

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

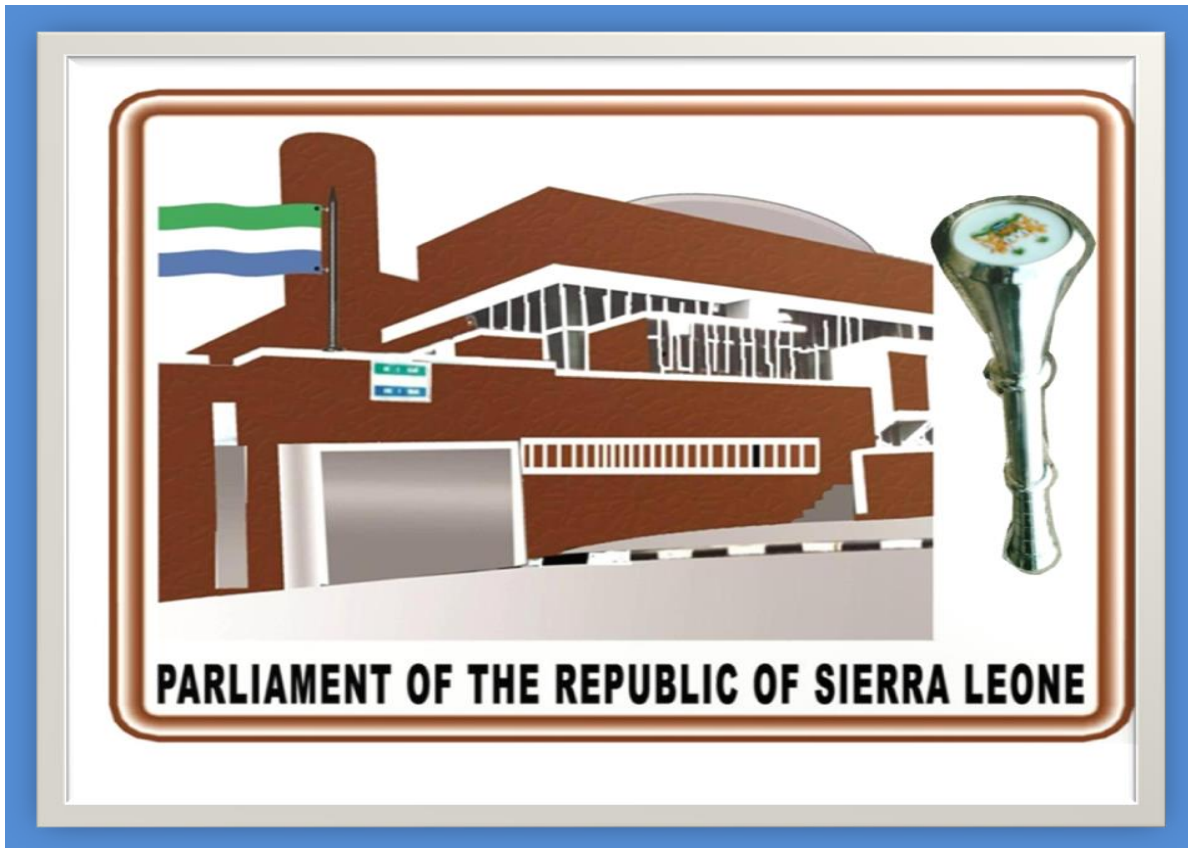
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

FOURTH SESSION –FIRST MEETING

THURSDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2022

SESSION – 2021/2022



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMETARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

VOLUME: I

NUMBER: 48

First Meeting of the Fourth Session of the Fifth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held Thursday, 10th March, 2022.

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THE MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

**FOURTH SESSION – FIRST MEETING
OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

Thursday, 28th March, 2021.

I. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Mrs Bintu Weston, Read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:30a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Speaker, Hon. Dr Chernor Abass Bundu in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

Suspension of S. O. 5[2]

IV. PAPER LAID

[A] Honourable Saa Emmerson Lamina [Chairman, Committee on Mines and Mineral resources]

THE SPEAKER: Before the laying I noticed the Leader of Government Business wanted to say something?

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Yes. I just got a call from the Minister of Trade, that he has been called for an emergency meeting at State House so he begged me to lay the document on his behalf. So I want to do that amendment instead of the Minister of Trade and Industry it should now be the Leader of Government Business

THE SPEAKER: I hope you are not just finding an excuse for him?

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: No, he called me

THE SPEAKER: Because I was also in touched with State House

HON. MATHEW S NYUMA: Not with whom you were talking with, the minister is in a different meeting as you know State House is so big. So I move

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. SAA EMMERSON LAMINA: I so Second Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed and Agreed to]

THE SPEAKER: I cannot but observed that the mover of the motion was engaged and I did not get your attention when I put the question? I saw it differently. Okay the Leader of C4C you have the floor.

[I] HON. SAA EMMERSON LAMINA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, permit me to lay on the Table the report entitled: "the fourth session report on the Parliamentary Committee on Mines and Mineral Resources on the engagement with Mining Communities and some mining companies in the North and South-Eastern Region."

[Applause]

[II] The Leader of Government Business

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table of this Honourable House agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Grafton Investment [SL] Limited dated December 2021. *[Applause]*

The Minister of Transport and Aviation

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION [REX BONAPHA]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with your leave I beg to lay on the Table of this Honourable House the following papers:

1. Bilateral Air Services agreement between Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Government of the Sultanate of Oman
2. Memorandum of understanding agreement between Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Government of the Sultanate of Oman.
3. Air Services agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco. *[Applause]*

VI. BILL

- A.** The National Protection Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act 2021 by Honourable Abdul S. Marray Conteh Chairman of the Legislative Committee report of the Legislative Committee on the Bill entitled: "The National Protection Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund".

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members I present the fifth report of the Legislative Committee of the fourth session of the fifth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled: The National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act 202, presented to Parliament on Tuesday the 8th February 2022.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members I rise to present the fifth report of the legislative committee fourth session of the fifth parliament of the second republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled: **'THE NATIONAL PROTECTED AREA AUTHORITY AND**

CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACT, 2021” being an Act to amend the National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act 2012, and to provide for other related matters. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Bill having gone through the second reading was committed to the legislative committee for scrutiny pursuant to Standing Orders 51 [1]. Subsequently, the committee met on Thursday 24th February, 2022 in the Committee Room 1 of Parliament building for the following objectives to scrutinize in details the principles and provisions of the Bill and to make amendments if necessary. To ascertain [*interruption*].

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members in the case where the Minister of The Environment, the Deputy Minister of The Environment, the chairman of Environment, deputy chairman Legislative Committee, Members of the Legislative Committee and others

HON. MATHEW NYUMA: Point of order. Where is the minister? The report from the Forestry Ministry. Mr Minister should be sitting behind there. We are sorry Mr Speaker that is an error, so we need your attention to call the Minister to take the platform. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Please correct the mistakes by starting all over.

BILL

B. THE NATIONAL PROTECTED AREA AUTHORITY AND CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACT 2021.

COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

The House resolves into Committee of the whole House.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members I rise to present the fifth report of the legislative committee, fourth session of the fifth Parliament of the second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled: **‘The National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act 2021’**, being an Act to amend the National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act, 2012

and to provide for other related matters. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members the Bill having gone through second reading was committed to the Legislative Committee for scrutiny first round to Standing Orders 51[1]. Subsequently, the Committee met on Thursday 24th February, 2022 in Committee Room Number one of Parliament building with the following objectives: To scrutinise in detail the principles and provisions of the Bill and to make amendment if necessary. To ascertain the Constitutional and legal implications contain therein. To report preliminary for consideration by the Committee of the whole House in line with SO [53]. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members in attendance as well, the Minister of Environment, Deputy Minister of Environment, the Chairman of the Legislative Committee, the Chairman Committee on Environment, the Deputy chairman of Legislative Committee, Members of the Legislative Committee and other Members of Parliament. Mr Chairman, Honourable members, the Legislative Committee having scrutinised the Bill line by line, and Clause by Clause recommends the following amendments to the House for approval:

1. The short title being amended by changing the year 2021 to 2022. To now read, National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act, 2022.

The long title of the Bill be approved. Part one preliminary, Clause 1 interpretations that the word "Minister" be amended by inserting the phrase "**responsible for**" immediately after the word "**Minister**" and deleting the word "**of**". To now read, Minister means; the Minister responsible for the environment. Part two National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund. Clause 2 continuation of National Protected Area Authority. The side note of Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase "**of the national**" immediately after the word "*continuation*". To now read, continuation of the National Protected Area Authority. Clause 3 sub clause 2, board of authority. [D] Be amended by replacing "**Ministry of Finance**" with "**National Disaster Management Agency**". [H] Be amended by replacing "**ministry of planning and economic development**" with "**office of National Security**". And [M] Be amended by replacing the phrase "**Njala University College**" with the phrase "**in reputable university institution in Sierra Leone**". To now read, environmental

sciences department in reputable university institution in Sierra Leone. Clause 4 Tenure of Members be approved. Clause 5 sub clause [1] meetings of board be amended by replacing the figure **"two"** with the figure **"three"**. To now read, the board shall meet for the dispatch of its business at least once every three months and at such time as the Chairman may determine. Clause 5 sub clause [3] meetings of Board be amended by replacing the figure **"three"** with the figure **"five"**. Clause 6 Disclosure of interest be approved. Clause 7 sub clause [1] Immunity of Members be amended by deleting the phrase **"in good faith"** immediately after the word **"done"**. To now read, an action or other proceedings shall not lie or be instituted against a member of the board or member of a committee of the board for or in respect of an act or thing done or omitted to be done in the exercise of his functions under this Act. Clause 8 Committees of Board be approved. Clause 9 Functions of Board be approved. Clause 10 Remunerations of Members be amended by inserting the word **"sitting"** before the word **"fees"**. To now read, the Chairman and other members of the board and the person co-opted by the board under sub section eight of section five shall be paid such remuneration, sitting fees and allowances approve by the Minister and shall be reimbursed by the authority for expenses incur in connection with the discharge of their functions as the board may with the approve of the Minister determine subject to the approval of Parliament. Clause 11 Filling of Vacancies be approved. Part three Functions of the Authority be amended by inserting the word **"the"** after the word **"functions"**. To now read, functions of the authority. Clause 12 Functions of the Authority side note of Clause 12 be amended by inserting the Phrase **"of the"** after the word **"functions"**. To now read, functions of the authority. Clause 12 sub clause [1] functions of the authority be amended by deleting the phrase **"an environmental management"**. To now read, the object for which the authorities established, is to exercise oversight authority over national parks and protected areas designated for conservation purposes so as to protect the fanner and flora in his natural state promote sustainable land use practice. Clause 12 sub clause 2 [A] Functions of the Authority be amended by replacing the phrase **"in Sierra Leone"** with the phrase **"within designated national parks and protected areas"**. To now read, ensure the protection of natural

ecosystems and threaten bio-diversity within designated national parks and protected areas including the establishment and maintenance of representative and sustainable samples. Clause 12 sub clause 2 [B] Functions of the Authority be amended by replacing the phrase "**throughout Sierra Leone**" with the phrase "**within designated national parks and protected areas**". To now read; oversee the management of local and private nature reserves and sanctuaries within designated national parks and protected areas including zoos and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centres. Clause 12 sub Clause 2[C] Functions of the Authority be deleted. Clause 12 sub Clause 2[D] Functions of the Authority be amended by replacing the phrase "**throughout Sierra Leone**" with the phrase "**within designated national parks and protected areas**". To now read, regulate wildlife conservation and management within designated national parks and protected areas in accordance with the wildlife conservation act, 1972 act No 27 of 1972. Clause 12 sub clause 2[G] Functions of the Authority be amended by replacing the phrase "**throughout Sierra Leone**" with the phrase "**on national protected areas**". To now read, develop and implement wildlife conservation, education and training programs on national protected areas. Clause 12 sub clause 2[K] Functions of the Authority be deleted.

Clause 12 sub clause 2[M] Functions of the Authority be deleted. Clause 12 sub clause 2[N] functions of the authority be amended by inserting the phrase "**within designated national parks and protected areas**" immediately after the word "**flora**". To now read, prepare detail inventory and mapping of fanner and flora within designated national parks and protected areas. Clause 12 sub clause 2[O] Functions of the Authority be amended by replacing the phrase "**in Sierra Leone**" with the phrase "**within designated national parks and protected areas**". To now read, established a detail by diversity monitory program including a geographic information system unit that will store and disseminate data on the status of bio-diversity within designated national parks and protected areas. Clause 12 sub clause 2[P] Functions of the Authority be amended by deleting roman figure "**i, ii, iii, IV, v, VI, viii, x, and xiii**". Roman figure vii now becomes the new one, ix becomes the new two, xi becomes

the new three and xii becomes the new four. Clause 12 sub clause 2[P] roman figure iii previously roman figure xi, functions of the authority be amended by replacing the phrase "inside and outside national" with the phrase "within designated national packs and protected areas. To now read, promoting policies for enabling by local forest edge communication to participate and co-manage national resources within designated national packs and protected areas. Part four Administrative Provisions. Clause 13 Appointment of Executive Director side note of clause 13 be amended by inserting the word **"of"** after the word **"appointment"**. To now read, Appointment of Executive Director. Clause 13 sub Clause [1] Appointment of Executive Director be amended by deleting the word **"of"** after the word **"be"**, and replacing the phrase **"board upon such terms and conditions as the board shall after consultation with the Minister determine"** with the phrase **"by the President on the recommendation of the Minister subject to the approval of Parliament"**. To now read, the authority shall have an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister subject to the approval of Parliament. Clause 13 sub Clause [2] Appointment of Executive Director be amended by deleting the phrase **"protection and bio-diversity conservation"** and inserting the word **"issues"** immediately after the word "environmental". To now read, a person shall not be appointed an Executive Director unless he has proven knowledge in forest management and experience in environmental issues. Clause 14 Functions of Executive Director be amended by inserting a new **"E"**. To read, serve as secretary to the board and for every meeting of the board keep minute of proceedings of the meeting previously **"E"** now becomes **"F"**. A new clause 15 be inserted with a new side note to read deputy Executive Director. New clause 15 sub Clause [1], Deputy Executive Director be amended by inserting a new sub Clause [1]. To read, the Executive Director shall be assisted by a Deputy Executive Director who shall be appointed by the board on such terms and conditions as the board may determine. New Clause 15 sub Clause [2] Deputy Executive Director be amended by inserting a new sub Clause [2]. To read, a person shall not be appointed a Deputy Executive Director unless he has proven knowledge in forest management and experience in environmental issues. Clause 15 be

amended by renumbering it to become Clause 16. Clause 16 sub Clause [1], previously Clause 15 sub Clause [1], other staff of authority be amended by deleting the word "**secretary**" after the letter "**A**" and before the word "**finance**". To now read, the authority shall have in addition to the Executive Director a secretariat consisting of a finance officer, administrative officer and such other additional technical administrative staff as maybe required for the efficient performance of the functions of the authority. Clause 16 sub Clause [2] previously Clause 15 sub Clause [2], other staff of authority be amended by deleting the word "**secretary**" and "**the**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**other**". To now read, the other staff of the authority shall be appointed by the board subject to such terms and conditions as the board shall determine. Clause 16 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 17. Clause 17 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 18. Clause 18 sub Clause 2[B] previously Clause 17 sub Clause 2[B], Department of Authority be amended by deleting the phrase "**community conservation**" and the phrase "**and co-management**". To now read, outreach. Clause 18 sub clause [3] previously Clause 17 sub clause [3], department of authority be deleted. Clause 18 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 19. Clause 19 previously Clause 18, Protection of offices side note of Clause 19 previously Clause 18, be amended by replacing the word "**protection**" with the word "**immunity**". To now read, immunity of offices. Clause 19 previously Clause 18, Protection of officers be amended by deleting the phrase "**in good faith**" immediately after the word "**him**". To now read, an officer or employee of the authority or a person acting on the directions of the board shall not be liable in respect of any matter or thing done by him under this Act. Part five Conservation Trust Fund. Clause 19 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 20. Previously Clause 20 Objective of Trust be deleted. Clause 21 Functions of Trust remains as Clause 21. Clause 22 Powers of Trust be deleted. Clause 23 now becomes the new Clause 22. Clause 22 previously Clause 23, Corporation between trust and authority be amended by replacing the letters "**R and O**" with the letters "**O and E**" before and after the letter "**P**" respectively in the word "**corporation**". To now read, corporation and deleting the word "**and**" after the word "**funding**". To now read, the trust shall

establish and maintain with the authority collaboration and corporation mechanisms for the purpose of funding bio-diversity protection and enhancement activities. Clause 24 be amended by renumbering it to become clause 23. Clause 23 sub clause [1] previously Clause 24 sub clause [1]: Administration of Trust be amended by deleting the phrase **"not less than five"** and replacing it with the phrase **"four other"**. To now read, the trust shall be administered by a board of trustees consisting of a chairman, and four other members appointed by the Minister by notice published in the gazette. Clause 23 sub clause [2] previously Clause 24 sub clause [2] administration of trust, be amended by inserting the phrase **"of the authority"** after the word **"board"**. To now read, the President shall appoint one member of the board of the authority as Chairman of the board of trustee after consultation with the Minister subject to the approval of Parliament. Clause 25 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 24. Clause 24 previously Clause 25 Trust to be body corporate side note of Clause 24 previously Clause 25, be amended by inserting the word **"the"** before the word **"trust"**. To now read, the trust to be body corporate. Clause 26 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 25. Clause 25 previously Clause 26 Forms of Trust. Side note of Clause 25 previously Clause 26 be amended by inserting the word **"the"** before the word **"trust"**. To now read, forms of the trust. Clause 25 sub clause [1] previously Clause 26 sub clause [1] Forms of trust be amended by deleting **"C and D"**. Clause 27 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 26. Clause 28 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 27. Clause 29 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 28. Part six the National Protected Area. Clause 30 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 29. Part seven Miscellaneous Provisions. Clause 31 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 30. Clause 30 sub clause 2[B] previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[B] regulations, be amended by deleting the letter **"S"** from the word **"applications"**. To read, application. Clause 30 sub clause 2[D] previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[D] regulations, be amended by deleting the word **"part"** after the word **"or"**. To now read, the control of persons or animals (including domestic animals) in the National Protected Areas or any parts thereof either permanently or temporally. Clause 30, sub clause 2[E], previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[E]

regulations, be amended by spacing the word "**or**" from the word "**regulations**". To now read, the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of burning of vegetation or the cutting, felling or removal of timber in or from the National Protected Area or any part thereof. Clause 30 sub clause 2[G] previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[G] regulations, be amended by deleting the word "**part**" after the word "**or**". To now read, the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of the possession or use of weapons in the National Protected Area or any part thereof. Clause 30, sub clause 2[H], previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[H] regulations, be amended by deleting the word "**part**" after the word "**or**". To now read, the fees to be paid if any by persons entering in the National Protected Area or any part thereof or to be paid in respect of the doing of any specified act therein or the use of any article or facility therein. Clause 30, sub clause 2[M], previously Clause 31 sub clause 2[M] regulations, be amended by inserting the phrase "**endangers species and other**" immediately after the word "**snakes**" and deleting the word "**and**" after the word "**crocodile**". To now read, the destruction of the eggs of crocodile, poisonous snakes and other endanger species in the national protected area or any part thereof. Clause 32 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 31. Clause 31 previously Clause 32 penalty, side note of Clause 31 previously Clause 32, be amended by deleting the letter "**I**" after the letter "L" in the word "**penalty**". To now read, penalty. Clause 31 previously Clause 32 penalty, be amended by replacing the word "**exceeding**" with the phrase "**less than**" and replacing the figures "**25MLN**" with the figures of "**15MLN**". And replacing figure "**5**" with the figure "**2**". To now read, a person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, commits an offence and he is liable on conviction to a fine not less than fifteen million to imprisonment for a term not less than two years or to both such fine and imprisonment and may also be liable to different penalties in case of successive breaches of or continuous breaches. Clause 33 be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 32. Conclusion, Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Legislative Committee having scrutinised the Bill entitled the National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act, 2021 recommend these proposals to the House for approval. The reports reflect the consensus of Honourable Members of the Committee.

I therefore move that with this amendment the House pass the Bill entitle the National Protected Area Authority and Conservation Trust Fund Act, 2021 through Committee stage, third reading and into Law. Thank you for your attention. Signed: Honourable Abdul S. Marray Conteh. Chairman Legislative Committee fourth session 2021-2022.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I stand on SO 37[1]. Having listened to the Chairman of the Legislative Committee's reports. I want to remind Honourable Members that we have one of our former colleagues who will be laid to rest today; I move that we postpone the Committee Stage to other meetings. So that, we have the opportunity to listen to the next report and there after we will go for the laying out of the former Honourable Cecil Hanciles. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any Secunder?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so second Mr Speaker.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I am with you, I just want to seek further clarifications of the intention of the mover, before I put the question for seconder. I don't know why the whip is on his legs [*undertones*]. Honourable member, if I understand you clearly that what you intend, is for the next report to be read because both reports deal with the same Ministry, to another meeting. That will afford us time to go for the laying out, I think that is reasonable. So let me get a seconder.

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so second Mr Speaker.

[Question proposed, put and agreed to]

Motion by the Deputy Leader of Government Business has been carried.

THE CHAIRMAN: We shall now proceed to the second report.

The Environment Protection Agency Act 2021. Honourable Abdul S. Marray Conteh, Chairman legislative committee, report of the legislative committee on the bill entitled the Environment Protection Agency Act 2021.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH Sixth report of the Legislative Committee, fourth session of the fifth Parliament on the second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill

entitled the Environment Protection Agency Act 2021, presented to Parliament on Tuesday 2nd November 2021.

Introduction: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I rise to present the sixth report of the Legislative Committee forth session of the fifth Parliament of the second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled the Environment Protection Agency Act 2021, being an Act to provide for the continuation of the Sierra Leone Environment Protection Agency to provide for more effective and efficient protection and management of the environment and to provide for other related matters. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Bill having gone through the second reading was committed to the Legislative Committee for scrutiny pursuant to Standing Order 51(1). Subsequently, the Committee met on Thursday 23rd and Monday 29th November 2021 in the Committee Room 1 of the Parliament building with the following objectives; To scrutinize in detail, the principles and provisions of the Bill and to make amendment if necessary; To ascertain the Constitutional and legal implications contain therein; To report to plenary for consideration by the Committee of the whole House in line with SO 53.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, in attendance were members of the Legislative Committee, the Chairman of the Environment Committee other interested members of Parliament, the Minister of Environment, the Deputy Minister of Environment, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Environment and other senior members of the Ministry.

Recommendations: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Legislative Committee, having scrutinized the Bill line by line and Clause by Clause recommends the following amendments to the House for approval. The short title, Environment Protection Agency Act 2022 be approved. The long title of the Bill, being an Act to provide for the continuation of the Sierra Leone Environment Protection Agency to provide for more effective and efficient protection and management of the environment and to provide for the other related matters be approved.

Part one, Preliminary, Clause 1 *Interpretation*, the definition of Agency be amended by deleting the phrase "**Sierra Leone**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**environment**" and inserting the phrase "**in Sierra Leone**" after the word "**agency**"

and before the word **"referred"** to now read, "Agency means, the Environment Protection Agency in Sierra Leone referred to in section two." Clause 1, *Interpretation*, the definition of controlled substance be amended by inserting the phrase "hydro chlorofluorocarbons, HCFC after the word **"virgins"** and before the word **"recovered"** to now read, "controlled substance includes chlorofluorocarbons other fully halogenated chlorofluorocarbons, harlon, carbon, tetrachloride 111, trichlorothine, methyle, bromade, whether they are virgin hydro fluorocarbon HAFCs and other Hydrofluorocarbons HAFCs recovered and recycled or reclaimed but do not include any controlled substance." Clause 1, *Interpretation* be amended by deleting the entire definition of national Tele Communication Commission. Clause 1, *Interpretation* be amended by inserting the definition of **"permit"** after the definition of **"Paris Agreement"** and before the definition of **"Petroleum Regulatory Agency"** to read, "permit means, a permit granted by the Agency in accordance with the Act or the Regulations made there under." Clause 1, *Interpretation*, the definition of **"Pollution"** be amended by inserting the pronoun **"it"** after the word **"that"** and before the word **"is"**, and also inserting the phrase **"and human health"** after the word **"environment"** and before the word **"or"** to now read, "Pollution means, natural man made or man aided alteration of the chemical or biological quality of the chemical, physical or biological quality of the environment to the extent that it is detrimental to the environment and human health or beyond acceptable limit." Clause 1 *Interpretation* be amended by inserting a definition of **"Wet Lands"** after the definition of **"Waters of Sierra Leone"** to read, "Wet Land means, areas permanently or seasonally flooded by water where plants and animals have adapted."

Part two, Continuation of Environmental Protection Agency. Clause 2, sub clause 3, Continuation of Environment Protection Agency be amended by deleting the entire sub clause 2[3], and replacing it with "the agency shall have a common seal the use of which shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Chairman of the board, and Executive Director or any other member of the board designated in that behalf by the board." Clause 3, sub clause 2, Board of Agency be amended by deleting the letter **"a"**

after the word **"of"** and before the word **"chairman"** and inserting the words **"an executive"** and also inserting the phrase **"the head of the agency and"** after the word **"be"** and before the letter **"a"** to now read, "the board shall consist of an Executive Chairman, he shall be the head of the agency and the person who has considerable knowledge and experience in environmental matters and the following other matters." Clause 3, sub clause 2(a) Roman figure two [ii], Board of Agency, be amended by inserting the phrase **"mines and"** after the word **"of"** and before the word **"mineral"** to read, "the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources." Clause 3, sub clause 2(a), Roman figure thirteen [xiii], Board of Agency be amended by replacing the phrase, **"the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources"** with **"the Ministry of Lands Housing and Country Planning."** Clause 3, sub clause 2(a), Board of Agency be amended by inserting a new Roman number fourteen [xiv] to read, "the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development." Clause 3, sub clause 2[D], Board of Agency be amended by replacing the number 3, before the word persons with number 2. Clause 3, sub clause 2, Board of Agency, be amended by inserting a new **"he"**, to read, "two representatives from civil society with knowledge and experience in environmental matters." Clause 3, sub clause 2, Board of Agency, previously sub clause 2[e] be amended to be 2(f). The new 2(f) be amended by replacing the word **"executive"** with the word **"chief"** after the word **"the"** and after the word **"director"** and also inserting **"without voting rights"** at the end of the sentence to now read "the Chief Director who shall be secretary to the Board without voting rights." Clause 3, sub clause 3, Board of Agency, be amended by inserting the word **"executive"** after the word **"the"** and before the word **"Chairman"** and also adding the letter **"s"** to the word paragraph and also inserting the phrase "and he" after the letter **"d"** before the word **"of"** to read, "the Executive Chairman and other members appointed under paragraph (d) and (e) of sub section 2, shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister subject to the approval of Parliament." Clause 4, sub clause 1, Tenure of Members be amended by inserting the word **"executive"** after the word "the" and before the word **"Chairman"** and adding the letter **"s"** to the word **"paragraph"** and inserting **"he"** after the letter **"d"** and before the word **"of"** to read

“the Executive Chairman and other members appointed under paragraph (d) and (e) of sub sections 2, of section 3, shall hold office for a term of five years and shall be illegible for reappointment for a further term of five years only.” Clause 5, Meetings of Board sub clause 1, be amended by inserting the word “executive” after the word **“the”** and before the word **“Chairman”** to now read “the board shall now meet for the dispatch of its business at least once every month at the offices of the agency and at such time as the Executive Chairman may determine.” Clause 5, Meetings of Board, sub clause 2, be amended by inserting the word **“Executive”** after the word “the” and before the word **“Chairman”** to now read “the Executive Chairman shall preside at every meeting of the board and in his absence the members present shall appoint a member from among themselves to preside at that meeting.” Clause 5, Meetings of Board, sub clause 3, be amended by replacing the number 11, with the number 13, after the word **“of”** and before the word **“Members”** and also inserting the word **“Executive”** after the word **“the”** and before the word **“Chairman”** to now read, “a minimum of 13 members of the board may by notice in writing signed by them request the Executive Chairman to summon a special meeting of the board for such purpose as may be stated in the notice.” Clause 5, Meetings of Board, sub clause 4, be amended by inserting the word **“Executive”** after the word **“the”** and before the word **“Chairman”** to now read “the Executive Chairman or in his absence the member appointed to act on his behalf shall summon a special meeting within five days of his receipt of the notice referred to in sub section 3. Clause 5, Meetings of Board sub clause 5, be amended by replacing the number 11, with the number 8 at the end of the sentence, to read “the quorum at a meeting of the board shall be 8.” Clause 5, Meetings of Board sub clause 9, be amended by inserting the word “executive” after the word **“the”** and before the word **“Chairman”** to now read, “the Board shall cause minutes of all its meetings to be taken and signed by the executive chairman and kept in proper form.” Clause 6, Disclosure of interest be approved. Clause 7, Immunity of members, side notes be amended by inserting **“board”** after the word **“of”** and before the word **“members”** and also inserting the phrase **“and authorised members”**

after the word "**members**" to read "immunity of board members and authorised officers".

Clause 7, Immunity of Board Members and authorised officers, sub clause 1, be amended by inserting the phrase "**or any authorised officer**" after the word "**board**" and before the word "**for**" to read, "an action or other proceeding shall not lie or be instituted against a Member of the Board or Member of a Committee of the Board or any authorised officer for or in respect of an act or thing done or omitted to be done in good faith in the exercise of his function under this Act". Clause 8, Committees of Board be approved. Clause 9, Functions of board, side notes be amended by inserting the phrase "**powers and**", before the word "**functions**" to read "powers and functions of board." Clause 9, Powers and functions of board be amended by inserting a new sub clause 3, to read, "in the discharge of its function, the Board may (a) direct the Executive Director to furnish it with any information report or other document which the board considers necessary for the performance of its functions, (b), give instructions to the Executive Director in connection to with the management and performance of the functions of the agency. Clause 10, remuneration of members be approved. Clause 11, filling of to vacancies side note be amended by deleting the word "**to**" after the word "**of**" and before the word "**vacancies**" to read "filling of vacancy." Clause 11, Filling of vacancies, sub clause 1, be amended by inserting the word "**to**" after the word "**referred**" and before the word "**in**" and also inserting "**and he**" after "**the**" before the word "**of**" to read, "where the Chairman or a member of the Board referred to in paragraph (d) and (e) of sub section 2, of section 3, dies, resign , is removed from office or is absent for a continuous period exceeding three months or is by reason of illness, unable to perform the functions of his office for a continuous period of six months." Clause 11, Filling of vacancies sub Clause 1 [B] be amended by separating "**person appointed**" after the word "**another**" and before the word "**to**", to read' "in the case of a member the chairman shall subject to this act have another person appointed to the board."

Part three, functions of the agency, clause 12, functions of the agency sub clause 2(c) be amended by separating the words **"the implementation"** after the word **"of"** to read "collaborate and coordinate with such foreign and international bodies as the agencies considers necessary for the purpose of the implementation of this act." Clause 12, Functions of agency sub clause 2, be amended by inserting a new clause **2(R)**, to read "develop standards and guidelines for the importation transportation, storage and use of all type of chemicals." Clause 12, Functions of agency previous sub clause 2(R), now becomes sub clause **2(S)**. Clause 13, Powers of agency, be amended by inserting a new clause 13(B) to read, "ensure compliance with any laid down environmental impact assessment procedures in the planning and execution of development projects including compliance in respect of existing projects." Clause 13, powers of agency, previous clause **13(B)** now becomes clause **13(C)**. Clause 13, Powers of agency, new sub clause **13(C)**, Roman figure 3, be amended by inserting **"environmental permit and"** in front of the sentence, to read "environmental permit and enforcement notice for controlling the volume, types, constituents and effect of waste discharges, emissions, deposits or other sources of pollutants and of substances which hazardous or potentially dangerous to the environment." Clause 13, Powers of agency previous clause 13(C) now become clause 13(D).

Part four, Administrative provisions. Clause 14, Executive Director the side notes be amended to read Executive Chairman. Clause 14, Executive chairman and sub clause 1, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"executive"** and before the word **"who"** and also inserting the phrase **"on the recommendation of the Minister"** after the word **"President"** and before the word **"subject"** to now read, "the Agency shall have an Executive Chairman who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister subject to the approval of Parliament". Clause 14, Executive Chairman, sub clause 2, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"under"** to now read, "a person shall not be appointed executive chairman under sub section 1, unless he has. Clause 14, Executive Chairman sub clause

3, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"shall"** to now read, "the executive chairman shall be responsible for." Clause 15, Deputy executive, deputy, the side note be amended by replacing it with the phrase **"Chief Director."** Clause 15, Chief Director, sub clause 1, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"shall"** and also replacing the word **"Executive"** with the word **"Chief"** to now read, "the Executive Chairman shall be assisted by a Chief Director who shall be appointed by the board on such terms and conditions as the board may determine." Clause 15, Chief Director, sub clause 2 to be amended by replacing the phrase **"Deputy Executive"** with the word **"Chief"** after the word appointed "and" before the word **"Director"** to now read, "A person shall not be appointed chief director under sub section 1, unless he has formal Qualification and experience in a profession relevant or appropriate to functions of the agency." Clause 13, other staff of agency sub clause 1, be amended by replacing the phrase **"Deputy Executive"** with the word **"Chief"** after the word **"the"** and before the word **"Director"** to now read, "in addition to the chief director the board shall appoint such other staff including a finance officer internal audit administrative officer and such other additional technical and administrative staff as may be required by the efficient performance of the functions of the agency." Clause 16, other staff of agency, sub clause 2, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"the"** to now read "the board may delegate to the executive chairman the power to appoint such grade or category of staff as it may deem fit for the proper functioning of the agency. Clause 17, Directorate of agency, sub clause 1, be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"may"**, to now read, "the executive chairman may with the approval of the board establish such directorate as he may deem necessary for the performance of the functions of the agency including."

SUSPENSION OF S.O 5 [2]

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Clause 17 Directorate of agency. Sub clause 17 [1F] be amended by replacing the word **"corroboration"** with the word **"collaboration"** after the word **"sector"** and therefore the word **"and"**. To now read, directorate of public relations and inter-sectoral collaboration and. Clause 17 Directors of agency sub clause 1 be amended by inserting a new 17 [1H]. To now read, Director of Climate change. Clause 17 Directorate of agency be amended to insert a new sub clause two. To read, for the purposes of paragraph "H" of sub section 1 of section 17, the Directorate of Climate change shall serve as a national climate change secretarial. Clause 17 Directorate of Agency previous clause 17 [2] now becomes clause 17 [3]. Clause 17 Directorate of agency, previous clause 17 [3] now becomes clause 17 [4]. Clause 18, consultant and expert be approved. Clause 19, regional and district offices sub clause 3 be amended by deleting the letter **"a"** at the start of the sentence. To now read, regional and district offices established under sub section one shall perform such function as the board may determine. Part five Financial Provision. Clause 20 forms of agency be approved. Clause 21, Account and Audit of agency sub clause one be amended by inserting a new sub clause 1b to read; statement of cash flow. Clause 21 account and audit of agency sub clause 2 be amended by replacing the number **"two"** with the number **"three"** after the word **"than"** and before the word **"months"**. To now read, the account of the agency kept under sub section one shall not later than three months after the end of each financial year be audited by the auditor general or an auditor appointed by him. Clause 22 Financial year of agency be approved. Clause 23 Annual report sub clause 3 be amended by deleting the words **"copies of"** after the word **"lay"** and before the word **"the"**. To now read, the Minister shall lay the annual report before parliament within two months after he has received the report. Part six, Environmental Impact Assessment. Clause 24 Environmental Impact Assessment required for certain activities. Sub clause 2A be amended by replacing the number **"five"** with the number **"two"** after the word **"than"** and before the word **"years"**. To now read, the citizens of Sierra Leone will be fined not less than fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term not less than two years or to both to such fine and imprisonment and. Clause 24 Environmental Impact Assessment required for certain

activities sub clause 2b be amended by replacing the words **"a foreigner"** with the word **"non-citizen"** at the start of the sentence and by increasing the fine from hundred and fifty thousand to hundred and fifty million after the word **"than"** and before the word **"Leones"** and also by replacing the number **"five"** with the number **"three"** after the word **"than"** and before the word **"years"**. To now read, non-citizens to a fine not less than a hundred and fifty million Leones or to a term of imprisonment of not less than three years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Clause 24 Environmental Impact Assessment required for certain activities be amended by inserting a new sub clause 3. To read, a citizen whose person has contravened sub section one, in the position as a foreigner commit an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than hundred and fifty million Leones or to a term of imprisonment not less than three years or to both such fine and prison.

Clause 24 Environmental Impact Assessment required for certain activities be amended by inserting the new sub clause 4. To read, a body corporate who contravenes sub section one commit an offence and he is liable on conviction to a fine not less than five hundred million Leones.

Clause 25 Application for Licences sub clause 2 be amended by inserting the following words **"and an environmental statement on the potential impact of the project and proposed mitigation measures"** after the word **"undertaken"** at the end of the sentence. To now read, an application under sub section one shall be accompanied by a description of the project proposed to be undertaken and an environmental statement on the potential impact of the project and proposed mitigation measures.

Clause 25 Application for Licences be amended by inserting a new sub clause 3. To read, for the purposes of this act, application commences upon the receipt of a duly completed screening form.

Clause 26 Agency to decide or need for licences sub clause three be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"shall"**. To now read, where decision has been taken that a licence is not required in respect of a project, the Executive Chairman shall inform the applicant in writing.

Clause 27 Application to prepare Environmental Impact Assessment sub clause 1 be amended by inserting the word **"environmental"** after the word **"an"** and before the word **"impact"** and also

deleting the word **"environmental"** after the word **"the"** and before the word **"project"**. To now read, where a decision has been taken that a project requires a licence prepares and submits an environment impact assessment of the project to the agency in the form set out in the third schedule. Clause 27 Application to prepare environmental impact assessment sub clause 2A be amended by replacing the words **"a natural person"** with the words **"an individual"** at the start of the sentence. To now read, an individual to a fine of not less than fifty million Leones or to a term of imprisonment of not less than two years or to both such fine and imprisonment earned. Clause 28 Public comments be approved. Clause 29 Executive Director to submit Environmental impacts and comments to board. Side note be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"**. Side note to now read, the executive chairman to submit environmental impacts and comments to board. Clause 29 Executive chairman to submit environmental impacts and comments to board. Sub clause 1 be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** and also replacing the word **"sessment"** with the word **"assessment"** after the word **"the"** and the before the word **"together"** and also replacing the word **"comment"** with the words **"disclosure report"** after the word **"public"** and before the word "to". To now read, the executive chairman shall on receipt of public comments on an environmental impact assessment project under sub section 2 of section 28, submit the assessment together with the environment public disclosure report to the board for his consideration. Clause 29, Executive Chairman to submit environmental impact and comment to board. Sub clause 2 be amended by replacing the word **"comment"** with the words **"disclosure report"** after the word **"public"** and before the words **"if any"** and also inserting the words **"not later than thirty working days"** at the end the sentence. To now read, the board may after considering the environmental impact and comment assessment and the public disclosure report if any not later than thirty working days. Clause 29 Executive Chairman to submit environmental impact and comment to board. Sub clause 2A be amended by replacing the word **"Director"** with the word **"Chairman"** after the word **"Executive"** and before the word **"to"**. To now read, direct the Executive Chairman to issue licences in such form as may be prescribed

and on such term and condition as it is considered appropriate. Clause 30 Effect of Licences be approved. Clause 31 appeal against the decision of agency be approved. Clause 32 licences fee be expunged. Clause 33 cancellation, suspension or modification of licences be amended to now become clause 32. New clause 32 cancellation, suspension or modification of licences sub clause one be amended by replacing the word "director" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**made**". To now read, where the terms and conditions of a licence are not complied with or have been contravened or there is a substantial change in the operations of the project resulting in the adverse effect on the environment, the Executive Chairman may have a consultation with the board. New clause 32 Cancellation, suspension or modification of licences. Sub clause 2 be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**shall**". To now read, the Executive Chairman shall notify the holder of a licence which has been cancelled, suspended or on which additional conditions have been imposed of such cancellation, suspension or imposition of additional conditions. New clause 32 Cancellation, Suspension or Modification of licences. Sub clause 3B amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**may**". To now we read, the executive chairman may in addition to cancellation, suspension or imposition of additional conditions under sub section one required the holder of a licence to take measures to avert adverse effect on or remedy damage to the environment. Clause 34 Effect of application on the change of ownership, control or management be amended to now become clause 33. New clause 33 effect of application on the change of ownership, control or management sub clause 1A be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" and after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "in". to now read, the previous owner and the new owner shall notify the Executive Chairman in writing within fourteen days of the transfer of ownership, control or management earned. New clause 33 effect of application on change of ownership, control or management. Sub clause 1B be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "under".

To now read, on receipt of the notice of the transfer by the executive chairman under paragraph A, the new owner shall begin to be the applicant for the licence. New clause 33 effect of application on change of ownership, control or management sub clause 2A be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**or**". To now read, the previous owner and the new owner shall notify the Executive Chairman of the transfer within fourteen days of the change of ownership, control or management earned. The effect of application on change of ownership, control or management sub clause 2B be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**shall**". To now read, on receipt of the notice of transfer under paragraph A, the executive chairman shall subject to such condition as may be prescribed, endorsed the licence and the licence shall be deemed to have been transferred to the new owner upon such endorsement. Effect of application on change of ownership, control or management sub clause 3 be amended by replacing the word "**Director**" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**under**". To now read, the person whom being the previous owner or new owner of a project fails after a transfer to notify the Executive Chairman under sub section 2 commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case off. New clause 33 effect of application on change of ownership, control or management sub clause 3B be amended by replacing the words "**a foreigner**" with the word "**non- citizen**" at the start of the sentence and also increasing the fine from fifteen thousand to hundred and fifty million and deleting the words "**and the licences in respect of that project shall be deemed cancelled at the expiration of the fourteen days period**". To now read, non- citizens to a fine of not less than hundred and fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term of not less than twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment. New clause 33 effect of application on change of ownership control or management be amended by inserting a new sub clause C. To read, for a body corporate will fine not less than five hundred million Leones and the licences in respect of that project shall be deemed cancelled at the expiration of the fourteen days period. Clause 35, Agency to monitor project be amended to now become clause 34. New

clause 34, one agency to monitor project be amended by spacing the words "**which licenses**" after the word "**or**" and before the word "**have**" and also inserting the words "**or any regulation made here under**" at the end of the sentence. To now read, the agency shall monitor all projects in respect of which licences have been issued in order to assess their effect on the environment or uncertain compliance with this Act or any other regulation made here under. New clause 34 [2], agency to monitor sub clause two be amended by replacing the word "director" with the word "**Chairman**" after the word "**Executive**" and before the word "**or**". To now read, in the exercise of his power under sub section one the Executive Chairman or authorise offices may. New clause 34 [3], agencies to monitor project be amended by replacing the phrase "**Executive Director**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**or**" with the phrase "**Executive Chairman**". Clause 36 duties of owners of project be amended to now become clause 35. New clause 35 1B duties of owners of project be amended by replacing the phrase "**Executive Director**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**or**" with the phrase "**Executive Chairman**". New clause 35 duties of owners of project sub clause 2B. Sub clause 2 be amended by increasing the fines from twenty-five million to fifty million and two million to five million. To read, the owner of a project who fails to give full access to the project premises, vessel, vehicle or facility as required under paragraph A or sub section 1 commits an offence and he is liable on conviction to a fine not less than fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term of not less than twelve months or to both fine and imprisonment and in the case of accounting offence to a further fine of not less than five million Leones for each day on which the offence continues. New clause 35 Duties of owners of project sub clause 3A be amended by replacing the words "**a natural person**" with the words "**an individual**" at the start of the sentence and replacing "**five years**" with "**twelve months**" after the word "**than**" and before the word. To now read, an individual to a fine of not less than fifty million Leones or imprisonment for a term of not less than twelve months. Part seven Chemical toxic and hazardous substances. Clause 37 toxic and hazardous substances prohibited be amended to now become clause 36. New clause 36 toxic and hazardous substances prohibited sub clause 5A be amended by

replacing the words **"natural person"** with the words **"an individual"** at the beginning of the sentence. To now read, an individual to a fine not less than two hundred and fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term not less than ten years. New clause 36 toxic and hazardous substances prohibited sub clause 5B be amended by increasing the fine from seven hundred and fifty million to one billion. To now read, body corporate to a fine not less than one billion Leones. Clause 38 Importation of refrigerators, air conditioners etc. with chlorofluorocarbons prohibited be amended to now become clause 37. New clause 37 Importation of refrigerators, air conditioners etc. with chlorofluorocarbons prohibited sub clause 1B be amended by deleting the word **"and"** at the end of the sentence. It should now read, vehicles fitted with air conditioner or refrigerator unit unless the chloro-unit off the vehicle is fitted with a chlorofluorocarbon free coolant. New clause 37 Importation of refrigerators, air conditioners etc. with chlorofluorocarbons prohibited sub clause 1C be amended by adding the word **"and"** at the end the sentence. To now read, halon for firefighting and. New clause 37 importation of refrigerators, air conditioners etc. with chlorofluorocarbons prohibited be amended by expunging clause 37 sub clause two. Clause 39 the use of chlorofluorocarbon 11 and 12 has blown agent for refrigerant prohibited be amended to now become clause 38. New clause 38 the use of chlorofluorocarbons 11 and 12 has blown agent for refrigerant prohibited be amended by separating the words **"refrigerant equipment"** to be **"refrigerant equipment"** at the end of the paragraph. Clause 40 venting of controlled substance or product into atmosphere prohibited be amended to now become clause 39. New clause 39 venting of controlled substance or product into atmosphere prohibited sub clause 1 be amended by inserting the word **"or"** after the word **"substance"** and before the word **"controlled"** and inserting the word **"product"** after the word **"controlled"** and before the word **"vent"** and also deleting the word **"or"** after the word **"controlled"**, and before the word **"product"** and deleting the other **"product"** after the first **"product"** and before the word **"into"**. To now read, a person shall not while installing servicing, repairing or operating an equipment or product that contains or depends on controlled substance or controlled product vent the controlled substance or controlled

product into the atmosphere. New clause 39 venting of controlled substance or product into atmosphere prohibited. Sub clause two be amended by increasing the fine from four million to five million and reducing the term of imprisonment from twelve months to six months. To now read, a person who vents a controlled substance into the atmosphere in contravention of sub section one commits an offence and he is liable on conviction to a fine not less than five million Leones or to imprisonment for a term not less than six months or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 41 Import and export of controlled substances or products restricted be amended to now become clause 40. New clause 40 Import and Export of controlled substances or products restricted sub clause one be amended by deleting the word "**controlled**" after the word "**authority**" and before the word "**of**". To now read, a person shall not import or export of controlled substance or product specified in the fort schedule unless on the authority of a permit issue by the agency for that purpose. New clause 40 Import and export of controlled substances or products restricted sub clause 2 be amended by inserting the letter "**a**" after the word "**export**" and before the word "**restricted**" and deleting the letter "**a**" after the word "**restricted**" and before the word "**controlled**" and also inserting the words "**and treaties**" after the word "**protocol**" at the end of the sentence. To now read, subject to sub section 1, a person shall not import or export a restricted controlled substance or controlled product from or to a country that is not a party to the protocol and treaties. Clause 42 forfeiture of imported and exported controlled substance product be amended to now become clause 41. New clause 41 forfeiture of imported and exported controlled substance product be approved. Clause 43 Application for permit be amended to now become clause 42. New clause 42 application for permit be approved. Clause 44 Agency to issue permit etc. be amended to now become clause 43. New clause 43 agency to issue permit etc. sub clause five be amended by inserting sub clauses A, B and C to read; a promise to import or export a controlled substance or controlled product shall

A. Not be transferable.

- B. Entitle the holder to only import or export the controlled substance or controlled product specified in the permit only through authorised custom port of entry and exit.
- C. Expires on the 31st day of December of the year of issue and all import relating to the permit shall arrive at the port of entry in Sierra Leone not later than 31st day of December of that year.

New clause 43 Agency to issue permit etc. Sub clause six be amended by inserting the words "**or controlled product**" after the word "**substances**" and before the word "**imported**". To now read a person who imports or exports a controlled substance or controlled product shall provide a copy of the permit, the Bill of lading and invoice to the authorised officer of the agency who shall certify the quantity of the controlled substances or controlled products imported or exported at the port or entry. New clause 43, 44 agencies to issue permit etc. Sub clause 7A be amended by replacing the words "**natural person**" with the words "**an individual**" at the beginning of the sentence and by reducing the term of imprisonment from five years to three years. To now read, an individual to a fine of not less than fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term not less than three years earned. New clause 44 Agency to issue permit etc. sub clause 7B to be amended by increasing the fine from hundred million to five hundred million to now read; body corporate to a fine not less than five hundred million Leones. Clause 45, Customs Verification of goods be amended to now become clause 44. New clause 44, custom verification of goods be approved. Clause 46, agency to maintain register of importers and exporters be amended to now become clause 45. New clause 45, agency to maintain register of importer and exporters be approved. Clause 47, importers and exporters to keep record of supplies be amended to now become clause 46. New clause 46, importers and exporters to keep record of supplies be approved. Clause 48, storage of controlled substances or controlled product be amended to now become clause 47. New clause 47, storage of controlled substances or controlled products sub clause 3, to be amended by deleting the word "**under**" after the word "**product**" and before the word "**in**" to now read, "the person who stores controlled substances or controlled

product in contravention of the guidelines issued by the agency under sub section 2, commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of." New clause 47, storage of controlled substances or controlled product sub clause 38 to be amended replacing the words "**the natural person**" with the words "**an individual**" at the beginning of the sentence and also reducing the term of imprisonment from five years to three years, to now read, "an individual to fine of not less than fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term not less than three years and."

New clause 47, storage of controlled substances or controlled products, sub clause 3(b) to be amended by increasing the fine from one hundred million to five hundred million Leones to now read, "a body cooperate to a fine not less than five hundred million Leones."

Part Eight, climate change secretariat to be amended by deleting the whole of part eight from clause 49 to clause 52.

Part nine, authorised officer, analysis and record to be amended to now become part Eight. New part eight, authorised officer analysis and record.

Clause 53, powers of authorised officer to be amended to now become clause 48. New clause 48, powers of authorised officer sub clause 1(E) 2, be amended by replacing the phrase "**Executive Director**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**may**", with the phrase "**Executive Chairman.**" New clause 48, powers of the authorised officer 1(f), be amended by replacing the phrase "**Executive Director**" after the word "**the**" and before the word "**issue**" with the phrase, "**Executive Chairman.**" New clause 48, Powers of authorised officer sub clause 3(g), to be amended by deleting the word "**or**" at the end of the sentence. New clause 48, powers of authorised officer sub clause 3(h), to be amended by deleting the words under sub section one and replacing it with the word "**and**" after the word "**offence**" and before the word "**is,**" to now read, "fails to carry out an improvement notice issued by an authorised officer under paragraph (f) of sub section one commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of." New clause 48, powers of authorised officer, sub clause 3(g)1 to be amended by replacing the words "**a natural person**", with the words "**an individual**", to now read, "an

individual to a fine of not less than ten million Leones or to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years and.” New clause 48, powers of authorised officer sub clause 3(h), to be amended by inserting a new sub clause 3(h)3, to read, “a person who commit an offence under section 48, for which no penalty is expressly provided is liable on conviction.”

Clause 54, designation of analytical and reference laboratory, to be amended to now become clause 49. New clause 49, designation of analytical and reference laboratory is to be approved.

Clause 55, designation of analytical and reference analyst to be amended to now become clause 50. New clause Fifty, designation of analytical and reference analyst to be approved. Clause 56, procedure for taking samples for analysis to be amended to now become clause 51. New clause 51, procedure for taking samples for analysis to be approved. Clause 57, certificate of analysis and its effect to be amended to now become clause 52. New clause 52, certificate of analysis and its effect to be approved. Clause 58, records to be kept to be amended to now become clause 53. New clause 53 records to be kept sub clause 38 to be amended by replacing words ***“the natural person”*** with the words ***“an individual”*** and also inserting the words ***“or to such fine and imprisonment”*** after the word ***“years”*** and before the word ***“and”*** to now read “an individual to a fine of not less than fifty million Leones or to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years or to such fines and imprisonment and.” New clause 53, records to be kept, sub clause 3(b) to be amended by increasing the fine from Hundred million Leones to Two hundred and Fifty million Leone, to now read, “a body cooperate to a fine of not less than two hundred and fifty million Leones.”

Part ten, Information and Education and Public Awareness to be amended to now become part nine. New part nine Information, Education and Public Awareness to be approved. Clause 59, Freedom of Access to Information to be amended to now become clause 54. New clause 54, Freedom of Access to Information to be approved.

Clause 60, Gathering Analysis and Management of Information to be amended to now become clause 55. New clause 55, Gathering Analysis and Management of Information

sub clause 3 to be amended by replacing the word "**state**" with the word "**countries**" after the word "**other**" at the end of the paragraph, to now read, "the agency shall determine deficiencies in existing environment information and exchange information with other persons including international organisation, non-governmental organisations and governmental agencies of other countries."

Clause 61, Environment Education and Learning Institutions to be amended to now become clause 56. New clause 56, Environment Education and Learning Institutions to be approved.

Part Eleven, Judicial Proceedings to be amended to now become part ten. New part ten, judicial proceedings to be approved. Clause 62, Institution of Criminal Proceedings to be amended to now become clause 57. New clause 57, institution of criminal proceedings to be approved. Clause 63, institution of civil proceeding, to be amended to now become clause 58. New clause 58, institution of civil proceedings to be approved. Clause 64, enforcement notice to be amended to now become clause 59. New clause 59, enforcement notice, side notes to be amended by inserting "**power of the agency relating to**" before the word "**enforcement**" at the beginning. Side note to now read, "**Power of the agency relating to enforcement notice.**"

New clause 59, Power of the agency relating to enforcement notice, sub clause 4 to be amended by inserting the words "**commit an offence and**" after the number (2) and before the word "**is**" to now read, "a person who fails to comply with an enforcement notice served to him under sub section 1 commit an offence and is liable to a fine not less than two hundred and fifty million Leones." Clause 65 immunity of officers to be expunged. Clauses 66, liability of bodies cooperate etc., to be amended to now become clause 60. New clause 60, liability of bodies corporate etc., sub clause 3 to be amended by inserting the word "**or**", after the word "him" and before the word "**on**", to now read, "a person is personally liable for an offence under this act, whether committed by him or on his own account or as an agent or servant of another person." Clause 67, Forfeiture, Cancellation, etc. to be amended to now become clause 61. New clause 61, forfeiture, cancellation etc., sub clause 4 to be amended by adding the letter "**s**" to the

word **"restore"** after the word **"person"** and before the word **"the"**, to now read, "the court may also issue an order requiring that the convicted person restores the environment to its original state at his own cost. Clause 68, effect of conviction to be amended to now become clause 62. New clause 62, effect of conviction to be approved. Clause 69, financial security, to be amended to now become clause 63. New clause 63, financial security to be approved.

Part 11, judicial proceedings to be amended to now become part 10, and approved after renumbering. Part 12, environment coordination committee to be amended to now become, part 11 and be approved after renumbering and replacing the phrase **"Executive Director"** with the phrase **"Executive Chairman"** wherever it appears in this path. Part 13, miscellaneous provisions to be amended to now become part 12, and be approved after renumbering and replacing the phrase **"Executive Director"** with the phrase **"Executive Chairman"** wherever it appears in this path. The first to the fifth schedules to be approved.

Conclusion, Mr Chairman, Honourable members, the legislative committee having scrutinized the Bill entitled the Environment Protection Agency Act 2021, recommends these proposals to the House for approval. The report reflects the consensus of Honourable Members of the Committee. I therefore move that, with these amendments the House pass this bill entitled the environment protection act 2021, through committee stage third reading and into law. Thank you for your attention. Signed Honourable Abdul S. Marray Conteh, chairman legislative committee fourth session 2021\2022.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will like to thank Honourable Members Chairman of the Legislative Committee. I honestly believed Honourable members that he deserves unreservedly an acknowledgement that is louder than what you have given. His job, I am sure you will all agree is a very tedious, laborious and requires his undivided attention, devotion and focus. I don't know how many of you, if you were given the opportunity will have the time, the resources, and the energy to devote to the legislative committee as he does. So let's give him another round of applause. I am certainly not a member of his

constituency but if I were, I think he deserves to come back. If I have any say in that constituency he is a kind of Member of Parliament that I will like to see return back to this house. [Undertones] I beg your pardon; [undertones] take note of what I have said. Take due note of what I have said and convey it wherever you wish to convey it, but we must express our wholesome, fulsome appreciation to the Honourable Member. This job is very laborious, very tedious. You have done remarkably well Youngman and this house will continue to need your services in the foreseeable future. I will now entertain a motion from the Deputy Leader of Government Business. Mr Minister when you come here we are in charge.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand on SO 37. Mr Speaker, Honourable members, I move that we postpone the question put to the next sitting as have been read by the report of the committee on the legislative affairs. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any seconder?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so second Mr Speaker.

THE CHAIRMAN:

[Question proposed, put and agreed]

[Motion by the Deputy Leader of government has been carried]

The House resumes from Committee Stage.

THE SPEAKER: Any announcement?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will like to inform the Members of Parliament that there will be a laying out ceremony for the late Honourable Cecil Hanciles who served this parliament from 2002 through 2007, at 2:30 pm at the State Hall. Thank you. [Undertone] today.

HON. NENNEH LEBBIE: Mr Speaker, I want to stand on SO 23. Me Speaker, Honourable Members, I am just coming from Bo, of course my constituency, and Mr Speaker Honourable members, I participated in March 18, the international women's

day celebrations. I was one of the speakers, and particularly a keynote speaker, and the women of Bo district asked that I must convey their voice to this House through you and perhaps for the attention of our president who is not here now, but I should convey this message to this House through you that they have a communiqué and that communiqué is in respect of the Bill that is in this Well of Parliament that is yet to be debated. That is the Gender Empowerment Bill. It is a communiqué, don't laugh, and I must speak on their behalf. So Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have the communiqué here with me which I will at the end of the day give to the President of the Female Caucus. The women of Bo district want their voice to be added to the bill which I shall be given to the President of Female Caucus that they want this communiqué which I have at hand, it to go through this House and they want to add their voices through me that they support that Bill that the Minister has already laid in this well of parliament. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: I thank the Honourable Member.

HON. P.C. BAI KURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: Mr Speaker Sir, I stand on SO 23.

THE SPEAKER: Go ahead.

HON. P C. BAI KURR KANAGBARO III: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members of parliament, I know very well that all of us are aware of what is going on in the world, particularly in Ukraine. I am just a little bit worried whether we have Sierra Leoneans there or whether we have students there and what have we done together with other countries who are taken their students or citizens out of Ukraine.

THE SPEAKER: Chief will you like to address a written question to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

HON. P.C. BAI KURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: I will sir.

THE SPEAKER: I think it is an appropriate question for him to illicit information from our Embassy in Moscow.

HON. P.C. BAI KURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: I will sir. You will help me to draft it
Sir [undertone]

THE SPEAKER: Yes,

HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA: Mr Speaker it's just in line with the submission of the Honourable Member from Bo. I will advise her that we cannot be operating in the dark. So let her ensure that the communiqué is delivered to all MPs so we will be preview to the content of the communiqué and then that will empower us or inform us better to support, rather than just informing us that there is a communiqué. Let us be served.

HON. NENEH LEBBIE: Consider it done. Through my leadership, I am waiting for her.

THE SPEAKER: I think I should add in consonance with what the Honourable Member has just said that I addressed the Executive Committee of the CPA, Africa Region on the 8th March, 2022 in Accra on this particular subject and made a copy of my address available. I think if you look at the social media or other news outlets you will be able to see what I have to say not specifically on the Bill, but generally on the question of empowering women, and I believe instead of Parliament all the time looking to the Executive to empower, I believe that charity should begin at home. Parliament itself should begin the process of empowering women within its own institution. And let nobody tell me there are cultural practices against it. Where there is a strong will, there is a way.

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Mr Speaker, one thing I like you for, you just mentioned that charity begins at home and then the speakership, we are going to start with the speakership.

THE SPEAKER: No problem. [Undertone] but I am a strong believer that charity begins at home and it should not end there. [Undertone]

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: But mind you Mr Speaker, after you it is the Deputy Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: No but it's true that charity begins at home although it doesn't end there. It's a fact [undertones] so relax your minds and begin to accommodate the opposite sex, Good. Is there any other announcement, yes?

TABLE CLERK: Mr Speaker, Honourable Paramount Chief Alhaji kandeh Pariah Kawaleh II, of Karene district, is informing the House that he will be doing his wedding ceremony on the 26th and 27th of March 2022, at Port Loko district.

He therefore extends his invitation to all members of Parliament and Staff of Parliament to attend and grace this wonderful ceremony.

Honourable Members and staff of Parliament are informed that the laying out ceremony of the late Honourable Cecil J. Hanciles, will take place today at the state hall of parliament immediately after adjournment. Honourable members and staff are therefore encouraged to attend this laying out ceremony of the deceased in order to pay him their last respect, immediately after adjournment. Thus ends the announcement, thank you for listening.

THE SPEAKER: *[The House was adjourned to Tuesday the 15th March, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. THE House rose at 12:50]*