 29/31 SIAKA STEVENS STREET,  
FREETOWN

Purchased bids must be collected by the bidder/representative.

1. The Government of Sierra Leone, through the Ministry of Finance has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sierra Leone Land Administration Project (SLLAP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement to design, supply, and install Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), Rovers and related trainings. For this contract, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the World Bank's Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing, except for those payments, which the contract provides to be made through letter of credit.
2. The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning (MLHCP), through the Project Coordinating Unit now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the Procurement of service to design, supply and install Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), Rovers and related trainings in Sierra Leone, within a contract duration of eleven (11) calendar months.
3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers for the Procurement of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, November 2020 version ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning - Sierra Leone Land Administration Project (SLLAP), West Wing of third floor, Youyi Building Brookfields, Freetown. E-mail address is [sllaproject@gmail.com](mailto:sllaproject@gmail.com), copying [alphajohcham@yahoo.com](mailto:alphajohcham@yahoo.com) and [joejoe7787@yahoo.com](mailto:joejoe7787@yahoo.com). Bidding document can be inspected during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours Sierra Leone time at the address given below.
5. The bidding document is in English language and may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of One thousand One Hundred and Fifty New Sierra Leone Leones (SLE 1,150) or in a convertible currency. The method of payment will be direct bank deposit, using the following account details:
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 2023 at 15:30 Sierra Leone Time. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on Tuesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 2023 at 15:50 Sierra Leone Time.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of Six Hundred and Ninety-Seven Thousand New Sierra Leone Leones (SLE 697,000) or equivalent in a freely convertible currency.
8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
9. The address referred to above is:  
Alphajoh Cham (PhD), Project Coordinator  
Sierra Leone Land Administration Project (SLLAP), Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning (MLHCP)  
3rd Floor of Youyi Building (West Wing), Brookfields,  
Freetown, Sierra Leone.  
Telephone number: +23276772662  
[sllaproject@gmail.com](mailto:sllaproject@gmail.com)



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**TRANSFAPAY** **STAR TIMES**  
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**MARITIME** **WORLD BANK** **AFRIGAS** **RADISSON BLU HOTEL**  
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**PRA** **FAWAZ BUILDING MATERIALS** **ECOMED** **PARTNERS IN HEALTH**  
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