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SAY NO TO DRUGS




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Neglect: Over 15 health workers suspended

By Alhaji Haruna Sani



Isha Johansen is a guest of a London Fashion Week

Isha Johansen invited to London Fashion Week



Deputy Minister of Health 1, Professor Charles Senesissie speaking to newsmen at the Kingharman Road Hospital

Government through the Ministry of Health and Sanitation has suspended over 15 health workers for what the ministry referred to as poor ethical discharge of duties, which led to the death of destitute pregnant woman and her unborn child. While updating the press at the Kingharman Road Hospital in Freetown about the unfortunate incident, the Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) 1, Professor Charles Senesissie, explained that while he was on his regular routine across different government hospitals in Freetown, he was informed about the tragic death of a destitute woman who was rejected in two hospitals during her labour.

Cont. Page 2

Rokel Commercial Bank launches e-banking 'basket'



Hospital on Wheels: China donates \$20, 000 dollar to MoHS



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LOCAL NEWS

From Cover

"I was informed that at around 10pm on Thursday, a destitute pregnant woman was hopelessly lying and vomiting and ceaselessly bleeding on the street of Spur Road in Freetown. A medical doctor who was passing by interrogated the people around the woman including police officers, who told him about her condition. They contacted the National Emergency Medical Service (NEMS) to take the woman to the government hospital," he explained.

He said the medical practitioner together with staff NEMS took the woman to the Satellite Hospital at Kingharman Road and the Princess Christian Maternal Hospital (PCMH) at Cottage Hospital, respectively, but that the medical practitioners on duty rejected the patient despite her dire condition.

The deputy minister went on to state that it was recommended that they take the poor woman, who was mentally derange to the Rokupar Hospital at Wallington.

He said the nurse from NEMS failed to follow due process by taking the patient to the Lumley Police Station and made an official complaint that two hospitals had rejected the patient.

The minister said while they were at the police station, calls were made to the Rokupar Hospital at Wallington and that they were given green light, but unfortunately the patient and her unborn child lost their lives on the way.

"This poor demonstration of the work of the health care sector is unacceptable in our country. There are colleagues in the profession who are not up to the level of empathy and professional discharge of duty," he said.

Professor Senessie informed the press that after receiving information about the horrific event, the ministry summoned all professionals, including the ambulance services and the medical doctor, who gave the philanthropic assistance to the late patient.

He said following the meeting, disciplinary measures were taken including the suspension of all medical practitioners and absentees that were supposed to be on duty and those who were on contracts, were immediately suspended because of poor judgment and non-acceptance of the patient.

The minister said their actions will send a message to other healthcare workers to



know that poor discharge of duty is not acceptable.

He said while detail investigation is still ongoing, an on-the-spot inspection was carried out by himself and the chief pharmacist of the pharmacy board to see what the challenges of health workers were.

He said they identified lapses for which some of the pharmacist and technicians were suspended and others queried.

"We would ensure that the health care delivery system is optimised and aligned with the vision of the ministry of health and the global vision. Colleagues who are not optimized to a high level of competence will face disciplinary measures, go through refreshers courses and the like," he stated.

He encourages the citizenry to forward complaint of any issue regarding poor

health care management.

"We are working on expanding the hospital services by having more hospital being built in Waterloos, Lumley and other strategic areas so as to ease the pressure on the referral hospital. But until then, every health care worker has the onus on to discharge their duties in line with their oath which is to protect the life of every patient the come in touch with," he said.

He said the ministry will do a detail root cause analysis to see all the circumstances that surround healthcare work, so that they will be given the enabling environment as well, but until then, health care workers have the ethical mandate and responsibility that every patient has the right to life and no patient should be turned away from any government hospital in the country for any other reason.

He said the ministry of health is the custodian of health in the country and that they were working in line with the vision of the International community, especially the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals in particular, the universal health coverage wherein after 2030 no one should be left behind,irrespective of their financial, social and mental status.

Rokel Commercial Bank launches e-banking 'basket'

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

In a bid to making banking transactions easier and to promote financial inclusion in the country, Rokel Commercial Banks (RCB) has launched their electronic banking basket (e-banking basket).

The E-banking 'basket' is a platform that houses all the bank's electronic products and services.

Speaking at the launching ceremony that was held last Friday at the D'Bbim D'Bam Conference Hall in Freetown, the Bank's Managing Director, Ekundayo Walton Gilpin said the bank has gone through great transformation over the years, especially in the area of digital transformation.

He said the transformation was achieved because the right team was put together to run the bank.

He said with the digital transformation, customers can now have access to their bank accounts and do transactions wherever they are in the world and at any time.

The managing director said access to finance points and access to finance have grown in Sierra Leone over the years due to the massive introduction of digital technology that has promotes financial inclusion.

He said having digitally transformed the bank with lots of products that have helped in making banking easier, they now see it fit



that they have a one platform that houses all of those digital products for easy access by the bank's customers and that was why they launched the E-banking 'basket' product.

Board Chairman of the bank, Buffy Bailor, said the launch of such platform was a tremendous development not only for the bank, but for Sierra Leone as a whole.

He said it has not been an easy journey, but that the most important thing is that the bank is creating positive impact for its customers and promoting financial inclusion like the rest of the world.

Keynote speaker, who doubles as Head of Banking Supervision at the Bank of Sierra Leone, Hilton Jarrett, congratulated and commended the management of the bank for taking such initiative, which ensures customers have access to quality electronic

products and services and also appreciated the bank for supporting the Bank of Sierra Leone in it strive towards increasing financial inclusion and providing access to financial services, using electronics and digital platforms.

He said the launch of the platform marked another milestone in the digitalisation of the financial system and the Bank of Sierra Leone notes that, the Rokel Commercial Bank has been one of the pioneers in e-banking and has introduced a number of products including the Rokel Sim Kopor, which is the most popular product in the country.

He said commercial banks in Sierra Leone over the last five years have been inventing themselves to respond to global digitalization drive and characterized by customers' increased preferences.

He said today, banks have mobile apps and other digital services using the internet and mobile networks, which allow customers to access funds and make payment without moving.

He said the emergence of those electronic products in the banking sector over the decade, in partnership with technological companies, has helped in bridging the financial inclusion gap in the country.

He said the collaboration is commendable and should be sustained and that improving efficiency financial transaction through electronics payment, would not only increase productivity, but will also minimize cost and make transactions easy.

He said the banking sector continues to remain resilient in its ability to offer critical products and services, adding that since the COVID-19 lockdown, there has been a massive push for electronic products to enable businesses and the public to make and receive payment using digital wallet without physical contact.

He said the launch of the Rokel Commercial Bank electronics banking product and services will not only complement the existing arrangement, but would also serve as a catalyst to the introduction of other products.

Launching the product, Deputy Minister of Finance, Jeneba Bangura, said the Bank is leading in the digital platform and that she was impressed that they have done it in a short time.

He said the bank was working in line with the government's agenda- digital transformation in the country and that the ministry is there to provide the enabling environment.



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LOCAL NEWS Hospital on Wheels: China donates \$20,000 dollar to MoHS

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

As a way of solving healthcare challenges in rural communities across the country, the People's Republic of China, through the Ambassador to Sierra Leone, Wang Qing, has handed over \$20,000 thousand United States Dollars to the Ministry of Health in support of the Hospital on Wheels Project.

The handing over was done at the Ministry of Health's conference room, Youyi Building, where they also commemorated the one year anniversary of the project.

In his statement, Ambassador Wang Qing said he was very pleased to be invited to attend the ceremony for the initiation of a great new tour for the mobile medical clinics to travel to remote areas and provide outreach services.

He said the mobile clinic is a special gift

from the envoy of President Xi Jinping during the inaugural ceremony of President Bio in 2018, adding that it was launched in 2022.

He said since then the leadership of MoHS operations team and local health department have been doing a great job.

"I know these mobile clinics have traveled to 13 districts across Sierra Leone, served more than 37,000 people, treated a lot of severe patients and saved a number of patients' lives, especially for vulnerable babies, pregnant women, elderly people who are hard to access quality health care," he said

He continued that they were impressed by how the mobile clinics could be an innovation and efficient solution to the healthcare accessibility problem when they are well integrated into the current health system.

"I impressed by the commitments of the



Embassy's continuous support to the project. Last year, they were able to support with \$100,000 dollar to the running of the project," Amb. Qing said. He added that they will continue to work with the MoHS to expand the Mobile Clinics services, so that healthcare services will meet more people.

He said health and medical cooperation are always the highlight of China-

Sierra Leone fruitful practical cooperation since the establishment of diplomatic ties over 52 years

Deputy Minister of Health two, Dr. Jalikatu Mustapha, said the government, headed by President Julius Maada Bio, through the Ministry of Health, remains dedicated to providing quality, free and accessible healthcare services to all Sierra Leoneans, devoid of the location. She said taking healthcare to people in local communities remains central to achieving Universal Health Coverage. "I am so happy for this service; I don't know how to appreciate the People's Republic of China and government, especially the health ministry. This is good, we just pray that it continues," she expressed.

Isha Johansen invited to London Fashion Week

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

Sierra Leonean FIFA top envoy, Isha Johansen, has been invited to the London Fashion Week by the Diana Dahlia PR.

The program is scheduled to take place from 15th to 19th September this year.

Johansen, who currently serves as a board member at the football world governing body FIFA Foundation, was once President of the Sierra Leone Association (SLFA) and also one of the pioneers of Fashion for Change, a platform that targets, advocates, and empowers female inmates in Sierra Leone.

"Dear Ms. Isha Johansen, Re: Invitation to London Fashion Week. All Things Fashion - Fashionista Event Diana Dahlia PR's 'Unity In Diversity Division' is delighted to announce that for the 3rd year in a row, we are on the official Schedule of London Fashion Week 2023 with our ALL THINGS FASHION - Fashionista Event," the invitation states.

According to the organisers, they have made history in 2021 and 2022, championing Diversity, Inclusion, Equality in London Fashion Week (LFW), which embraces her (Johansen's) work, empowering young girls in Correctional Centres using Football and Fashion.

"DDPR Fashion Brand's success at LFW is firmly established and continues to grow from strength to strength. On behalf of Diana Dahlia PR/London Fashion Week, it is with great pleasure and honor that we extend an invitation to you and your foundation members, particularly



the implementing partners in the fashion industry, who have voluntarily given time and resources to impact knowledge and skills to women and young girls at the Freetown Women's Correctional Centre in Sierra Leone, with the aim of empowering them with tailoring and crafts skills."

The organisers commended and congratulated Johansen and members for the fundraising event held by Fashion for Change Show in September 2022, which went towards legal representation and payment of fines for inmates.

They noted that their events received a lot of national and international mainstream media attention which increases their viewership into the millions, putting the brand in-front of hundreds of people at the event and millions more that will see photos and videos of her participation and messages from the event for years to come.

They expressed their delight to welcome the following designers who are partners of your foundation, including Jenneh Amara Bangali (Swank Couture) Musa Senesie. (De Pa Musa).

Pharmacy professionals brace up to tackle drug abuse

By Joseph Sesay (Josestar-Intern)

Dr. Moses Batema echoes; "In the days of the P&D act, when dispensers were grandfathered to pharmacists, things were better, you would see pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in most premises you visit".

The Director of Pharmaceutical Services, urges his contemporaries within the pharmaceutical sector in Sierra Leone to brace up for tighter regulations in the importation, distribution and provision of pharmaceutical care in the country amidst calls from government to tackle the rampant misuse and abuse of drugs nationwide.

Pharmacy professionals in Sierra Leone are charged with the responsibilities of being the sole custodians of drugs and medical supplies. But lately, many perceive the pharmaceutical sector a travesty of its recent past with unregulated drug dealers plying the nook and cranny of the country.

"It is unacceptable that we can relinquish 5-6 years of study, and leave all of that knowledge to unregulated drug peddlers," he said.

Senior Pharmacist, Dr. Adikali Kamara highlighted the significance of bringing onboard new regulations in the not too distant future.

He stated the need for professional presence to be heightened in all pharmaceutical outlets in order to provide more accountability and supervision in the way and manner at which importers and wholesalers distribute pharmaceuticals nationwide.

He emphasised the need for professionals to always be in their traditional white coats.

The pharmacy guru emphasised the



Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Dr. Moses Batema

need to design a framework that would enhance transparency in the drug distribution supply chain in the country so as to prevent unscrupulous members from polluting the profession and the industry in its entirety.

In another development, the Pharmacy Board Sierra Leone, convened a meeting of all pharmacy professionals to discuss critical challenges within the pharmaceutical sector especially its human resource.

The meeting held at the Portuguese Town Church recently comprised, Ministry of Health Senior Management personnel like the Chief Pharmacist Dr. Moses Batema, President of Pharmaceutical Society Dr. Eugene Conteh, Deputy Minister of Health Professor Charles Senesie, Chief Medical Officer—Dr. Sartie Kanneh, Managing Director of National Medicines Supply Agency – Dr. Lawrence Sandy and the dean of Pharmaceutical Sciences Dr. Mohamed Bayoh.

The team expressed their commitment to helping the board strengthen and implement the necessary regulations in ensuring that drug and drug related issues receive the utmost attention within the ministry.

LOCAL NEWS **Govt. awards contract for Kailahun-Buedu Road works supervision**

The Government of Sierra Leone, through the Sierra Leone Roads Authority (SLRA), has awarded the contract to Consulting Engineers Group (CEG) Limited for the Design Review and Construction Supervision for the Upgrading of the Kailahun-Buedu Road.

The contract between SLRA and CEG was signed by the Director General, Ing. Amara Jambai Kanneh and Director Bernard Obika on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at the China Henan International Corporation Co. Ltd (CHICO) campsite in Gbalahun village, Kailahun District, in the presence of the Minister of Works and Public Assets, Dr. Denis Sandy and members of the project communities.

CEG is an Indian international infrastructure engineering consulting company that provides services in design, planning, engineering, consulting and construction management solutions to highways, bridges, tunnels, railways, metros, buildings and water resources.

The contract requires CEG to assist SLRA in providing effective supervision, management and monitoring of the execution of the civil

works on the project which is carried out by CHICO.

Before signing the contract, the Director General of SLRA noted that despite the country has recently being through an elections, President Bio is committed to construct the Kailahun- Koindu - Guinea-Liberia Border Road.

Ing. Kanneh encouraged the community people to take opportunity of the road project by embarking on large scale farming to increase their production capacities and boost the national economy. "We are connecting you to the cities so that when you harvest your products you can easily transport them to bigger markets in the country, not to smuggle them to neighbouring countries as you used to do," he cautioned.

The Director of CEG, Dr. Bernard Obika, thanked the Government of Sierra Leone for choosing his company to supervise the road works. "We have supervised many road works across the world, including those done in Zambia by CHICO, and I can confirm that they do very good work," he said.

Both companies committed to work together and ensure that the road works were done according to the design of the project.

While addressing the locals, the Minister of Works and Public Assets, Dr. Denis Sandy, said that President Bio was very passionate about road development, especially the Kailahun-Koindu - Guinea-Liberia Border Road Project, because of the many benefits that it stands to bring to the country.

Dr. Sandy encouraged them to embrace and protect the project because of the direct benefits that they will gain from it, and assured the land owning families that government is committed to compensate them for their properties.

The Deputy Director General of SLRA, Ing. Alfred Jalil Momodu, told the land owning families that SLRA wanted to carefully clarify the measurement of the land and their ownership, especially for properties with multiple claims of ownerships, because it



does not want to pay compensation to the wrong people.

The Town Chief of Gbalahun, Chief Korjie thanked the Minister and SLRA for addressing most of the concerns of the land owning families.

CHICO are far advanced in the site establishment, including quarry installations and the construction of camp site for the supervision engineers which is scheduled for completion by end of October.

ANAIM calls on IOM, WHI to rescue female migrants from Oman

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

The Executive Director of the Advocacy Network Against Irregular Migration (ANAIM), Sheku Bangura has called on International Organisation for Migration (IOM), World Hope International (WHI) to help reintegrate the over sixty migrant returnees from Oman.

While giving a word of courage to the frustrated female deportees at his 3E Baibureh Road office at Ferry Junction in Freetown, Bangura called on the Sierra Leonean Government, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and World Hope International (WHI) among other aid organisations and individuals to come to the aid of the young traumatized women.

"These women have suffered the blunt of irregular migration; most of them were recently released from prisons where some spent over a year for no just cause which have left them frustrated," he pleaded.

He called on all to come to their rescue and help resettle them in order to avert them from falling into prey of drug abuse which is currently a serious concern in the country.

Bangura said after spending huge sum to embark on the risky journey, all of the migrants returned empty handed and their families and societies rejected them outright. Sharing her tiresome experience with Concord Times, Haja Conteh who was a certified welder and bid weaver said she was motivated by her maternal aunt who had



travel to Kuwait and was doing well, "but my own travelling was rather ill-fated and have plunge me in regrets," she recounted.

Conteh said she spent nine months in prison, out of the two years six months she spent in Oman. "I was reported by my master to the police after I felt sick and could no longer effectively perform the house chores including car wash and farm work I use to do. I was arrested and imprisoned for breach of contract according to the police," she lamented.

For Emma Fofanah, she was a successful fish monger until she was deceived three years ago by her friends who lure her into the journey that turned her into a mere slave, she said.

Most of the returnees share similar ordeal with this medium and called on government and other organisations to come to their aid.

"Upon our returned, our parents, husbands, friends, neighbours, and the society in general have rejected us, we needed help now than ever before, so please come to our aids," most of the women wailed.

Bio reiterates commitment to good governance, press freedom



President Julius Maada Bio today reiterated his commitment to the Constitutional Review Process, which commenced today, met the journalists' association on post-repeal engagements and hosted the All Political Parties' Association, APPA, to discussions around sustained political inclusion.

Five years after the report on the last review process of the 1991 Constitution was submitted, President Bio's government released the long-awaited White Paper on the review in January 2022, reinforcing his commitment to constitutional rule and multiparty democracy.

"The 1991 Constitution marked the transition from one-party dictatorship under the 1978 Constitution to a multiparty democracy. 22 years later His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio is demonstrating an unprecedented and unrivalled commitment to the review process," said Press Secretary Solomon Jamiru,

immediately after their meetings with the national executive of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists and APPA.

"These commitments will undoubtedly deepen the protection around civil and political liberties, strengthen the judiciary, improve the dispensation of justice and ensure that the governance climate works for and on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone," he said.

The leadership of APPA endorsed the reelection of the President and proposed ways they could all work on the government's plans to engage all political party stakeholders in the interest of peace, national cohesion and development.

The courtesy call, by SLAJ, comes on the back of the President's demonstration of commitment by repealing Part 5 of the 1965 Public Order Act, which criminalised libel, and they also recognised his abiding commitment to Press Freedom and a Champion of Press Freedom.



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NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

UN Secretary-General says coups are not the solution

Following a spate of coups in African countries, United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, on Friday warned that military takeovers only make things worse.

"Many countries face deep-seated governance challenges but military governments are not the solution," he said.

"They aggravate problems. They cannot resolve the crisis. They can only make it worse. I urge all countries to move quickly to establish credible democratic institutions and the rule of law."

Guterres said international bodies like the African Union should be strengthened in their efforts to

foster peace, stability, and democracy on the continent.

At the same time, conditions need to be created that allow African citizens to address the root causes of political instability; lack of development being a major factor, he said.

"Development is a central objective if we want to create conditions for peace and stability in Africa."

His comments come after a coup d'état in Gabon on Wednesday, the eighth in Africa since 2020. The previous one saw the military take power in Niger in July.

Gabon's new strongman threatens business leaders over corruption

General Brice Oligui Nguema, Gabon's new strongman since the overthrow of President Ali Bongo Ondimba, has threatened contractors involved in corruption, which is endemic in this country, and demanded that they show "patriotism" and "commitment" to the "development of the country".

Recent audits have shown that "companies have overcharged and the services will revisit these investigations so that this overcharging reverts to the State", he declared in a firm tone and with a dark look in his eyes before more than 200 Gabonese business leaders "summoned" to the Presidency of the Republic on Thursday, in a speech broadcast in its entirety on Friday on the state television channels.

At the same time, the state television channels were showing a loop of images showing one of the sons of the deposed president, Noureddin Bongo Valentin, and other former young senior members of the presidential cabinet arrested on Thursday, the day of the putsch, in front of trunks, suitcases and bags filled with billions of CFA francs that had apparently been seized from their homes.

Mr Bongo Valentin and the six former senior officials from the office of the President and his all-powerful Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG) who were arrested are accused by the military of "massive misappropriation of public funds", "falsification of the signature of the President of the Republic" and "high treason".

Mr Bongo's opposition and civil society regularly accused contractors close to the government of

practising massive "overbilling" in their contracts with the state, in return for kickbacks paid to senior government officials.

General Oligui, head of the presidential guard, who is due to be sworn in as "president of the transition" on Monday, thundered: "It is difficult to perceive, at this stage, your commitment and your patriotism when it comes to the development expected (by the country) by our compatriots." "I am speaking the truth to you, which should enable each and every one of you to truly question yourselves", he said, adding: "This is a situation that, for me, cannot continue, and I will not tolerate it".

"I encourage you to change your paradigm and to ensure that, in the face of the power that I now embody, I am faced with responsible companies, not companies that are created according to the interests and situations of the moment, with the plan of over-invoicing that we all know about and enrichment as has been noted", he added.



General Brice Oligui Nguema (R) and Gabonese officials salute next to a military vehicle. - Copyright © africanews ISSOUF SANOGO/AFP or licensors

Sniffer dogs search for bodies at scene of tragic Johannesburg blaze

Most of the emergency services teams have left the scene of one of South Africa's deadliest fires that ripped through a Johannesburg building on Thursday.

On Friday, it was the turn of police sniffer dogs to search through the gutted remains of the derelict premises to see if they could find any more bodies.

The blaze at the condemned five-storey block claimed 74 lives, most of them burnt beyond recognition. Investigators said they will have to rely on DNA samples to identify the victims.

City authorities said an estimated 200 people were living in the abandoned building which had been turned into illegal housing.

While household fires are common in

Johannesburg, this is especially true in poor areas where people often use candles for lighting and dangerous paraffin stoves for cooking.

But Thursday's blaze has highlighted the country's inner-city housing crisis.

Behind the police tape, some survivors wait, bearing the scars of their ordeal such as head injuries and broken bones.

Others, together with relatives of victims, have begun the grim task of identifying their loved ones at a nearby mortuary.

The cause of the fire remains unknown, but forensic investigators were also at the site on Friday, picking through the charred remains of the building.

MSF warns of major emergency in Sudanese refugee camps in Chad

Hundreds of thousands of people fleeing Sudan's war have crossed into Chad with many of them ending up in overcrowded camps in the eastern town of Adré.

There they face tough conditions, with the camps that house them running low on everything from food, to water, sanitary facilities, shelter, and medical care.

At a makeshift field hospital in Adré, volunteer doctors are doing their best.

"The majority of our patients are sick with malaria, eye infections, respiratory diseases and malnutrition. The field hospital we work in is very small and we need to make the space a bit bigger," says Dr Nour al-Sham.

Overcrowded conditions in the camp, combined

many are fed up and desperate for change in Africa, analysts say



This video grab shows coup supporters cheering police officers in Libreville, Gabon. - Copyright © africanews Bettina Mackosso/Copyright 2023 The AP. All rights reserved.

After mutinous soldiers in Gabon announced they had deposed the country's president, many residents danced in the streets and declared themselves free from the presidential family's 55-year rule. It's becoming a familiar scene in West and Central Africa, which has recorded eight coups since 2020.

"It is an expression of the popular dissatisfaction," said Hermann Ngoulou in the Gabonese capital of Libreville. "The country has been experiencing a deep crisis on all levels due to bad governance, the rising cost of food (and) the high cost of living." There have been about 100 documented coups across Africa since the 1950s. This resurgence of military takeovers is often prompted by diminishing democratic dividends, according to analysts.

In Gabon, the coup occurred shortly after the president was declared the winner of the election from which international observers, for the first time, had been barred.

That's not unusual in a region where elections are often alleged to be flawed, longtime leaders pursue the extension or elimination of term limits, and civic space is eroded by misgovernance, said Tiseke Kasamba, the director of Africa programs at the Washington-based Freedom House watchdog group.

In the end, the result is "widespread resentment and frustration amongst citizens," she said.

At least 27, or half, of the 54 countries in Africa are among the 30 least developed in the world, according to the latest United Nations Human Development Index. Most are in West and Central Africa, often endowed with natural resources whose rich profits are little seen by everyday citizens.

The failure of leaders to significantly improve the lives of their populations has left people frustrated and desperate, said Remi Adekoya, a politics lecturer at the University of York.

"Africans do not think the idea of military rule is great; it is the disappointment in what is supposed to be a democratic rule that is causing people, if not openly support military dictatorship, to not be against it," Adekoya said. "The leaders who are supposed to be democrats are not abiding by the rules of democracy ... and people are wondering, what is in this system for me?"

Research network Afrobarometer's 2023 surveys found that the number of people supporting democracy and elections in Africa has fallen. Only 68% of respondents across 34 countries preferred democracy to any other system of government, down from 73% a decade ago.

"A significant correlation" was established between the number of Africans reporting

substantial corruption in the presidential office and dissatisfaction with democracy.

Most respondents believed elections are "an imperfect but essential tool for choosing their leaders," the study noted.

On Aug. 26, as Gabonese went to the polls, authorities cut off the internet. As service returned in the hours after the coup, the president used it as a megaphone to the world, sharing a video in which he called on friends of Gabon to "make noise" for his restoration.

International sanctions imposed to reverse coups in Africa have often failed, resulting instead in more hardship for populations already struggling with high rates of poverty and hunger.

Niger was the world's third-least-developed country before the coup there in July, and has 4.3 million people in need of humanitarian aid, according to the U.N. Sanctions aimed at reversing that coup resulted in "serious socio-economic crises" for Niger's residents, the head of West Africa's regional ECOWAS Commission, Omar Aliou Touray, told reporters recently in Nigeria.

Even as frustration grows against what some describe as "electoral coups" that keep longtime leaders in power, analysts warn that military regimes are never the answer, and efforts to intervene should be aimed at entrenching democracies.

"If a country requires reforms before elections, then the best way to support these reforms must be seriously considered, even if the protagonists include military coup leaders," wrote Ornella Moderan, head of the Institute for Security Studies Sahel program.

The mutinous soldiers in Gabon claim to have taken power in the interest of the people — a familiar line in past coups elsewhere.

Militaries have sometimes been encouraged by what appears to be popular support, Adekoya said. "What is most encouraging for any would-be coup plotter today is the reaction of the crowd to the coups, the fact that on many streets in these countries, people are coming out to celebrate them," he said.

However military regimes have not proven to be a better alternative for good governance.

In Mali, where soldiers have been in power since 2020, the Islamic State group almost doubled the territory they control in less than a year, according to U.N. experts. And in Burkina Faso, which recorded two coups in 2020, economic growth slowed to 2.5% in 2022 following a robust 6.9% the year before.

In other places like Chad, military regimes have been accused of clamping down on dissidents, sometimes resulting in extrajudicial killings.

with the onset of Chad's rainy season and the lack of water and poor sanitation, makes the camp a hotbed for the spread of diseases.

Adam Bakht is an elderly man who has been desperately waiting for medical attention along with some 200,000 other refugees in the town.

"I have diabetes, asthma, and allergies. They only gave me an injection to ease the pain. My diabetes medication is supposed to arrive in three

days, but for my asthma they told me to buy an inhaler from outside the camp," he said.

As hundreds of refugees continue to arrive at the camp, charity Doctors Without Borders warns that the situation, already a major emergency, risks deteriorating further if there is not a substantial scale-up of humanitarian aid.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP



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TENDER NOTICE FOR THE PRINTING OF HIV DATA-CAPTURING TOOLS

Timeline:

	Item	Date
1	ITT Published	30 th August 2023
2	Closing date for clarifications	5 th September 2023
3	Closing date and time for receipt of Tenders	11 th September 2023- 1:45pm -GMT
4	Deadline for Submission	12 th September 2023

Interested bidders can collect the tender document:

1. At Jhpiego Office, 1 Sonia Drive Hill Station from the 30th of August 2023 - 12th September 2023

Background

Since its founding in 1973, Jhpiego has been innovating to save the lives of women and families worldwide

Jhpiego creates and delivers transformative healthcare solutions that save lives. In partnership with national governments, health experts, and local communities, Jhpiego builds health providers' skills and develops systems that save lives now and guarantee healthier futures for women and their families.

Jhpiego through the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) continue to provide innovative and evidence-based interventions across 30 high-volume sites in 4 high burden districts of Sierra Leone to meet the UNAIDS 95.95.95 target for HIV epidemic control.

Jhpiego is seeking a vendor to supply the following:

Item Description	Specification
Printing of various HIV HIV-capturing tools	HIV Data Capturing Tools

General Requirements

1. Must be registered to conduct business and in compliance with governmental tax regulations in Sierra Leone.
2. Jhpiego retains the right to reject, cancel, negotiate, amend, split, and accept any offer, without consideration of the lowest offer.
3. This is an invitation to potential bidders and is not a promise or obligation that Jhpiego will contract with bidders through the submitted offers.



TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SAFE SPACE MATERIALS FOR KEY POPULATION DROP-IN CENTERS (KP-DICs) (FURNISHING OF SAFE SPACES)

Timeline:

	Item	Date
1	ITT Published	30 th August 2023
2	Closing date for clarifications	5 th September 2023
3	Closing date and time for receipt of Tenders	11 th September 2023- 1:45pm -GMT
4	Deadline for Submission	12 th September 2023

Interested bidders can collect the tender document:

1. At Jhpiego Office, 1 Sonia Drive Hill Station from the 30th of August 2023 - 12th of September 2023

Background

Since its founding in 1973, Jhpiego has been innovating to save the lives of women and families worldwide

Jhpiego creates and delivers transformative healthcare solutions that save lives. In partnership with national governments, health experts, and local communities, Jhpiego builds health providers' skills and develops systems that save lives now and guarantee healthier futures for women and their families.

Jhpiego through the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) continue to provide innovative and evidence-based interventions across 30 high-volume sites in 4 high burden districts of Sierra Leone to meet the UNAIDS 95.95.95 target for HIV epidemic control.

Jhpiego is seeking a vendor to supply the following:

Item Description	Specification
Supply of Safe Space Materials for Key Population Drop-in Centres	Furniture and other office equipment

General Requirements

1. Must be registered to conduct business and in compliance with governmental tax regulations in Sierra Leone.
2. Jhpiego retains the right to reject, cancel, negotiate, amend, split, and accept any offer, without consideration of the lowest offer.
3. This is an invitation to potential bidders and is not a promise or obligation that Jhpiego will contract with bidders through the submitted offers.

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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR: INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO DEVELOP SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) MANUAL

Location	Sierra Leone – Western Area
Application Deadline	8 th September 2023
Contract Type	Individual Consultancy – for SRHR manual development
Working Language	English
Expected Start Date	11 th September August 2023
Contract Period	(11 th – 23 rd September 2023)

OBJECTIVE AND TASKS OF THE CONSULTANCY

a) Purpose of the Consultancy

Korean International Corporation Agency (KOICA), ChildFund Korea, and ChildFund Sierra Leone are implementing the project "Increase access to Secondary School Education for out of schoolgirls in the Western Area of Sierra Leone". The project goal is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all and is being implemented across the project is being implemented across six schools (Sierra Leone Muslim Congress Secondary School, Services Secondary School, Government Rokel Secondary School, Sengbe Pieh Secondary School, Fourah Bay College Secondary School, and Forum for African Women Educationalist Secondary School (FAWE) in Western Rural and Urban districts.

To achieve the project outputs, outcome and goal, the project will train 150 teachers from the six project locations on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) To deliver on these topics effectively and efficiently, ChildFund Sierra Leone requires an Individual Consultant to develop an abridged version of the manual of the undermentioned topics.

The Consultant will be expected to provide two updates on the progress of the development of the training manual outlining all the achievements and plans for the final update, including areas where support is needed.

ChildFund Sierra Leone's KOICA Project Manager is responsible for the overall management of the consultancy. Technical support and assistance will be provided by the ChildFund Program and Sponsorship Director.

b) Specific Tasks to be performed by the Consultant

OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY:

- To develop CSE Manual

SCOPE OF WORK

The Consultant(s) will be required to undertake the following tasks:

- To develop the design an abridged version of the CSE Manual on the following as requested by Child Fund:
 - Introduction of the manual
 - Holistic Right-based approach of SRH
 - Towards a youth-centered approach
 - Comprehensive Sexuality Education and SRH information
 - SRH services for young people

Deliverable

- Develop abridged version of the CSE Manual

Methodology

- To conduct a desk review of national CSE Manual and other policies and documents
- To conduct stakeholders' meeting/workshop in consultation with Child Fund Management
- To conduct validation meeting with teachers, stakeholders, and partners
- Present the draft abridged version of the CSE Manual within one week after the validation meeting.
- Present the final Manual after validation.

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATION OF THE CONSULTANT

Qualifications and Requirements

Advanced degree preferably in public health, SRH, social sciences or related field.
Minimum 5-10 years of increasingly responsible professional experience in working in young people/Adolescent programming related to SRHR.

In-depth knowledge of behavior change issues and challenges, as well as adolescent issues, in Sierra Leone.
The consultant should have experience working in Sierra Leone and specifically within Ministries, Departments and Agencies or develop organization or non-governmental organizations that champions SRH/CSE within schools or communities.

Proven experience of developing SRHR toolkits and of training on these topics; sample work to be provided with the application stating clearly what the role of the consultant was in that process.

Proven experience in designing storyboards and conceptualizing interactive and adolescent or young people friendly toolkits; Demonstrated capacity for creative, adolescent and youth friendly thinking and working with adolescents and youth, both male and female.

Proven experience in facilitating workshops, engaging with participants, and leading ideas discussion processed in an interactive and inclusive manner.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

First installment payment of 50% will be made upon signing of the contract, while the second 50% payment will be made upon submission of the validated manual 2023. The Service provider will invoice ChildFund, which must be submitted on the slated.

Processing and payment shall be made within 30 days of receipt of the invoice, with a 5% of the professional fees will be retained by ChildFund Sierra Leone as withholding tax and a certificate for the same issued to the Consultant.

ETHICS AND SAFEGUARDING

The Consultant will be expected to adhere to ChildFund International's Child and Youth Safeguarding Policy which ensures that the rights of those participating in data collection or analysis are respected and protected.

APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE

- A brief summary of the consultant's capability to meet the objectives of this consultancy as well as qualifications as outlined in this document.
- Resume not more than 7 pages
- Share example of previous work done relating to SRH manual development and work previously undertaken.
- Provide at least two reference contacts of previous contracts or employers.

All applications received by the submission date will be reviewed by a selection committee against these Terms of Reference.

Applicants should submit documents through the email: SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org and copy: bsartie@childfund.org with email clearly marked with the title of "External Consultancy".

Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis until a suitable candidate is identified. ChildFund International reserves the right to withdraw the advert at any time once it finds a suitable candidate for the consultancy. Closing date for submission of complete applications is 8th September 2023.

Only applicants with complete documents will go through the selection process. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

Invitation for Bids

Mott MacDonald SL Limited

Procurement Number: MMSL/SSEIP2/1088.25

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited, has allocated funds from FCDO for the procurement of 250 tablets and cases and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders.

Mott MacDonald Limited trading as Cambridge Education has been appointed by UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to use UK aid to deliver the Sierra Leone Secondary Education Improvement Programme 2 (SSEIP 2). This programme supports the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education to improve primary and secondary schooling, make schools safer for girls, and target support to students with disabilities.

The nature of the programme requires tablets and cases to be used for monitoring and training purposes, with the following specifications:

Tablet

- 8" or greater screen
- Minimum 2GB RAM
- Storage 32GB or larger
- Wifi + 3G
- SD Card slot
- Quality Camera

Tablet case

- Built from durable PU (synthetic) leather with soft microfiber interior to prevent scratches.
- Cover contains flip capability to transform the case into a horizontal viewing stand. Interior pocket opens for easy insertion of device.
- Built-in magnetic strip to provide auto sleep/wake feature. Designed with a smart holder for stylus/pen.

Bidding is open to all suppliers who can demonstrate the capacity to deliver without advance payment and experience to deliver 250 tablets and cases.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address below between 09.00 am and 5.00 pm from 4th - 29th September 2023. Bidding documents can be collected for free at the address below.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2nd October 2023 at 9.00 a.m. All bids must be accompanied by:

- Valid business registration certificate
- Valid NASSIT clearance certificate
- Valid tax clearance certificate
- References, indicating the supplier's experience to deliver similar products to reputable organizations - corporations, INGOs and Government

Bid envelopes must be sealed and clearly marked "RFP 1088.25 – Tablets and Cases - Sierra Leone".

Bids will be opened on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 9:15 a.m. in the presence of bidders and/or representatives at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited
24 Regent Road, Opposite Orange Office
Hill Station
Freetown -

Invitation for Bids

Mott MacDonald SL Limited

Procurement Number: MMSL/SSEIP2/1088.26

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited, has allocated funds from FCDO for the procurement of 2 – Motor vehicles and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders.

Mott MacDonald Limited trading as Cambridge Education has been appointed by UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to use UK aid to deliver the Sierra Leone Secondary Education Improvement Programme 2 (SSEIP 2). This programme supports the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education to improve primary and secondary schooling, make schools safer for girls, and target support to students with disabilities.

The nature of the programme requires frequent travels to remote parts of the country, in many cases using bad roads, to support schools. To enhance the team to travel to the project locations, MM is buying two (2) 4x4 motor vehicles, double cabin, on/off road, suitable for rough terrain.

Bidding is open to all suppliers who can demonstrate experience and the capacity to deliver 4 x 4 vehicles.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address below between 09.00 am and 5.00 pm from 4th - 29th September 2023. Bidding documents can be collected for free at the address below.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2nd October 2023 at 09.45 a.m. All bids must be accompanied by:

- Valid business registration certificate
- Valid NASSIT clearance certificate
- Valid tax clearance certificate
- References, indicating the supplier's experience to deliver similar products to reputable organizations - corporations, INGOs and Government

Bid envelopes must be sealed and clearly marked "RFP 1088.26 – 4 x 4 motor vehicles - Sierra Leone".

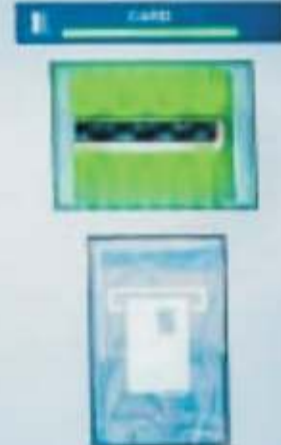
Bids will be opened on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the presence of bidders and/or representatives at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited
24 Regent Road, Opposite Orange Office
Hill Station
Freetown



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TENDER NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF MOBILE DEVICES (TABLET)

Timeline:

	Item	Date
1	ITT Published	30 th August 2023
2	Closing date for clarifications	5 th September 2023
3	Closing date and time for receipt of Tenders	11 th September 2023– 1:45pm -GMT
4	Deadline for Submission	12 th September 2023

Interested bidders can collect the tender document:

1. At Jhpiego Office, 1 Sonia Drive Hill Station from the 30th of August 2023 - 12th of September 2023

Background

Since its founding in 1973, Jhpiego has been innovating to save the lives of women and families worldwide

Jhpiego creates and delivers transformative healthcare solutions that save lives. In partnership with national governments, health experts, and local communities, Jhpiego builds health providers' skills and develops systems that save lives now and guarantee healthier futures for women and their families.

Jhpiego through the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) continue to provide innovative and evidence-based interventions across 30 high volume sites in 4 high burden districts of Sierra Leone to meet the UNAIDS 95.95.95 target for HIV epidemic control.

Jhpiego is seeking for a vendor to supply the following:

Item Description	Specification
Mobile Devices	Tablets

General Requirements

1. Must be registered to conduct business and in compliance with governmental tax regulations in Sierra Leone.
2. Jhpiego retains the right to reject, cancel, negotiate, amend, split, and accept any offer, without consideration of the lowest offer.
3. This is an invitation to potential bidders and is not a promise or obligation that Jhpiego will contract with bidders through the submitted offers.



Sierra Leone Agribusiness & Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)
Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security (MAFS) Building
Moyamba, Sierra Leone



Invitation for Bid (National Competitive Bidding - NCB)

1. **Requirement:** Supply & Deliver of Network Infrastructures Equipment & Related Items for SLARIS, Moyamba
2. **Bid & Contract No:** MAF/SLARIS/ICT/NCB/003/2023
3. **Date of Issue:** 28 August 2023
4. The Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice value Chain Support Project of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has received a Grant from the African Development Fund (AfDB) towards the Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice Development Project (SLARIS) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this grant will be utilized for the procurement of **Network Infrastructures Equipment & Related Items** for the SLARIS Project, Moyamba as summarized below:
5. **Description of Goods:**

No.	Description	Qty	Bid Security Amount (SLL)	Estimated Delivery Period After Award
1	Long Range - Wireless Access Point	Lot	9,000.00	Within two (2) weeks
2	Networks Edge switch			
3	Cat6 Ethernet Bulk Cable			
4	WiFi Repeater Wireless Signal Booster,			
5	Ubiquiti Networks Edgerouter			
6	IT Network Server Data Devices Rack			
7	hardware maintenance toolbox			

6. Bidding is open to all competent National Contractors with all valid business registration documents issued by the Government of Sierra Leone.

7. Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the office of the Acting Project Manager, Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS), MAFS Building, Moyamba, between 9.00AM and 3PM on week days (**Monday to Friday only – excluding public holidays**). Email: jmpsinahmoaslrpic@gmail.com with copy to kakuaboy@gmail.com - Tel: +232 76 364800 & +232 76 994 776

8. Bidding documents shall be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of NSLL 1,000.00 (one thousand new Leones). All payments for the purchase of the Bidding document should be made to the SLARIS Bank Account with details below:

Bank Name:	Rokel Commercial Bank
Account Name:	Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)
Account No:	02-01-1011970
BBan No:	002001002101197079
Address:	25/27 Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Ref:	MAF/SLARIS/OFF/NCB/003/2023 – Network Infrastructures Eqp. for SLARIS

9. SLARIS upon receipt of proof of payment, shall provide both printed and electronics copies to the purchaser as may be required.

10. Every Bidders is required to quote for all items or none.

11. Bids MUST be clearly marked and delivered to the address below on or before **12 Noon of Tuesday, 26 September 2023 – Sierra Leone Time**.

The Acting Project Manager
Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS)
Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security Building, Moyamba, Sierra Leone.
Ref: **Supply & Delivery of Network Infrastructures Eqp. for SLARIS, Moyamba**
Tel: +232 76364800/+232 76 994 776

12. The Bidder shall submit with its bid the following additional documents:
 - a) Bid Security amount of NSLL 9,000.00
 - b) Completed Bid Form and Price Schedule;
 - c) Technical specification of each item offered to include, **brand name/make and country of origin** as may be applicable;
 - d) Compliance with Delivery Schedule
 - e) Evidence of at least two (2) same/similar contracts successfully completed in the last five (5) years in a form of copy of signed Contracts or certification letter from the Contracting institutions or Completion Certificate.
 - f) Audited Financial Statement for the past three (3) previous years
 - g) Business Registration Certificate;
 - h) Valid Council Registration Certificate;
 - i) A Certified True Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate from the National Revenue Authority (NRA)
 - j) A Certified True Copy of National Social Security and Insurance Trust (NASSIT) Clearance Certificate

13. Bids will be publicly opened on **Tuesday, 26 September 2023 – Sierra Leone Time at 12:15 PM**, in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below. **Please note, Late bid (s) will be rejected and returned unopened by SLARIS.**

Sierra Leone Agribusiness and Rice Value Chain Support Project (SLARIS) Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security Building, Moyamba, Sierra Leone. Tel: +232 76364800 +232 76 994 776.



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Guild of Editors - Sierra Leone

C/O MRCG 145 Circular Road, Freetown.
Email: editorsguild94@gmail.com Mob:+23276653596

Public Notice

Increase in Advert Pricing for Newspapers

24th March, 2023.

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:

Black & White

No.	Description	Old Price (NLe)	New Price (NLe)
1	Quarter Page (¼)	700	800
2	Half (½)	800	1,200
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, 3rd 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

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PRESS RELEASE INCREASE IN COST OF RADIO COMMERCIALS

Mile 91 Town, 25th 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, 18th 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 1st 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

ActionAid Sierra Leone
97C Wilkinson Road
Off Thompson Bay
Private Mail Bag1058
Freetown
Sierra Leone

Phone+232 73461370
Email aai.sl@actionaid.org
www.actionaid.org

act:onaid

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: SERVICE PROVIDERS & VENDORS

ActionAid Sierra Leone invites qualified vendors across Sierra Leone (including current suppliers and service providers) for pre-qualification for the supply of goods and services of different categories to the organisation.

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS

ActionAid Sierra Leone invites expressions of interest (EOI) from qualified companies/Institutions for the supply of goods and services of different categories to the organisation like; **Office equipment, Office Stationery, Motor vehicle Spares, Motorcycle Spares, Generator Spares, Computer Equipment, Office furniture, Office Provision, Rain Gears, Safety equipment, Building Materials, Vehicle sales, Motorcycle Sales, Pharmaceuticals, General merchandise, Vehicle Rental, Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance, Painting, Printing, Tailoring, Catering, Generator Repairs & Maintenance, Building and construction, Plumbing, Carpentry, Electricals, Cleaning and Fumigation, Computer & Equipment Repairs & Maintenance, Security agency.**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

1. Brand or Company profile including names and contact details of key personnel.
2. A copy of the certificate of incorporation must be attached with an active profile.
3. Tax clearance certificates for the last 3 financial years
4. Tax identification number (TIN)
5. Evidence of Business address, phone number and email addresses
6. Verifiable list of previous and current client on similar services carried out in the recent time to humanitarian organizations including contact names and email.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested vendors should submit applications to procurement.aasl@actionaid.org. The application should be submitted alongside the above eligibility requirements.

Closing Date: 18th September 2023 Location: 97c Wilkinson Road Off Thompson Bay, Churchyard Junction



NOC/CGA-SLE President assures beach volleyball bronze medalists



Kamara, secured bronze medal at the just concluded U-21 African Nations Beach Volleyball Championships in Casablanca, Morocco, thereby securing a place in the upcoming U 21 World Championship later this year.

The NOC/CGA-SLE President said: "I will say I am well pleased to see you return home with bronze medals. This is the spirit and focus we want to see amongst our athletes. We should not only be participating but to compete for the top prizes."

President of the National Olympic Committee/ Commonwealth Games Association of Sierra Leone (NOC/CGA-SLE), Prince Vandy Sualley, has applauded and assured the Sierra Leone youth U-21 beach volleyball duo for returning home with a bronze medal.

"I want to assure you that the NOC/CGA-SLE will give you our fullest support for

Mustapha Bundu returns to England

Sierra Leone International, Mustapha Bundu, made his return to English football after joining English Championship side, Plymouth Argyle FC on a two-year deal. Bundu, 26, joined the Pilgrims on a permanent deal from Belgian top-flight side Anderlecht, and spent last season on loan at Andorra in La Liga 2.



However, the deal is subject to international clearance and the approval of a work visa.

record. He has since headed out on loan spells to Copenhagen, back to AGF and, last season, with Andorra in the Spanish Segunda Division.

With already 14 caps for the Sierra Leone national team with three goals, Bundu's football journey started from the Craig Bellamy Football Academy that was established by the former Newcastle United and Wales man.

Argyle Manager, Steven Schumacher, said: "I am thrilled that we have managed to bring Mustapha to the club.

He moved to England, where he studied at Hartpury College, near Bristol.

"He is someone we have been tracking for a while and will bring different qualities to our forward line.

After playing one game for Newquay, against Ivybridge Town, as a favour to a friend, Bundu joined Hereford United, for whom he scored 26 times in a single season in the Midland League.

"He is a full international for Sierra Leone and joins us from one of the biggest clubs in Belgium. He's also experienced England, and specifically the South West before, so he will settle quickly and we look forward to seeing him run out at Home Park for the first time."

His remarkable rise began with a move to Danish side AGF Aarhus, for whom he played over 100 games.

Argyle Director of Football, Neil Dewsnip, added: "We are really pleased to bring Mustapha to the club and believe he will complement our forward line perfectly. He has international pedigree, is tall and athletic, but is also pacy and can run in behind defences. Mustapha can also play anywhere across the front line which will give the manager further options throughout the Championship season."

In 2019, he scored ten times as AGF finished third in the Danish top division, with Mustapha picking up a Player of the Month award along the way.

Mustapha will wear squad number 15.

In 2020, Bundu signed for Belgian giants Anderlecht, in a deal that set AGF's club



the World Championship and we know you will make us proud on the World stage."

The Sierra Leonean duo were able to secure Bronze from the sands of Ain Sbaa Beach in Casablanca after 2 sets to 1 win over Egypt after the four-day Championships.

Aruna and Kamara were seeded in Pool C against hosts, Morocco, Ivory Coast

and Algeria, and with a slow start, they secured a 2 set to 1 win over their Ivorians opponent on the first day.

Their second match of the campaign witnessed a resurgence of Sierra Leone's beach credentials on the continent beating Algeria and later on defeated Morocco to finish top of their Pool and secured an automatic place in the Quarter-Finals.

With Nigeria defeating Egypt, Sierra Leone were paired against their West Africa brothers and the all ECOWAS romance ended in favour of the tiny West Africa nation, Sierra Leone with a 2 straight sets win and booked a place at the semis.

However, the tournament favourites Mozambique and the top ranked team had to fought very hard against the determined Sierra Leonean duo before sailing through to the finals while Sierra Leone had to settle for another battle for Bronze.

Determined not to return without any ornament, the lads dig deep into their reserve to defeat a spirited Egyptian side to earn a podium finish.

The team returned home on Thursday 1st September 2023.

Alex Bangura Delighted By Boro Switch

Sierra Leone international, Alex Bangura has expressed his delight in joining English Championship side Middlesbrough.

The 24-year-old becomes the club's 12th signing of the summer after penning a four-year contract and the second Sierra Leonean player to join the club after Kei Kamara.

The left-back who joins the English Championship side from Dutch Eerste Divisie side SC Cambuur, where he has made over 100 appearances said it was a good decision for him to join the club. He said: "It feels very good to be a Boro player, very welcoming people around here. I can't wait to train with the team on Monday and hopefully make the season an unbelievable season."

The Sierra Leone international who started his career in the youth set-up at Feyenoord before joining Cambuur can play at the back or on the wing.

He brings plenty of experience, having played in the Dutch top division, and he



19 hours ago Men's

Alex Bangura Joins The

has also won five caps for his country. Boro head coach Michael Carrick was delighted to welcome Alex to the club.

"He's a really exciting signing," he said. "He's a left-back and he's captained his team.

"He's a good character with a great personality and he won't have any problem fitting into the group."