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Chaos over unpaid backlog salaries of APC MPs



MP raises concern over non-completion of 100-bed hospital



By Jariatu S. Bangura

Chaotic scene in Parliament

Presiding Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Abass C. Bundu, yesterday had to adjourn the sittings for more than ten minutes after both sides of the House went on the rampage, chanting

slogans over the non-payment of backlog salaries of All People's Congress (APC) Members of Parliament, who boycotted parliament for three months.

Cont. Page 4

ChildFund, KOICA hand over three-classroom block to Sengbe Pieh Memorial School

Female inmates go through CAF license 'D' coaching course



British High Commission celebrates King's birthday

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ChildFund and KOICA Hand Over a Three-Classroom Block with WASH Facility at Sengbe Pieh Memorial School

Freetown, Sierra Leone — November 23, 2023.

ChildFund Sierra Leone with funding from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and ChildFund Korea has today handed over a three-classroom block with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facility to the Sierra Leone Government at Sengbe Pieh Memorial Secondary School, Hamilton in the Western Rural District.

In April 2023, ChildFund launched the USD 1,596,124 Increasing Access to Secondary School Education for Out-of-school Girls Project. The project is geared towards ensuring that out-of-school girls have access to inclusive and safe learning environments; Out-of-school girls are supported to continue their education, Community is meaningfully engaged in the protection of marginalized children and enrolling them in schools. The project's goal is to re-enroll 3,300 out-of-school girls in six schools in the Western Area in three years (2023-2025) to further promote inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Through this project, this year, ChildFund commenced the construction of two 3-classroom blocks at the Sengbe Pieh Memorial and Muslim Congress secondary schools. The works at Sengbe Pieh School, comprising 3 well-furnished classrooms, an office, and a store, have since been completed. The classrooms are furnished with 210 pairs of desk and chairs, 3 whiteboards, while the WASH facility hosts two sex-separated toilets, hand washing facilities and a borehole.

"From early childhood education to primary and secondary schools, getting children in class also requires us to tackle a wide range of hurdles including issues around affordability, quality of education, sanitation and hygiene, early marriage, low completion rates and the low level of foundational learning and numeracy," says Victor Kamara, Country Director, ChildFund Sierra Leone.

"KOICA is very proud to launch its first NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) project in Sierra Leone. This is a flagship project of the Development MOU that KOICA signed with the Government of Sierra Leone last year," Son Sungil, Country Director of KOICA Nigeria office said.

"For the very first time in history, KOICA is funding a project in Sierra Leone, through ChildFund Korea. From what we have achieved so far, our partnership with KOICA, ChildFund Korea, ChildFund Sierra Leone and the government of Sierra Leone is a worthwhile venture. We feel fulfilled to be able to contribute towards the development of Sierra Leone especially in the area of education," says Jaeun Nam, Country Program Manager from ChildFund Korea.

The project is implemented in 6 schools: Government Rokel Secondary School; Services Secondary School and Sierra Leone Muslim Congress Secondary School in the Western Urban Area

with Fourah Bay College Secondary School, Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE) Secondary School and Sengbe Pieh Memorial Secondary School in the Western Rural District.

"This project represents a critical milestone in our drive to provide quality education for every child – boy or girl, across the country," said Emily Gogra – Deputy Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education during the launch of the project in April this year. *"This is in line with the government's National Policy on Radical Inclusion in Schools to support girls who are or have been pregnant, and parent learners to stay in school; and the National Strategy for Out-of-School Children in Sierra Leone that targets to achieve zero out-of-school children in the country. We are grateful to KOICA and ChildFund for supporting this vision."*

Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) is a government aid agency of the Republic of Korea, founded in 1991. KOICA implements Korea's grant and technical cooperation of the ROK, supporting the socio-economic development of many developing countries. KOICA endeavors to combat poverty and support the sustainable socioeconomic growth of partner countries.

ChildFund Korea started its relief work in 1948. ChildFund Korea expanded its programs to child protection and has played a crucial role in developing child welfare systems. It has continuously looked after children in poverty and their rights. ChildFund Korea not only provides financial, physical, and emotional support for children with mental and physical disabilities but also focuses on child rights advocacy projects and raises public awareness of the importance of child rights and participation. ChildFund Korea has been working in over 30 countries to help children and their families and communities through meaningful, sustainable solutions.

ChildFund Sierra Leone has been working for and with children of Sierra Leone for 38 years since 1985, contributing to the country's development in the areas early childhood development, education, health and nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), household economic empowerment, child protection and advocacy, food security, disaster risk reduction and emergency response.

ChildFund currently implements sponsorship programming in the Bombali, Kailahun, Falaba and Koinadugu districts in Sierra Leone, reaching 2,511,039 children and their families with various child-focused development programs. ChildFund also implements non-sponsorship programs/projects in the Bo, Moyamba, Kono, and Port Loko districts.

For more information, please contact:

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Communications Officer, Increasing Access to Secondary Education for out-of-school girls Project

ChildFund Sierra Leone

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LOCAL NEWS

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

To increase access to secondary school education for 3,300 out of school children in the Western Area of Sierra Leone, Childfund in collaboration with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), on Thursday, 23rd November, handed over refurbish three classrooms block to Sengbe Pieh Memorial Secondary School.

The three-year project, which commenced on April 2023 will end in December 2025.

The project is being implemented by ChildFund Sierra Leone in partnership with the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School (MBSSE).

The project will construct six schools in the Western Urban and Rural Districts. The total cost of the project is USD 1,555,000 (One Million Five Hundred and Fifty Five Thousand).

Delivering the keynote statement, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School (MBSSE), Mamusu Massaquoi, said the day marked a significant step in the collective achievement to increase access to secondary education for out-of-school going

ChildFund, KOICA hand over three-classroom block to Sengbe Pieh Memorial School



The official handing over ceremony, the Deputy Minister of (MBSSE), Mamusu Massaquoi cutting the ribbon

young girls in the country.

"As the Deputy Minister of Education, I am humbled by the progress made by President Bio for achieving educational equity, empowering young girls in Sierra Leone. Education is the corner stone of progress and it is essential for the development of any nation," she said

She added that access to education, especially at the secondary level, has not been equitable for all.

She said far too often, socio economic barriers, cultural norms, and inadequate infrastructure have hindered educational pursuit for girls, depriving them of the

opportunity to reach their full potentials.

She continued that as they were opening the new classroom, they were taking a bold step in addressing those challenges, adding that the facilities will enhance adequate learning environment for the pupils of Sengbe Pieh Memorial Secondary Schools.

She further said that the three classroom facility was not just brick and mortar, but it symbolizes their dedication to creating an enable and inclusive environment for all children in Sierra Leone.

"These classrooms are not just physical structures, but they are spaces where your dreams will take your flights, where your voices will be heard, and where your potentials will be nurtured. Embrace this opportunity with determination, because it's a stepping stone to your success," she advised

She concluded that they must continue to advocate for policy to promote gender equality in education, invest in teachers' training, and professional development, and create safe and inclusive learning environment for all.

Deputy Country Director, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Nigeria, Minjae Kang, said the handing over of the three classroom block complete with essential furniture, boreholes, and VIP latrines is a way of uplifting the educational standards of the country.

She said they have been actively

involved in various development activities and interventions across Sierra Leone, and that their journey in Sierra Leone is more than just a tale of constructing facilities, it's about building dreams and nurturing potentials.

"Thus handing-over, which we proudly launched today, aims to serve as a beacon of educational excellence. Our goal was not just to build classroom, but to create environments where young minds' flourish curiosity is fostered and Sierra Leone's future leaders are nurtured," she maintained

The Country Director of ChildFund, Victor Kamara, said Childfund is an international organization that promotes societies, whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children, especially girls.

He said the project was funded by KOICA, Childfund Korea, and Childfund International and it's a three years project that will last for three years.

He said the project will be focused on enrolling out of school girls into schools.

He said the projects will also be working with the Government of Sierra Leone on how they will be helping in decongesting schools, and helping the school going pupils to be able to learn in an enabling environment.

He added that the project will help to added additional classrooms to six different schools across the Western Area Rural and Urban.

Chaos over unpaid backlog salaries of APC Mps

From Cover



It could be recalled that the government and the opposition signed a communique after the three-day peace dialogue, in which it was agreed that opposition MPs be paid their three-month backlog salaries upon their return to Parliament.

But Hon. Quinton Salia Konneh from the ruling Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) triggered the rift after he accused APC MPs of using back doors to request for their backlog salaries, which he said they did not work for.

He submitted that the APC has no locus standi to accuse the SLPP of stealing an election and argued that the said MPs should not be paid their backlogs.

After some minutes of consultation among the Speaker and the leadership behind the scene, the Speaker ruled that the Standing Orders of the House guides MPs on the rules of debate not to bring up issues that do not in any way pertain to issues discussed on the floor.

LOCAL NEWS British High Commission celebrates King's birthday

On 16th November, British High Commission Freetown hosted the King's Birthday Party (KBP) to pay tribute to the King as the UK's Head of State, with the best of British and Sierra Leonean arts, culture and innovations on display.

The last time the UK celebrated a KBP was in 1951, just a year before the accession of Queen Elizabeth II. His Majesty King Charles III was born in 1948, becoming heir apparent in her accession, and being coronated as King in May 2023.

As the inaugural celebration of the King's Birthday under His Majesty King Charles's rule, this year's event was one of particular significance to the United Kingdom. The evening blended the best of what Britain's and Sierra Leone's culture has to offer.

Around 400 guests, from a wide range of dignitaries from the Government of Sierra Leone, business leaders, and eminent figures across the diplomatic core, arts, education, research, entrepreneurs and sport attended the celebration.



Lisa Chesney, British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, reminded guests of the King's 2006 visit to Sierra Leone as Crown Prince, where he commented on the close relationship between our two Commonwealth nations.

She added:

"Tonight, we are not just celebrating his Majesty's birthday but commemorating the friendship that the UK and Sierra Leone enjoy. We are proud of what we've achieved together. All of [our] work is about helping Salone thrive. ... Our relationship isn't just about UK Aid or about links between governments and institutions. It's about the day to



day connections we share, that often go unseen."

Performances from WeirdHitz band, Shazzii, Ballanta's 'Groovy Colours' and the Sierra Leone National Dance Troop delighted guests. Stunning photography from Sama Kai, Mohamed Antar and Dominique Fofanah celebrated the beauty of Sierra Leone, highlighting our collective responsibility to protect the

natural environment, a cause close to the King's heart. Fusion Sierra Leonean British food was sampled in This year's King's Birthday Party would not have been such a success without the generous support of Africell Sierra Leone, Sherbro Alliance Partners, G4S, Onlime, Crown Agents, Miro Forestry and The Beauty Bar.

Female inmates to go through CAF license 'D' coaching course

By Hassan Gbassay Koroma

Isha Johansen, a FIFA Foundation Board Member, has launched the Confederation of African Football (CAF) License D Coaching course for 30 female inmates at the Freetown Female Correctional Service Centre in Freetown.

The training course is being implemented under the Football for Reform and Fashion for Change initiatives in collaboration with FIFA and CAF respectively.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, Johansen expressed her motivation to change the lives of the inmates and said that football is a game that brings together different nationalities with different languages, but to one common understanding.

"In life, we sometimes find ourselves in a situation that is not under our control. Between 80 to 90 percent of your crimes is domestic violence, self-defence.... Some of you were just at the right place but at the wrong time."

Head of Female Football at CAF, Meskerem Tadesse Goshime, expressed her happiness to be working with others to transform the lives of female inmates in the country.

According to her, "It is inspiring to see how football can be used as a tool for change... Isha Johansen's



CAF Head of Female Football handing over the ball to the Acting DG of the SLCS

initiative to launch the Confederation of African Football (CAF) License D Coaching course for 30 female inmates at the Freetown Female Correctional Centre in Freetown is a great example of how football can be used to impact change in the lives of people in the correctional centre."

Vice President of the Liberian Football Association, Jodie Reid Seton, praised the initiative and called on the beneficiary inmates to take the training seriously and contribute to society.

Vice president of the Sierra Leone Football Association, Harold Nat

Johnson, also expressed his support for the project saying, "It gives courage to the inmates that they have not been abandoned." He called on them to take it seriously and come back to contribute to society.

Acting Director General of the Sierra Leone Correctional Service, Suliaman Massaquoi, emphasized the importance of keeping inmates in a healthy, safe and secure environment and engaging in programs that promote reformation and rehabilitation of inmates and their reintegration into society. "It is heartening to see such initiatives being taken to help inmates lead a better life," he noted.





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LOCAL NEWS SL joins ECOWAS member states to ratify BBNJ treaty

Sierra Leone delegation joins other ECOWAS Member States in a coordination meeting on the ratification of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty in Abuja, Nigeria from 20-22 November 2023.

The BBNJ is a global treaty that seeks to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the marine biodiversity of the areas beyond national jurisdiction (high seas) for the present and in the long term, through the effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

The high seas, which cover nearly half of the planet, are defined as the ocean area starting from countries' exclusive economic zones or 200 nautical miles (370km) of coastlines. The treaty has four elements: Marine Genetic Resources (MGR), Area-Based Management Tools (ABMT) including marine protected areas, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and capacity and the transfer of marine technology.



Sierra Leone through its Permanent Representative Office (Legal Affairs) in New York coordinated the negotiators of the African Group on BBNJ negotiations in New York for the full protection of areas covering 30% of the global ocean from environmentally damaging activities. The treaty was adopted on the 19th of June, 2023, and was opened for signatures on the 3rd of September, 2023 at the 78th United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Currently, 83 countries have signed up to the treaty. His Excellency the President, Rtd Brigadier Julius Maada Bio demonstrated Sierra Leone's commitment to implement the treaty by signing up to it at the

78th United Nations General Assembly in New York, putting Sierra Leone among the first four (4) countries in the ECOWAS Region to have signed it- Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Cape Verde and Ghana. The treaty provides a legal basis through which Sierra Leone can make meaningful contributions to the protection of the ocean and sustainably conserve and use its resources for the benefit of all.

To promote swift ratification of the treaty by ECOWAS member states, Nigeria as chair of the ECOWAS and the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission, with funding support from Bloomberg Philanthropies Ocean Initiative held a coordinating meeting for ECOWAS member states from the 20-22 November 2023 at the Johnwood Hotel in Abuja, Nigeria.

Key outcomes of the meeting include, nomination of Sierra Leone as a member of the ECOWAS BBNJ Coordination Committee, a group of seven countries that will coordinate

the ratification and implementation of the treaty within the ECOWAS Region, adoption of the regional commitment for the ratification of the treaty;

Other outcome include identification of prioritized activities to support ECOWAS member States with BBNJ ratification over 18 months, appointment of Sierra Leone as a member of the Expert Mentor Panel, a small group of four BBNJ experts from ECOWAS providing targeted technical support focused on the ratification and implementation of the treaty within the ECOWAS Region, identification of timeframes and roadmap for next steps, and drafting of a regional press release to create public awareness of the BBNJ Treaty.

Sierra Leone was represented in the meeting by Hewanatu Kebe, Legal Officer of the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in New York, Joseph Sapunka Turay, and Gibrilla Kamara, both officers from the Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone (EPA-SL).

EPA participates in developing an International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastic Pollution

As mandated by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 5/14, countries including Sierra Leone, are currently gathered to negotiate a global treaty to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. The ongoing Third Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-3) to develop an International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastic Pollution including in the Marine Environment is hosted by the Government of Kenya and is being held at the United Nations Headquarters in Nairobi.

The meeting started on the 13th of November, 2023, and will continue through the 19th of November, 2023. This is preceded by regional consultations on 12 November 2023. Also, as decided by the Committee at its second session, a preparatory one-day meeting was held on 11th November 2023 at the same venue. Discussions to review the provisions of the Chair's Zero draft in three contact groups have focused on the following key issues, among others:

Consideration of the binding measures across the life cycle of plastics, including eliminating problematic plastics and avoidable plastic products and chemicals and performance towards circularity.

Exploring various preferences to eliminate and phase out chemicals and polymers of concern and phase



Sierra Leone Delegation

down problematic and avoidable plastic products.

Preferences for Capacity building, technical assistance, and technology transfer,

The EPA-SL Team and Dr. Rose Mwebaza, UNEP Regional Director and Representative for Africa

Overall, there has been broad support for intercessional work on design criteria and the relevant sectors for which the requirements would apply. The member states swiftly moved through the opening segment on the first day. Opening speeches by the Executive Secretary of the INC Secretariat, the Chair of the INC, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and the President of Kenya underscored the existential threats of plastic pollution. They highlighted the crucial mission of the INC to create a treaty that eliminates harmful and high-risk plastics and ensures sustainable production, consumption,

and management of the remaining plastics.

On the side of the meeting, the Sierra Leone delegation met with Md. Zainab Hawa Bangura, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) and the Sierra Leone High Commissioner to Kenya on issues bordering support to influence opportunities within the UNON. She expressed the need to have a technical/provisional with a background in Environment and Programme Development to be based in the Sierra Leone High Commission Office in Nairobi, which will help attract funding and other support from the United Nations offices for the country.

The Sierra Leone delegates have also attended additional bilateral and side events such as;

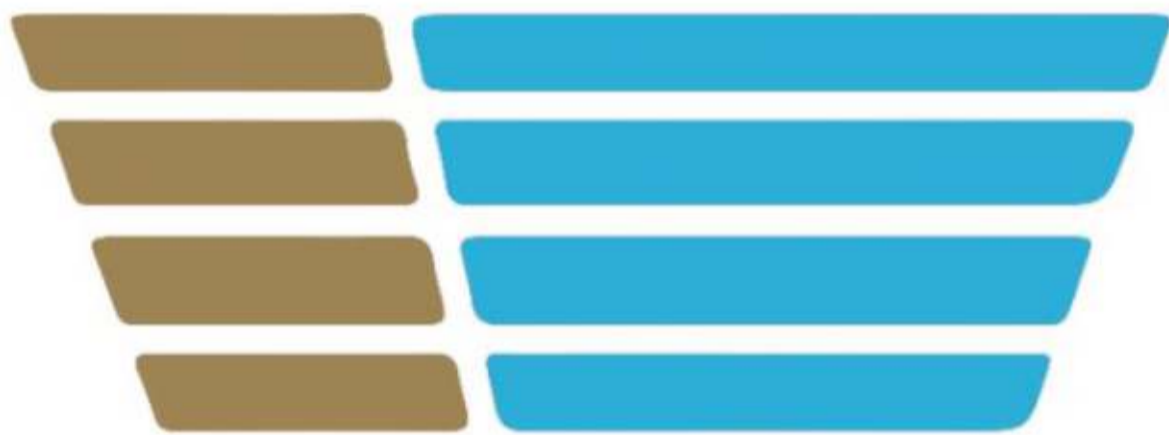
1. Round Table Meeting hosted by the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance aimed at discussions concerning the latest advancements in combating plastic pollution and strategizing the next steps for the Blue Charter Action

Group on marine plastic pollution.

2. Engagements with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Grid Arendal on continuing to empower Sierra Leone on negotiating skills for the plastic pollution Treaty. There were also discussions on collaborative research on plastics and other areas.

3. Meeting with the Regional Director and Representative of the Regional Office for Africa, Madam Rose Mwebaza, to discuss possible partnership and capacity-building support to the country. We agreed on some action points, including sending a formal request to the division on the country's needs for possible support.

4. Meeting with the representative of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Mr. Semund Haukland and discussed the AFRIPAC's effective capacity building for global plastics treaty in Africa support and Sierra Leone's current and future needs concerning the plastic treaty and the plastic litter assessment.



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PERSONAL GLIMPSES

By: Winstanley R. Bankole Johnson

If APC are not careful SLPP will cause them/us to begin to wash their faces going upwards instead of downwards as is normal. And that could easily sound the APC Party's death knell - killing it once and for all as the SLPP are hoping for.

For starters for the kind of independence contemplated for the Tripartite Investigative Committee the State House Press Secretary has absolutely no business disseminating information on their behalf. The "Committee" ought to have their own Secretariate, independent of possible State House influences or interferences. In short that Tripartite

BURNING ISSUES!! WAKE UP APC!!!

Investigative Committee should have no link or contact with State House.

Further as far as I can recall there is absolutely no provision in the original Bintumani Dialogue Communique for:-

1. The Tripartite Committee to additionally include broad based stakeholders outside eight (8) nominees apiece from the SLPP, APC and those representing the International Community.

By inference in this Presser from State House/Office of the Presidency, there is a

possibility that the so called broad based representation contemplated may also mean including/imposing SLPP surrogates into the Core Membership of the Cross Party Investigative Committee.

That will not only vitiate against the original structure and intent of the Investigative Committee, but will also mitigate the severity or seriousness of their outcomes as in the event votes are required to be taken on particularly issues affecting the legality of the SLPP as a government, the APC will definitely be outvoted

2. Incidentally on what basis or mandate did the APC accede to President Bio incorporating inclusive broad based stakeholders representation to this Cross Committee? Why did APC agree to the inclusion of other broad based stakeholders into that Committee, outside its agreed mandate? Could this not be a deliberately surreptitious move by the SLPP regime to downplay the relevance of the Tripartite Investigative Committee even before commencement of their tasks?

How many of them will be so included to constitute this broad based numbers? How were/are they selected and will they be actively involved in the deliberations of issues flagged for resolutions and with voting rights too?

3. Per the Bintumani Dialogue outcomes the SLPP, APC and International

Community representatives to the Cross Party Committee are deemed to rank pari-passu with each component having its own Co-Chairperson. So on that basis there would seem to be no logical need for a formal launching of their tasks by a President the legitimacy of whose authority is still suspect and requires forensic investigations for local and International validation.

Or am I missing insinuations here of the implicit recognition and validation of Bio's second term presidency by the APC already?

And should (God forbid) that be the case, then why continue with the farce about Cross Party Investigative Committee?

If the President did not launch the Bintumani Dialogue processes (because he did not have the accepted/ recognized presidential authority), why is it necessary for him to now launch the works of a Committee that ought inter-alia to be forensically investigating all the processes leading to the announcement of the June 24th multi-tiered election results that are globally deemed to have been falsified and stolen?

And if APC makes the mistake of ever conceding to participate in that scheduled official State House formal launch of the Investigative Committee's tasks by Dr. Bio, will it not be also expected that on completion of their tasks they will be implicitly obligated to REPORT that to State House/President Bio who initially launched/commissioned their task, because they were basically working at his behest?

Wake Up APC

MP raises concern over non-completion of 100-bed hospital

By Jariatu S. Bangura

The Member of Parliament representing Lumley, Hon. Mahmoud Kamara, has called on the government to complete the proposed 100-bed hospital project that commenced during the second term of former President Koroma.

Speaking during the debate on the 2024 budget, he said the proposed hospital project construction was to be completed together with that of the Kingharman Road Satellite hospital, among others, but the ruling government has failed to complete it for a reason best known to them.

He cited that government has decided to build another pediatric hospital instead of completing the already unfinished project.

He said the hospital is a four storey building that was



already at its completion stage, and that they only need to fix the windows and placement of furniture to make it functional. He noted that since certain allocations have been made for the pediatric hospital in his community, government should consider working on the two projects for the good of his people.

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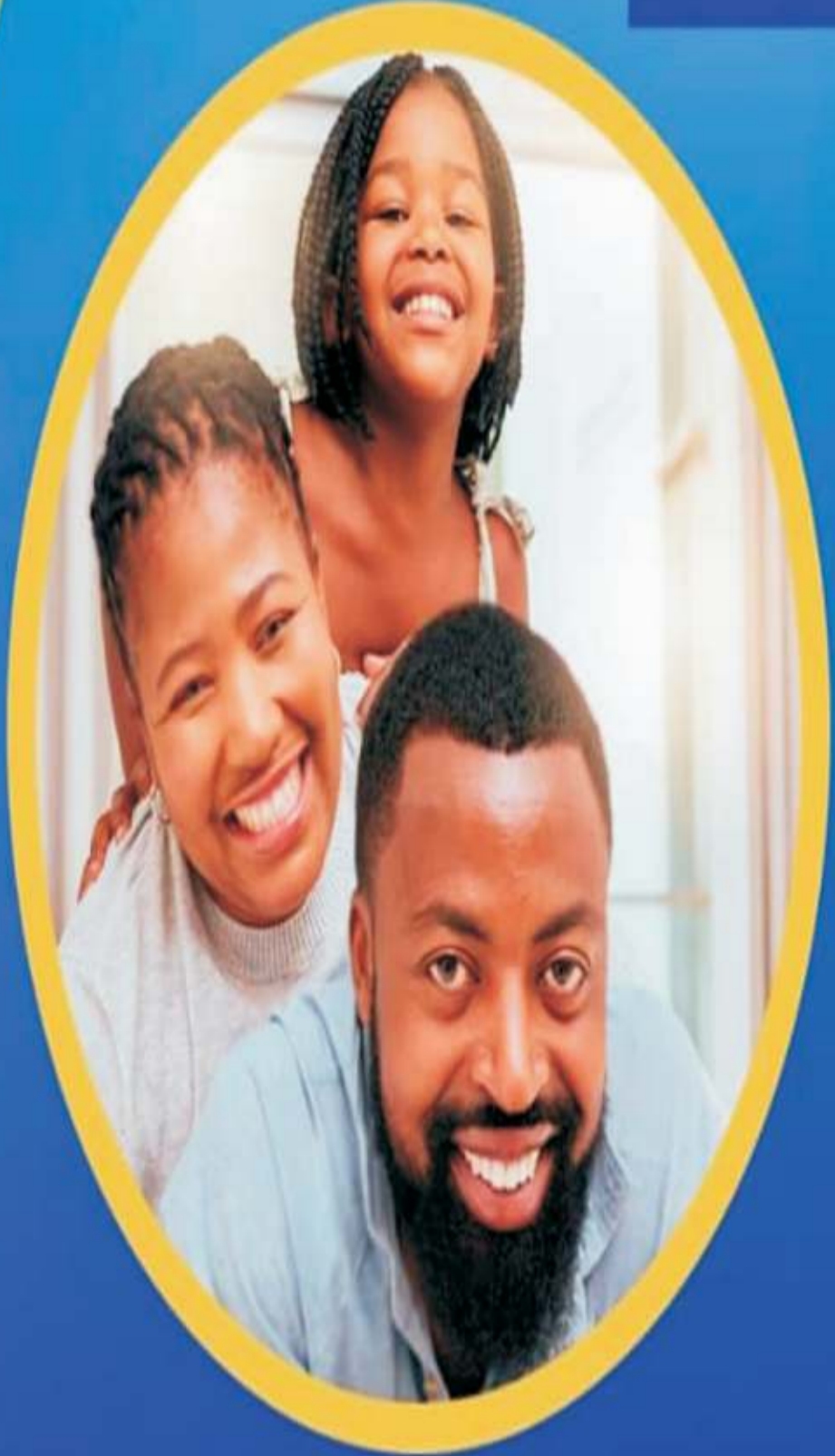
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**Invitation for Bids [IFB]
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IFB Number: SLRA/ADF/G/01
 Purchaser: Sierra Leone Roads Authority
 Project: Mano River Union Road Development and Transport Facilitation Program Phase III
 Contract title: Supply of Vehicles, Office Equipment and Furniture
 Country: Sierra Leone
 Loan No. / Grant No.: 210015041471
 Procurement Method: International Competitive Bidding (ICB) National
 OCBI / LCB No: SLRA/ADF/G/O1
 Issued on: 10th November 2023

1. *The Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Finance (MoF) has received a Grant from the African Development Fund (AfDB) hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Mano River Union Road Development and Transport Facilitation Program Phase III and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the supply of vehicles, office equipment and furniture for the Project Implementing Unit (PIU). For this contract, the SLRA shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank's Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing, except for those payments, which the contract provides to be made through letter of credit.*

2. The **Sierra Leone Roads Authority (SLRA) PIU** now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of vehicles, office equipment and furniture for the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) as follows:

Lot	Description	Qty	Bid Security Amount SLL)	Delivery Period After Award
1	Supply of vehicle	3	280,000.00	sixty (60) days after signing of Contract.
2	Supply of Office Equipment and Furniture	Various	75,000.00	Twenty-One (21) days after signing the Contract

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (National), (OCB-N) method as specified in the Bank's Procurement Framework² Rules and Procedure for the Procurement of Goods and Works, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.

4. Interested bidders may obtain further information and

inspect the bidding document at the office of the Director of Procurement, Sierra Leone Roads Authority PMB 1324Kissy between 9.00AM and 3PM on weekdays (Monday to Friday only – excluding public holidays). Email: khadiegamanga2015@yahoo.com Tel: +232 76 898740.

5. The bidding document in the 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 **SLL 1,500.00** (one thousand five hundred Leones) or in a convertible currency. All payments for the purchase of the Bidding document should be made to the SLRA Bank Account with details below:

Bank Name:	Rokel Commercial Bank
Account Name:	Sierra Leone Roads Authority Highway Maintenance Account
Account No:	02-011544957 SLRA.
Address:	25/27 Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Ref:	SLRA/ADF/G01/2023 – Supply of Vehicles

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 12:00 noon on 11th December **2023**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened will take place at 12:15 p.m. in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below:

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Tel: +23276898740 or +232 76 982348**

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security of (i) Lot I: Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Leones (Le280,000.00) and (ii) Lot II: One Hundred and Forty Thousand Leones (140,000.00) or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency.

8. 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.

9. The address(es) referred to above (are):

Att: The Director General,
Sierra Leone Roads Authority,
MRU Road Development and Transport Facilitation
Programme Phase III
PMB 1324 Kissy
Freetown
Email: khadiegamanga2015@yahoo.com with copy to lavalielijah@yahoo.com
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Malaria vaccine to be shipped to Sierra Leone

By Ishmael Dumbuya

1.7 million doses of the RTS malaria vaccine are expected to arrive in Burkina Faso, Liberia, Niger and Sierra Leone in the coming weeks, with additional African countries set to receive doses in the months ahead. This reflects the fact that several countries are now in the final stage of preparations for malaria vaccine introduction into routine immunization programmes, which should see first doses administered in 2024.

According to Gavi Vaccine Alliance, shipments of the world's first WHO-recommended malaria vaccine, RTS, have begun with 331,200 doses landing in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

The delivery, according to Gavi, is the first to a country not previously involved in the malaria vaccine pilot programme and signals that scale-up of vaccination against malaria across the highest-risk areas on the African continent will begin shortly.

In a report by the Alliance, nearly every minute, a child under five dies of malaria. In 2021, there were 247 million malaria cases globally, which led to 619,000 deaths.

Of these deaths, 77 per cent were children under 5 years of age, mostly in Africa. Malaria burden is the



highest on the African continent, which accounts for approximately 95% of global malaria cases and 96% of related deaths in 2021

Furthermore, comprehensive preparations are needed to introduce any new vaccine into essential immunization programmes – such as training of healthcare workers, investing in infrastructure, technical capacity, vaccine storage, community engagement and demand, and sequencing and integrating rollout alongside the delivery of other vaccines and health interventions.

Delivering the malaria vaccine has the added challenge of a four-dose

schedule which requires careful planning to effectively deliver.

According to Sierra Leone's data, malaria accounts for a large proportion of death and diseases, with more than 2.5 million cases and over 6,800 deaths reported in 2019. Since 2019, Ghana, Kenya, and Malawi have been administering the vaccine in a schedule of 4 doses from around 5 months of age in selected districts as part of the pilot programme, known as the Malaria Vaccine Implementation Programme (MVIP).

More than 2 million children have been reached with the malaria vaccine in the three African countries through MVIP – resulting in a remarkable 13% drop in all-cause mortality in children age-eligible to receive the vaccine, and substantial reductions in severe malaria illness and hospitalizations.

In preparation for scaled-up vaccination, Gavi, WHO, UNICEF and partners are working with countries that have expressed interest and/or have confirmed rollout plans on the next step.

These developments mean that broad implementation of malaria vaccination in endemic regions has the potential to be a game changer for

malaria control efforts, and could save tens of thousands of lives each year. However, malaria vaccines are not a standalone solution. They should be introduced in the context of the WHO-recommended package of malaria control measures which include insecticide-treated nets, indoor residual spraying, intermittent preventive treatment in pregnant women, antimalarial, effective case management, and treatment, all of which have helped to reduce malaria-related deaths since 2000.

The CEO of Gavi, David Marlow said that the world needs good news, and that is a good news story.

"Gavi is proud that our Alliance of stakeholders, with African countries at the forefront, took the decision to invest in the malaria vaccine as a public health priority, and that this support has played a part in the availability of a new tool that can save the lives of thousands of children each year. We are excited to rollout this historic vaccine through Gavi programmes and work with partners to ensure it is delivered alongside other vital measures," he noted.

WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus stated that the fight against malaria must continue, adding that they will find the resources to bring malaria vaccines to scale, so more children can live longer, healthier lives.



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GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
Ministry of Information and Civic Education (MoICE)
 8th Floor, Youyi Building, Brookfields, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Issued Date: 24th November 2023

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Procurement Number: MOICE/NCB/EOI/2023/01-02

Request for Expression of Interest for Communications Transformation for the Ministry of Information and Civic Education

Background

The Ministry of Information and Civic Education (MoICE) has received funds from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) through the Ministry of Finance (MoF), for which the MoICE has agreed to use part of it for the procurement of Consultancy Services. These services are to conduct an Assessment, create a Roadmap and Strategy Document for Communication Transformation, and design, construct, and impart training on modern communication methods for the government.

The Ministry of Information and Civic Education now invites competent firms/consultants (both local and international) with the ability to undertake the following activities:

1. Conduct an assessment and create a roadmap and strategy document for communication transformation. Firms/consultants interested in delivering these services should present their sealed Expressions of Interest (EOI).
2. To design, construct, and impart training on modern communication methods for the government to enhance creative content and design.

Description and Scope for Lot. 1

The overarching objective of the consultancy assignment is to undertake an Assessment and produce a Roadmap and Strategy Document Design covering the following areas:

The primary aim of this consultancy assignment is to conduct an Assessment and create a Roadmap and Strategy Document Design, which includes:

- i. Mapping the Current Government Communications Infrastructure and System.
- ii. Conducting an Inspiration pack and best practice case studies.
- iii. Designing transformation, testing ideas, and envisioning
- iv. Creating a Roadmap and Strategy Document

Description and Scope for Lot. 2

The primary aim of this consultancy assignment is to build the capacity of MoICE Officials and other government personnel and enhance creative content and design in the following areas:

- i. To design, construct, and impart training on modern

communication methods for the government.

- ii. Aid communications teams in developing skills across all disciplines: Designing transformation, testing ideas, and envisioning.
- iii. Provide training for MoICE officers to increase visibility through a website, app, video production, interactive data visualization, etc.

Submission Requirements

The following documents must support the Expression of Interest:

- Evidence of Experience in Similar Services
- Business Registration Certificate
- Curriculum vitae of proposed staff for the assignment
- Valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate if applicable
- Valid Local Council Business License if applicable
- Valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate, if applicable

Evaluation of Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest submitted before the deadline will be evaluated on a PASS OR FAIL basis per the Guidelines under the Sierra Leone Public Procurement Procedures. A Request for Proposal (RFP) shall be issued to only firms/consultants that comply with all the criteria considered in the evaluation exercise.

Interested firms/consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours (09:00 – 16:00HRS) starting **Friday, 24th November 2023 to Wednesday, 29th November 2023.**

All submissions of documents must be delivered to the address below on or before 1:00 P.M. on Friday, 1st December November 2023.

Electronic submissions are allowed through the following emails: ps@moic.gov.sl / joefayianyuma@gmail.com and a copy of the email to gabrielpgeorge@hotmail.com

**The Procurement Unit
 Ministry of Information and Civic Education
 8th Floor, Youyi Building, Brookfields
 Freetown
 Sierra Leone.**

NOTIFICATION FOR THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) FOR ENHANCING CLIMATE INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT IN SIERRA LEONE UNDER THE FREETOWN WASH AND AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT REVAMPING PROJECT (WASHAERP)

This notice serves to inform interested and/or affected persons/parties (I&APs) about the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for Enhancing Climate Information Systems for Resilient Development in Sierra Leone under the Freetown WASH and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project (WASHAERP). The Enhancing Climate Information Systems for Resilient Development in Sierra Leone with funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) will be implemented by Guma Valley Water Company and other implementing partners such as the Sierra Leone Meteorological Agency (SLMet) and the National Water Resources Management Agency (NWRMA). The project primarily involves the

1. Installing automatic weather and hydrological stations;
2. Conserving and restoring important habitats, such as mangroves and wetlands;
3. Investing in solar energy systems to provide a reliable and stable power source for better hydromet services; and
4. Creating operational guidelines for the National Framework for Environmental Quality.

The project warrants an ESIA which depicts the associated environmental, social, health impacts of the project as stipulated in the EPA Act, 2008.

In compliance with the laws of Sierra Leone, project activities need to be carried out in manner that minimizes the potential negative social and environmental and maximizes the benefits.

This can be achieved through the ESIA process which the Consultant, ABC Safety Consult, an experienced environmental consultancy firm with experience in conducting similar studies have undertaken.

This assessment is now at the stage where the results need to be presented to interested and/or affected persons/parties for discussion and finalization. The reports submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency - Sierra Leone (EPA-SL) are to be presented to interested and affected persons during a public disclosure session for discussion at:

The Regent Community Centre, Regent, Freetown on Wednesday, 6th December 2023 at 10:00am.

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Study and the Environmental and Social Management Plan were reported in one volume titled:

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for Enhancing Climate Information Systems for Resilient Development in Sierra Leone under the Freetown WASH and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project (WASHAERP).

The report is now available for reference purposes at the following locations:

- The Environmental Protection Agency - Sierra Leone (EPA-SL) Office, 92, Dundas Street, Freetown;
- ABC Safety Consult, 7 Rush Street, Freetown;
- Sierra Leone Library Board, Rokel Street, Freetown; and
- Guma Valley Water Company - Guma Building, 12/14 Lamina Sankoh Street, Freetown

The general public and other key stakeholders are hereby invited to participate in the consultation process for this project. Your input and any issues or insights regarding this project will be valuable in the specialist investigations. Comments can be submitted verbally at the stakeholders' workshop or in written format. Written comments can be sent to ABC Safety Consult, 7 Rush Street, Freetown via email to abcsafetyconsults@gmail.com the addresses provided below. We look forward to your participation in the consultation and disclosure process.

Consultant: ABC Safety Consult's
Tel: +23231982355/ +23280108206
Email: abcsafetyconsults@gmail.com



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS FAO REPRESENTATION IN SIERRA LEONE

Office of the Representative

Vacancy Announcement - National Project Personnel - National Project Coordinator (2303494)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is an Intergovernmental Organisation with more than 190 member countries. Since its inception, FAO has worked to alleviate poverty and hunger by promoting agricultural development, improved nutrition and the pursuit of food security - defined as the access of all people at all times to the food they need for an active and healthy life.

To achieve its goals, FAO cooperates with thousands of partners worldwide, from farmers' group to traders, from non-governmental organizations to other UN agencies, from

development banks to agribusiness firms (further and more detailed information on FAO can be found on the internet site: <http://www.fao.org>).

FAO herewith invites interested applicants to submit application online for:

National Project Personnel

Details of the vacancy announcement can be accessed through the URL below:

https://jobs.fao.org/careersection/fao_external/jobdetail.ftl?job=2303494&tz=GMT%2B01%3A00&tzname=Europe%2FBerlin

The closing date for receiving applications is 30 November 2023

Invitation for Bids Mott MacDonald SL Limited

Procurement Number: MMSL/SSEIP2/1088.27

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited, has allocated funds from FCDO for the procurement of 400 units of Wind-Up radios 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.

Bidding is open to all suppliers who can demonstrate experience and the capacity to deliver 400 units of Wind-Up radios.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address below between 09.00 am and 5.00 pm from 16th – 24th November 2023. Bidding documents can be collected for free at the address below.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 27th November 2023 at 09:00 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
- Demonstrates experience to deliver similar products and provide sample of Wind-Up radio.

Bid envelopes must be sealed and clearly marked "RFP 1088.27 - Wind-Up radios - Sierra Leone".

- The detailed specifications, unit price, total price including 15% GST shall be quoted in SIERRALEONE NEW LEONES.
- The period of bid validity shall be 90 days from the closing date of submission of bids.
- Delivery of goods to MMSL shall be within 4 – 6 weeks upon notification of award.

Bids will be opened on Monday 27th November 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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INT'L SPORTS

Arsenal and Chelsea target £100m-rated Ivan Toney and Calvin Phillips should finally leave Man City

Whisper it, but we're almost a third of the way through the Premier League season, which means January transfer window is just over five weeks away.

And business could be booming this winter, with some of the top six clubs eyeing new addition to their squads to address injury crises or improve their title credentials. Or in some cases, both.

Arsenal have long been linked with a move for Ivan Toney as Mikel Arteta looks to solve his goalscoring issues following Gabriel Jesus injury, while Eddie Howe desperately needs reinforcements in midfield.

Elsewhere, Calvin Phillips looks finally set to leave Manchester City and former Premier League stars Raphinha and Ruben Neves have been linked with a return to England. Here, Mail Sport takes a look at some of the top players who could be on the move in January.

Toney is currently sidelined after being handed an eight-month ban earlier this year for gambling offences, but is set to return to action in January.

And the Brentford striker has been linked with a big-money move at the start of 2024 after attracting interest from London rivals Arsenal and Chelsea.

The Gunners are reportedly in pole position to secure the 27-year-old's signature, but it remains to be seen whether Toney will leave the Bees in January.

Thomas Frank said earlier this month that he would like Toney to remain at Brentford 'forever', and the Bees are in a strong position as they

are under no significant pressure to sell their star striker as he approaches the final 18 months of his deal.

Toney scored 32 goals over the last two Premier League seasons, but a rumoured price tag of £100million is set to test the mettle of any potential suitors.

Toney could make the difference for a top six side needing a reliable striker, but hasn't played competitively for eight months and Brentford don't need to sell. They could realistically hang on to him until the summer.

Few players in the Premier League may need a change of scenario more than Phillips.

The England international arrived at the Etihad last year from Leeds in a £45million deal after a superb Euro 2020, but has struggled to make an impact with the Premier League champions and is expected to leave in January.

The 27-year-old had to wait until May to make his first Premier League start for the club and has played just 89 minutes across four league appearances so far this term.

Pep Guardiola admitted opportunities are likely to remain limited for Phillips because of Rodri's presence in side and has made clear he would not keep players at City against their wish.

Gareth Southgate has stood by the midfielder, who has retained his place in the England squad despite watching from the sidelines at the Etihad, but acknowledged he would like to see the midfielder play more often.



Phillips admitted in October he was 'going to have to make a decision on [my future] over the next months' and looks almost certain to leave City in January.

Newcastle and West Ham have routinely been linked with the midfielder.

Phillips needs to leave and Guardiola and Southgate have both admitted as much. City won't be short of suitors either.

Despite being linked with a host of Premier League clubs in the summer, Osimhen opted to stay put in Serie A after firing Napoli to their first league title in three decades.

The Nigerian scored 31 goals in all competitions last season and has picked up where he left off, netting six times in 10 Serie A appearances this term despite being sidelined since October with a hamstring injury.

The same cannot be said about Napoli, who are already 10 points behind league leaders Inter Milan

and last week fired Rudi Garcia after just three months in charge and replaced him with Walter Mazzarri. Osimhen's relationship with the club and the fans took a turn for the worst earlier this season, when he was the subject of two controversial videos posted to Napoli's social media accounts.

Manchester United and Chelsea have both been linked with the 24-year-old, but Napoli chairman Aurelio Di Laurentiis is a notoriously difficult negotiator and slapped a £150million price-tag on his prized asset in the summer.

And the Blues remain the most likely Premier League destination for the Napoli star.

Napoli may be treading water but Aurelio de Laurentiis drives a hard bargain and it would take a huge transfer fee to lure Osimhen away from Naples in January.

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

Wembley arch to be lit only for football and entertainment under new FA policy

Wembley's arch will only be lit for football and entertainment under a new Football Association policy.

The decision follows criticism when the arch was not lit in the colours of the Israel flag after attacks by Hamas in which 1,200 people were killed.

Israel responded to the attacks with a military campaign during which Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry says more than 14,000 people have been killed.

A period of silence was held at Wembley for "innocent victims" of the conflict.

That preceded England's friendly against Australia on 13 October.

There had been calls for the arch to be lit after the attacks by Hamas during which 240 people were also taken hostage.

The decision not to do so was described as "disappointing" by the UK government, and Rabbi Alex



Goldberg resigned from an FA faith in football group.

FA senior officials were known to be wary of a perception they might be taking sides on the issue, and insisted they acted on "expert advice".

But they later accepted the episode

had caused hurt to the Jewish community, describing it as "one of the hardest decisions" they had ever had to make.

Now, as first reported by the Telegraph, the FA will restrict the lighting of the arch to far fewer

occasions, in recognition of the fact it is a football and entertainment venue, rather than a political one.

The FA will still support a number of diversity and equality causes and campaigns, but will not illuminate the arch for them. It will be lit when Wembley is hosting matches or concerts for instance, but not when there are natural disasters or tragedies, as in the past.

Previously, the FA has lit up the arch to commemorate events including Remembrance Day and International Women's Day or to pay tribute to victims of the war in Ukraine or of terror attacks such as in Paris in 2015.

But it is understood it felt it had little choice but to change its approach.

FA chief executive Mark Bullingham said last month the controversy "made us question whether we should light the arch and when, and we'll be reviewing that".

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

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