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# Chairman: NGC's alliance with SLPP is shaky

By Ishmael Dumbuya



Lawyer Francis Kaikai is rated by the Court as honest with a sterling reputation

**Appeals Court: COL erred in law, no evidence against Lawyer Francis Kaikai**

The Acting Chairman of the National Grand Coalition (NGC), Jesmed Suma, has in an interview with the African Young Voices (AYV) television questioned their alliance with the ruling Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP). According to the acting chairman, NGC polled the third highest number of votes in the 2018 and 2023 elections and subsequently entered into a progressive alliance with the SLPP administration, but that they as a party questioned the provisions of the alliance, especially having to do with appointment in the current administration. He noted that the alliance is shaky at the moment since their expectations on appointment they agreed on have not been met.



Jesmed Suma, Acting Chairman of NGC

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**MoH, partners commemorate World Patients Safety Day**



Director of Reproductive and Health Care at MoH Dr. Tom Sesay give his keynote address

**Two alleged fraudsters remanded**

**Accused remanded for 'Kush'**



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## LOCAL NEWS

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

“The findings were totally unsubstantiated, baseless, unsupported by law or evidence thereby manifesting erroneous, defamation by virtue of the fact that the Appellant is a qualified procurement officer and the highest standard of probating, honesty, and sterling personal reputation is required at all times and yet proceeded to make adverse findings against the Appellant,” ruled the Appeals Court.

The Court of Appeal presided over by Justice Fatmata Bintu Alhadi, Justice Komba Kamada and Justice Tonia Barnett on Monday granted the appeal application of the then Procurement Officer at the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security, Lawyer Francis Kaikai.

The Justice Bankole Thompson COI had recommended that, the applicant been the only Procurement Officer at the ministry, purchased NPK 20.20.20 instead of NPK 0.20.20 fertilizer, which was stated in the contract for the ministry to buy.

The applicant, who was dissatisfied with the findings had through his lawyer; Shears Moses, filed an appeal against the findings.

The Appeals Court says there was no evidence to show that the Appellant benefited personally from the said fertilizer scheme in anyway and that in Commissions of Inquiry, as in the instant case, the burden of proof squarely rest on the state.

The court notes that the respondent herein should bring forth evidence against the Appellant and such legal obligation cannot be whittled down in the absence of compelling evidence, as in the instant case against the Appellant.

“The Appeal is allowed based on grounds E, F and G. The adverse findings, report and recommendations against the Appellant by the sole commissioner

# Appeals Court: COI erred in law, no evidence against Lawyer Francis Kaikai



Lawyer Francis Kaikai is rated by the Court as honest with a sterling reputation

Justice Bankole Thompson herein are set aside,” the Appeals Court ruled.

Reading the judgement on behalf of the panel, Justice Komba Kamanda said the Appellant’s appeal is based on various grounds A-G and that ground A w states that the COI Commissioner in his report in Pages 28, Paragraph 9, referred to the testimony of the Appellant, which is not correct as the Appellant never testified.

Justice Kamanda said the Appellant was not a Person of Interest as listed on Page (ii) Paragraph B and that he was not invited to appear before the Commission as a person under investigation.

He was the Procurement Officer appointed pursuant to Section 18 of the Public Procurement Act, Act No.1 of 2016.

He said on ground B, the Commissioner erred in law and acted in violation of the Appellant’s Fundamental Human Right to the “presumption of Innocence” as provided in Section 23(4) of the

Constitution of Sierra Leone, Act No. 6 of 1991 in failing to conduct a “full, faithful and impartial” inquiry as mandated by Section 149(2) of the International Convention of Civil and Political Right 1966 by proceeding to make adverse findings against the Appellant.

He further stated that on ground C, the Commissioner erred in law and acted in violation of the Appellants fundamental Human Rights to be examined in person “on his action as Secretary to the Procurement Committee mandatory trials.

“He was never invited to appear before the Commission as a “Person of Interest” or as a “person under investigation” by the Commission, yet the Commissioner proceeded to make adverse findings against the Appellant. How was his culpability in the loss of Le61, 061, 440,000.00 determined and to what extent is he liable? There was no statement of how the amount was to be shared,” the court ruled.

He said on ground D, the Commissioner erred in law and acted in violation of the Appellant’s Fundamental Human Rights to a “free and fair trial” in violation of the provision of Section 23 (1) of the 1991 Constitution Act No. 9 of 1991 and the principle of Audit Alteram Partem” underpinning natural justice.

“The Commissioner thereby failed to adhere to the mandatory provision of Section 149(1) (a) of the Constitution in failing to conduct a “full, faithful and impartial inquiry” and in violation of Article 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, Article 14 of the International Convention on civil and political rights and Articles 3, 7 and 26 of the Africa Charter on Human and Peoples Right, by not according to the Appellant a fair hearing.”

He also noted that on ground E, the Commissioner erred in Law and in fact by ignoring the evidence before the Commission that the decision to procure the fertilizer referred to in pages 28-32 of the report were taken by a strategic management team, which the Appellant had no vote in and was only secretary, but proceeded to make finding against him.

He said on ground F, the Commissioner erred in Law when he failed to categorically state in more equivocal term, that what happened during the Strategic Committee meeting were procurement decisions, and failing to decide what the Appellant is liable for whether for taking a decision or participating in a decision making, thus making his findings ambiguous, opaque, uncertain and is bad in Law; yet proceeded to make an adverse finding against the Appellant based on such duplication of facts ambiguously.

He said on ground G, the Commissioner erred in law and fact by failing to take into consideration the fact that the evidence led before the commission clearly show that the Appellant only joined the Ministry of Agriculture in May 2016 and only provided secretariat duties to strategic management committee.

The Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security Planned to purchase 94,500 bags of 50kg inorganic fertilizer to distribute to about 750,000 farmers in the 13 districts of Sierra and the sum of USD22,367,500 was used for the purchase of 980000 of 50kg bags of fertilizer.

## Chairman: NGC’s alliance with SLPP is shaky

From Cover

Chairman Suma further noted that many sympathisers of NGC questioned the party’s resolve to enter into an alliance with the SLPP.

“This doubt is said to have stemmed from the fact that the party’s presidential candidate, Dr. Yumkella in the 2018 elections vehemently condemned both the SLPP and APC of being the issue with Sierra Leone concerning development.”

Suma emphasised that some executive members of the NGC including Alan Luke, Dr. Dennis Bright, and Nyamacoro Sillah, resigned weeks before the alliance was forged.

According to the executive members, leaders of the NGC forged the alliance due to their selfish and personal motives, adding that Yumkella and some other NGC members said the agreement was in the interest of the nation.

Since President Maada Bio of the SLPP was announced winner of the June 2023 elections, only Yumkella has been appointed by the administration.

It could be recalled that before the June 24 elections, the SLPP and the NGC signed an agreement which led to formation of an alliance.

According to Yumkella, he and President Julius Maada Bio worked



together as members of the NPRC regime with a clear focus on developing Sierra Leone.

Yumkella said: “President Bio and I did not enter politics because we are happy. It is because we care about Sierra Leone. So, when President Bio told me to return to the SLPP party to join him in the transformation of our country, that opens invitation was genuine even though other sectors of the public were thinking otherwise.

“The only thing we have been talking about all this time is how we are going to consolidate our peace, hope, and national coherence in our beloved country. We are worried. We have lately seen division, whereas some people have started preaching hate, malice, and violence,” he climaxed.



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## LOCAL NEWS

# Two alleged fraudsters remanded

By Blessing C. Cole

Two alleged fraudsters, Salamatu Samura and Mohamed Lamin Bangura were on Monday remanded at the Male and Female Correctional Centres by Magistrate Sahr Kekura of the Ross Road Court No.1 for allegedly defrauding thousands of Leones.

The accused persons are before the court on six counts of conspiracy, obtaining money by false pretences and other related offences contrary to law.

It was alleged that the accused persons on diverse dates between the 6th November 2022, and February 2023, at Maboreh, Calaba Town in Freetown, conspired with other persons unknown to defraud thousands of Leones from Osman Dumbuya, Abubakar Suma and Abubakar Sawaneh, pretending that they would facilitate their travelling from Sierra Leone to Canada, knowing same to be false.

Testifying in court, first prosecution witness, Osman Dumbuya, recognised the accused persons and recalled on the day in question.

Osman told the court that on that day, he was in Guinea when he received a

phone call from an unknown person, who identified herself as Salamatu Samura-the 1st accused.

He said the 1st accused asked him as to what he was currently doing in Guinea, and that he replied that he was a labourer.

He said the 1st accused asked him to keep in touch with her, promising that she would call him in three days' time.

The witness explained that after the three days, the 1st accused asked if he had the chance to come to Sierra Leone for him to travel to Canada, asking further whether he could accept such an offer.

He said he responded in the affirmative, adding that he asked to know whether the travel program was legal and genuine.

He said the 1st accused told him that she would consult the 2nd (Mohamed Lamin Bangura) who happens to be his brother, adding that on the following day, the 1st accused informed him that her brother had asked him to forward his passport, ID card among others, which he did.

PW 1 said after three days, the 2nd accused informed him that he had succeeded to be among those who would be travelling to Canada.

The witness said he also informed the 1st accused about what the 2nd accused person told him and that when he asked her about the cost of the entire process, the 1st accused told him that NLe14,000.

Osman told the court that the 1st accused asked him to come to Freetown, adding that on the 6th November, 2022, he arrived in Freetown and the 2nd accused took him to his residence at Calaba Town in Freetown.

The witness said on Monday, the 2nd accused took him and his parents to their office situated at Wan Word Garage in Freetown and that upon their arrival, the 2nd accused asked how much he brought for the program and he told him that he brought NLe5,500, which he handed over to him at the said office.

He said after the payment, his father requested for a receipt, but that the 2nd accused told him that, as long he was with his parents they would not issue him a receipt.

He added that the 2nd accused later lodged him at his residence informing him that he had to undergo basic training at Wan Word Garage.

After the two weeks training at Wan Garage, he said he was transferred to

the head office at Maboreh Junction, Calaba Town in Freetown.

He told the court that he asked the 1st and 2nd accused about the way forward, and that the 1st accused told him that the company was ready and willing to offer him two spaces for the program.

He said upon receiving the information, he called his friend, Dauda Suma and explained to him about the program and Dauda later told his father about the program.

He said Dauda and his father met with the 1st and 2nd accused and gave NLe17,000 to the 2nd accused on behalf of his son, Dauda Suma.

The witness concluded his evidence by saying that the 1st and 2nd accused had been on the run and that subsequently they were apprehended at Consider Lane, Calaba Town and taken to the Wellington Police Post in Freetown.

The witness was cross examined by Lawyer M. A. Conteh on behalf of his clients and he later renewed his application for bail on behalf of his clients, but they were refused bail and remanded at the Male and Female Correctional Centres.

The matter was prosecuted by Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mohamed B. Bangura and the matter was adjourned to 26th September, 2023.

# MoH, partners commemorate World Patients Safety Day

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The Ministry of Health and partners have commemorated the World Patients Safety Day on 17th September, 2023, with the theme "Engaging Patients for safety."

The Director of Reproductive and Health Care, Ministry of Health, Dr. Tom Sesay, in his keynote address, said it was no mistake that the occasion was celebrated at the Princes Christian Maternity Hospital (PCMH) and Ola During.

He said the occasion reflects the continuum of care and life stages approach to service delivery that the MOH was promoting in recognition of the vital role that patients, families and caregivers play in the safety of healthcare.

"We can make our clients more comfortable and to better appreciate their experience when they pass through our hospitals. We can demonstrate more empathy because we are all patients or potential patients," he said.

He admonished medical practitioners to continue to work together, share knowledge and



Director of Reproductive and Health Care at MoH Dr. Tom Sesay give his keynote address

implement innovative solutions to ensure that no patient is harmed while seeking healthcare.

"We know if we work together and invest in patient safety we can positively impact health outcomes of reducing maternal and new born mortality. I would like to thank the National Quality Management Programme under

my directorate, our partners who have always stood by us and all other stakeholders who made this possible," he said.

Program Manager, National Quality Management Programme Directorate, MoHS, Margaret Titty Mannah, said evidence showed that when patients are consulted and informed about the decisions concerning their care,

significant gains are made concerning safety and patient satisfaction.

She said the improved health outcomes with reasonable parameters, patients are afforded the space to engage with the healthcare team, the safety of their care and that of the healthcare system as a whole is enhanced.

She said regarding the various interventions, it was initiated in 2017 by engaging People Living with HIV (PLWHIV) as experts in care.

She stated that health education sessions are held regularly at health facilities to ensure that patients acquire important information about healthcare services and learn how to manage their well-being better.

"The Ministry has also established a Consumer Involvement Curriculum to enable meaningful contact with patients."

The perspectives they have provided, she said, have proven invaluable, thereby contributing to the attainment of significant milestones by Namibia in the national HIV/AIDS response.

## LOCAL NEWS

By Blessing C. Cole

# Convict jailed 2 years for stealing

During the September Criminal Session at the Siaka Steven Street High Court in Freetown, twenty-four-year-old Alhaji Musa, a building contractor was on Tuesday 19th September, sentenced to 2 years imprisonment by Justice Alusine Sesay of the Supreme Court for stealing.

The convict was charged with one count indictment of house breaking and larceny contrary to Section 26 (1) of the Larceny Act 1916.

State prosecutor, A.J.M Bockarie, alleged that the convict on the 10th August 2022 in Freetown, broke into and entered into the dwelling house of Nancy Turay with intent to steal and stole therein the goods or items alleged therein all to the total valued of NLe 20, 15, 00 property of the said complainant.

When the charge was read and explained to the convict by the court registrar, the convict pleaded guilty to the offense.

After he pleaded guilty to the offense, A.J.M Bockarie told the court that the convict was a neighbour to the complainant and on the said date, the convict stole her property worth thousands of Leones.

The complainant was not present in court during the proceedings and the prosecutor said the items were not retrieved from the convict.

Lawyer Cecile Tucker from the Legal Aid Board made a plea of mitigation on behalf of the convict, noting that the convict is a first time offender of the law and that



Siaka Steven Street High Court building

he is a very young man with brighter future ahead of him.

She further said the convict need a second chance to make good use of his life and pleaded with Justice Sesay to temper justice with mercy on the convict, while giving down his sentencing.

He submitted that the convict didn't waste the court's time by answering to the offense on his first appearance before the High Court.

Lawyer Tucker continued that the convict has been on remand

custody for over one year now.

After making her plea, Justice Sesay asked the convict to say something before he sentence him.

The convict also pleaded with him to temper him justice with mercy, stating that he has regretted his

action and learnt his mistakes while on remand custody.

Meanwhile, Justice Sesay advised the convict to make good use of his age because as a young man he should engage in things that will benefit him, but not to engage in things that will destroy his future.

## Accused remanded for 'Kush'

By Elizabeth Kamara

Sorieba Kamara made an appearance before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of Court No.1 on Pademba Road in Freetown for unlawful possession of Kush and Canabi Sativa.

The accused person is standing trial on two count charges to wit unlawful possession of Kush contrary to Section 8(2) iv (a) of the National Drug Enforcement Act of 2008.

It was alleged that on diverse dates, Saturday 2nd of September 2023, at Wilkinson Road, Lumley Police Station check point, in the Freetown, the accused person was found in possession of fifty-one wraps of Kush and cannabis sativa weighed of 25.9 grams without lawful authority.

Police officer, John Momoh Turay, recalled on the 3rd of September 2023.

He said he was on duty when ASP Osman Mansaray attached at the Lumley Police Station arrested and brought in Sorieba Kamara of No.21 Regent Street and reported that on

Sunday the 3rd September 2023 at Wilkinson Road, Lumley check point, the accused was found in possession of dry leaves suspected to be cannabis sativa and Kush.

He said the matter was allocated to him for investigation and that the accused person was cautioned with regards to the allegations.

He said the accused person made a statement, which he read and explained to him and he admitted it to be true and correct.

He said he later sent the quantity for a laboratory examination and that when the report was out, it was discovered that the substances were Kush and cannabis sativa.

He said the accused person was charged with the offence of unlawful possession of cannabis sativa and Kush.

The statement was tendered while the exhibit was given to the exhibit clerk.

The matter was adjourned to the 22nd September 2023 for further hearings

## Larceny matter committed to High Court

By Elizabeth J. Kamara

Abu Baker Conteh appeared before Magistrate Mark Ngegba of the Pademba Road Court No.1 for alleged stealing property worth over NLe24, 330, 00.

The accused person stands trial on one count charge to wit larceny in dwelling house contrary to Section 13 (1) of the Larceny Act of 1916.

Police alleged that the accused person on 9th August, 2023, at PWD Quarters in Freetown, with intent to steal, entered the house of Nabillahi Musa Kamara and stole the sum of twenty four thousand three hundred and thirty new Leones.

Fatu Tarawally, a police officer attached at the CID headquarters on Pademba Road, said that she knew the complainant and recognized the accused.

She recalled on the 9th August, 2023, adding that she was on

duty when the accused was arrested and brought in by the complainant and accompanied by his father and handed over to him for investigation.

She further said that, herself and d Sergeant 1934, visited the crime scene and that they found no constructive breakage, but the accused admitted that he was guilty of the crime and that they noticed that the accused was an errand boy to the complainant

She said they later returned to the station and that she and Sergeant 1934 conducted an interview with the accused.

On the 11th August 2023, she said she and Samfa Kamara charged the accused for larceny in a dwelling house.

Meanwhile, the state prosecutor closed his case for the defense to open theirs, but the defense counsel says he had a no case submission to make.



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## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

## UN raises alarm over child deaths in Sudan as health crisis deepens

United Nations (U.N.) agencies have reported the devastating loss of more than 1,200 young lives in Sudan's refugee camps, succumbing to suspected measles and malnutrition. These statistics come amidst an ominous warning that thousands more, including vulnerable newborns, teeter on the brink of peril as we approach the year's end.

Speaking at a U.N. briefing in Geneva, Dr. Allen Maina, the chief of public health at the U.N. refugee agency (UNHCR), conveyed the tragic reality that over 1,200 children under the age of five have perished in the White Nile state since May. Dr. Maina's somber statement was underscored by his grim forecast: "Regrettably, we anticipate that these numbers will continue to rise."

UNICEF, the U.N. children's agency, expressed grave concern for the "many thousands of newborns" among the 333,000 infants expected to be born before the year's close. These infants, along with their mothers, are in dire need of skilled delivery care. However, in a nation where millions find themselves trapped in war-torn regions or displaced, and where critical medical supplies are in scarce supply, such crucial care is rapidly slipping beyond reach. James Elder, spokesperson for UNICEF, delivered this



Displaced children gather on top of a truck from which the displaced were filling up - Copyright © africanews Ben Curtis/AP

sobering message during the same briefing. To compound the crisis, Sudan faces a relentless battle against severe malnutrition, with approximately 55,000 children requiring treatment each month. Shockingly, only a fraction of nutrition centers are operational, with less than one in 50 serving the capital city, Khartoum, and just one in ten functional in West Darfur.

The stark reality of this humanitarian catastrophe demands immediate global attention and intervention, as countless lives hang in the balance amidst the unforgiving backdrop of Sudan's ongoing conflict and healthcare crisis.

## Water shortage pushes wildlife to migrate from Zimbabwe

Large numbers of elephants from Zimbabwe's biggest national park are moving to neighbouring Botswana to survive.

The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority spokesman said Monday (Sep. 18) that "water bodies had dried up" in the Hwange National Park leading to the migration of the mammals.

Tinashe Farawo added he couldn't quantify how many elephants moved since August. But, he said, "all types of animals present in the park" are also migrating in scores in search for water and food he said.

Hwange National Park covers an area of more than 14,600 square kilometres and is home to about 50,000 elephants.

With the increase in water shortages over the years, wildlife migration between the park and Botswana is not uncommon. However, the spokesman warned the migration came "too early" this year, citing climate change.

The migration could lead to an increase in conflict between humans and wildlife as animals pass through populated areas in Zimbabwe.

"It means more animals are going to invade communities, people competing for water with animals," Farawo warned.

Conflict between humans and wildlife is a significant problem in remote parts of Zimbabwe, caused in part by population growth.

Elephants killed at least 60 people last year, according to government figures.

Zimbabwe has around 100,000 elephants, the second largest population in the world and almost double the capacity of its parks, conservationists say.

Botswana is home to around 130,000, the world's largest elephant population.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has classified southern Africa as a region at risk, facing increased risks of extreme heat and reduced rainfall due to global warming.

## Mysterious disease kills 7 in Ivory Coast

Seven people died on Sunday in a village in central Ivory Coast near Bouaké, where 59 others were hospitalized due to an illness of still unknown origin, hospital and local sources told AFP on Monday.

Seven people died, five at the Bouaké University Hospital and two in Niangban, a village located about thirty kilometers to the south, a hospital source said.

"We have a total of 59 (people) hospitalized" at the Bouaké University Hospital, "mostly children and some adolescents", added this source, specifying that the symptoms of the disease are "vomiting" and "diarrhea".

"Those who died" are between 5 and 12 years old, confirmed the village chief of Niangban, Emmanuel Kouamé N'Guessan. He reported that "around fifty people" were "at the Bouaké University Hospital". On Sunday, a nurse's aide informed him that children were "dying," he said.

A close friend of the chef, Célestin Kouadio Koffi, indicated that according to rumors, corn porridge was the cause of the contamination.

Zitanick Amoin Yao, the mother of the first victim, claimed to have bought porridge which she gave to her son. After an urge to go to the toilet, she said, "he started to vomit when I gave him the medicine that was given to me at the Djébonouan hospital". "We went back to the hospital and they told us to go to the Bouaké University Hospital, that's where he died at the age of three," she said.

Agnès Aya Konan also lost her daughter. She refuses to accuse the seller, indicating however that her children ate the same porridge on Sunday.

In February, in the village of Kpo-Kahankro, also close to Bouaké, two people were sentenced to five years in prison after contamination with clostridium, a bacteria which had caused 16 deaths according to an official report, 21 according to the villagers.

## At least 8 dead in military helicopter crash in Kenya

The crash of a military helicopter in Kenya, near the border with Somalia, killed at least eight people, officials said Tuesday.

The cause of the accident in Lamu County, on the Kenyan coast, was not immediately clear. Kenyan defense forces operate in the region to help deter al-Qaeda-linked extremists from the Al-Shabab group, based across the border in Somalia.

The Defense Ministry said the Air Force helicopter crashed during a night patrol. A commission of inquiry was sent to the scene. A defense official and a police official said all military personnel and crew members aboard the helicopter had died.

Kenyan troops are also present in Somalia as part of the African Union Transitional Mission in Somalia to help fight Al-Shabab. Kenyan forces deployed to Somalia in 2011, but there are now plans to withdraw



Helicopters of the Kenya Defense Forces land at Ole-Tepesi to recover the bodies - Copyright © africanews Brian Inganga/Copyright 2021 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

multinational forces as Somali troops take over their country's security.

Al-Shabab has increased attacks in Kenya in recent months, killing dozens of people in the border region, as the extremists feel pressure from a Somali military offensive launched last year.

## Ghana tops African countries with highest debt with IMF

Ghana has maintained its spot as Africa's most indebted country to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Ghana's debt to the IMF increased by 35.55% over the time period under consideration, per data from the IMF's Quarterly Finances for July-ending 2023.

This accounts for 9.55 percent of the 17.68 billion (Special Drawing Rights) SDR in total loans still owed by the Fund to African countries.

Out of the five categories of largest outstanding loans as of July 31, 2023, Ghana's Special Drawing Rights (SDR) stood at \$1.689 billion, higher than the \$1.246 billion SDR recorded as of April 30, 2023. Ghana had repaid SDR 8 million to the IMF as SDR 1 equals US\$1.34294.

As of July 31, 2023, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo held the second and third-largest outstanding loans to the Fund positions in



Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo arrives to give his speech during celebrations - Copyright © africanews Julien de Rosa/AP

Africa, respectively. Kenya owed the IMF SDR 1.008 whereas the Democratic Republic of the Congo owed the Fund SDR 1.142 billion.

Sudan and Uganda, whose exposure to the Fund is projected at SDR 992 million and SDR 812 million, respectively, kept their positions of fourth and fifth. The remaining 11.32 billion SDR were owed to the IMF by the rest of Africa.

## Chad: Revision of the electoral register comes to an end

No queues, no jostling in front of this registration centre in the 3rd arrondissement. And yet, in a few hours' time, the revision of the electoral roll will come to an end. Unlike the Chadians who chose to boycott the operation, Kaki preferred to come and fulfil his civic duty.

"In order to vote, we absolutely must have a card that proves that we are Chadians. That's why I've come to register to get my voter's card and then choose my candidate".

Here in Chagoua, people refuse to give up. Having a voter's card is the only way to express one's citizenship and freely choose one's candidate in future elections:

"I think it's very important to do this. We absolutely have to register because, afterwards, it will really cost us. So the best thing is to be registered," said Milemen Florence, a citizen.

"There's a saying that not every day is Sunday. Perhaps this time there will be a change. People are not going to carry on with the past. There's going to be a change all the same," expressed Dana Paul.

At the start of this revision of the electoral roll, the federalists threatened to boycott the operation on the grounds of irregularities in the process. Today, they are calling for an extension.

"This stage is important, not only for the referendum but also for future elections. That's why we've called on our activists and the entire population to register for this process. So it's a civic process, and we're calling for it to be resumed in areas that were not accessible, to enable all citizens to register," explained Gapili Tedang, Member of the Coordination for CORE TCHAD.

This revision of the electoral roll concerns Chadians who are of voting age and who are not on the last electoral roll of 2021.

## EU voices "solidarity" with French envoy in Niger

The European Union's top diplomat on Monday (Sep. 18) voiced solidarity with France's ambassador to Niger, who has faced intense pressure after refusing to comply with an expulsion orders from Niger's military leaders.

"We also stress again our solidarity in France, over the situation of its ambassador on the ground, full solidarity with France and full support to President Bazoum," Josep Borell told reporters on Sep. 18 after the bloc's foreign ministers met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

After sacking the elected government in late July, the military that seized power on July 26 said it was expelling Ambassador Sylvain Itté.

But the 48-hour deadline passed without Paris recalling him.

The former colonial power then said it did not recognize the authority of the putschists.

Niger's military junta said it had revoked the French ambassador's diplomatic immunity and instructed the police to expel him. Sylvain Itté's visa and that of his family have also been cancelled.

President Emmanuel Macron said last week that the ambassador was "being held hostage" in the

embassy, living off military rations after the military cut off deliveries of supplies.

Josep Borell also renewed the bloc's "full solidarity" with Mohamed Bazoum, the elected president who has been under house arrest with his family. The EU's top diplomat praised his "courage and determination."

Borell said that the Europeans also agreed on the need to "reassess" their strategy in the Sahel, where France in particular has led years of efforts aimed at defeating jihadists.

"We need a new approach as we are facing a much more complex environment," he said.

"We insisted on the idea that we need African solutions for African problems."

Over the past decade, the European Union has spent 600 million euros in civilian and military missions in the Sahel, training 30,000 personnel of security forces and 18,000 troops in Mali and Niger, Borell recently told the European Parliament.

Nonetheless, military leaders have taken over in both countries and in neighboring Burkina Faso.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP

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## Request for Proposal (Re-advertisement) Long Term Agreement for Air Conditioners Maintenance Services (only for Businesses Registered in Sierra Leone)

UNICEF Sierra Leone invites tenders for air conditioners maintenance services for its offices in New England (Freetown) and Kenema, and its Warehouse at Ferry Junction (Freetown). This will be through a Long-Term Agreement which will be for 24 months with the possibility of another 12 months extension.

A Bid Conference will be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 at 10.30 am GMT at the UNICEF Country Office.

The deadline for bid submission which is through email submission is at 10 am GMT on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Interested firms are requested to visit the United Nations Website at [Air Conditioner Maintenance \(ungm.org\)](https://ungm.org) to download all the tender documents and instructions.

## *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

## 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.

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Hill Station  
Freetown -

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**SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE (SPN) FOR  
DESIGN AND REHABILITATION /CONSTRUCTION OF  
VARIOUS WORKS IN FREETOWN, SIERRA LEOEN**

## Invitation for Bids

**IFB Number:** WASHAERP/OFID/GoSL/GVWC-003 WKS  
**Sector:** Water and Sanitation  
**Project ID No:** P-SL-E00-004  
**Employer:** Guma Valley Water Company  
**Project:** Freetown Water & Aquatic Environment Revamping

**Project Contract title:**

LOT 1A: Design and Construction of Mortem and Mongegba Weirs & associated Raw Water Pipelines in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 1B: Design and Rehabilitation-Expansion of Allentown Water Treatment Plant and Rehabilitation of Allentown Reservoir in Freetown, Sierra Leone

Lot 2A: Design and Rehabilitation of Pumping Stations, Rising Mains and Reservoirs in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

LOT 2B: Design, Supply, and Installation of Distribution System Extension by 45 km in Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Country:** Sierra Leone  
**Loan No.** 6540654001532  
**Procurement Method:** Open Competitive Bidding (International) (OCBI)

**ICB No: WASHAERP/OFID/GoSL/GVWC-003-005 WKS**

**Issued on:** Thursday 14 September 2023

- The Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) and Ministry of Finance (MoF) has received financing from the OPEC fund for International Development- OFID 'hereinafter called the fund 'toward the cost of the Freetown Water & Aquatic Environment Revamping Project (WASHAERP). It is intended to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for:

LOT 1A: Design and Construction of Mortem and Mongegba Weirs & associated Raw Water Pipelines in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 1B: Design and Rehabilitation-Expansion of Allentown Water Treatment Plant and Rehabilitation of Allentown Reservoir in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 2A: Design and Rehabilitation of Pumping Stations, Rising Mains and Reservoirs in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 2B: Design, Supply, and Installation of Distribution System Extension by 45 km in Freetown, Sierra Leone

"For these contracts, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the AfDB's Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing, except for those payments, which the contract provides to be made through letter of credit." The OFID procurement activities shall make use of procurement rules and procedures of African Development Bank.

- The Guma Valley Water Company in Freetown, republic of Sierra Leone now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the:

LOT 1A: Design and Construction of Mortem and Mongegba Weirs & associated Raw Water Pipelines in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 1B: Design and Rehabilitation-Expansion of Allentown Water Treatment Plant and Rehabilitation of Allentown Reservoir in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 2A: Design and Rehabilitation of Pumping Stations, Rising Mains and Reservoirs in Freetown, Sierra Leone

LOT 2B: Design, Supply, and Installation of Distribution System Extension by 45 km in Freetown, Sierra Leone

Note: Bidders may bid for all lots or any one lot in a package, and contract award maybe for more than one Lot or more Lots to a single successful contractor, provided that the contractor demonstrate capacity to execute multiple Lots contracts simultaneously if successful. Contracts may be also awarded to different successful contractors on Lot basis. Each lot has separate qualification requirements and evaluation shall be done per lot

- Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International),

OCBI procedures as specified in the Bank's Procurement Framework dated October 2015 as per the legal agreement, and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.

- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding document at the office of:

The Procurement Manager,  
 Freetown WASH and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project, Guma Valley Water Company,  
 7th Floor, Guma Building, 12/14 Lamina Sankoh Street  
 Freetown  
 The Republic of Sierra Leone  
 Electronic mail address: gumaprourement@yahoo.com  
 and washaerpprourement@yahoo.com

- The bidding document in English Language may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Fifty (50) United State Dollars or Le 950,000 (Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand New Leones) from Guma Valley Water Company Procurement office 7<sup>th</sup> Floor.

The method of payment will be cash or direct deposit to the Guma Valley Water Company designated account number to be provided upon request.

The document will be sent by email or International express courier at the expenses of the contractor. Copy of receipt of tender document purchase shall be attached to the bid during bid submission.

- Bids must be delivered to the address below (9a) on or before Friday 20 October 2023 at 13:30. hours Freetown Local Time. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below (9b) on Friday 20 October 2023 at 13:45 hours Freetown Local Time.

- All Bids must be accompanied by a Security of:

The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be,

LOT 1A: The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be USD 160,000(One Hundred and sixty Thousand United States Dollars only or NLe 3,355,040 new leones (Three million three hundred fifty-five thousand and forty New Leones only)

LOT 1B: The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be 260,000 USD (Two hundred sixty thousand united states dollars only) or NLe 5,451,940 New leones (five Million Four hundred fifty-one thousand and nine hundred forty New leones).

LOT 2A: The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be USD 210,000.00 (Two hundred and ten thousand United States Dollars only or NLe 4,403,490 Four Million four hundred and three thousand four hundred ninety New Leones only)

LOT 2B: The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be USD 215,000.00 (Two hundred fifteen Thousand United States Dollars only or NLe 4,508,335 (Four million five hundred and eight thousand three hundred thirty-five New Leones only)

refer bank of Sierra Leone middle exchange rate of Wednesday 13 September 2023 www.bsl.gov.sl.

**Note:** Bidders submitting for more than one lot, shall submit for each lot, a separate bid security required for the Lots they are submitting.

- Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

- The address(es) referred to above is:

(a) Address for submission

Guma Valley Water Company  
 Freetown Wash and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project  
 Guma Building  
 7th Floor, Procurement office  
 12/14 Lamina Sankoh Street,  
 Freetown, Sierra Leone.

(B) address for bid opening

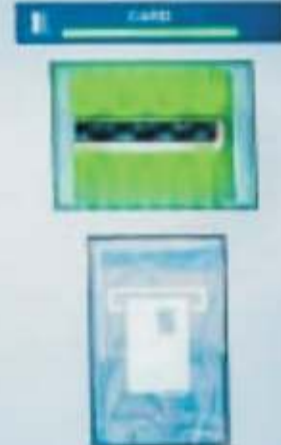
Guma Valley Water Company  
 Freetown Wash and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project  
 Guma Building  
 4th Floor, Conference Room  
 12/14 Lamina Sankoh Street,  
 Freetown, Sierra Leone.

**THE END**



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C/O MRCG 145 Circular Road, Freetown.

Email: [editorsguild94@gmail.com](mailto:editorsguild94@gmail.com) Mob:+23276653596

### Public Notice

## Increase in Advert Pricing for Newspapers

24<sup>th</sup> 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 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )	700	800
2	Half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )	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, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023.

Your cooperation is highly solicited.

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

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