



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT  
PARLIAMENT BUILDING  
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL  
FREETOWN  
Tel: 232-076-615187  
E-mail: [admin@parliament.gov.sl](mailto:admin@parliament.gov.sl)



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## Iranian Delegation Visits Parliament

The Director General for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Hossein Abdellahi and the Secretary of the Presidential Committee of African Cooperation Mr. Razaei on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2015, paid a courtesy call on the Leadership of Parliament as a means of strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

Speaking at the Conference Room of Parliament Building, the Deputy Leader of Parliament, Hon. Leonard Fofanah appreciated the delegation for their visit and thanked the Iranian Government for supporting the developmental strides of the President Koroma Agenda for Prosperity. Leader noted that there has been a good relationship between the two Governments and hoped it will continue to flourish.



### *Iranian delegation chatting with Parliamentary Leadership*

The Deputy Minority Leader, Hon. Ansu kai -kai welcomed the delegation, noting that historically Sierra Leone and Iran have been great friends, sharing many cultural values. Hon. Kai-kai admired the manner of growth of the Iranian state and called on the Iranian government for their support to the development of Sierra Leone.

The Chief whip, Hon. Cluade D.M Kamanda appreciated the interactive session, and urged bilateral relations to be strengthened, whilst commending the Iranian government for their support so far.

Speaking on behalf of the Parliamentary Service Commission, the Clerk of Parliament, Hon. Ibrahim Sesay commended the delegation for engaging Parliament and briefed them on the challenges the Parliamentary Service Commission is facing with respect to capacity building for staff and MPs.

Speaking to the leadership of Parliament, Mr. Hossein Abdellahi, appreciated the warm welcome to him and his delegation, reiterating that Sierra Leone and Iran have been great friends. He said he is in Sierra Leone to strengthen that bilateral relationship and support Sierra Leone in existing projects for the country. He informed the Leadership of Parliament that he will be signing a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to confirm their commitment to

Sierra Leone's development .He expressed satisfaction with the developmental strides the government is making and promised to join hands in the process. He also promised to boost the capacity building of Parliament.

Mr. Hossein briefed Parliament on the recently concluded deal on nuclear agreement regarding the UN and Middle East crises.

Mr. Hossein was led by H.E Lotfollah Bakhtiari, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Sierra Leone.