

# ACT

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## THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ACT, 2023

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SIGNED this 18th day of January, 2023.

DR. JULIUS MAADA BIO,  
*President.*

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No. 2

2023

Sierra Leone

**THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND CENTRAL  
INTELLIGENCE ACT, 2023**

Short title.

Being an Act to repeal and replace the National Security and Central Intelligence Act, 2002 (Act No. 10 of 2002), to provide for the internal and external security of Sierra Leone and to provide for other related matters.

[

] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

## PART I—PRELIMINARY

Interpretation. 1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -

"Advisory Board" means the Advisory Board of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit referred to in section 7;

"Agency" means the Central Intelligence and Security Agency referred to in section 14;

"campaign finance" means monies used by a party or a candidate to fund campaign;

"Chieftdom Security Committees" means the Chieftdom Security Committees referred to in section 11;

"classified information" means any information of a particular security classification whose unauthorised disclosure would prejudice national security;

"Council" means the National Security Council referred to in section 2;

"critical national infrastructure" includes the processes, systems, facilities, technologies, networks, assets and services, essential to the nation's health, safety, security or economic wellbeing and the effective functions of government;

"District Security Committee" means a District Security Committee referred to in section 10;

"Joint Intelligence Committee" means the Joint Intelligence Committee referred to in section 12;

"Joint Maritime Committee" means the Joint Maritime Committee referred to in section 13;

"National Security Council Coordinating Group" means the National Security Council Coordinating Group referred to in section 8;

"National Security Coordinator" means the National Security Coordinator referred to in section 25;

"Mininter" means as referred to in section 16

"Office of National Security" means the Office of National Security referred to in section 24;

"Provincial Security Committee" means a Provincial Security Committee referred to in section 9;

"security service" means such services connected with the security of Sierra Leone, including -

- (a) protecting or safeguarding life and property;
- (b) giving advice to other security service sectors, on the protection or safeguarding of life and property or on the use of security equipment;
- (c) providing reactive or response service in connection with the safeguarding of life and property;
- (d) providing services aimed at ensuring order and safety on the premises used for sporting, recreational, entertainment or similar activities;
- (e) manufacturing, importing, distributing, selling or advertising, monitoring or security devices used for lawful security interception;

- (f) performing the functions of a private investigator;
- (g) providing security training or instruction to security service providers or prospective security service providers;
- (h) installing, servicing or repairing security equipment;
- (i) monitoring signals or transmissions from electronic security equipment;
- (j) managing, controlling or supervising the rendering of any of the services referred to in paragraphs (a) to (i);

"source agent" means a person or source that provides valuable information or intelligence to prevent or respond to critical issues affecting national security;

"source agent allowance" means an allowance paid by the Agency or Office of National Security to a source agent;

"special operations" include sting operations and other operations that may add value to security information and intelligence collected;

"Strategic Situation Group" means a cross sectoral team of experts that review intelligence assessments and strategic information from the National Security Council Coordinating Group and develop them into policy papers for consideration by the National Security Council;

"threat to the security of Sierra Leone" include-

- (a) acts of espionage or sabotage against Sierra Leone or detrimental to the interests of Sierra Leone or activities directed towards or in support of such espionage or sabotage;
- (b) foreign influenced activities within or relating to Sierra Leone that are detrimental, clandestine, deceptive or involve a threat to a person or the interest of Sierra Leone; or
- (c) activities within or relating to Sierra Leone directed towards or in support of the threat or use of acts of serious violence against persons or property for the purpose of achieving a political objective within Sierra Leone or a foreign state;

"Transnational Organised Crime Unit" means the Transnational Organised Crime Unit referred to in section 6;

"vetting" means security clearance vetting and investigation of a person in a Government post or position which allows him to access very sensitive, top secret, confidential, restricted information, which if not properly handled will prejudice national security and integrity of the State; and

"vettable post" means a post or position in Government which allows the holder to have access to very sensitive information (top secret, secret, restricted, confidential) which if not properly handled will prejudice national security and integrity of the State.

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**PART II - THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

National  
Security  
Council.

2. There shall continue in existence, the body known as the National Security Council, which shall consist of the President, as Chairman and the following other members -

- (a) the Vice President, as Deputy Chairman;
- (b) the Chief Minister;
- (c) the Minister of Finance;
- (d) the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- (e) the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice;
- (f) the Minister of Defence;
- (g) the Minister of Internal Affairs;
- (h) the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development;
- (i) the Minister of Information and Communications;
- (j) the Inspector-General of Police;



- (k) the Chief of Defence Staff;
- (l) the Director-General, Central Intelligence and Security Agency
- (m) the Secretary to the President; and
- (n) the National Security Coordinator, who shall also serve as the Secretary.

3. (1) The President shall preside at meetings of the Council and in his absence the Vice-President shall preside. Proceedings  
of Council.

(2) The Chairman shall, after consultations with the Council-

- (a) invite such person or persons, as he may consider necessary, for any deliberations of the Council; or
- (b) constitute such committees, as he may consider necessary, for the better discharge of its functions under this Act.

(3) A person invited to participate in the deliberations of the Council under subsection (2) shall not vote on any matter for decision before the Council.

(4) The Council shall meet at least once every 3 months at such time and place as the Chairman shall determine.

(5) The Council shall regulate the procedure of its meetings.

Functions  
of Council.

4. (1) The object for which the Council is established is to provide the highest forum for the consideration and determination of matters relating to the security of Sierra Leone.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), it shall be the responsibility of the Council to -

- (a) consider and take appropriate measures to safeguard the internal and external security of Sierra Leone through integrated domestic and foreign security policies in order to enable security services, departments and agencies of Government to co-operate more effectively in matters relating to national security;
- (b) direct the operations of committees of the Council, including -
  - (i) the Joint Intelligence Committee referred to in section 12;
  - (ii) the Provincial Security Committees referred to in section 9;
  - (iii) the District Security Committees referred to in section 10;
  - (iv) the Chiefdom Security Committees referred to in section 11,
  - (v) the Joint Maritime Committee referred to in section 13;
  - (vi) the National Security Council Co-ordinating Group established in section 8;

- (vii) the Central Intelligence and Security Agency referred to in section 14;
- (viii) the Transnational Organised Crime Unit referred to in section 6;
- (c) approve major security plans and recommendations by the Ministry of Defence;
- (d) monitor all external military support to Sierra Leone;
- (e) act as a War Cabinet as and when required;
- (f) take appropriate measures on policy matters of common interest to Ministries, Departments and Agencies; and
- (g) do all such things as will contribute to the attainment of the security of Sierra Leone.

5. Notwithstanding the Right to Access Information Act, 2013 (Act No.2 of 2013), the right to access information from the Council shall not apply to - Restriction on access to information.

- (a) classified information and sources;
- (b) information deemed necessary for the maintenance and preservation of national security; and
- (c) information, the disclosure of which is prejudicial to ongoing investigations or security operations.

## PART III - TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME UNIT

Transnational  
Organised  
Crime Unit.

6. (1) There shall continue in existence, a sub-committee of the Council, known as the Transnational Organised Crime Unit which shall be responsible to -

- (a) submit reports, administrative and operational proposals for the consideration and approval of Council; and
- (b) proffer advice to enhance the operations of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit.

(2) The Transnational Organised Crime Unit shall have a Management Team, which shall be the governing body of the Unit, consisting of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police attached to Crime Services, as Chairman, and the following other members -

- (a) The Joint Force Commander, Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces;
- (b) The Chief of Operations, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (c) The Head of Legal and Justice Department, Sierra Leone Police;
- (d) The Deputy Chief Immigration Officer;
- (e) The Head of Compliance and Operations, Financial Intelligence Unit;
- (f) The Chief of Intelligence, Anti-corruption Commission;
- (g) The Head of Operations, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency;

- (h) The Head of Interpol, Sierra Leone Police;
- (i) The Assistant Commissioner, Revenue, Intelligence and Investigations, National Revenue Authority;
- (j) The Head of Operations and Security, Sierra Leone Ports Authority;
- (k) The Safety and Compliance Manager, Sierra Leone Air Ports Authority;
- (l) The Head, Enforcement and Narcotic Control, Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone;
- (m) The Head, Transnational Organised Crime Unit; and
- (n) The Director, Serious Organised Crime Coordination, Office of National Security, who shall serve as Secretary.

(3) The Management Team shall perform the following functions-

- (a) give directives to the Head of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit;
- (b) implement operational plans and activities approved by the Advisory Board using multi-agency approach;
- (c) respond to incidence of organised criminal activity that falls within the priority areas of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit;
- (d) develop strategy to combat or minimise the incidence of organised crime in Sierra Leone;

- (e) liaise with international security services through Interpol;
- (f) complement all statutory institutional efforts of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit and its partners through intelligence, enforcement and prosecution in combating organised crime in Sierra Leone;
- (g) submit administrative and operational proposals of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit to the Advisory Board for advice, approval, and onward submission to Council; and
- (h) perform such functions as shall be assigned by the Advisory Board.

Advisory  
Board.

7. (1) The Transnational Organised Crime Unit shall be supervised by an Advisory Board which shall consist of the National Security Coordinator, as Chairman and the following other members—

- (a) the Inspector-General of Police;
- (b) the Chief of Defence Staff;
- (c) the Director-General, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (d) the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Internal affairs;
- (e) the Head of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit;
- (f) the Director of Public Prosecutions;
- (g) the Chief Immigration Officer;

- (h) the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit;
  - (i) the Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission;
  - (j) the Executive-Director, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency;
  - (k) the Commissioner-General, National Revenue Authority;
  - (l) Executive Director, Sierra Leone Maritime Association;
  - (m) Executive Director, National Minerals Agency;
  - (n) General-Manager, Sierra Leone Ports Authority;
  - (o) General-Manager, Sierra Leone Airport Authority;
  - (p) Registrar, Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone;
  - (q) Chairman, of the Management Team of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit; and
  - (r) Chief of Staff, Office of National Security who shall serve as Secretary.
- (2) The Advisory Board shall be responsible to -
- (a) provide strategic direction for the operations of the Management Team referred to in subsection (2) of section 6;

- (b) validate and approve the annual operation or activity plan of Management Team;
- (c) submit reports, administrative and operations proposals for the consideration and approval of Council; and
- (d) proffer advice to enhance the operations of the Transnational Organised Crime Unit.

#### PART IV—SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES

National  
Security  
Council  
Coordinating  
Group.

8. (1) There shall continue in existence, a body known as the National Security Council Coordinating Group which shall consist of the National Security Coordinator, as Chairman and the following other members-

- (a) the Deputy National Security Coordinator;
- (b) the Chief of Defence Staff;
- (c) the Inspector General of Police;
- (d) the Director-General, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (e) Director-General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service;
- (f) the Chief Fire Officer;
- (g) the Chief Immigration Officer;
- (h) the Joint Force Commander;
- (i) the Assistant Inspector-General of Police for Operations;
- (j) the Head of Strategic Situation Group, Office of National Security;



- (k) senior civil servants of other Ministries, Departments and Agencies as the Chairman in consultation with members may deem necessary;
  - (l) Director-General, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority;
  - (m) Executive-Director, National Protected Area Authority;
  - (n) Director-General, National Disaster Management Agency;
  - (o) Director-in-charge of Assessment, Office of National Security, as Secretary.
- (2) The National Security Council Coordinating Group shall be a strategic security body which shall be responsible to -
- (a) make policy recommendations for the attention of the Council;
  - (b) assign responsibilities to Ministries, Departments and Agencies;
  - (c) approve assessment documents from the Joint Intelligence Committee and proposals from the Strategic Situation Group;
  - (d) examine National Threat Assessments for endorsement by the Council;
  - (e) examine National Intelligence Requirements for endorsement by the Council; and
  - (f) perform such other functions as the Council shall assign to it.

(3) For the performance of its functions under subsection (2), the National Security Council Coordinating Group shall be supervised by the Council.

(4) The National Security Council Coordinating Group shall regulate the procedure at its meetings.

Provincial  
Security  
Committee.

9. (1) There shall continue in existence a security and intelligence committee for each province, known respectively, as Provincial Security Committee consisting of the Resident Minister, as Chairman and the following other members-

- (a) the Provincial Secretary as Deputy-Chairman;
- (b) the Deputy Provincial Secretary;
- (c) the Brigade Commander in the region;
- (d) the Police Commander in the region;
- (e) the Regional Commander, Sierra Leone National Fire force;
- (f) the Regional Commander Sierra Leone Correctional Services;
- (g) the Regional Immigration Officer;
- (h) the Senior District Officer;
- (i) the Regional Case Officer, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (j) the Deputy Master and Registrar for the region;
- (k) the Regional Chairman, Council of Paramount Chiefs;

- (l) 2 members nominated by the Chairman, after consultation with other members;
- (m) the Regional Coordinator, National Disaster Management Agency;
- (n) the Provincial Security Coordinator, responsible for the coordination of security and intelligence at the provincial level, shall serve as Secretary.

(2) Where the Chairman and the Deputy-Chairman of a Provincial Security Committee are unavailable for a meeting, the Provincial Security Coordinator shall, in consultation with other members, nominate a member from amongst those present to be Chairman.

(3) A Provincial Security Committee under subsection (1), shall -

- (a) provide to the Council, through the National Security Coordinator, early warning of the existence or likelihood of any security threat to the province, country or the Government; and
- (b) perform such other function as may be assigned to it by the Council.

(4) A Provincial Security Committee shall, in the performance of its functions under this Act, be subject to the general or special directions of the National Security Council Coordinating Group.

(5) A Provincial Security Committee shall meet every 2 weeks, at such place and time as the Chairman, in consultation with the Provincial Security Coordinator, may determine.

(6) A Provincial Security Committee shall regulate the procedure of its meetings.

District  
Security  
Committee.

10. (1) There shall continue in existence, a security and intelligence committee for each district, known respectively as District Security Committee consisting of the Senior District Officer, as Chairman and the following other members-

- (a) District Council Chairman, as Deputy-Chairman;
- (b) the Local Unit Commander, Sierra Leone Police;
- (c) a representative of the local military commander as designated by the appropriate authority;
- (d) the District Case Officer, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (e) the District Fire Officer, Sierra Leone National Fire Force;
- (f) the Officer-in-Charge of the Correctional Centre in the District;
- (g) 2 persons nominated by the Chairman after consultation with other members;
- (h) the District Immigration Officer;
- (i) the Chairman, Council of Paramount Chiefs for the District;
- (j) the District Coordinator, National Disaster Management Agency; and

- (k) the District Security Coordinator, responsible for the coordination of security and intelligence at the district level, shall serve as Secretary.

(2) Where the Chairman and the Deputy-Chairman of a District Security Committee are unavailable for a meeting, the District Security Coordinator shall, in consultation with other members, nominate a member from amongst those present to be Chairman.

(3) A District Security Committee under subsection (1), shall -

- (a) provide to the Council, through the National Security Coordinator, early warning of the existence or likelihood of any security threat to the district province, country or the Government; and
- (b) perform such other function as may be assigned to it by the Council.

(4) A District Security Committee shall, in the performance of its functions under this Act, be subject to the general or special directions of the appropriate Provincial Security Committee.

(5) A District Security Committee shall meet every week, at such place and time as the Chairman, after consultation with the District Security Coordinator, may determine.

(6) A District Security Committee shall regulate the procedure of its meetings.

11. (1) There is hereby established a security and intelligence committee for each chiefdom which shall be known respectively as Chiefdom Security Committee which shall consist of the Paramount Chief, as Chairman and the following other members-

Chiefdom  
Security  
Committee.

- (a) the Chiefdom Speaker, as Deputy-Chairman;
- (b) the most senior police commander in the chiefdom;
- (c) the most senior military commander in the chiefdom;
- (d) the Local Court Clerk;
- (e) the Chiefdom Councillor;
- (f) 2 representatives from civil society as co-opted members;
- (g) the Central Chiefdom Administrative Clerk;
- (h) the Chiefdom Coordinator, National Disaster Management Agency; and
- (i) the Chiefdom Security Coordinator, responsible for the coordination of security and intelligence at chiefdom level, shall serve as Secretary.

(2) Where the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of a Chiefdom Security Committee are both unavailable for a meeting, the Chiefdom Security Coordinator shall in consultation with other members nominate a chairman from amongst those present.

(3) A Chiefdom Security Committee shall serve as a security and intelligence committee and shall be responsible to -

- (a) provide information to the District Security Committee on the existence or likelihood of any security threat to the chiefdom, district, province, country or the Government; and

- (b) perform such other functions as the Council may assign.

(4) A Chiefdom Security Committee shall in the performance of its functions be under the supervision of the appropriate District Security Committee.

(5) A Chiefdom Security Committee shall meet every 7 days, at such place and time as the Chairman in consultation with the Chiefdom Security Coordinator may determine.

(6) A Chiefdom Security Committee shall regulate the procedure at its meetings.

12. (1) The Council shall have a Joint Intelligence Committee which shall consist of the heads of all intelligence services or agencies and other pertinent institutions which shall be responsible to approve assessments of intelligence and other related information prepared or processed by the Office of National Security.

Joint  
Intelligence  
Committee.

(2) The Joint Intelligence Committee under subsection (1), shall consist of the National Security Coordinator as Chairman and the following other members -

- (a) the Deputy National Security Coordinator;
- (b) the Director-General, Central Intelligence and Security Agency;
- (c) the Director, Defence Intelligence, Ministry of Defence;
- (d) the Head of Police Intelligence;
- (e) the Head of Operations, Operations, Planning and Policy Department, Sierra Leone Police;

- (f) the Chief of Intelligence, Anti-corruption Commission;
- (g) the Commanding Officer, Forces, Intelligence and Security Unit, Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces;
- (h) the Head, Transnational Organised Crime Unit;
- (i) the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit;
- (j) the Director, Border Security, Office of National Security;
- (k) the Director, Serious Organised Crime Coordination, Office of National Security;
- (l) the Director, in charge of Provincial Security Coordination
- (m) the Director, Assessment Directorate, Office of National Security shall serve as Secretary.

(3) The main functions of the Joint Intelligence Committee shall be to -

- (a) approve assessments of intelligence and other related information prepared or processed by the Office of National Security; and
- (b) assess the veracity of the intelligence and information received by intelligence agencies, and where the intelligence gathered are not clear the Joint Intelligence Committee shall direct that more intelligence be gathered; or where the intelligence gathered is clear, it shall brief the National Security Council or the National Security Council Coordinating Group or it shall give directive for the operationalisation of intelligence as appropriate.



(4) The Joint Intelligence Committee shall meet every 7 days, at such place and time as the Chairman may determine.

(5) Assessment approved by the Joint Intelligence Committee under subsection (3), shall be forwarded by the National Security Coordinator to members of the National Security Council Coordinating Group and to other Ministers and officials as appropriate.

13. (1) The Council shall have a Joint Maritime Committee which shall provide support to the Agency responsible for -

Joint  
Maritime  
Committee.

- (a) the protection of Sierra Leone's fisheries and marine resources from illegal fishing;
- (b) ensuring safety at sea through adequate and timely response to sea disasters;
- (c) the protection of Sierra Leone's coastline from threats emanating from illicit drug trafficking, smuggling, piracy, and other illegal marine based activities;
- (d) revenue generation through royalties, taxes, fines and licences;
- (e) effective management of fisheries and marine resources to meet local demand;
- (f) the monitoring, control and surveillance of the Inshore Exclusion Zone and the Exclusive Economic Zone of Sierra Leone; and
- (g) provision of safe, secure and regulated environment for vessels operating in Sierra Leone's territorial waters.

(2) The Joint Maritime Committee shall have a Steering Group, which shall be responsible for oversight and formulation of policy for the Joint Maritime Committee comprising -

- (a) the National Security Coordinator, Office of National Security, Chairman;
- (b) the Commander, Joint Force Command, Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces;
- (c) the Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources;
- (d) the Director of Operations, Sierra Leone Police;
- (e) the General Manager, Sierra Leone Ports Authority;
- (f) the Executive Director, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration;
- (g) the Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance;
- (h) the Assistant Commissioner, National Revenue Authority;
- (i) the Chief Immigration Officer, Immigration Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- (j) the Solicitor General, Office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice;
- (k) the Director-General, Central Intelligence Security Agency; and
- (l) the Director, Border Security, Office of National Security shall serve as Secretary.

(3) The Joint Maritime Committee shall regulate its proceedings and shall meet, at least every 2 weeks, at such place and time as the Chairman may determine.

#### PART V-CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

14. There shall continue in existence the Central Intelligence and Security Unit, under the authority of the President, now referred to as the Central Intelligence and Security Agency, which shall be responsible to -

Central  
Intelligence  
and Security  
Agency.

- (a) collect and assess intelligence in respect of internal or external activities that may constitute threats against the security of Sierra Leone;
- (b) protect Sierra Leone against threats of espionage, sabotage, terrorism, hijacking, piracy, drug trafficking, money laundering or other serious crimes;
- (c) protect Sierra Leone against the activities of persons intending to overthrow the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone or undermine the constitutional order by illegal, political, military, industrial or other means or through any other unconstitutional method;
- (d) protect Sierra Leone against any threat to her economic interest, whether internal or external; and
- (e) perform such other functions as the President or Council shall direct.

Powers of  
Agency.

15. (1) The Agency shall have all the powers necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Agency shall have power to-

- (a) cooperate with any person, body, organisation or authority for the performance of its functions;
- (b) implement measures to safeguard and promote national interests, security of its staff, sources and methods of operation; and
- (c) detect and identify threats and potential threats to national security.

Ministerial  
responsibility.

16. The President may, from time to time, assign ministerial responsibility for the Agency to such Minister, other than the Minister of Defence and the Minister of Internal Affairs, as the President may consider appropriate.

Annual  
report.

17. (1) The Agency shall, within 3 months after the end of each year, prepare a report on the operations of the Agency for the approval of the Council.

(2) The report approved under subsection (1) shall be tabled before Parliament.

Director-  
General.

18. (1) The Agency shall have a Director-General who shall be appointed by the President subject to the approval of Parliament.

(2) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as Director-General under subsection (1), unless he -

- (a) is a citizen of Sierra Leone;
- (b) has not been convicted of a criminal offence;

- (c) has not held office in a political party; and
- (d) holds a Master's degree from a recognised university with 10 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters or a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university with 15 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters.

19. (1) The Director-General shall be responsible for the efficient management of the Agency.

Functions  
of Director-  
General.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) the Director-General shall be responsible to -

- (a) control and administer the Agency subject to the directions of the President or the Council;
- (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the actions of the Agency are limited to what is necessary for the proper performance of its functions under this Act or any other law and that no information is gathered by the Agency except as may be necessary for the proper performance of its functions; and
- (c) ensure that the Agency is not, in the performance of its functions, influenced by considerations not relevant to such functions and that no act is performed that could give rise to any reasonable suggestion that the Agency is concerned in furthering, protecting or undermining the interests of any particular section of the population, any political party or organisation in Sierra Leone.

(3) The Director-General may issue standing orders for the purpose of carrying out his functions under this section.

Deputy  
Director-  
General.

20. (1) The Agency shall have a Deputy Director-General who shall be appointed by the President subject to the approval of Parliament.

(2) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as Deputy Director-General under subsection (1), unless he -

- (a) is a citizen of Sierra Leone;
- (b) has not been convicted of a criminal offence;
- (c) has not held office in a political party;
- (d) holds a degree from a recognised university;  
and
- (e) has at least 10 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters.

Functions  
of Deputy  
Director-  
General.

21. (1) The Deputy Director-General shall serve as the principal assistant to the Director-General in the administration of the Agency.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Deputy Director-General shall be responsible to carry out such other responsibilities as may be assigned to him by the Director-General.

Tenure of  
office.

22. (1) The Director-General and Deputy Director-General shall hold office for a term of 5 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of 5 years only.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Director-General or Deputy Director-General shall be removed from office by the President on any of the following grounds-

- (a) gross misconduct in the performance of their functions;
- (b) on conviction for a criminal offence;
- (c) incompetence; or
- (d) inability to perform the functions of office due to physical or mental incapacity.

(3) Where the Director-General or Deputy Director-General is removed from office before the end of the term to which he had been appointed under sub-section (1), he shall be paid salaries and other emoluments in lieu of the remaining period:

Provided that where the Director-General or Deputy Director-General is removed from office before the end of the term to which he had been appointed under subsection (1), he shall not be paid salaries and other emoluments in lieu of the remaining period if the grounds for removal falls under paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (2).

23. There shall be appointed by the Public Service Commission, on the recommendation of the Director-General, such other staff as may be required for the efficient performance of the functions of the Office of the Agency. Other employees.

#### PART VI - OFFICE OF NATIONAL SECURITY

24. (1) There shall continue in existence the Secretariat of the Council known as the Office of National Security, which shall be responsible to- Office of National Security.

- (a) provide support and secretarial services to the Council;
- (b) coordinate intelligence at national, provincial, district and chiefdom levels;

- (c) establish clear lines of communication between the security services and provide for the mediation of disputes between them;
- (d) maintain cordial and cooperative relationship between the security sector and the public;
- (e) prepare and ensure the implementation of national security policies and strategies;
- (f) supervise security vetting and investigations for security clearance of persons who -
  - (i) hold or may hold vettable post in government departments, ministries or agencies;
  - (ii) may have access to sensitive or classified information, so as to ensure a uniform vetting standard throughout the government;
- (g) develop and implement protective security procedures in government departments, ministries and agencies to ensure uniform security standards through-out government;
- (h) work in collaboration with ministries, departments and agencies to provide the enabling environment for good governance, socio-economic development, poverty reduction and conflict prevention and management;
- (i) ensure effective leadership and support for the proper functioning of the National Security Council Subcommittees;



- (j) ensure the proper protection of the state's critical national infrastructure; and
- (k) make regulations to regulate private security companies.

25. (1) There shall be a National Security Coordinator who shall be head of the Office of National Security appointed by the President, subject to the approval of Parliament.

National  
Security  
Coordinator.

(2) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as National Security Coordinator unless he-

- (a) is a citizen of Sierra Leone;
- (b) has not been convicted of a criminal offence;
- (c) has not held office in a political party;
- (d) holds a Master's degree from a recognised university with 10 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters or a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university with 15 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters.

26. (1) The National Security Coordinator shall be the principal adviser to the President and the Government on issues pertaining to the security of Sierra Leone.

Functions of  
National  
Security  
Coordinator.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the National Security Coordinator shall be responsible for-

- (a) coordination, within the security sector, of funding and resources so as to ensure their most efficient use;

- (b) the coordination of intelligence at provincial, district, chiefdom, and national levels;
  - (c) the establishment of clear lines of communication between the security services and the provision of arbitration for disputes between them;
  - (d) the maintenance of a cordial and co-operative relationship between the security services and civil society;
  - (e) the prescription of the categories of security classification including what constitutes, "top secret information", "secret information", "confidential information" and "restricted information"; and
  - (f) such other functions as shall be assigned to him by the President or the Council.
- (3) The National Security Coordinator shall, in addition to his function under subsection (2), serve as -
- (a) Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee and other Subcommittees of the Council; and
  - (b) shall work in the close collaboration with the National Disaster Management Agency for the management of national emergencies such as natural and man-made disaster.
- (4) The National Security Coordinator shall, in exercise of his functions under this Act, be subject to the general or special directions of the President or the Council.

27. (1) There shall be a Deputy National Security Coordinator who shall be appointed by the President subject to the approval of Parliament.

Deputy  
National  
Security  
Coordinator.

(2) A person shall not be appointed Deputy National Security Coordinator unless he-

- (a) is a citizen of Sierra Leone;
- (b) has not been convicted of a criminal offence;
- (c) has not held office in a political party; and
- (d) holds a Master's degree from a recognised university with 5 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters or a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university with 10 years proven experience and expertise in intelligence and security matters.

28. (1) The Deputy National Security Coordinator shall serve as the principal assistant to the National Security Coordinator in the administration of the Office of National Security.

Functions of  
Deputy  
National  
Security  
Coordinator.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Deputy National Security Coordinator shall be responsible for-

- (a) coordination and supervision of all directorates or departments within the Office of National Security and ensure that job objectives are met;
- (b) coordination of all public relation matters of the Office of National Security; and
- (c) such other functions as may be assigned to him by the National Security Coordinator.

29. (1) The National Security Coordinator and the Deputy National Security Coordinator shall hold office for a term of 5 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further term of five years only.

Tenure of  
office.