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NEWSPAPER

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Africell presents car to first lucky winner of Africell Mega Promo

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Lawyer Sengbe Marrah rewrites ECSL on election data



UN Resident Coordinator gives hope to Sierra Leonean youths



By Alfred Koroma

Pro-democracy Activist lawyer, Augustine Sorie-Sengbe Marrah has again written the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone, reiterating that the Commission provides voting data for all the 11,712 polling stations of the June 24 elections.

In his recent letter, Lawyer Marrah requested to know whether ECSL has in its possession all the Results and Reconciliation Forms that determined the basis of Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Council elections results declared by the Commission.

Cont. Page 3

Chinese Ambassador pays courtesy visit to UNIMTECH



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Sierra Leone E-passport meets ICAO standard

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GUEST WRITER

By: Bankole Clifford
Ekundayo Morgan

Sierra Leone- A member state of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 as amended

LL.M in International Maritime Law
MSc in Governance and Leadership

The challenges relating to seafarer's welfare and condition of services in Sierra Leone and the world at large has received global attention by stakeholders in the maritime industry, especially the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). It is expected by the ILO and the IMO that every thorough shipping and or maritime driven state should ensure that the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 as amended is ratified and effectively domesticated. The maritime industry of Sierra Leone is quite challenging as the standard set by the ILO for the welfare and conditions of service for seafarers, as provided for in the Convention has not been fully followed. Sierra Leone ratified the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006 on the 30th March, 2022, and Sierra Leone is the 99th Member State of this convention. It is expected, if Sierra Leone is to be considered as a committed maritime state, to take prompt action in ensuring that the provisions of the Convention are fully implemented and strictly adhered to by the Government of Sierra Leone. The full implementation of the Convention in Sierra Leone will ensure seafarers working in Sierra Leone the enjoyment of their fundamental human and labour related rights.

THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006

Essentially, the Convention is aimed at improving the general conditions and welfare of seafarers working on ships flying the flags of ratifying countries. The Convention also create the enabling environment for key stakeholders in the maritime industry, such as the government, shipowners and seafarers to engage constructively in charting the way forward in improving the general conditions and welfare of seafarers who have been disadvantaged for ages in the maritime industry. The full implementation of the Convention in Sierra Leone will help to project the Government's commitment towards improving the welfare and fundamental human rights as reflected in the following instruments: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 (ICCPR), Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 (ICESCR), and the fundamental human rights as provided for in Chapter III of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991.

THE NEED FOR AN EXPERT TO BE APPOINTED AS HEAD IN THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

The need for an expert to be appointed as head in the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration is crucial and critical for the effective management of maritime affairs. Experts can provide valuable insights and guidance on various aspects of maritime administration, including policy formulation, regulatory compliance, and operational efficiency. They can also help identify emerging trends and challenges in the maritime industry and provide recommendations for addressing them. In addition to these skills, an executive should have a deep understanding of the maritime industry, including its regulations, safety protocols, and environmental concerns. The consistent pattern of appointing a non-expert as head of the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA) by both past and present government has always resulted to under-performance, inefficiency and administrative blunders. It is prudent to ensure that specialized area like the maritime administration is occupied by an expert in the maritime industry. The non-compliance of getting an expert in this area will pose a huge challenge despite the fact that Sierra Leone is endeavouring to ensure that the standard set by the ILO and the IMO are adhered to.

THE MLC, 2006 IS TO IMPROVE THE WELFARE AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR SEAFARERS

Seafarers, whose welfare and general conditions of service that the Convention is extensively protecting and promoting are generally considered as an effective and efficient workforce. Seafarers played and continue to play crucial and critical role in the maritime industry in Sierra Leone and the world at large. Despite the crucial and critical role played by seafarers in the maritime industry of Sierra Leone and worldwide, their standard and conditions of service remain appalling.



However, the Convention has come to give hope to Seafarers working globally by overhauling their unfortunate conditions of service including the inhuman and degrading treatment that shipowners and or ship masters do levy on them. The object of the Convention is to improve the welfare and conditions of service for the seafarers and to create an enabling environment for constructive engagement between and among the stakeholders (seafarers, shipowners and Governments). In essence the Convention came into existence in order to restore the rights and dignity of seafarers. In order for the MLC, 2006 to be fully implemented in Sierra Leone, there should be effective collaboration and cooperation between the Sierra Leone Seafarers Union (SLSU) and the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA).

THE SHIPPING INDUSTRY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA

Globally, it is recorded that about 90% of world trade is done through international shipping. Shipping industry is primarily responsible for the carriage of goods by sea through ships around the world. The global economy is essentially regulated to a very large extent by the shipping industry and the shipping industry is considered to be the life blood of the world economy. In essence, without trade in shipping, including the transporting of bulk of raw materials including affordable food stuff and other manufactured goods by sea, it would be difficult for goods to be taken to the other part of the world. In the bid to bring benefit to consumer' rights across the globe, seaborne trade continues to expand through the various competitive freight costs. Over 50,000 merchant vessels are involved in the transporting of every kind of cargo. The shipping industry is essentially a very crucial and critical one with high value assets. Merchant ships operations are estimated to generate an annual income of over half a trillion of United States Dollars in freight rates.

In conclusion, the above emphasized the point that Sierra Leone being a member state of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 as amended must endeavour to fully implement its provisions. Also, the write-up lays emphasis on the need for an expert in the maritime industry to be appointed as head of the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration. Essentially, the ILO formulated the Convention together with other stakeholders in the maritime industry in order to improve on the welfare and conditions of service for seafarers and to create an enabling environment for constructive engagement between and among seafarers, ship owners and Governments. In essence the Convention came into existence in order to restore the human dignity of seafarers and to protect their labour related rights.



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LOCAL NEWS

UN Resident Coordinator gives hope to Sierra Leonean youths

In his remarks at the International Youth Day celebration, the UN Country Resident Coordinator has rekindled the hope of Sierra Leonean youth.

Babatunde Ahonsi said a little over 3 weeks ago, the world shifted attention to celebrations, marking the most prized asset a country can boast of – its youth.

He said here in Sierra Leone, the Government organized a series of events, including an official program at the Freetown City Hall and a beach clean-up exercise on Lumley Beach.

“Today, in continuation of the commemoration, I am profoundly happy to join the youth, UN Heads of Agency, development partners, and friends of our young people to celebrate International Youth Day under the theme - ‘Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World’.

I would therefore like to extend my

heartfelt gratitude to all those who have worked tirelessly to organize this event and to all of you for joining us in recognizing the vital role that youth play in shaping the present and future of Sierra Leone,” he said.

He noted that the critical role of youth in shaping the present and future of ‘Mama Salone’ they all want for themselves and the generation yet unborn cannot be overemphasized.

The UN Resident Coordinator expressed that the youth belong to the demographic that has often been left behind the furthest.

“They are mostly unemployed, illiterate, and unskilled, let alone talk of decent jobs. In decision-making in most instances, their views or a seat at the table matters less or is non-existent at all,” he maintained.

He averred that the issue of drug abuse is compounding the worsening

situation for the Sierra Leonean youth today, adding that driving through the streets of Freetown these days, one cannot help but face the sad spectacle of young people heavily ‘kushed’ on Kush which is worrisome.

He said drug has the potential of eroding the gains made towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in addition to the lingering economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the global impact of the Russia-Ukraine situation.

He said while all the SDGs are critical to youth development, the realization of targets in areas of education and employment is underlined by the latest edition of the World Youth Report as fundamental to overall youth development.

He said Sierra Leone, like many other nations, is experiencing a demographic shift, with a significant proportion of its population being comprised of young people.

“This demographic dividend presents both an opportunity and a responsibility. An opportunity to harness the potential of youth as a driving force for economic growth, social progress, and innovation, and a commitment to ensure that their voices are heard, their rights are protected, and their needs are addressed”.

He added that investing in young people's education, health, employment opportunities, and participation in decision-making processes is not just a moral imperative; it is a strategic investment in the future of the nation.

The UN diplomat said to harness the potential of our youth, “we must also address the obstacles they encounter, such as unemployment, poverty, gender inequality, and lack of access to quality education and healthcare.

“Ladies and gentlemen, as we celebrate International Youth Day, let us recommit ourselves to supporting the dreams and aspirations of the young people of Sierra Leone. Let us collaborate across sectors, governments, civil society, and the private sector to ensure that young people are at the forefront of our national agenda. Let us inspire them to believe in their potential and equip them with the skills and opportunities they need to succeed”.

He climaxed that Sierra Leone's future rests in its youth's hands.

“Let us stand united in our efforts to create a brighter and more prosperous future for them and



future generations on a healthy planet. Together, we can build a nation that values and invests in its young people, where their voices are amplified, their rights are upheld, and their dreams are realized,” he said.

On his part, Minister of Youth Affairs, Mohamed Orman Bangura assured youths that President Bio is ready to creating 500, 000 jobs for young people across the country through agriculture, health, education among other areas.

“President Bio has committed to creating 500, 000 jobs for young people across the country through agriculture. And one of President's Bio big Five agenda is ‘Feed Salone’ which is agriculture, so there's no way you can talk about agriculture today without putting young people at the centre. The general aim is to make agriculture sexy, funky and attractive to young people. By so doing, young people will not see agriculture as a means of punishment as it used to be, but now as an entrepreneurship, platform that young people can change their stories and make positive impact in their societies,” he said.

He added that young people have decided not to go back to 1961, but rather to embrace green energy which everyone wish to see, so they will embrace innovation and technology.

He pointed out that there is timeline for young people to stop blaming government, blaming UN, blaming their parents after 18 years because their destiny should be in their hands.

He added that every young person should have the passion to succeed.

He concluded that, one thing that they needed as decision makers is to engage young people and that they have been engaging young people for them to have access to power, seat at the centre of decision-making.

He said by so doing, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs needed to take advocacy, awareness raising to communities because it only when they have community participation and ownership they can achieve their goals.

Lawyer Sengbe Marrah rewrites ECSL on election data

From Cover

The letter, dated 5th September 2023 was written in response to ECSL's reply to Lawyer Marrah's request for the election data, which he says the Commission falls short of providing complete answers to his initial request for information regarding how, where and when the district level certified and verified results were compiled.

But in its reply, ECSL says it has published the information he requested and are available on its website.

ECSL has faced increasing criticism and pressure both locally and internationally for lack of transparency in the process of the June 2023 general election.

After the election, the Commission declared incumbent President Julius Maada of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) winner of the widely disputed election, securing 56.17 percent of the total votes cast for the Presidential election, while Dr. Samura Kamara, his main challenger from the main opposition All Peoples Congress (APC) got 41.16 percent.

The Parliamentary results of the polls also gave the ruling SLPP a total control of the legislative house with 81 parliamentary seats while APC pulled 54 seats, results the main opposition staunchly rejected, claiming it has been ‘tampered with to give the ruling SLPP



an unjust majority at all levels.’ The legislative house convened despite boycotts of the only opposition that secured the required votes to be there.

Concerns of irregularities that laced the country's last general election has been reechoed by accredited national and international observation missions which also raised questions about the integrity of the official results announced by the electoral commission. And that has been followed with consequences for the government.

In July, the United States Government called on its counterpart in Sierra Leone to institute an independent, outside investigation into the process of the election, expressing concern about irregularities in the election.

In addition to its call, the world's economic power house said it will slowed down the implementation of its 45 million dollars MCC compact in Sierra Leone and further announced a visa restriction policy for unnamed officials believed to be responsible for the irregularities June 2023 tensely contested election.

LOCAL NEWS President Bio hobnobs with Sierra Leonean community in Kenya

By A.B. Dakowa, Information Attache',
Sierra Leone High Commission in Kenya

The meeting kicked off with Press Secretary Solomon Jamiru Esq. taking charge and setting the stage for an event that would leave a lasting impression on the Sierra Leonean community in Nairobi, Kenya. Warmly welcoming the attendees, the High Commissioner of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the Republic of Kenya, Madam Isatu Aminata Bundu expressed genuine delight at the turnout, recognising the significance of their presence as they gathered to meet their president in that momentous occasion.

Gratitude filled the air as the Community Chairman, Tennyson Williams extended heartfelt thanks to President Bio for creating the opportunity to connect with fellow compatriots residing in Kenya. The atmosphere was charged with a sense of unity and appreciation.

Amidst the discussions, attention was drawn to the potential for technology transfer from the more advanced nation of Kenya to Sierra Leone, sparking hopes for progress and development in various sectors.

A passionate plea was made by the Chairman, advocating for the return of Sierra Leonean students, particularly those studying medicine, to contribute to the nation's growth and development. In response, President Julius Maada Bio, expressed his support and pledged to facilitate their return, acknowledging the valuable contributions they could make.

The Chairman highlighted the historical contributions of Sierra Leonean students to the development of

Kenya, underscoring the impact of education and the shared experience between the two nations.

The First Lady, Faatima Maada Bio, radiated warmth and enthusiasm as she expressed her joy and eagerness to meet with Sierra Leoneans, embracing her role as a nurturing figure for the community.

Her genuine affection resonated with the attendees, fostering a deeper connection between the nation's leader and its people.

President Bio, with a humble and approachable outlook, shared his happiness at encountering Sierra Leoneans wherever he traveled. He highlighted his administration's achievements, including the notable reduction of the mortality rate, ongoing efforts to combat corruption, advancements in education, and recognition received from the MCC.

Outlining his plans for the future, the President emphasised his commitment to investing in agriculture as a catalyst for progress. He outlined five key areas of focus, including human capital development, youth employment schemes, revitalizing the public sector, technological and infrastructural advancements, and addressing pressing issues.

Setting a bold target, President Bio called for Sierra Leone to achieve self-sufficiency in food production by 2007/8, igniting a sense of ambition and responsibility among the attendees.

In a testament to international cooperation, the President revealed ongoing efforts to establish strategic alliances with Kenya, particularly in areas such as tourism, agriculture, and climate change. This partnership held

the promise of mutual growth and progress.

The meeting concluded with a resounding call to action, urging all Sierra Leoneans, whether at home or abroad, to contribute meaningfully to the nation's development. The message resonated, leaving attendees inspired and committed to making a difference.

As the event came to a close, a renewed sense of optimism permeated the room. The connections formed and aspirations shared during the meeting



would serve as the foundation for a united and prosperous Sierra Leone, fueled by the leadership of President Bio and the collective strength of its people.

Govt. to facilitate employment for Sierra Leoneans in Saudi Arabia

By Mohamed Bangura (intern)

In a bid to promote decent job opportunities for Sierra Leoneans, the Government of Sierra Leone has announced plans to recruit workers for employment in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Deputy Minister of Information and Civic Education, Yusuf Keketoma Sandi, made the above announcement during a press conference held on Tuesday, 5th September 2023, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Freetown.

The decision to facilitate the recruitment of Sierra Leonean workers in Saudi Arabia stems from a memorandum of understanding signed between the Ministry of Labour in Sierra Leone and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in June 2022.

According to the press release issued by the Ministry of Labour, the embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Guinea, where their office is located, will oversee the recruitment process and accredit private employment agencies to carry out the hiring.

To ensure a smooth and efficient recruitment process, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has committed to establishing three medical centers that will conduct examination tests for prospective workers.

These medical centers will play a crucial role in assessing the health and fitness of the applicants before they are recruited.

The press release also mentioned the names of the approved private employment agencies responsible for the recruitment of workers from Sierra Leone to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The agencies given this responsibility include SOS Global Investment Agency Sierra Leone, Human Resources Consultant Global Sierra Leone Limited, Sumas Travel Consultant Sierra Leone Limited, and Season Limited. These



agencies have been vetted and authorized by the Ministry of Labour and the government of Saudi Arabia for the recruitment process.

The Ministry of Labour has specified three accredited medical centers where applicants must undergo the required medical tests. These medical centers are Ramsy Medical Laboratory, Ecomed Medical Center, and Sumah Hospital. It is crucial for individuals interested in the recruitment process to only engage with these authorized agencies and medical centers to avoid any fraudulent activities. The Government of Sierra Leone, through its commitment to providing job opportunities for its citizens, is actively working with Saudi Arabia to ensure a transparent and well-regulated recruitment process. The collaboration between both nations reflects the efforts to facilitate meaningful employment prospects while safeguarding the interests and well-being of the Sierra Leonean workforce.

"Prospective job seekers are advised to stay updated with official announcements and information from the Ministry of Labour regarding the recruitment process. The government remains dedicated to promoting and facilitating access to decent employment opportunities for its citizens, and endeavors to ensure that the recruitment process is fair, transparent, and conducted through the approved agencies and medical centers," release mentioned.

Sierra Leone E-passport meets ICAO standard

Since 2015, the service provider for the Sierra Leone Passport Netpage SL Ltd, has been complying with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) new book design that was launched.

At the same time, switched to e-passport from machine readable passport (MRP) book re-signed in 2022. Also, with an electronic upgrade for faster processing of biometric data; currently using e-passport for ordinary diplomatic and service books.

Netpage SL Ltd, through the government of Sierra Leone and their international partners, HID Global, has recently upgraded the e-passport with new security features and higher grade chip, which was recently revealed by Henley and partners.

The Sierra Leone passport improves 10 places to 74th in 2023, with Cote

D'Ivoire taking second in the sub region, ranking 79th while Guinea and Liberia are ranked 80 and 87 respectively.

Netpage SL Ltd has been in compliance with all their contractual obligations, and they are in the process of opening their service centres in Bo, Makeni, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

The official price to take a passport is Two Thousand Two Hundred Leones (100 US dollars), and it is in line with the Bank of Sierra Leone rates.

Parliament and some Civil Society Organizations, before now, had thoroughly investigated Netpage operations - especially on their contract agreement with the government of Sierra Leone - and have proven that Netpage as a company has all the legitimacy to operate.



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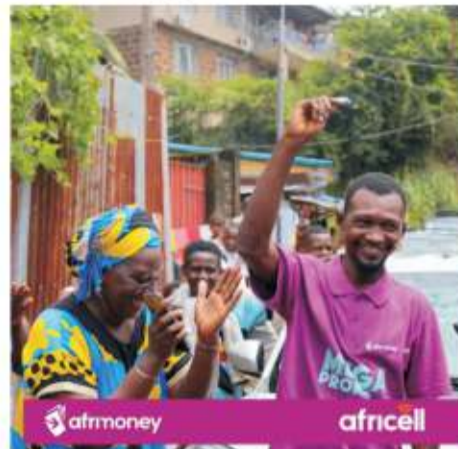
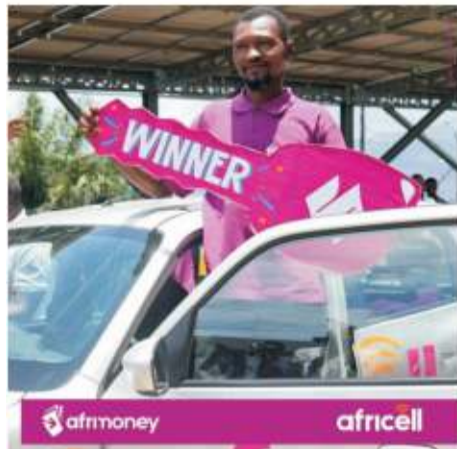
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Africell presents car to first lucky winner of Africell Mega Promo



As they continue to give out different goodies to their numerous customers across the country, one of the leading mobile companies in Sierra Leone, Africell has officially presented one TV's motor bike to the 5th winner and a brand new car to first lucky winner of the ongoing Africell Mega Promotion draws on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at their Headquarters in Freetown.

Presenting the brand new car key to the first Mega Promo winner, Africell Chief Corporate Affairs, Joe Abass Bangura congratulated the winner and encouraged other Africell subscribers to buy Africell SIM card and recharge NLe 10 to stand a chance of winning a cash prize of NLe 250, a brand new TV's motor bike, and a brand new car.

He said on the 27th of August this year they gathered at their Africell office and declared that within six months they will roll out the same activities they used to do, they will start the same activities and it will run for six months, which commenced in July and it will roll till the month of January 2023.

He disclosed that since the launch of the mega promotion over 316 people have won different prizes and among those numbers, they have 300 people who have won daily cash prizes, 10 people have won the cash daily draws prizes, weekly winners of 5 have won 5 TV's motor bikes out of 24 TV's motor bikes and 1 person has just won the monthly draw of a brand new car.

"You have the opportunity to take part in this draw and also be the winner of a cash prize, motor bike and of course you can be a lucky winner of a brand new car. All you can do is just recharge NLe 10 or replace your SIM card and stand a chance of winning a motor bike or a brand new car" he encouraged.

Receiving the car key, Alusine Jalloh, the winner of a brand new car expressed thanks and appreciation to Africell Mobile Company, adding he was not expecting to be a brand new car owner at the this current moment, even though this is his second car but has never owned a brand new car. As a driver, he said he has a family of two kids and that with the help of his father he went through formal education from collegiate secondary school to that of Milton Margai and winning a car was a surprise to him.

He stated that he has been a constant Africell customer since 2006 having replaced his SIM card for over ten times. Alusine Jalloh explained that this was not the first time he has been attempting to win prizes from Africell whenever Africell embarks on promotions, he will recharge his SIM card just to win but he has never been fortunate to win any prize from Africell.

"This is not my first time attempting to play this for this promotion. I have been doing m, unfortunately I have never won any prize from Africell but that did not discourage me from continuing to recharge my phone. But it actually came as a surprise to me. This is my first time owning a brand new car." he said.

He sighted that he was over excited and called on Africell subscribers especially, colleagues drivers to continue to recharge their SIM cards, and to those who misplaced or lost their SIM cards to

quickly rush and replace theirs to stand a chance of winning the different prizes Africell is giving out.

Giving the background of the first one month of the mega promotion, Marketing and Communications Manager, John Konteh said they shifted the gear a little beat to another speed which started on Tuesday 5th September, they had 10 winners of NLe 250 for every day and all the 10 winners are automatically qualified for the grand draw which happen after month for the second time. He noted that the draw continues on every Saturday to announce a motor bike winner and already he added, they have 5 motorbikes winners at the moment across the country, from Bo, Kenema, Makeni and in Freetown.

He revealed that in Freetown, they have 2 motor bike winners and that this is the gear and this is a switch to make sure that every day they announce 10 winners of NLe 250 each. And one of them will qualify for a grand draw every month to own a brand new car.

Nancy Turay, Event and Sponsorship Manager said promotions and offers are not new to Africell and as a mobile company they set the pace to give out winnings and also fulfill what she called 'social corporate responsibility' to their subscribers and also give back to their wonderful customers out there. She intimated that they have done so many promotions and so many offers but with Mega Promo she said, is different, explained that for anyone who wants to be part of the promo the criteria is simple, stating that you first need to be an Africell subscriber.

She encouraged people to go out and get an Africell SIM cards which goes for Le 10 and after they have register their SIM card, she continued that details collected and the thing about the promotion upon activation when you activate a brand new SIM card you will have one chance and the more you recharge Le 10 the more chances you will get inside the mega promo.

"Monday to Friday the draw comes to you at 8pm on AYY TV and all major radio stations across the country. The reason being is that we want to be transparent. And we are not only giving you promotions but we also entertain you. For you it is not fortunate to see us through TV, but if you have internet on your phone you can access us through our Facebook page Africell SL" she said.

She continued that the chances are not carry forward, meaning, the chances are on daily bases, adding that after every evening the draw is done all those that are fortunate to be part of the daily draw will be wiped off for that particular day. She brings to the knowledge of subscribers that there is a service called 'a credit transfer.'

"For example, let me say if I have recharge NLe 20 and transfer NLe 10 to you, some people will say this individual have transfer NLe 10 to me so I can have a chance, no you will not have a chance at all but the person who initially recharged the NLe 20 already have two chances. So if the person gives you NLe 10, it is just a normal call. So all you need to do is for you to recharge NLe 10 on your Africell SIM card" concluded stated.



Guild of Editors - Sierra Leone

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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.

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Marie Stopes Sierra Leone, 10 A&B Ahmed Drive, off Sir Samuel Lewis Road, Freetown
Sierra Leone

TENDER NOTICE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES & GENERATORS.

Marie Stopes Sierra Leone hereby invites tender in sealed envelope(s) from bidders/companies to submit bids for the disposal of vehicles & generators presently at our office in Freetown & Bo. The vehicles & generators will be sold "as is, where is basis".

Please see details given below:

NO	DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	MODEL	REG. NO	Chassis/Eng line #	Year of Purchase	Property Location	Property Condition
1.	Toyota Land cruiser Hardtop	HZJ78L-RKMRS	AID 918	1HZ-0713087	May 2013	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
2.	Toyota Land cruiser Hardtop	HZJ78L-RJMRS	AID 919	1HZ-0713861	May 2013	Marie Stopes, Kissy Barracks old Road, Freetown	Parked
3.	Toyota Land cruiser Hardtop	HZJ78L-RJMRS	AJT 580	1HZ-0764357	September 2014	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
4.	Toyota Land cruiser Hardtop	HZJ78L-RJMRS	AJV 521	1HZ-0787639	October 2014	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
5.	Toyota Land cruiser Hardtop	HZJ78L-RJMRS	AKB 324	1HZ-0787639	January 2015	91 Tikonko Road, Bo	Parked
6.	Toyota Land cruiser Hilux	HZJ78L-RJMRS	APP 897	5L-6149406	April 2011	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
7.	Toyota Land cruiser Prado	TK-AH2-EF829-P	ALN 627	5L-627500	March 2016	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
8.	Generator	Perkins	100 KVA	RJ51175*U5 19153U*	June 2011	10 A&B Ahmed Drive Road, Freetown	Parked
9.	Generator	Perkins	27 KVA	AH51042*45 6929K*	January 2009	Marie Stopes, Kissy Barracks old Road, Freetown	Parked

The vehicles and generators can be inspected at MSSL offices: 10 A&B Ahmed Drive, off Sir Samuel Lewis Road & Kissy Barracks old Road Freetown and 91 Tikonko Road, Bo from 10.00am to 4:00pm, Mondays to Fridays.

Tenders Should be in a sealed envelope addressed to the HR & Admin Director, Marie Stopes Sierra Leone, 10 A&B Ahmed Drive, off Sir Samuel Lewis Road, Freetown.

Please ensure to mark on the outside top-right corner of the envelope 'disposal of vehicles & generators' and submitted into the Tender Box on or before 8th September, 2023 at 12:00 noon.

The bids will be opened in the 14th September, 2023 at 12:15 pm in the Conference Room, Marie Stopes Sierra Leone, 10 A&B Ahmed Drive, off Sir Samuel Lewis Road, Freetown in the presence of MSSL disposal committee members.

All enquiries should be forwarded to the HR & Admin Department, Marie Stopes Sierra Leone (Tel: +23278130407/+23276495229).

MSSL will reach out to successful bidders within a week after the bid opening. Full payment for responsive bids must be made within five (5) working days and bidders shall gain possession and remove the Vehicles from MSSL compound within five (5) working days after completion of all statutory documentation and payment of all Government taxes (duty free and transfer of ownership fee).

Marie Stopes Sierra Leone reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason.



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LOCAL NEWS Chinese Ambassador pays courtesy visit to UNIMTECH

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Management and Technology (UNIMTECH), Professor Osman Sankoh (Malam O), on Wednesday played host the Chinese ambassador to Sierra Leone.

The professor used the opportunity to request that the Embassy helps provide capacity training for the university's staff.

He said despite the University needed so many things, but capacity training of the staff is first and most important thing they needed right now.

He made the call at the University main campus at Kissy Duckyard in Freetown, during the visitation of the Chinese Ambassador to Sierra Leone. He said their vision for the University is to be an excellent corporate entity that enhances the quality of the university's teaching, research and social responsibilities by creating strategic relationship and alliances both within and outside Sierra Leone.

He said their mission is to provide appropriate teaching, research, social responsibilities and the maximizes returns to shareholders, while having a contented workforce, and helping to promote sustainable development in Sierra Leone.

Professor Osman said their goal is to deal with the many appropriate courses that are not offered by the five universities in the country's limited career capacities, hence the five public universities cannot absorb all



the demands placed upon them in terms of admissions to study for degrees and diplomas in Sierra Leone, expand existing courses and also introduce new ones.

He said in the next ten years they want to top people's mind for quality education in Sierra Leone, have sufficient numbers of permanent staff, well-trained, well-motivated, be able to enrolled 10,000 and above students across the campuses, schools, have past students employable and in employment in various fields, leading to an effective Alumni

Association curriculum, have certificate, diploma, undergraduate and Graduate Programmes in relevant fields of study, addressing Sierra Leone's labour force needs and many more.

He reiterated that the University needed support in staff development,

scholarships for short courses and graduate programmes, staff exchange programmes, student opportunities including best graduating students given opportunity to pursue graduate programmes.

He said while he was acting Vice Chancellor at the Njala University, he had an interaction with the Chinese Embassy in Sierra Leone, which led to the signing an agreement that made China to send expert that helped to boost agriculture in the country.

Responding, the Chinese Ambassador to Sierra Leone, Wang Qing, states that, he was happy to visit the university.

He said the Embassy has a very cordial relationship with Prof. Sankoh and that relationship was created since when he was working at the Njala University.

He said they are willing to continue the relationship with him at UNIMTECH University.

He said China and Sierra Leone have supported each other for over 50 years ago since 1971, and that they still continue to support each other.

He said China cares about the wellbeing and safety of every Sierra Leonean hence why they were the first people to send medical equipment and doctors in 2014 during the outbreak of the Ebola virus in the country.

He further stated that, they also care about human capital development and that they have provided and continue providing scholarships to many Sierra Leoneans to study in China.

He disclosed that he had presented scholarships to 155 Sierra Leoneans to go and study in China in different professional fields.

Becoming a young African Leader from Sierra Leone

In 2016, I was privileged to be selected as a young and emerging leader from Sierra Leone to participate in one of the most prestigious fellowships, The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), under the Mandela Washington Fellowship, an initiative of former President Obama.

It was an intense six-week academic and professional learning experience. I was proudly placed at the Presidential Precinct, a combination of two of America's premier universities, William & Mary and the University of Virginia. We learned a lot about leadership, community service and civic engagement.

It was indeed a life-changing experience for me. The end of the six weeks on August 3rd, 2016, was climaxed by a town hall meeting with former President Barack Obama, an opportunity and experience I am

grateful for and those memories will continue to spur me on.

I watched President Obama address one thousand young leaders from across Africa in one room, passionately speaking from his heart, saying, "The talent you've got is the future of your country". His words resonated with me.

He was determined and selfless in advocating for change in the lives of young people across Africa. He said to us: "Years from now, when you are running a big business or doing a great non-profit or leading your country as President or minister, my hope is that you can look back and keep drawing from the strength and experience that you've gotten here, and I hope you will remember those of us who believed in your potential".

Those words have always been in my heart, and I made a commitment to

myself to continue with my passion and dedication to promoting issues that affect society and, most notably, women and children.

I want to say that those inspiring words from former President Obama and my commitment have proudly become a reality.

Today, I announce that I have established Rise Radio 96.3FM. It is a community service media organisation that seeks to provide a platform and opportunity to amplify the voices of women, girls and young people in addressing critical and emerging issues affecting them. It will also promote human rights, a just and inclusive society, democracy and progressive governance and climate change through radio broadcasts.

Rise Radio is already becoming the "voice of many voices," offering space



and opportunities to diverse groups to share their experiences, views, concerns and perspectives.

YALI was a massive opportunity for me. At this point, I would like to thank former President Barack Obama for his incredible initiative, the United States Embassy in Sierra Leone, the US State Department, the entire staff of the presidential precinct, the YALI network and the Mandela Washington Fellowship for the unforgettable experience.

Asmaa James
Proud 2016 YALI fellow!

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NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

Kenya bets on carbon credits as it hosts first Africa climate summit



Kenya's President William Ruto speaks at Kenyatta International Conference Centre in Nairobi, Kenya Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023, during the Africa Climate Summit. - Copyright © africanews Brian Inganga/Copyright 2023 The AP. All rights reserved.

Deep within Kasigau, a sweeping wilderness of craggy hills and savannah roamed by elephants, a team armed with clipboards and measuring tapes is busy studying an unremarkable tree.

Gnarled and leafless, it nonetheless has great value: it stores carbon, and the team wants to know exactly how much is locked away across this semi-arid, half-a-million-acre (200,000-hectare) woodland in southern Kenya.

"We want to make absolutely sure we account for every single tree," said Geoffrey Mwangi, lead scientist at US-based company Wildlife Works, as the "carbon samplers" took the dimensions of another thorny specimen.

The data translates into carbon credits, and millions of dollars have been made selling these to corporate giants such as Netflix and Shell looking to offset their greenhouse gas emissions and burnish their green credentials.

As climate change accelerates and pressure mounts on companies and countries to lift their game, demand for carbon credits has exploded -- even as their reputation has taken a battering.

Cash-strapped African nations want a much bigger share of a \$2-billion market that is forecast to grow five-fold by 2030.

Africa only produces 11 percent of the world's offsets yet boasts the planet's second-largest rainforest and tracts of carbon-absorbing ecosystems like mangroves and peatlands.

Kenyan President William Ruto, who is hosting a climate summit in Nairobi this week, said Africa's carbon sinks were an "unparalleled economic goldmine".

"They have the potential to absorb millions of tons of CO2 annually, which should translate into billions of dollars," he said on Monday.

"Massive interest" - A single credit represents one tonne of carbon dioxide removed or reduced from the atmosphere. Companies buy credits generated through activities like renewable energy, planting trees or protecting forests.

Carbon markets are largely unregulated and accusations that some offsets -- particularly forest-based ones -- do little for the environment or exploit communities have sent prices crashing this year. Kenya already generates the most offsets in Africa

and despite market uncertainty, sees the potential for a much bigger domestic industry capable of creating much-needed jobs and economic growth.

"There is massive interest. We have 25 percent of the African market (for carbon credits) in Kenya, and it's our ambition to expand this," Ali Mohamed, the president's special envoy for climate change, told AFP.

In Kasigau, about 330 kilometres (205 miles) southeast of Nairobi, landowners and communities are paid to keep the forest intact under a flagship carbon credit project run by Wildlife Works, a for-profit business and largest offset developer in Africa.

Joseph Mwakima from Wildlife Works said project revenue had employed around 400 people and funded water, education and health infrastructure in a long-underserved part of Kenya.

"These are things that were never really there," he told AFP. Wildlife Works founder Mike Korchinsky said at least half of revenue went to communities.

The forests protected under the scheme were once cleared for firewood and charcoal, degrading a carbon sink and critical wildlife habitat.

Avoiding deforestation serves climate goals by keeping carbon in the soil and trees instead of allowing them to be released into the atmosphere. The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project was the world's first to generate certified credits this way.

Wildlife Works says the project has been independently verified nine times since 2011, and has avoided roughly 22 million tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Kenya emits about 70 million tonnes of CO2 per year, according to Climate Watch, a platform managed by the World Resources Institute that tracks national greenhouse gas emissions.

"False solutions" - The UN-endorsed African Carbon Market Initiative, launched at COP27 in November, believes 300 million credits could be generated annually on the continent by 2030 -- a 19-fold increase on current volumes.

For Kenya, this would mean more than 600,000 jobs and \$600 million in annual revenue.

But these projections assume a carbon price far above current trades, and a massive increase in finance at a time of great volatility in a market struggling to build trust and integrity.

Ahead of the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, more than 500 civil society organisations wrote to Ruto urging him to steer the conference away from carbon markets and other "false solutions... led by Western interests".

"In truth, though, these approaches will embolden wealthy nations and large corporations to continue polluting the world, much to Africa's detriment," it read.

Ruto's appointee to lead the summit, Joseph Nganga, said carbon markets acted "not as an excuse for emissions but as a means to ensure accountability" as rich polluting nations bore the cost.

Countries are moving to regulate the sector. Earlier this year, Zimbabwe announced it would appropriate half of all the revenue generated from carbon credits on its land, sending jitters through markets.

Kenya is finalising its own legislation. Mohamed said the government did not want to "chase away investors" but ensure transparency and a fair share for communities.

Tell es-Sultan nominated for the World Heritage List

A mound that contains the ruins of ancient Jericho is hoping to achieve global recognition next month as a cultural marvel some 10,000 years after the city's founding.

The Palestinian Authority has nominated Tell Jericho, or Tell es-Sultan, on the western edge of the Jordan Valley just north of the Dead Sea, as a UNESCO World Heritage site due its significance as a key landmark of human history and culture.

The site has been under excavation for over a century and yielded the remains of a fortified city that bills itself as the oldest continuously inhabited settlement on the planet.

It is where biblical Joshua is said to have led the Israelites in their famous battle after 40 years of wandering in the Sinai desert.

Today, Jericho is better known for its luxury villas and date palms as a sleepy desert oasis some 15 miles (24 kilometers) northeast of Jerusalem.

It attracts wealthy Palestinians during its warm winter months.

Jericho is the first West Bank town that Israel handed over to the Palestinian Authority three decades ago during the Oslo peace process.

It's become a focus of Palestinian efforts to promote local heritage under Israeli occupation.

Historical heritage in the Holy Land has long stood at the center of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Archaeology has been used by Israel as a means of demonstrating modern Jewish rights to the ancient land.

Palestinians, too, have sought to counter those findings by portraying ancient artefacts as supporting their own national claims.

The Palestinian Authority was recognized a decade ago by the United Nations as a non member observer state.

It's enthusiastically promoting Jericho's designation as a way to bolster tourism and local pride.

"The registration of the site on the World Heritage list would be considered a national achievement for Palestine," says Ahmad Rajoub, the Authority's

Director-General of World Heritage in the tourism ministry.

"From a cultural perspective, it is our right as Palestinians and as the State of Palestine to register the achievement of the Palestinian people and their contribution to human civilization," he says.

The site tells the story of human history with remains dating back to the Neolithic age and continuing through Byzantine times, according to Wael Hamamra, the Antiquities Director in the West Bank city of Bethlehem.

He says "It was partially used during the Iron Age, Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine periods. The use of the spring water and its irrigation system continues until the present day."

Digging by local and foreign archaeologists over the decades has revealed fortifications of concentric circles made of sun-dried bricks.

The beehive structure, according to Hamamra: "Represents a collective effort by the site's inhabitants."

He believes it has enhanced understanding of how permanent domestic houses emerged in ancient civilizations.

"The site of Tell Sultan is known as the oldest fortified city in the world. It contained a massive circular tower, in addition to fortified defensive walls to protect the site. Such construction could not have been accomplished without the presence of a ruler and an organized community at the site," says Hamamra.

The Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Resources was established in 1972.

It brought together groups concerned with the preservation of cultural significance and the conservation of natural resources.

The World Heritage List began in 1978 and includes a broad array of over 1,000 sites, from the Acropolis in Athens to the Great Wall of China.

The UNESCO committee will convene in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from September 10-25 to decide on which sites will gain recognition on the list.

East African countries extend the mandate of their force in the DRC



Soldiers of the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF) prepare to be deployed - Copyright © africanews SAMIR BOL/AFP or licensors

This force of several thousand soldiers was deployed in November 2022 in eastern DRC, a region that has been plagued by violence from dozens of armed groups and rebellions for almost 30 years. Its target has narrowed to focus on the areas of operation of the M23 rebels north and northwest of Goma, the capital of North Kivu.

The future of this force had been called into question after criticism from DRC President Felix Tshisekedi,

but the EAC finally decided in June to extend its mandate by three months.

The Tutsi-led M23 has seized swathes of territory in North Kivu since taking up arms again at the end of 2021 after years of dormancy.

The EAC force has recaptured some areas previously occupied by the M23, but has so far failed to thwart the insurgency.

The DRC has repeatedly accused neighboring EAC member Rwanda of supporting the rebels, which Kigali denies.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP

The leaders of East African countries decided on Tuesday to extend the mandate of their force deployed in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in an attempt to bring peace to the region.

Following a summit in Nairobi on Tuesday, the seven countries of the Community of East African States (EAC) announced in a communiqué that they had agreed to "extend the duration of the mandate" of this regional force until December 8.

socio-economic crisis Tunisia is experiencing.

Another Ennahdha leader, Hamadi Jebali, was questioned by police on Tuesday in connection with administrative appointments he made while head of government, before being released.

Mr. Ghannouchi, 81, was arrested on April 17 and remanded in custody following statements in which he claimed that Tunisia would be threatened with "civil war" if left-wing parties, or those based on political Islam such as his, were eliminated.

On May 15, he was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for "apologie du terrorisme" in another case.

Mr. Ghannouchi is the most prominent opposition figure to have been imprisoned since President

Saied's coup de force in July 2021.

He headed the Parliament, which was frozen and then dissolved by Mr. Saied.

The day after his arrest, the authorities closed his movement's offices throughout the country.

Since the beginning of February, the authorities have imprisoned more than 20 opponents and prominent figures, including former ministers and businessmen.

President Saied, accused by the opposition of authoritarian tendencies, described those arrested as "terrorists", claiming that they were involved in a "plot against state security".

After his coup, Mr. Saied had the Constitution revised to establish an ultra-presidential system at the expense of Parliament.

Tunisia: two leaders of opposition party Ennahdha arrested

Two leaders of Tunisia's Islamo-conservative Ennahdha party, the bête noire of President Kais Saied, were arrested on Tuesday evening, nearly five months after the arrest of the movement's historic leader Rached Ghannouchi, the party said.

The two arrested leaders are Mondher Ounissi, Ennahdha's interim president since Mr. Ghannouchi's imprisonment, and the head of its consultative council, Abdelkarim Harouni, the party said in statements posted on its Facebook page.

The authorities have not commented on the arrests.

Denouncing what it saw as an attempt by the



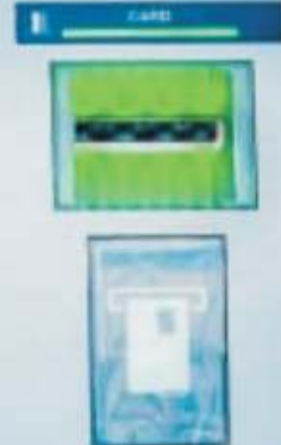
Spokesman of Tunisia's opposition Islamist Ennahdha Party Imed Khemeri address - Copyright © africanews FETHI BELAID/AFP or licensors

authorities to "denigrate the movement and its leaders", Ennahdha claimed that the arrests were aimed at diverting attention from the serious



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Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL)

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VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) has administrative independence and aims to achieve high levels of effectiveness, accountability, neutrality and efficiency necessary to ensure autonomy as mandated by law. In light of this, the Commission therefore advertises the following vacancies for the conduct of Village Head Elections:

CATEGORY A

1. KIT OPERATOR

Responsibilities

Searches to confirm voter details in the Voter Verification Kit
Allocates registered voters to centers in the village

Qualification/Requirement:

Minimum of five (5) WASSCE; Teacher's Certificate or Ordinary Diploma from a recognized institution.
Experience in elections related activities and INEACE Certificate is added advantage.

Must be computer literate

Interpersonal skills, integrity and ability to adapt to situations.

2. CONFIRMATION CLERK

Responsibilities

Records confirmed voter detail in the VHE (Village Head Elections) confirmation /Allocation slip
Signs the VHE /allocation slip.
Stamps the VHE confirmation /allocation slip

Qualification/Requirement:

Minimum of five (5) WASSCE; Teacher's Certificate or Ordinary Diploma from a recognized institution.
Experience in elections related activities and INEACE Certificate is added advantage.

Must be computer literate

Interpersonal skills, integrity and ability to adapt to situations.

3. QUEUE CONTROLLER

Responsibilities

Directs registered voters who are in the queue to vote verification kit operators
Gives special assistance to registered voters who are persons with disability and special needs (aged, lactating mothers, pregnant women etc)
Helps to maintain order in the queue,
Encourages registered voters to complete the process and collect their confirmation allocation slip before leaving the center.

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting

CATEGORY B

4. POLLING STAFF

Polling Centre Manager

Responsibilities

Fills in the identification details of staff of the centre from the list given to him/her
Hands over the Polling Staff Identification Badge to the staff concerned
Receives electoral materials for the centre
Records in his/her Journal, all relevant incidents including complaints, names of staff, party/candidate agents, observers, SLP in charge.
Supervises all polling staff
Trains polling staff
Ensures that all Presiding Officers work with team to prepare and set up the polling station for voting before 7:00am.
Ensures that polling staff, voters, Candidate Agents, Observers adheres to polling procedures
Supplies necessary Election materials to all polling stations as required (Record in MTF accordingly)
Ensures that directional signs are correctly placed to direct voters and relevant stakeholders to the polling centre
Ensures that voting and counting take place in an orderly manner and according to procedures
Collects/retrieves all necessary Election materials from all Presiding Officers in respective polling stations for onward delivery to District Elections Office
Completes all necessary forms for the Polling Centre
Uses the polling centre FVR & ECSL app in Android Tablet to identify and direct voters
Uses the ECSL app in the Android Tablet to input data from all presiding Officers irrespective polling stations for onward transmission to data centre
Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of five (5) WASSCE; Teacher's Certificate or Ordinary Diploma from a recognized institution.
Experience in elections related activities and INEACE Certificate is added advantage.

Must be computer literate

Interpersonal skills, integrity and ability to adapt to situations.

5. Polling Centre Queue Controller

Responsibilities

Uses "first voters name to last voters name tags" for respective polling station registers to direct voters to correct polling station in the centre
Ensures voters with special needs (person with disabilities, aged, nursing and pregnant women) have priority in the queue
Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting.

6. Presiding Officer (PO)

Manages the assigned Polling Station

Ensures that the correct quantity of sensitive materials like ballot papers and nonsensitive materials are promptly supplied to polling station

Trains polling staff (together with Polling Centre Manager)

Ensures that all polling staff, political party/candidate agents, observers and voters adheres to polling procedures

Accurately account for all polling materials particularly ballot papers

Uses the RRF to accurately account for the ballot papers (and votes) at the polling station

Gives polling station data to PCM for entry into the ECSL app in the ECSL Android Tablet for transmission to Data Centre

Uses the MTF to return all relevant polling materials to the PCM

Records in his/her Journal, all relevant incidents including complaints, names of staff, party/candidate agents, observers, SLP in charge.

Ensures that all documentation required for the Polling Station is completed correctly

Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement:

Minimum of five (5) WASSCE; Teacher's Certificate or Ordinary Diploma from a recognized institution.

Experience in elections related activities and INEACE Certificate is added advantage.

Must be computer literate

Interpersonal skills, integrity and ability to adapt to situations.

6. Polling Station Queue Controller

Uses "first voters name to last voters name tags" for his/her polling station register to direct voters to correct polling station in the centre

Ensure that only authorized persons are allowed to enter the Polling Station.

Controls the entrance and exit of the Polling Station

Ensures that queue is maintained in an orderly manner throughout the day

Ensures that voters with special needs: (person with disabilities, aged, nursing and pregnant women) have priority in the queue

Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement

* Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting.

7. Voter Identification Officer (VIO)

Uses the Final Voters Register to identify/verify voters

On the "Gender Disaggregated Data Form" or Gender Tally Sheet;

Records tally of men and women and PWDs that take part in voting

Checks voter for traces of indelible ink on left index finger or any other marked finger if the voters has already voted

Verifies the presence of each voter on the Register of Voters

Ensures that the voter sign/thumbprint against his/her name on the Register of Voters

Directs the voter to the Ballot Paper Issuer

Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting

8. Ballot Paper Issuer (BPI)

Responsibilities

Collects Village Head Election ballot papers from the Presiding Officer

Uses the ECSL validating stamp to make the Village Head Election ballot papers valid by stamping it at the top right-hand corner of the back

Validates the Village Head Election ballot papers using the ECSL validation stamp

Issues the Village Head Election ballot papers to the voter and instructs on how to mark them

Directs the voter to a vacant voting screen and points out the Village Head Election ballot boxes

Issues the Tactile Ballot Guide to voters with special needs for the Village Head Election

Performs any other official duty as instructed by supervisors

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting

9. Ballot Box Controller

Responsibilities

Makes sure that voters exiting from the first voting screen go directly to the Village Head Election ballot box

Guards the Village Head Election ballot boxes to ensure that all voters deposit their ballots in the ballot box

Inks the left index finger of voter

Directs the voter to exit the polling station

Performs any other official duty as instructed by the presiding officer

Qualification/Requirement

Minimum of 3 WASSCE with legible handwriting

In addition to the qualified /requirement above, all candidates under consideration should:

be citizens of Sierra Leone;

be registered voters

speak local languages, where possible.

should be above 18 years

Equal Opportunity Employer

All positions in the Commission are advertised on an equal opportunity basis.

Women and Persons with Disabilities that have the requisite qualification and experience are encouraged to apply.

All applications should be deposited at the Electoral Commission District Office in the Western Rural - Waterloo

The District Elections Manager,
Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL)
Chukuma Johnson Drive
Waterloo

Closing date for receipt of applications is Tuesday 12th September 2023

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



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Reports to the Country Representative

Who We Are

Population Services International (PSI) is the world's leading non-profit social marketing organization. We are a diverse group of over 5,000 entrepreneurial development professionals located in over 40 countries committed to making it easier for all people to lead healthier lives and plan the families they desire. PSI is using its global presence and 50+ years of experience to help reimagine healthcare. We are working to shape market systems, shift policy and funding, and strengthen global capacity to better support consumer empowered healthcare.

Join us!

We are looking for a Director of Finance and Administration to provide overall technical and management leadership, guidance and oversight of the organization's operations, finance, grants, and contracts portfolio. She/he will be the custodian of financial, accounting, IT, branch operations, supply chain, grants, and contracts process to ensure PSI Sierra Leone is compliant with donor and PSI global finance, budget, procurement, grants, and compliance standards and that the processes enable PSI Sierra Leone achieves its strategic priorities. In addition, to strong technical knowledge and experience, the Director of Finance and Administration will be a key leader within the organization whose leadership style should reflect high Emotional Intelligence (EI) and their ability to lead while nurturing talent. The Director of Finance and Operations will be working closely with the Country Representative and Chief of Party for the Impact Malaria Project.

Sound like you? Read on.
Your contribution

Strategic Leadership and Oversight Role

- Provide direction and strategic leadership to the organization's finance, IT, supply chain, branch operations, grants, and contracts portfolio to ensure that operational processes efficiently support program objectives.
- Ensure that the finance, IT, supply chain, grants and contracts systems and process align with PSI Sierra Leone's Strategic Plan and priorities.
- Ensure that PSI Sierra Leone policies and procedures align with PSI Global Services Finance, Procurement, Grants and Contracts policies, procedures, and requirements, and proactively identify and manage any potential conflicts to ensure compliance with the necessary regulations.
- Design and maintain internal systems that ensure accurate and timely reporting on financial performance of the organization.
- Consistently demonstrate a leadership style that reflects high emotional intelligence, nurtures talent, and reinforces the right tone at the top of the organization.
- Promote and demonstrate an ethical environment, in line with PSI's values of honesty and acting with integrity.
- Supervise and provide leadership to PSI Sierra Leone's Finance, IT, Supply Chain, Branch Operations and Sub-Awards teams.

Financial Reporting and Policies

- Establish and/or refine and disseminate policies, systems and practices for effective management, procurement, disbursement and accounting for all financial resources in line with PSI Global accounting policies, funder requirements and local law where required.
- Work closely with the finance team to prepare submission of monthly financial packages to PSI/W and to ensure complete, accurate and timely recording and reporting of transactions.
- Work closely with the Senior Management team and relevant teams at the PSI headquarters to achieve quality and timeliness in Donor reporting.
- Coordinate with Programs and co-lead monthly review and analysis of financial reports and reconciliations with attention to how resources can be better allocated to achieve program objectives, Budgeting, Financial Analysis and Donor compliance.

Budgeting, Financial Analysis, Compliance

- Lead the annual operating budgeting process.
- Validate monthly common cost analysis and update cost ratios to ensure each donor bears the correct proportion of common costs in line with PSI's global policy, as applicable.
- Manage the common direct cost budget to ensure efficient and effective use of donor funds to support common direct costs, when necessary.
- Develop, track and review PSI Sierra Leone consolidated budget and departmental budgets in consultation with budget holders and finance team and conduct detailed activity status review and give input to DC and budget holders.
- Prepare and track donor budgets. Prepare modifications and Activity realignments as necessary.
- Monitor performance and efficiency of on-going Donor projects by analyzing country/project monthly spend rates and highlighting possible problem areas.

Technical Support, Audits and Legal

- Support preparation and successful conclusion of internal and external auditing activities.
- Ensure that the PSI Sierra Leone team responds to audit requests on a timely basis, and provides clear, complete, and accurate information to auditors.
- Review management comments for audit reports and ensure appropriate action is taken to correct audit findings.
- In collaboration with PSI Legal Counsel, minimize legal risk to the organization and engage any legal issues confronting the organization.
- Review and test controls to ensure PSI Sierra Leone systems are compliant with PSI Global Services Finance, Grants and Contracts policies, donor requirements, as well as Sierra Leone's laws.
- Ensure prompt preparation and submission of statutory returns, donor reports and tax compliance.

Operational Management and Administration

- Ensure branch operations, IT, procurement, warehouse, and fleet management activities are delivered efficiently.
- Coordinate with Head of Operations to establish and support suitable accounting, IT, Fleet Management and general administrative systems and personnel in all PSI Sierra Leone field offices.
- Work with Head of Supply Chain to ensure that PSI Sierra Leone's procurement system is adequately updated in line with PSI Global Procurement Manual and changing funder guidelines.
- Ensure adherence to PSI Global Responsibilities Matrix on Approval limits for Procurement of Goods and Services.
- Conduct quarterly oversight and supervision visits to field offices to review the quality of business operations systems and activities and provide support, when necessary.

Sub-Award and Sub-Contractor Management

- Lead the development and negotiation of sub-award agreements, workplans and budgets.
- Coordinate monthly reporting process from sub-awardees and joint programmatic and financial reports reviews, ensuring that costs are in line with the progress on delivery and implementation and that budget variances explanations are provided.
- Conduct regular sub-award visits / evaluations to verify adherence to contract terms and gauge internal control systems to obtain confidence in the reports submitted to PSI Sierra Leone.
- Design and implement a proactive, rigorous, risk-based and effective sub-awardee monitoring system and approach.
- Contribute to designing the capacity building plan for sub-awardees in financial management, internal control systems, budgeting and forecasting, technical programs implementation and coordinate the provision of trainings when needed
- Lead sub-award closeout in accordance with PSI Sierra Leone policies and procedures.

What are we looking for?

The candidate we hire will embody PSI's corporate values:

Collaboration: You can work independently but thrive within a team.

Trust: You trust that your manager and team will have your back and care deeply about gaining that same trust from your teammates

Pragmatism: You dive in and maintain momentum even when things are ambiguous, and you do not let perfect get in the way of good enough.

Honesty: You are not afraid to speak up and speak your mind.

Measurement: You set clear and challenging goals and hold yourself accountable to driving measurable results.

Commitment: You are independent and a free thinker, but you're ready to buy in to the direction of the team and commit to its success.

The basics

- Bachelor's degree or Advanced degree in Finance, Accounting or related field.
- Professional qualifications like ACCA, CIMA, CPA preferred.
- At least 8 years post qualifications experience in general management, financial management and at least 5 years of experience with donor-funded projects at a senior management level required.
- Working knowledge of integrated, accrual-basis accounting systems such as QuickBooks Enterprise, Lawson, or another ERP. Advanced computer skills, with strong Office 365 skills preferred.
- Have demonstrated grants management experience and in-depth understanding of current donor rules and regulations. Experience working with USAID, DfID, KfW and other international donors.
- At least 3 years of experience living or working in a developing country and working experience in challenging environments in Africa will be an added advantage preferred.
- High level of written and verbal communication skills. Written and verbal fluency in English required.
- Exceptional quantitative data analysis skills.
- High emotional intelligence, people management and interpersonal skills; High level staff management and leadership skills.
- Ability to work in a diverse cultural environment with multiple stakeholders (including Ministry of Health authorities (MOH), beneficiaries, implementing partners, program staff, donors)
- References will be required.
- The successful candidate will be required to pass a background check.

What will get us excited (personal and management characteristics)?

- Successful candidates will be customer service oriented, exhibit excellent communication and interpersonal skills; have proven problem solving ability; be able to work efficiently and quickly under pressure; be able to prioritize and perform multiple tasks; and have the ability to work with minimal supervision and follow through on assignments. Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated experience in international health and development issues, and technology innovation.
- Be self-starter, effective team player and demonstrated verifiable result-oriented track record. Act with urgency for continuous improvement and with a bias towards action; promote development of breakthrough solutions; embrace and advocate innovations that improve results; aggressively promotes the need for breakthrough improvements.
- Acting with Long Term Perspective: Take actions today to build a strong foundation for future success, identify and take advantage of emerging opportunities, keep PSI Sierra Leone's long-term goals in mind when addressing short-term issues and problems.
- Adaptive and flexible in approaches to work, comfortable with changing approach based on the evidence of what works.
- Passionate about learning, documenting, and sharing what does and does not work.
- Proven ability to develop routines to manage large workloads and organize work efficiently.
- Ability and desire to coach and transfer learning capacity to partners and program staff.

Is that really you? And are you interested?

Please submit your application letter, accompanied with your CV (including three referees) and copies of your certificates to the address below:

The Country Representative
Population Services International (PSI)
3 Fadka Drive
Freetown

Or email the application to the following email address: recruitment@psi-sl.org
**The deadline for the submission is 5PM on the 15th of September 2023.

PSI is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages applications from qualified individuals regardless of actual or perceived race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, matriculation, political affiliation, family status or responsibilities, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, childbirth, related medical conditions or breastfeeding, genetic information, amnesty, veteran, special disabled veteran or uniform service member status or employment status.

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.

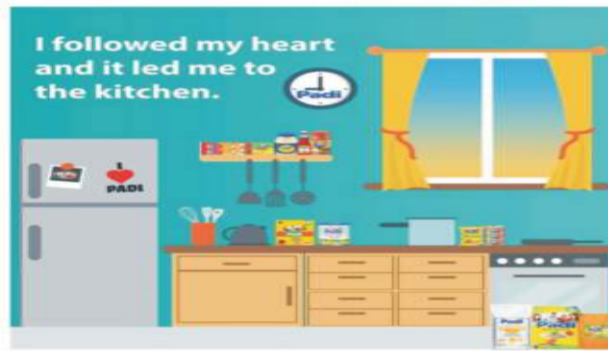
Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2nd October 2023 at 09.45 a.m. All bids must be accompanied by:

- 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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MERCURY INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATE PROGRAM BRAND AMBASSADOR

INT'L SPORT

Andre Onana has confirmed his return to international football with Cameroon, despite having faced what he calls "injustice and manipulation".

The Manchester United goalkeeper is back in the Indomitable Lions squad for next week's final Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) qualifier against Burundi in Garoua.

Onana's shock inclusion comes nine months after he was suspended by his country's football federation during the 2022 World Cup for "disciplinary reasons", thought to stem from a falling-out with Cameroon coach Rigobert Song.

The 27-year-old announced his international retirement shortly after the incident.

In a social media post on Monday, Onana talked of his "unwavering love and attachment" to his

Andre Onana: Manchester United keeper confirms Cameroon return despite 'injustice'

homeland, but hinted at unhappiness with how things have played out since the World Cup in Qatar.

"In the world of football, just like in life, defining moments arise, requiring crucial choices," he said. "In recent months, I have been confronted with ordeals marked by injustice and manipulation.

"I answer the call of my nation with an unshakeable certainty, aware that my return is not only to honour my dream, but also to meet the expectation and support of Cameroonians who deserve a national team determined to shine."

Onana and his team-mates need at least a draw against Burundi to claim a place at January's Nations Cup in Ivory Coast.



If Cameroon do qualify and include Onana in their Afcon squad, he could miss a number of matches for United, who have started the new Premier League season with two wins and two

defeats from their first four games.

The finals take place between 13 January and 11 February 2024.

<https://www.bbc.com/sport>

Mohamed Salah should 'come out and say he's STAYING at Liverpool'



Chris Sutton has called for Mohamed Salah to come out and end the speculation over his future, amid ongoing links to Saudi Pro League side Al-Ittihad. Leading players from across the world have flocked to the Middle East this summer, with the country's top flight splashing the cash on stars such as Neymar, Karim Benzema, N'Golo Kante and Sadio Mane.

Liverpool forward Salah could be next with Al-Ittihad hoping to tempt the Reds with a £200million bid after seeing an initial £150m offer rejected.

However, the Reds insist the Egyptian is not for sale and will hope to hold out until Thursday

when the Saudi transfer window closes.

And former Premier League winner Sutton, speaking on Mail Sport's It's All Kicking off podcast, was questioned by co-host and football editor Ian Ladyman on what he thinks will ultimately happen with Salah, who scored in Sunday's 3-0 win over Aston Villa.

'Is he staying or is he going?' Sutton said. "The bottom line is Mo Salah can put this to bed himself, can't he? 'So Jurgen Klopp has come out and said "we think he's staying". Szoboszlai has come out and said, "we think he's staying. We hope he's staying."

'Mo Salah can just (say he's staying). And the question is, why

hasn't he done that?

'He could make life easy for everybody.'

Ladyman - who wrote on the topic for his Mail Sport column last week - agreed with Sutton's take on the issue as he said: 'I couldn't have put that better myself. I'm thinking maybe you (Chris) should come and sit on my side of the table', before he added: 'I think he's staying for what it's worth.'

Alongside the aforementioned comments from Jurgen Klopp and Dominik Szoboszlai, Reds defender Andy Robertson also insisted that Salah is committed to the club despite the strong interest from Saudi Arabia.

He said: 'For us we block that out, Mo blocks it out. We let other people talk about that.'

'For us there is no concern. For us Mohamed Salah is a Liverpool player and we believe that is what is going to be the case for the foreseeable future.'

'Our squad is what it is and that's the squad that is going to go forward now with the window shut. It is about getting the most out of the squad, it is about looking forward to the season ahead and trying to do better than what we did last season. 'He's the ultimate professional. He does what it does, he is one of the best players in the world and he is professional.'

Robertson continued: 'He lets other

people do the talking, lets other people say what they have to say, but he's always been committed to Liverpool and you saw that with this performance.

'He's not been affected. I've been around him a lot and he's not been affected by anything. Mo has reacted in the best way possible and I think you have seen that with his performance, I think he was pretty special.'

Just before the clash against Villa, Klopp had said he had no worries about Salah's focus despite ongoing speculation he could depart to the team managed by Nuno Espirito Santo.

After pulling a confused look before laughing at the question, he said: 'I didn't have to. This was a media story and it never came through.'

'I have a big desk in my office, a lot of papers on there, a laptop, iPad, everything you need. None of them are busy with any kind of this news. I have a lot of other things to do and we haven't thought about it.'

'Mo was completely normal, good training week and nothing from my point of view to think about.'

Liverpool have picked up 10 points from their first four games of the season and return to action with an away trip to Wolves after the international break on September 16.

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

NOC/CGA-SLE boss bids farewell to Boxers ahead of Olympic qualifiers

President of National Olympics Committee/ Commonwealth Games Association Sierra Leone, Prince Vandy Sualley has bade farewell to a cross-section of boxers of the Sierra Leone Boxing Association, ahead of the African Boxing Championship slated for Dakar, Senegal from September 9- 15, 2023.

With the tournament being Africa Qualification for Paris 2024, the NOC/CGA-SLE President gave his best wishes to the boxers and suggested not to participate just for the sake of participating, but to win merits and ensure they secure qualifications to the Olympic Games in Paris come 2024.

He added that Boxing is one of the sporting disciplines the Committee is looking forward to for a qualification place to the Olympic Games, so this is a great opportunity for the athletes to improve on their performance and ensure they make the country proud, their Association and themselves.

"You should have one focus and that is how to win and qualify for the Olympic Games. Boxing is part of our hopes for 2024 and we've done all we can for you and the other two boxers coming from the diaspora," Prince Sualley said adding that they went through the extra mile to ensure the team made it to the Championship because they believe when the athletes have a free mind, they can concentrate in fight and win their bout.

Sierra Leone's Chef De' Mission, Yahya

Koroma said they are happy about the challenge taken by the NOC-SLE adding that the qualification is very much important. He said the Olympic Committee under the leadership of Prince Sualley is creating a platform for athletes to compete and perform.

The Chef De' Mission called on others to see the need and support the NOC-SLE and wished the boxers well.

Secretary General of the Sierra Leone Boxing Association, Alhaji Komba Komba acknowledged the support of the Olympic Committee adding that had it not been the NOC-SLE they wouldn't be able to make it to the Championship.



He said: "This NOC-SLE particularly the President had always come to our aid and we know that. This is not due to the friendship but because of the prospects they see in boxing and our boxer and that is why I am also urging our boxers to do their best in Senegal."

"We appreciate the intervention from NOC-SLE in providing us air tickets for our

boxers as well as the support during camping and training of the team."

Komba revealed that Sierra Leone will be represented in the tournament by four boxers; former Canadian fighter Sara Haghghat-Joo who will box in the 54 Kg, 71kg UK-based boxer Christian Alimamy Thomas, Mohamed Sillah 63.5kg and Abu Kanu 57kg.

Botswana ends Salone 2024 World Cup qualifiers' hopes



Host, Botswana on Wednesday ended Sierra Leone Women's Cricket team, Ladies Patriots hopes of

making it to the final round of the 2024 World Cup qualifiers slated for later this year, thanks to 17

runs victory.

The host nation was able to overcome a Sierra Leonean side who won all three of their group B

matches in reaching the semi-finals and the win for the host now set up a clash against Kenya in the final on Friday.

Also, both Kenya and Botswana have advanced to the competition's final, the two sides have qualified for the final round of the 2024 World Cup qualifiers and will join Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe in the Africa regional finals.

The top two teams in the continental showpiece will qualify for the global championship.

Meanwhile, Sierra Leone will now face Cameroon in the third-place battle for bronze after the Central African side where trashed by Kenya in 118 runs in the other semi-final match.