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Parliament Joins Foreign Affairs Ministry on Diplomatic and Consular Relations Forum

The Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, on Friday the 11th September 2015, joined hands with the Foreign Affairs Ministry to celebrate the Fifth Forum for diplomatic and consular relations in the country with the theme “strengthening investment in the mineral sector to facilitate economic growth and post - ebola recovery”.

The meeting which took place at the Ministry’s Head Office in Tower Hill attracted Ambassadors, Diplomats, MPs and staff of the Ministry.

Welcoming officials on the one day forum, the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Ebusu Strasser King, appreciated diplomats for rallying behind the Government and people of Sierra Leone in the fight against the deadly ebola virus disease, and also applauded the good bilateral relationship that has existed between Sierra Leone and the foreign missions in the country. She noted that the Fifth Diplomatic Forum has brought together diplomats and consular corps to interact given the investment potentials in the country for development.



Diplomats and Ministry Officials Charting at the Forum

Speaking on behalf of the Leadership of Parliament and the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Hon. Pateh Bah commended the foreign Affairs Ministry and the Diplomatic Missions for pushing the President's Agenda for Development. He noted that Parliament has played a pivotal role in passing and approving protocols and conventions brought to them by the Executive through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hon. Bah promised that Parliament would continue to support and cooperate with the policies and programmes of the Ministry.

Directors of the Americas, Middle East and Asia, International Division, Europe and Protocol Divisions in the Ministry gave update on their activities in diplomatic relations, whilst the Director - General of the National Minerals Agency, Mr. Sahr Wonday did a power point presentation on the activities of the agency, which was climaxed by questions, answers, and comments that emanated during the course of the forum.

Members of the consular corps also spoke on the need for widening, creating an enabling environment and strengthening the investments climate in the country with the view of huge returns for the development of the people and the country. This, they said is dependent on the containment of the ebola virus disease.