



SIERRA LEONE PARLIAMENT
OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown

PRESS RELEASE

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TAC VISITS TO COUNCILS IN THE NORTH, SOUTH AND EASTERN REGIONS

The Parliamentary Committee for Transparency and Accountability (TAC) which is chaired by the Chief Whip of Parliament, Hon. Claude D.M Kamanda, consisting of 16-Members including 9-APC, 6-SLPP, and 1-Paramount Chief representative has returned from a two-week oversight visitations to the Councils in the North, South, and Eastern regions with the exception of Councils in Kailahun and Kenema as officials are currently pre-occupied with containing the health threats in that part of the country.

The Chairman for TAC did say among other things that the purpose of the visits was to verify whether recommendations contained in its 2013 oversight report tabled in Parliament have been adopted; whether core staff at Councils and Heads of Devolved Sectors are performing their duties effectively and efficiently; that transparent and accountable provisions in the Local Government Act (LGA) of 2004 are being implemented; particularly the erection of notice boards for information sharing and the existence of active Ward Development Committees; and to ascertain the actuality of funds/grants transferred by GoSL to Councils for implementation by Heads of Devolved Sectors are the real amounts received and used for development programmes. He praised PFM at MoFED for providing the funds to TAC to undertake the oversight to the 19-Councils; and told participants that TAC works in partnership with the MLGD, DECSEC, LGFD and the ACC with which it has signed an MOU to prosecute for misappropriation of public funds. He told participants that TAC can inquire into any matter of public interest including Ministries, Departments, and Agencies and make recommendations which have the potential to result into legislations; and assured that the outcome of the oversight report will be tabled in Parliament for debate.



Mayor for Koidu City addressing Members of TAC

The Committee at a later date will do likewise to the remaining Councils in the East, Western Area Rural District Council and the Freetown City Council relating to compliance in LGA of 2004 in terms of public disclosures captured in part 15: sections 103 to 108 and section 95 which provides for inclusive participation: thus the creation and formation of Ward Development Committees; and to see value for money due to programmes implemented by Heads of Devolved Sectors; application of the Government Budgeting and Accountability Act of 2005; and the National Public Procurement Act of 2004.