

OAU DRIVE TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

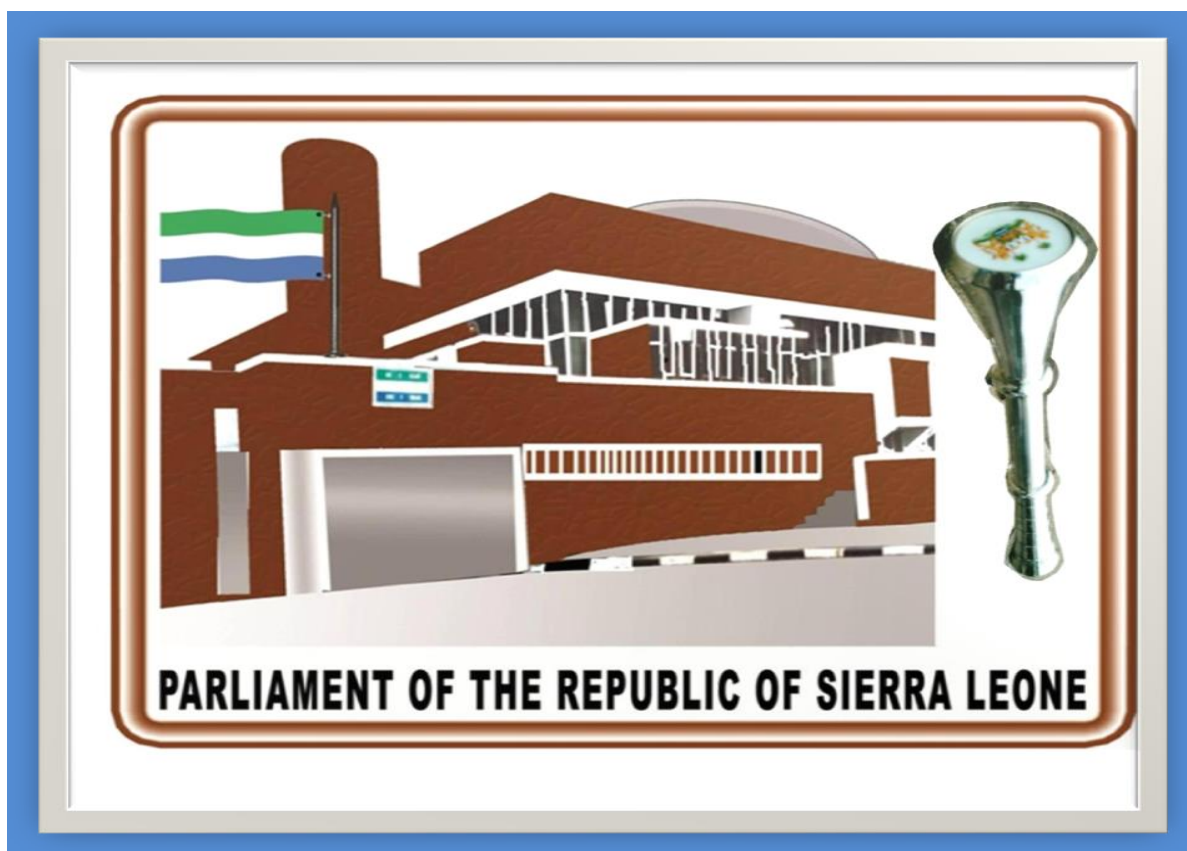
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

FIRST SESSION –FIRST MEETING

TUESDAY, 16TH APRIL, 2024

SESSION – 2023/2024



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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First Meeting of the First Session of the Sixth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
held Tuesday, 16th April, 2024

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(i) HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH

CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**REPORT ON THE BILL ENTITLED: THE ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING
AND COMBATING OF FINANCING OF TERRORISM AND FINANCING
THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ACT 2023**

(ii) THE ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING AND COMBATING OF FINANCING OF TERRORISM AND FINANCING THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ACT 2023

COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

FIRST SESSION – FIRST MEETING OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC

Tuesday, 16th April, 2024.

I. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Alimamy Lincoln Bangura read the Prayers]

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

[The Speaker, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

HON. IBRAHIM TAWA CONTEH: Mr Speaker, I move the Motion for the suspension of S.O 5[2].

THE SPEAKER: Any Secunder?

HON. HABIB KEIFA FABBAH: I so second the Motion.

[Question Proposed, Put & Agreed To]

II. RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 2024.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, as usual we are going to skip pages 1 to 4. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Can someone move for the adoption of the Votes and Proceedings for Thursday 11th April 2024?

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: I so move.

THE SPEAKER: Any Secunder?

HON. EMILIA LOLLOH TONGI: I so second Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed Put & Agreed To]

RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 2024 HAS BEEN ADOPTED.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER:

IV. BILL

THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDRY AND COMBATING OF FINANCING OF TERRORISM AND FINANCING THE PROLIFERATION OF MASS DESTRUCTION

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, before we make any progress I want to recognise the presence of Mr George Alpha. He is a brother, and a true son of the soil. He is doing quite a whole lot against the substance abuse in this country. He is doing a wonderful job in Sierra Leone and he is truly one of our heroes. Honourable Members, this sitting is stood down for 10 minutes.

MR SPEAKER STOOD DOWN THE HOUSE AT 11:A.M

THE HOUSE RESUMED AT 11:10 A.M

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I want to make it clear if we have done with the uploading of the soft copy of the document we have in our desktop because I am not seeing it here the way I like it to be.

THE SPEAKER: Who are those responsible, where is the head of ICT Department? Have you seen the Report? Do Members have physical copies? So can we wait for another five minutes?

HON. DANIEL KOROMA: Mr Speaker, whilst we wait can I approach you with your permission together with the Leader of Government Business?

THE SPEAKER: Leader can you confirm?

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I am disappointed at the ICT Department because I have supported them in several occasions in what they are doing and I will continue to support them but we cannot continue to support those who are not committed to the work. It is a disappointment to stand down the House even when we started very late because of circumstances beyond our own control and we came again we have to stood the House down for another five minutes. This is a huge embarrassment and I want to make the point that all of us were given tablets so that we can follow what is happening on daily Parliamentary meetings. The desktops are not efficient and we still need to have lectures or to train the ICT staff, we cannot shy away from the truth Mr Speaker and we still need to have this training.

Mr Speaker, in as much as I appreciate what they are doing, I am also disappointed in the service delivering for today. So I want to apologise on behalf of the Leadership that we are starting late on a bad footing today and we hope this will not continue so I just want to make that presentation but I have seen it in the desktop now I do not know if the Chairman is going to read in the same text we have because some time when there is delay we will see a mismatch. We have done series of corrections so I want to know if he is going to read from the hard copy or the soft copy. So he is going to read from

either the hard copy or the soft copy we must see that the text we have in the various Clauses are the same otherwise we are going to read something that is not correct. So I want you to give us just two minutes to do that verification.

THE SPEAKER: By the way who is the head of the ITC Department? Please call him.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, just for you to verify the hard copy and the soft copy then we can proceed. Mr Speaker, before I take my seat as I said we still need to do the training in this Chamber because there are some functions we have at the task bar which we need to use whenever we have our documents in front of us. We need to also know from the ITC Department through your office how many desktop computers are working and how many are not working. We have also the tablets I do not know if Members are using the tablets and if they are not using the tablets is rather unfortunate. Some have raised issues with the tablets. So we encourage the Legislative Committee to ask Members of Parliament who do not have the tablet or those who have problems with the tablet to take the tablet to the ITC Department. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Yes can we proceed?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, First Report of the Legislative Committee, First Session of the Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Financing of Terrorism and Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2023 presented to Parliament on Thursday 7th March, 2024. Introduction, Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I rise to present the first Report of the Legislative Committee, First Session of the Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2023 being an Act to provide for the transformation of the Financial Intelligent Unit into an autonomous and independent body to be known as the Financial Intelligent Agency which will serve as the national central authority for the receipt analysis dissemination of financial information to provide for the criminalization of money laundry, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and 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 21st, Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th March 2024 in Committee Room One and the Speaker's Conference Room of 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 and to report to the Plenary for consideration by the Committee of the whole House in line with S.O (53). Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, in attendance, is the Members of the Legislative Committee and with the Director of the Financial Intelligent Unit. 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 Committee took note of the following spelling mistakes, punctuations; spacing of words and wherever the phrase appears terrorism financing should be changed to financing of terrorism. The above mention will be addressed before the final printing is done in that light this Report will not contain spelling mistakes; and the Report will only cover major amendment.

1. Short title be amended by changing the date from 2023 to 2024 to now read the Anti-Money Laundry and Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Financing the Proliferation of Weapon of Mass Destruction Act 2024. The long title of the Bill be approved. Part 1 Preliminary, Clause 1 interpretations be amended by inserting the definition of the word 'agent' means the person who acts for and on behalf of Agency thereby creating a legal relationship with the third party pursuant to an authority confide on the agent by the Agency either expressly or necessary implication. Interpretation, authorized officers be amended to read means a person authorizes by the Agency to exercise in accordance with the terms of such authorization a power specify in this Act.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on Honourable Member, can you read the last Clause under three?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAH CONTEH: Thank you Mr Chairman. Competence authority be amended by replacing the word Cooperate Affairs Commission with the word National Investment Board after the word 'prosecution' on the third line and before the word on the fourth line to now read means the Office of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, National Investment Board, the Sierra Leone Police, the Immigration Department, National Revenue Authority, the Anti-Corruption Commission, The Central Bank, The Office of the National Security, the Central Intelligent and Security Agency, Financial Intelligent Agency, the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Authority and any law enforcement agency or person lawfully exercising such powers on behalf of this Authority.

THE CHAIRMAN: I would advise that you add the Immigration Department.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Director General be amended by replacing number 9 at the end of the sentence with number 11 to now read means the Director General of the Financial Intelligent Agency appointed under Section 11. Law Enforcement Agency be amended by inserting the phrase and any other Agency with law enforcement powers at the end of the sentence to now read means a Government Agency such as the Sierra Leone Police, the National Revenue Authority, Central Intelligent and Security Agency, the Anti-Corruption Commission, the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency and the Immigration Department and any other Agencies with law enforcement powers.

THE CHAIRMAN: This one is supposed to be 'and any other' instead of 'and'.

HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH: Reporting entity be amended by deleting the phrase as on the second line after the word 'conduct' and before the word business to now read reporting entity is an individual entity or organisation that conduct business for or on behalf of customer as specified in the list of activities that is in part one and two of the first schedule or by the Financial Intelligent Unit or by the Financial Intelligent Agency. Sanctioned countries or territory be amended by inserting the word 'or' after the word 'country' and before the word 'the' and deleting the phrase or a

member State of the Economic Community of West Africa States after the word 'State' on the Fifth line to now read means a country or territory under sanction or some form of restriction imposed by the Government of Sierra Leone to the United Nations Security Council or the Economic Community of West Africa States. Sanctioned person or group be amended by deleting the word 'or' after the word 'Leone' and before the word 'the' and inserting the phrase Security Council or the Economic Community of West Africa States at the end of the sentence after the word 'nations' to now read means a person, group or entity under sanctioned or some form of restriction imposed by the Government of Sierra Leone, the United Nations Security Council or the Economic Community of West Africa States. Virtual asset be amended by replacing the word 'beg' with the word 'faired' after the word 'or' and before the word 'currencies' on the Fourth line to now read as a digital representation or value that can be digitally traded, transferred or use for payment or investment purposes that does not include digital representation or faired currencies security and other financial assets. Clause two application of art approved, part two Financial Intelligence Agency. Financial Intelligent Agency Sub-Clause 1 be amended by replacing the word 'bureau' with the word 'unit' after the word 'intelligent' and before the word establish on the second line.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on Honourable Members, under 11 the word asset do we need an 'S' there?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Add 'S' then proceed.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Sub Clause 1 be amended by replacing the word 'bureau' with the word unit after the word 'intelligent' before the word 'established' on the second line and also deleting the word 'agency' after the word 'anti-money' before the word 'laundry' on the third line to now read there shall continue in existence the Financial Intelligent Unit established under Sub Section 1 of Section 2 of the Anti-Money Laundry and Combating of Financing of Terrorism Act 2012, Act number 12 of 2012 as the Financial Intelligent Agency. Part 3: Financial Intelligent Agency Board. Clause 4 Financial Intelligent Agency and this Report Sub-Clause 2 be amended by inserting the

phrase or their Deputies after the word 'members' at the end of the sentence to now read the Board shall consist of the Minister responsible for Finance who shall be the Chairman and the following other members. Clause 4 Financial Intelligent Agency Issue Board Sub-Clause 2 be amended by inserting a new Sub-Clause 2 to read the Executive Director National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency. Sub-Clause 3 be amended by inserting the phrase with no voting right at the end of the sentence to now read the Director General of the Agency who shall be the Secretary to the Board with no voting right. Clause 5 Committee of the Board be approved, Clause 6 meetings of the Board be approved, Clause 7 Disclosure of interest Sub-Clause 1 be amended by inserting the word 'in' after the word recorded before the word 'the' on the fourth line to now read a member of the Board who has an interest whether direct or indirect in the matter being considered or to be considered by the Board shall disclose the nature of his interest to the Board and the disclosure shall be recorded in the minute of the Board and such member shall not take part in the deliberation or decision of the Board relating to that member. Clause 8 An immunity of a member be approved. Clause 9 Remuneration of a member be amended by replacing the phrase such remuneration with the word 'sitting' after the word 'paid' and before the word 'fees' and deleting the phrase an allowances on the third line and also replacing the word 'bureau' with Agency on the fourth line to now read the Chairman and other members of the Board and any person co-opted by the Board shall be paid sitting fees approved by the Minister and shall be reimbursed by the Agency for expenses incurred in connection with the discharge of their function as the Board may with the approval of the Minister at the time. Clause 10 Filling of vacancies Sub-Clause 2 be expunged.

Part 4: Administrative positions. Clause 11 Director General Sub-Clause 2 [b] be amended to now read as at least a university degree in Law, Economics, Accounting, Banking, Auditing or other related fields from an accredited university with at least 10 years working experience. Clause 12 Deputy Director General Sub-Clause 2 be amended to read, a person shall not be appointed Deputy Director under sub section 1 unless he is [a] Sierra Leonean, [b] at least has a university degree in Law, Economics,

Accounting, Banking, Auditing or other related areas from an accredited university and with at least ten years of working experience, [c] has proving experience in matters relating to anti-money laundry and combating of financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction. Clause 13 Other staff be approved. Clause 14 Secondment of public officers be approved. Clause 15 Protection of officers be approved. Clause 16 Department of bureau be amended by replacing the word bureau with the word agency after the word 'b' and before the word 'including' at the end of the sentence to now read the Board may on the advice of the Director General approves the establishment of such department as maybe necessary for the performance of the function of the Agency. Clause 17 Oath of secrecy be approved and part 5, functions and powers of the Agency. In this part anywhere the phrase appears money laundry, terrorism financing, and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction it should be amended to read money laundry financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction. Clause 18 Agency to have exclusive authority be approved. Clause 19 Function of Agency Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the phrase eliminate H of the whole Act at the end of the sentence to now read compiled statistics and records and disseminate information on money laundry, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and predicate offences within Sierra Leone and elsewhere. Clause 19 Function of Agencies Sub Clause 1 'I' be amended by deleting the letter 'A' after the word 'prosecuting' and before the word 'money' on the end line to now read disclose a report or information derive from the report or receipt from elsewhere to an institution or agency of the foreign State or an international organisation establishes by Government or foreign State if on the basis of it analysis and assessment it has reasonable grounds to suspect that the report or information will be relevant to investigating or prosecuting money laundry financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction offence. Clause 20 Powers of Agency be approved. Part 6 Financial provisions funds of Agency Sub Clause 2 [A] be amended by inserting the phrase Security Council or the Economic Community of West Africa States at the end of the sentence after the word nations to now read country, territory, organisation, entity or

individual that is subject to sanction or restrictions impose either by the Government of Sierra Leone or the United Nations Security Council or the Economic Community of West Africa States. Clause 22 Account and audit, Sub Clause 5[B] be amended by replacing the word 'bureau' with the word 'agency' to now read matters that are likely to adversely affect the operations of the Agency. Clause 23 Financial year of agency be approved. Clause 24 Annual reports Sub Clause 1 be amended by replacing the word 'six' with the word 'three' to now read the agency shall within three months after the end of the financial year submit to the President annual reports on the performance of his functions during that year.

Part 7: Money laundry. Clause 25 Money laundry Sub Clause 2[A] be amended by replacing the number 7 with number 5 on the fourth line and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **Le20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 25 Money laundry, Sub Clause 3[B] be amended by replacing the number 7 with number 5 on the third line and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read an offence on the Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **Le20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than five years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Part 8: Financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

HON. DANIEL KOROMA: Mr Chairman, even the Committee is liable to some mistakes I think the phraseology of this one we should be looking into the one just read by the Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: 25?

HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH: Yes, there is problem under the commit an offence, commit the offence and is liable.

HON. DANIEL KOROMA: Commit an offence and is liable.

THE CHAIRMAN: So Honourable Members take note, proceed.

HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH: Thank you Mr Chairman. Part 8: Financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Part 8: Financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction be amended to read financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Clause 26 Funding of terrorism Sub Clause 2[A] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read natural person including a Director, employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than seven years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

HON. DANIEL KOROMA: Mr Chairman, can we make the fines here a little bit consistent?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do not worry when we get there we will deal with that so reserve your bullet point.

HON. IBRAHIM TAWA CONTEH: Mr Chairman, the time is past 12 I move that S.O. 5 [2] be suspended for the business of the House to continue.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any Secunder?

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: I so second.

QUESTION PROPOSED, PUT AND AGREED TO

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Thank you Mr Chairman. Funding of terrorism Clause 26 Sub Clause 2[b] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE250,000** or to the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Financing terrorism side note be amended by inserting the word 'of' after the word 'financing' to now read financing of terrorism. Clause 27 Sub Clause 2[A] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the

end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 15 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [27] Sub Clause 2[B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or to a revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 27 Sub Clause 3[b] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read an officer under sub section 1 commits an offense and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment for not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 28 Financing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction prohibited. Side note be amended by inserting the word 'the' after the word 'financing' and before the word 'proliferation' to now read financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction prohibited. Clause [28] Sub Clause 2[A] be amended by inserting the phrase to a fine not less than **LE250,000** or after the word 'to' and before the letter 'a' and also inserting the phrase 'or' to both such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'years' to now read natural person to a fine not less than **LE250,000** or to term of imprisonment of not less than 15 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [28] Sub Clause 2[B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE500,000** or to both such fine and revocation. Clause [28] Sub Clause 3[B] be amended by deleting the word 'commit' and at the start of the sentence and inserting the phrase commit an offence after the number 1 and before the word 'is' and on the first line and also inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read an offence under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [29] Agency may issue directives on combating financing of weapons of mass destruction. Sub Clause 4[A] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the

sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine not less **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [29] Sub Clause 4[B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause [29] Sub Clause 5[D] be amended by deleting the word 'commit' at the start of the sentence and inserting the phrase 'commit an offence' and after the number 1 and before the word 'is' on the first line to now read an offence under sub section (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause [29] Sub Clause 5[D][1] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment and at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine not less than **LE20,000** or to term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [29] Sub Clause [5][D][2] be amended by deleting the third zero from the figure **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a corporate body to a fine not less than **LE100,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause [30] Power to request or obtain information Sub Clause [4] be amended by replacing the word 'upon' with the word 'on' on the fourth line to now read a reporting entity or a person with information requested under sub section [1] who fails to provide information or produce the document requested commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause [30] Power to request or obtain information Sub Clause [4][A] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE15,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [30] Sub Clause [4] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause [30] Sub Clause [5][B] be amended by deleting the word 'commit' after the word 'commit' on the second line and inserting a comma and also inserting the phrase

'commit an offence' after the number 1 and before the word 'and' on the third line to now read participate as an accomplice to a person committing or attempting to commit an offence under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of Sub Clause[5][B1] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE15,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [30] Sub Clause[5][B2] amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE30,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause[31] Power to enter and inspect premises Sub Clause[3] be amended by spacing the word way hinder on the second line before the letter[A] and also replacing the word 'upon' with the word 'on,' on the fourth line after the word 'label' and before the word 'conviction' to now read a reporting entity or person who obstructs or in any way hinders the law enforcement authority prior to after or during carrying it responsibility under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause [31] Sub Clause [3A] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read natural person to a fine of not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 31 Sub Clause 4[B-D] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation and at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or the revocation of its licence or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 31 Sub Clause 4[d] be amended by deleting the word 'commit' after the word 'commit' on the second line and also inserting the phrase commit an offense after the number one and before the word 'an' on the third line to now read participate as an accomplice to a person committing or attempting to commit an offence under sub section one commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 31 Sub Clause 4[d] be amended by inserting the phase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of

imprisonment of not less than five years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 31 Sub Clause 4[d][b] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE100,000** or revocation of its license or to both such fine and its revocation. Clause 32 Judicial Control of Law enforcement Authority be approved. Clause 33 Dealing with sanctioned country, territory, group and entity prohibited. Sub Clause 2[A-B] be amended by inserting the phrase of not less than after the word 'or' and before 'Le' and also inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 33 dealing with sanctioned country, territory group and entity prohibited. Sub Clause 2[B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation to now read 'a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation'. Clause 33 Sub Clause 3[D] be amended by replacing the word 'd' with the word 'an' after the word 'commits' and before the word 'offence' to now read offence under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of Clause [33] Sub Clause 3[D][1] be amended by deleting the word 'of' and inserting the phrase not less than before the word 'fine' and in the word 'Le' and also inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence before the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 33 Sub Clause 3[D][2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE100,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 34 Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the word economic after the word 'having' and before the word reasonable on the third line to now read a reporting entity or person shall not deal with or be involved directly or indirectly in a transaction link to an asset or resources knowing or having reasonable grounds to suspect that the asset or economic resources is on control or held directly or

indirectly wholly or jointly by. Clause 34 Sub Clause 3[D] be amended by replacing the word 'd' with the word 'an' after the word commit and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under sub section 1 is an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 34 Sub Clause 3[1] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 34 Sub Clause 3[2][B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to the revocation of it license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 35 making funds for all economic resources available to sanctioned person or entity prohibited. Sub Clause [2][A] be amended by inserting the phrase not less than after the 'of' and before 'le' and increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 35 Sub Clause [2][B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 35 Sub Clause [3][D] be amended by replacing the word 'the' with the word 'an' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under sub section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 35 Sub Clause 3[D][1] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause [35] Sub Clause [3][D][2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both

such fine and revocation. Clause 36 Joint venture with sanction person or entity prohibited. Sub Clause 2[A] be amended by inserting the phrase not less than after the word 'off' and before 'Le' and increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 36 Sub Clause [3][D] be amended by replacing the word 'the' with the word 'and' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of Clause 36 Sub Clause [3][D][1] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 36 Sub Clause [3][D][2] be amended by inserting a phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 37 Relationship with financial institution of sanction country or territory prohibited. Sub Clause [2][A] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 37 Sub Clause [2][B] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 37 Sub Clause [3][D] be amended by replacing the word 'b' with the word 'an' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under sub section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 37 Sub Clause 3[D][1] be amended by increasing the

imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word both to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 37 Sub Clause [3][D][2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause [38] Establishing office or business outlet in sanctioned country or territory prohibited.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on Honourable Member, this way of writing **LE250,000** throughout your presentation is not correct.

HON. MARRAY CONTEH: Yes I already took note of that.

THE CHAIRMAN: I noticed this throughout the Clauses.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: It has been there Mr Chairman I agree with you.

THE CHAIRMAN: There should be another zero please.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Thank you Mr Chairman. Clause 38 Sub Clause [2][B] be amended by inserting the phrase a body corporate to a fine not less than at the start of the sentence and also inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body corporate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 38 Sub Clause [3][D] be amended by replacing the word 'the' with the word 'an' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under Sub Section [1] commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of Clause 38 Sub Clause 3[D][1] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Clause 38 Sub Clause 3b [2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body cooperate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its licences or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 39 Dealing with vessels carrying flag of sanctioned countries or territory prohibited. Sub-Clause [2a] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read natural person including a Director, Employee or agent of a reporting entity to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 39 Sub-Clause [2b] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body cooperate to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 39 Sub Clause [3b] be amended by replacing the word 'the' with the word 'an' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read, an offence under sub section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 39 Sub Clause [3d][1] be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 39 Sub Clause [3d][2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence and after the word both to now read, a body cooperate to a fine of not less than **LE25,000** or revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 40 Judicial Restraint and Seizure of Frozen Asset Sub Clause [1a] be amended by inserting the word 'of' after the word proliferation and before the word 'weapons' on the third line to now read, prohibiting a reporting entity or a person in possession or control property suspected or be linked to or connected with the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destructions or an act or conduct antecedent incidental or ancillary there to from disposing of or otherwise dealing with the property pending investigation or other processes antecedent incidental or ancillary there to. Clause 41 Request for

verification in event of suspicion be approved. Clause 42 Asset of sanctioned person or entity to be reported. Sub Clause 4 be amended by replacing the word 'upon' with the word 'on,' on the third line before the word 'conviction' to now read, a reporting entity or person who fails to file in a report with the Director General or other competent authority in contravention of sub section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction in the case of. Clause 42 Sub Clause [4a][b] be amended by deleting the third zero from the figure **LE100,000** and increasing the imprisonment from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or imprisonment to a term of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 42 Sub Clause 4[b] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body cooperate to a fine not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 42 Sub Clause [5][d] be amended by replacing the word 'the' with the word 'an' after the word 'commit' and before the word 'offence' to now read an offence under Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable of conviction in the case of. Clause 42 Sub Clause 5[d][1] be amended by deleting the third zero from the figure **LE100,000** and increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read, a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or imprisonment or to a term of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 42 Sub-Clause [5b][d2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and revocation at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read a body cooperate of a fine not less than **LE250,000** or the revocation of its license or to both such fines and revocation. Clause 43 authorisation for license utilization of restraint funds. Sub Clause [3b] be amended by deleting the phrase or member State of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) after the word State on the third line before the word 'the' on the fourth line and also deleting the phrase member State of the Economic Community of West Africa States after the word 'State' on the sixth line to now read, where the designation or sanction of an asset or economic resource

under Sub Section 1 is imposed or administered by the Economic Community of West Africa States the Attorney General may grant an authorisation subject to the approval by the Economic Community of West Africa States. Clause 44 Report to United Nations Security Council or its committees by the Attorney General, Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the word 'of' after the word 'Council' and before the word 'in' on the second line to now read the Attorney General shall before December of each year submit a report to United Nations Security Council in writing on the implementations of this Act or any other Law in force in compliance with the Judicial restraint and seizure and frozen asset of sanctioned persons, entities, groups or the Government of sanctioned countries or territories. Clause 45 Sub Clause 1 be amended by inserting the word 'counter' before the word 'financing' on the fifth line to now read the Attorney General shall in consultation with law enforcement security agencies, identified groups, persons, or entity that he has reasonable grounds to believe meet the criteria for designation by the United Nations Security Council on grounds of counter financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction and report identify person or entities to the United Nations Security Council or its committees using the procedure specify by United Nations Security Council from time to time. Clause 45 Sub Clause 2 to be amended by replacing the word 'authority' with the word 'authorities' after the word 'competent' and before the word on the third line and replacing the word 'Ministry' with the word 'Ministries' and replacing the word 'Department' with the word 'Departments' and replacing the word 'Agency' with the word 'Agencies' on the fourth line to now read, the Attorney General shall in discharge of his mandate under Sub Section 1 consult such intelligent Agencies, Law Enforcement Agencies, Regulatory Authority or competent Authorities or other Government Ministry Department and Agencies as he deems necessary to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person or entity meets the criteria for designation for financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction or other act or conduct antecedent, incidental or ancillary there to. Clause 46 State sponsored application for revocation of designation be approved. Clause 47 communications to and from United Nations Security Council or foreign government be approved. Clause 48 National coordination committees Sub

Clause 1[c] be amended by inserting the phrase who shall serve as Secretary to the committee at the end of the sentence after the word 'Agency' to now read, the Director General of the Financial Intelligence Agency who shall serve as Secretary to the committee. Clause 48 Sub Clause 2[a][c][d][e][f][g] be amended by replacing the phrase counter proliferation financing of weapon of mass destruction with the phrase counter financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction wherever it appears in these sub Clauses. Clause 49 Liability of officers of body cooperate be approved.

Part 9: Preventives measures to combat money laundering and financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction. Preventive measures to combat money laundry and financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction be amended to read preventives measures to combat money laundering financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction. Part 9: Preventives measures to combat money laundry, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction in this part wherever the phrase appears counter proliferation financing should be replaced with the phrase counter financing the proliferation of weapon of mass destruction. Clause 50 Effective use of resources be approved as amended. Clause 51 the application of risk base approach be approved. Clause 52 National risk assessment be approved as amended. Clause 53 Risk assessment by reporting entities Sub Clause1[b] be amended by replacing the number 50 with the number 52 in carrying out risk assessment under paragraph A in cooperate information on the higher risk identified in the national risk assessment under Section 52 into their risk assessment. Clause 53 Sub Clause 1[c] be amended by replacing the word 'an' with the word 'on' after the word 'review' and before the word 'new' on the second line and replacing the word 'launching' with the word 'approval' at the end of the sixth line and replacing the word 'approval' with the word 'launching' on the seventh line after the word 'an' and before the word 'of' to now read, conduct risk assessment subject to central bank or supervisory review or new product and distribution channels approval on the new product services, transactions, client channel of distribution, geographical areas and other risk factor before the

approval and launching of the product. Clause 54 Anonymous account be approved. Clause 55 Application of customer due diligence and know your customer requirement be adopted as amended. Clause 56 Obligations to verify customer identity Sub Clause 1[b] be amended by inserting the word 'conducted' after the word 'transaction' and before the word 'that' on the seventh line and inserting the phrase within 24 hours after the word 'linked' at the end of the sentence to now read, the customer who is neither an account holder nor in an established business relationship wishes to carry out a transaction in an amount equal to or above **LE30,000** or its equivalent in foreign currency whether conducted as single transaction or several transactions conducted that appear to be linked within 24 hours. Clause 57 Identification of beneficial owner Sub Clause 2 proviso be amended by inserting the word 'that' after the word 'provided' and before the word 'Sub Sections' on the first line to now read provided that Sub Sections 1 and 2 shall not apply where the transaction is. Clause 57 Sub Clause 2[b] be amended by deleting three zeros from the figure **LE30,000,000**, on the second line to now read, an occasional transaction not exceeding **LE30,000** unless the reporting entity has reason to suspect that the transaction is suspicious or unusual. Clause 57 Sub Clause 6 be amended by deleting the word 'be' after the word 'shall' and before the word 'subject' on the third line to now read, the identification and verification of the identity of a customer and obtaining customer due diligence information and documentation shall be subject to Sub Section 7 take place before the establishment of an account or business relationship or before carrying on of further business. Clause 57 Sub Clause 8 be amended by deleting the word 'the' at the beginning of the second line before the word 'is' to now read, a reporting entity shall wear after two calendar months it has not obtained the necessary customer identification and other necessary documentation consider reporting the transaction as suspicious to the Agency or closing the account and severing the business relationship. Clause 57 Sub-Clause 10 be amended by replacing the words 'as certain' with the word 'asserting' at the beginning of the second line to now read, a reporting entity shall take reasonable measures to asserting the purpose of a transaction if the amount is equal to or above **LE30,000** or its equivalent in foreign currency and the origin and ultimate destination of the purpose.

Clause 57 Sub Clause 13[a] be amended by inserting the word 'of' after the word 'identity' before the word 'the' on the first line to now read, the identity of the set law, other trustees, the protector, the beneficiaries or class beneficiaries or any other natural person exercising ultimate effective control over the trust hand.

Clause 58, Customer due diligence on beneficial owner of life insurance policy be approved. Clause 59 currency exchange or transaction business Sub Clause 3[a] be amended by replacing the word 'more' in the sentence with word 'less' and rearranging the sentence to now read, a natural person to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 59 Sub Clause 3 [b] be amended by inserting the figure 2 in front of the figure **LE50,000** and inserting the phrase or revocation of license or to both such fine and revocation after the word 'Leones' at the end of the sentence to now read, a legal person to a fine of not less than **LE250,000** or revocation of license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 59 Sub Clause 4 be amended by inserting the word 'he' after the word 'agent' and before the word 'shall' on the second line to now read, where a money value transfer services provider uses an agent he shall. Clause 59 Sub-Clause 4 [a] be amended by replacing the phrase 'then in there' with the phrase 'such an agent in it' after the word 'include' and before the word 'anti-money' on the first line to now read, include such agent in it anti-money laundry combating financing of terrorism and financing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction program and monitor them for compliance. Clause 60 Special identification requirement be approved. Clause 61 Reliance identity verification by third parties or intermediaries, Sub-Clause 1 be amended by inserting the word 'information' after the word 'customer' and before the word 'where' on the second line to now read a reporting entity may rely on an intermediary or third party identification to provide the required customer information.

Clause 61 Sub Clause 3 be amended by inserting the word 'who' after the word 'party' and before the word 'is' on the first line to now read; the intermediary or third party who is a legal practitioner or public or private Accountant, an individual with public powers of Attorney or an authorised agent acting as a financial intermediary may not

claim professional privilege or a similar principle to withhold the provision of customer due diligence identity or beneficial ownership information or documentation when requested by the reporting entity.

Clause 61 Sub Clause 5[b2] be amended by inserting the word 'as' after the word 'customer' and before the word 'require' on the third line to now read; the agency or the supervisory authority shall supervise by group level the implementation of those customers due diligence and record keeping requirement and anti-money laundry combatting the financing of the proliferation of the weapon of mass destruction programs. Clause 62 Customer not physically present, Sub Clause 1 be amended to read; a reporting entity shall take adequate measures to address the specific risk of money laundry, combating financing terrorism or financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction when it has business relationship or execute transactions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on Honourable, is it combating financing terrorist?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: No it financing of terrorism. Please that correction was already made earlier on; I think these are just few other areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay proceed.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Clause 62 Sub Clause 1 be amended to read; a reporting entity shall take adequate measures to address the specific risk of money laundry combating finance and terrorism or financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction when it has business relationship or execute transactions with a customer that is not physically present for purposes of conducting customer due diligence or verification of identity. Clause 63 High risk customers and politically exposed. Side note be amended by inserting the word 'persons' at the end to now read, high risk customers and politically exposed persons. Clause 63 Sub Clause 1[a] be amended by replacing the word 'identification' after the word 'enhance' and before the word 'verification' on the fifth line to now read; identified customers whose activities may pose high risk of money laundry terrorist financing or financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and shall exercise enhance identification, verification,

customer due diligence as well as on going due diligence procedures with respect to these customers. Clause 63, Sub Clause 4 be deleted and renumbered. Clause 64 identification and account open for correspondent banking relationship. Sub Clause 6 be amended by replacing the word 'ordered' with the word 'directed' after the word 'otherwise' and before the word 'buy' on the third line to now read; a relationship or transaction suspended by a reporting entity on the basis of a report file under Sub Section 5 shall remain suspended until otherwise directed by the agency. Clause 65 inability to fulfil customer due diligence and customer identification be amended by deleting the phrase due diligence after the word 'where' and before the word 'appropriate' on the fourth line to now read; a reporting entity that cannot fulfil a customer due diligence identification requirement shall not establish an account for or maintain the business relationship with that customer and where appropriate it shall file a suspicious transaction report with the agency. Clause 66 Record keeping be approved. Clause 67 Financial institution and money transmission service providers to include originator information. Sub Clause 2[b] be amended by deleting the letter 'a' after the word 'between' and before the word 'financial' and adding the letter's' at the end of the word 'institution' after the word 'financial' and before the word 'where' on the second line to now read; an electronic funds transfer and settlement between financial institutions where the originator and beneficiary of the funds transfer acting on their behalf. Clause 68 on going due diligent and special monitoring of certain transactions be adopted as amended. Clause 69 where transaction and money value transfer services Sub Clause 6 be deleted and renumbered. Clause 70 Compliance Officer, Sub Clause 2[b] be amended by replacing the word 'unit' with the word 'agency' after the word 'the' and before the word 'may' on the fourth line to now read; be responsible for establishing and maintaining such manual of compliance procedures in relation to its business and the supervisory authority or the agency may from time to time require. Clause 71 Internal programs to combat money laundry financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, side note to be approved as amended. Clause 72 Compliance obligations of foreign subsidiaries and branches out of Sierra Leone be approved as amended. Clause 73 Over the counter foreign currency

exchange giving size note be amended to read over the counter exchange transactions. Clause 73 Over the counter exchange transactions Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the phrase foreign currency after the phrase over the counter and before the word 'exchange' on the second line and inserting the word 'shall' after the word 'transaction' and deleting the rest that follows to now read; subject to Sub Section 3 [a] person whose usual business is to undertake over the counter exchange transaction shall. Clause 73 Over the counter exchange transactions, Sub Clause 3 be amended to read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 or 2 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **Le30,000** or to a term of imprisonment not less than five years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 74, Casinos and other gambling establishment be approved. Clause 75 Shell ban prohibited be approved. Clause 76 Reporting entities to report suspicious transactions and other reports, Sub Clause 1 be amended to read; a Director, Principal Officer or Employee of a reporting entity shall where he has reached reasonable grounds suspect that attempted transaction or other information or fact maybe related to the Commission of a money laundry offence, an offence of financing of terrorism or financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as soon as practicable after forming that suspicion or receiving the information but not later than two days report the transactions or attempted transaction or the information to the Agency. Clause 76 Sub Clause 5[b] be amended by deleting the word 'restrain' after the word 'including' and before the word 'every' on the first line to now read; restrain a transaction including every account connected with or linked to the transaction that shall have triggered or suspicious transaction report or process connected there with. Clause 77 Supervisory Authority and the external Auditor to report suspicious transactions be approved. Clause 78 Format of reporting be approved. Clause 79 Structuring transactions prohibited, Sub Clause 2[b] be amended by replacing the figure **LE20,000** with the figure **LE30,000** and increasing the imprisonment term from 3 to 5 on the third line and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **Le30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less

than 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 80 Confidential provisions not applicable be approved. Clause 81 Prohibition against TP not be approved as amended. Clause 82 A minutes of reporting in good faith be approved. Clause 83 Protection of identity of persons and information relating to suspicious transaction report be approved. Clause 84 Test of reasonableness be approved. Clause 85 Authorities responsible for supervision be approved. Clause 86 Disclosing information regarding compliance be approved. Clause 87 Powers to examine records be approved as amended. Clause 88 Power to enforce compliance, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase or the agency after the word 'authority' and before the word 'the' on the second line to now read; where a reporting entity fails to fully comply with a directive from a supervisory authority or the agency the supervisory authority or the agency shall. Clause 89 Maintaining beneficial ownership information, Sub Clause 2 be amended by deleting the phrase or reporting entity after the word 'by' at the end of the second line to now read; a mechanism under Sub Section 1 shall provide for access to the information on a timely basis by competent authorities including law enforcement, the agency, supervisory and Judicial authorities. Clause 90 Failure to comply with identification requirement, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' on the third line to now read, a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than **LE20, 000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 91 Failure to provide access to books and record, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 92 Failure to fulfil due diligence obligations, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less

than 2 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 93 Failure to submit report to agency, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 94 Failure to comply with regulations or directives, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 95 Fault or misleading statement, Sub Clause 2 be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 3 to 5 and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 96 Violation of confidentiality, Sub Clause 2 be amended by increasing the imprisonment term from 3 to 5 to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE30,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 97 Shell ban offence, Sub Clause 2 be amended by increasing the fines from **LE50,000** to **LE100,000** and increasing the imprisonment term from 5 to 7 to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE100,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years or to both such fines and imprisonment. Clause 98 Other sanctions be approved. Clause 99 Supervisory authority to issue guidelines be amended to read; a supervisory authority referred to in Section 85 may issue directives or guidelines for giving effect to this Act. Clause 100 Confidential information be approved. Clause 101 Liability of employer and Principal be approved. Clause 102 Liability of Director's controllers or officers of bodies corporate be approved. Clause 103 Virtual asset, Sub Clause 4 be amended by inserting

the phrase such fine and imprisonment and after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 3 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE50,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such fines and imprisonment.

Part 10: Currency reporting at point of entering and exit. Clause 104 Currency reporting point of entering and exit, Sub Clause 2 be amended by deleting the phrase both such after the word 'to' and before the word 'forfeiture' on the second line inserting the phrase such forfeiture and term of imprisonment after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to forfeiture of the entire amount or a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such forfeiture and term of imprisonment. Clause 104 Currency reporting point of entering and exit, Sub Clause 6 be amended by interchanging the words bearer negotiable to negotiable bearer after the word 'or' and before the word 'instrument' on the second line to now read; a person shall not carry out a physical cross boarder transportation of currency or negotiable bearer instrument relating to money laundry terrorist financing, financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or predicator offences. Clause 104 Sub Clause 7 be amended to now read; a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to forfeiture of the entire amount or a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years or to both such forfeiture and term of imprisonment. Clause 104 Sub Clause 8 be amended with the words bearer negotiable to negotiable bearer after the word 'or' and before the word 'instrument' on the second line and the third line to now read; the relevant authority shall upon discovery of a false declaration of currency or negotiable bearer instrument or a failure to declare them request and obtain further information from the carrier regarding the origin of the currency or negotiable bearer instrument and their intended use and make the information about suspicious cross boarder transportation incident obtain through the declaration process available directly to the agency through email or other forms of communication as may from time to time be specified by the agency. Clause 105 Seizure of cash or negotiable bearer instrument by

relevant authority, Sub Clause 1 be amended by replacing the word 'may' with the word 'shall' after the word 'authority' and before the word 'where' on the first line to now read; a relevant law enforcement authority shall where there is reasonable grounds for suspecting that cash or negotiable bearer instrument which is being imported into or exported from Sierra Leone. Clause 106 Sub Clause 1 be amended by replacing the word 'may' with the word 'shall' after the word 'court' and before the word 'where' on the first line to now read; a court shall where cash or negotiable bearer instrument has ceased and detained under Section 105 grant an order for continue detention for a period not exceeding 18 months from the date of seizure upon being satisfied with that. Clause 106 Sub Clause 1[a] be amended by inserting the word 'the' after the word 'financing' and before the word 'proliferation' on the fifth line to now read; there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the cash or negotiable bearer instrument was derive from an unlawful activity or money laundry offence, an offence of financing of terrorism or financing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or is intended for use in the Commission of an offence under this Act or any other enactment. Clause 106 Sub Clause 4 be amended by replacing the word 'with' the word 'shall' after the word 'court' and before the word 'where' on the first line to now read; a court may where it deems it necessary with notice to all parties concern subsequently order the continued detention of the cash and or negotiable bearer instrument for a period of detention not exceeding 2 years from the date of the order. Clause 106 Sub Clause 2 be amended by replacing the word 'may' with the word 'shall' after the word 'authority' and before the word 'make' on the third line to now read, where cash or negotiable bearer instrument has not been claimed within one year of it been ceased or detained, the relevant authority may make an application to the court and such cash or negotiable instrument be forfeited to the State.

Part 11: Law Enforcement Measures. Clause 107 Power of competent authority to conduct investigation, Sub Clause 1 be amended by inserting the word terrorism after the word 'of' and before the word 'an' on the fourth line to now read; where a body has the power to investigate or prosecute activities either unlawful under this Act or any

other enactment this power also extend to the investigation or prosecution of related money laundry financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction offences. Clause 107 Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the word 'the' after the word 'for' and before the word 'purpose' on the second line to now read; a body that has prosecution powers may seek the assistance of other law enforcement agencies for the purpose of conducting the required investigations. Clause 108 Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the phrase an offence of after the word 'laundry' and before the word 'financing' on the fifth line to now read; a competent authority may upon application to the court that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the reporting entity or an officer or employer of a reporting entity is committing, has committed or is about to commit an unlawful activity an offence of money laundry financing of terrorism, financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or any other offence under this Act obtain a warrant to enter premises belonging to in the presence or control of a reporting entity or an officer or employee of the entity and to such premises are removed document, material or other things in it for the purposes of the discharge of its obligations under this Act. Clause 109 Sub Clause 1 be amended by deleting the word 'an' after the word 'any' and before the word 'other' on the fifth line to now read; a court may on an application by a competent authority that there are reasonable grounds for believing that a person is committing, has committed or is about to commit an offence of money laundry financing of terrorism, financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or any other offence under this Act. Clause 110 Enforcement of compliance, Sub Clause 2 be amended by inserting the word 'or' after the word 'hold' and before the word 'in' on the third line and deleting the word 'or' after the word 'an' before the word 'officer' on the fourth line to now read; a competent authority may upon application to a court that a reporting entity has failed without reasonable excuse to comply in whole or in part with an obligation under this Act obtain an order against an officer or employee of the reporting entity on such terms as the court thinks necessary to enforce compliance. Clause 111 Automatic Jurisdiction of High Court be approved.

Part 12: Restrain, Seizure and forfeiture of asset in relation to money laundry and financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Clause 112 Restrains of property pending investigation be amended by deleting the phrase 'and shall be' immediately after the word 'expertise' and replacing the phrase be accompanied with the word 'supported' to now read; an application under Sub Section 1 shall be made expertise in writing and supported by an affidavit. Clause 112 [5a] be amended by replacing the letter E with the letter A in the word dependent to now read dependant. Clause 113 Service of restraining order be approved. Clause 114 Registration of restraining order be approved. Clause 115[2] Contravention of restraining order be amended by lettering Sub Clause 2 to now have Sub Clause A and B to read 2[a] a person who contravenes Sub Section 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than **LE20,000** or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. 2[b] a body corporate to a fine not less than **LE30,000** or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 116 Extension of restraining order be approved. Clause 117[1] Seizure of property subject to retaining order, the second line of Clause 117 Sub Clause 1 be amended by interchanging the word 'property' and prevent and inserting the word 'the' in-between the two words to now read; prevent the property. Clause 118[3] be amended by deleting the phrase 'within that time' and inserting the phrase of money laundry the financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and any other offence under this Act immediate after the word 'offence'. Clause 118[4] be amended by separating the words cost and arising at the second line of the sentence. Clause 119[3] forfeiture of property upon conviction be amended by separating the word 'and,' an unlawful at the third line of the sentence and deleting the phrase financing of terrorism at the fifth line of the sentence. Clause 119[5b] be amended by deleting the phrase financing of terrorism at the 6th line of the sentence. Clause 120[4] be amended by separating the words, an, and instrumentality at the second line of the sentence. Clause 121[4] be amended by separating the words 'other' and against at the second line of the sentence. Clause 121[5a] be amended by replacing the word 'later' with the word 'latter' at the end of the sentence. Clause 121[5b] be amended by replacing the word

'later' with the word 'latter' and inserting the word 'the' immediately after the word 'is' at the end of the sentence. Clause 122 be amended by replacing 90 with 120 at the second line of the sentence. Clause 123 Voidable transfer of property subject of forfeiture order be approved. Clause 124 Competent authority to obtain property tracking or monitory order be approved. Clause 125 Offences in relation to property tracking etc. be approved. Clause 126 Appeals against restraining or confiscation orders be approved.

Part 13: Pecuniary Penalty Orders and Related Matters. Clause 127, Pecuniary Penalty Orders and Related Matters. Clause 127 Pecuniary penalty orders be amended by inserting the word 'was' in between words penalty and order on the last line of the sentence. Clause 127[3b] be amended by inserting the word 'the' after the word 'is' and replacing the word 'later' with the word 'latter' at the end of the sentence. Clause 128[4] be amended by replacing the figure 4 with the figure 3 on the 5th line of the sentence. Clause 129 Side Note of Clause 129 be amended by deleting the word 'or' to now read; statement relating to benefit from unlawful activity. Clause 130[1] be amended by deleting the word 'in' immediately after the word recoverable at the first line of the sentence. Clause 131 Variation of pecuniary penalty order be approved. Clause 132 Enforcement of pecuniary order be approved. Clause 133 Discharge of pecuniary penalty order be approved. Clause 134 Overriding confidentiality be approved. Clause 135 Liability of employees and principles be approved. Clause 136 Liabilities of Director's controllers or officers of bodies corporate be approved. Clause 137[2] sharing of sophisticated property be amended by replacing the phrase proliferation financing with the phrase financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction at the end of the sentence.

Part 14, Mutual assistant in relation to money laundry terrorism financing and proliferation financing weapons of mass destruction. Part 14 be amended to read; mutual assistance in relation to money laundry financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Clause 138[2] be amended by replacing the phrase terrorism financing with the phrase financing of terrorism at the 4th line of

the sentence. Clause 139 Mutual legal assistance be approved. Clause 140 Request for search warrant be approved. Clause 141[2] phrasing forfeiture and management of property in international corporation be amended by renumbering it the second Sub Clause 2 now becomes 3. Clause 141[3] be amended by separating the words 'are and request'. Clause 141 be amended by deleting the word 'terrorism' after the word 'laundry' and replacing the phrase terrorism financing with the phrase financing of terrorism at the second and third line of the sentence. Clause 141[3b] be amended by deleting the word terrorism after the word 'laundry' and replacing the phrase terrorism financing with the phrase financing of terrorism at the second and third line of the sentence. Clause 142[2] be amended by separating the words 'the and person' after the figure 1. Clause 143[c] be amended by inserting the word 'with' in between the words accordance and paragraph at the last line of the sentence. Clause 144 be amended by replacing the word agency with the phrase Attorney General and Minister of Justice at the first line of the sentence. Clause 145 evidence pursuant to request be approved. Clause 146 form of request be approved. Clause 147[1a] offence of interference with mutual assistance be amended by separating the words 'an and other' at the last line of the sentence. Clause 147[1a] be amended by replacing the phrase terrorism financing with the phrase financing of terrorism at the third line of the sentence. Clause 147[2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 148 use of information be approved.

Part 15: Offences and Penalties. Clause 149[2] be amended by inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word both at the end of the sentence. Clause 150 further measures to avoid commission of unlawful activity be approved. Clause 151[2a] Obstruction of official in performance of functions be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 151[2b] be amended by replacing **Le50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 152[2a] reporting entity to comply with restraining or monitory order be

amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 152[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 153 [2a] Failure to verify the identity of persons be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 153[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 154[2a] Failure to keep record of transaction be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 154[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 155 [2a] be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 155[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 156 [2a] Failure to report suspicious transaction be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LEE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 156[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 157 [2a] False or misleading statement prohibited be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 157[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 158[2a] Unauthorised disclosure of suspicious transaction report and other information be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine

and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 158[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 159[2a] be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 159[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 160[2a] be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 160[2b] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE 100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 161[2] Opening account in fictions, false or incorrectly prohibited be amended by deleting the word 'name' after the word offense. Clause 161[2a] be amended by replacing **LE20,000** with **LE30,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 161[2a] be amended by replacing **LE50,000** with **LE100,000** and inserting the phrase such fine and revocation immediately after the word 'both' at the end of the sentence. Clause 162[1] Administrative sanction be amended by replacing the word 'agency' with the phrase supervisory and competent authorities after the word 'to' and before the word 'impose'. Clause 162[2] be amended by replacing the word 'of' with the word 'or' after the word 'imposition' at the third line of the sentence.

Part 16: Miscellaneous Provisions. Clause 163 In court offences be approved. Clause 164 Offences committed by body of persons be approved as amended. Clause 165 General offences and penalty be amended by replacing the word 'exceeding' with the phrase less than after the word 'not' and before the figure **LE30,000** on the third line and replacing the word exceeding with the phrase less than after the word 'not' and before the figure 5 inserting the phrase such fine and imprisonment at the end of the sentence after the word 'both' to now read; a person who contravenes the provision of

this Act for which an offence is not specifically created is liable on conviction to a fine not less than **LE30,000** or to imprisonment for a term not less 5 years or to both such fine and imprisonment. Clause 165 General offences and penalty be amended by inserting a new Sub Clause 2 to read in the case of a corporate body to a fine not less than **LE100,000** or to revocation of its license or to both such fine and revocation. Clause 166 Court banning orders be approved. Clause 167 Regulations, guidelines and directive side note, be amended to read guidelines and directives. Clause 167 be amended to read Sub Clause 1 the Director General may issue guidelines and directives Sub Clause 2 guidelines and directives issued under Sub Section 1 shall have the force of Law. A new Clause 168 regulations be inserted to read, the Minister may in consultation with the Director General make regulations to give effect to this Act. Previous Clause 168 extradition order may be granted for money laundry etc. be amended to now become Clause 169. Clause 169 Extradition order may be granted for money laundry etc, be approved. Previous Clause 169 Repeal and saving be amended to become Clause 170. Clause 170 Repeal and saving be approved.

First Schedule Part One Activities of financial institutions Act No. 10 of 2000[1] be amended to read the person taking business as defined in the Banking Act 2019 Act No 5 of 2019. [2] Be amended by inserting a new number 18 to read; trading in virtual asset. Part 2 Related non-financial businesses and professions be amended by inserting the phrase of financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction at the end of the sentence. Second Schedule be approved.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Legislative Committee having scrutinized the Bill entitled Anti Money Laundry and Combating of Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2023 recommends these proposals to the House for approval. The report reflects the consensus of Honourable Members of the Committee; I therefore move that the House pass this Bill entitled Anti Money Laundry and Combating of Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2023 through the Committee Stage, Third Reading and into Law. I thank you for your attention [Applause].

Signed: Honourable Abdul S. Marray Conteh

Chairman, Legislative Committee

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Honourable Chairman. I must say that I am extremely impressed with your work, Chairman keep it up. Let us proceed.

MR FRANCIS ERNEST FARMA: Part 1 to 8 Clauses 1 to 49 stand part of the Bill.

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 49 stand part of the Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, the question is that Parts 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 49 stand part of the Bill. Honourable Members, we have all listened carefully to what the Chairman read. They have done their work extensively on this Bill except you have your own position against the Amendment, but if we are in agreement with the position of the Committee then please this is my plea otherwise we will spend the whole day here. Let us not bring up points unnecessarily, if the issue has been resolved by the Committee, then let us move on. Or if you hear your colleague making a submission on a particular point, if you know you want to repeat that same point please let us just proceed other than repeating what somebody else has already said otherwise we will spend the whole day here. This is a passionate plea Honourable Members so that we do not waste the whole day here. Like I said the Bill has been handled extensively by the Committee except if we are against what they have done then we can bring up our own points. Please I will not be allowing Members getting up unnecessarily please do not get up unnecessarily because you want to repeat what somebody else has said. Thank you very much for your understanding. Yes Chairman what do you want to say?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, in as much as you have made a plea but I want Honourable Members to pay attention to certain areas as we move on.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes when we get to those areas you can take the queue.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: I can just mention them a little bit now.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, let us go page by page, line by line, clause by clause starting with the short title. Short and long title, which is on page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Page 4, you have already drawn our attention to the issue of Immigration Department I think the Clerks will take that into consideration.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes Clerks take note of that. Page 5? Page 6? Page? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? Page 11? Page 12? Page 13? Page 14? Page 15? Page 16? Page 17? Page 18?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman page 16, I just want Honourable Members to take a very close look at the Financial Intelligence Advisory Board; we have to be satisfied with the composition of the membership.

THE CHAIRMAN: The composition?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Absolutely.

THE CHAIRMAN: So Honourable Members are we okay with the Board? The Financial Intelligent Agency Advisory Board are we okay with that Board? We have the Minister of Finance as Chairman, the Attorney General and Minister of Justice as a member, we have the Minister of Foreign Affairs, we have the Minister of Internal Affairs, we have the Governor of the Bank of Sierra Leone, we have the Commissioner, the Anti-Corruption Commission, we have the Director of Public Prosecution, we have the Chief Immigration Officer, we have the Inspector General of Police, we have the Commissioner General National Revenue Authority, we have the Director General the Central Intelligence and Security Agency, we have the Executive Secretary, the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Authority, we have the Commissioner the Sierra Leone Insurance Commission and we have the Director General National Minerals Agency. Do we have any reason to query the membership?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, in the report of course which is going to be considered together with the Board, it clears that we add there the National

Drug Law Enforcement Agency and the Director General of the Agency who shall be Secretary to the Board with no voting right as stated in the report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Page 17?

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman, the composition of that Board to me these are statutory positions in terms of having them to perform and to get them to form a quorum at critical times is very difficult and like for other Bills or other Acts we have enacted here we even put alternatives to positions not below Director level at certain point, but for this you have Ministers and these are all very senior positions at a time you need them to form a quorum they would say they have Cabinet meeting or they are engaged in other assignments.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me hear from the Chairman on this.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman I am not done yet.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes proceed.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: I am making a submission here that the head of FIU is here let him technically guide us on this particular issue if we can have other layers in the Ministry not below the level of Director to represent on this Board as well.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: In previous times we have been looking at this Board critically and looked at the engagement of people who are going to serve on this Board, but in this particular Bill what we are talking about is money laundry. These are not small crimes, these are issues that need thorough professionalism and they do not occur every day. These are serious issues of global nature and therefore they need serious minded people to sit on the Board to determine such situation.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman, the Leader has just spoken very well about professionals and Ministers are not professionals in those Ministries
[Interruptions].

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, I want to respond.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman, I am not done yet. He is the Chairman of the Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on Honourable Sellu.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: I hope most of these issues we are raising are not already in the Report.

HON. MUSTAPHA M. SELLU: Mr Chairman, the Leader on that side from his point that this is a very serious issue money laundry and the crime is of grave concern that is the more reason why we should have professionals sitting on that Board and by all indication, Ministers are not professionals Mr Chairman, with all due respect to them. These are political heads but you have technical people, technocrats in those Ministries that have the capacity to handle those financial issues very well Mr Chairman.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Chairman, money laundry matters are matters that are very important and they take great responsibility for people to handle them. People who are in terrorism and money laundry are people who can easily bribe people. When you are appointed by the President for example the Anti-Corruption Commissioner and if he is in that Board you do not expect him to be carried away by anything and let us be serious with this matter please.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, in the first place the Leader is up let us listen to what the Leader has to say then I will refer you to the Chairman. I think whatever you are saying right now is in the report please Leader let me hear you.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Thank you very much Mr Chairman. Thank you very much the Legislative Chairman and team, they have done the assignment for us, they have presented the Report and the decision should be taken by this House. I understand exactly where the Honourable from Kambia is coming from and also understands the position of the Honourable from Moyamba. As a Parliament we make Laws that will stand the test of time. We all know that most times when we make Laws and we form

Boards of institutional representation especially when we expect the highest people of institutions to be represented in those Boards. It is difficult for them to even meet. Most times you will notice that institutional representations send representatives when you refer to Ministers to represent them. They are so busy that is why for some institutions when we create Boards we give leverage to His Excellency to have nominees and these are people that are extremely very committed. Not that these people that have been placed on this Board are not fit for purpose they are but at least if they are not opportune to attend these meetings and if they are delegating persons to represent them, these persons should not be below a certain position in their offices. For instance, there was an issue at the Ministry of Education we were faced with the issue of the University Court and the Minister. There are decisions taken by the University Court when we spoke to the Minister that you have your colleagues who are part of this Court and most times their representatives that they send to represent them at the Court are far junior officers. So for the purposes of this Bill, I would recommend that the person's names that have been mentioned should be represented. But in the case that they are not able to be represented we should state the minimum requirement of persons that should represent them which should not be below the position of a Director so that he or she can be able to take a decision that the Ministry should associate itself but most times junior officers are sent to represent Ministers when decisions are taken the Ministers do not respect those decisions. Thank you very much.

HON. TAMBA KELLIE: Mr Chairman, there is a need to disabuse Honourable Members here of certain things. The Agency itself is a branch of the Executive. The Executive has thought it fit to constitute its Board in the manner in which it has done, separation of powers means we allow the Executive to do what they want to do then it comes to us to scrutinize them. In fact when we were considering this Bill, we also thought about the issues that are now arising. As a former Director General, I do know where a Minister may be a member of a Board but where they do not go for meetings they will send their most senior officials to go. Let us respect the doctrine of separation of

powers and let us give the Executive what is due to the Executive and concentrate on the Legislation.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Chairman, the Honourable Member should know that we are Law Makers if we are saying what the Executive has done then there was no need for them to bring it here. We are representatives of the people, these are proposals from the Executive, and so whatever we do here as a Parliament it must stand as a Law, so please let us just advise ourselves to understand that we are Law Makers. I thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay let me hear the Chairman now.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, thank you very much. I want to thank the Leader and all other colleagues who have spoken on this issue you are respecters of time and I admire you for that. But I just want to draw colleague's attention to page 4 of the Report. The Leader suggested that we have alternatives in case wherein a Minister cannot make it to the meeting. When we talk about money laundry business is about top decision making at the highest level. So in fact taking into consideration of how important this Bill is, we went further to say in Part 3 Clause 14 that the Board shall consist of the Minister of Finance who shall be the Chairman and members. So you have some Ministries even with two deputies, this Board meets once in every 6 months so you must be in the position to get one deputy to attend that Board meeting. So the Committee deliberated on this and we made provision for that and usually we say not below the rank of a Director but this time round we decided to go a little bit higher so I think that issue is being addressed Mr Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, the real professional work is done by the Agency itself not the Board. You know the Board is always there to make decisions but the real professional work is done by the Agency itself. No Agency is going to depend on Board Members to do the professional work. We are going towards an Agency now not a unit, the essence of communication is to understand. So can we proceed? Page 16? Page 17? Page 18? Page 19? Page 20? Page 21?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, page 21 you know is very important also for us to look at the administrative provisions. Here the eligibility criteria for appointment because these are areas that normally spark debate in Parliament. We have to make sure that we get it right. So I want to encourage colleagues to look at what we have here and what we have in the Report if at all they have any issues then they can clear all and move forward because the Report made suggestions like everybody is requesting here so they can look at it if they are fine with the suggestion made in the Report then the recommendation.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is it?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: The Director General, we made the amendment that it should read 2[b].

THE CHAIRMAN: Which one?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Page 21 and let us go to page 5 of the Report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: There we talk about Sub Clause 2[b] because here we have as a university degree in Law and Accounting that is what we have there but we went further to state at least a university degree in Law, Economics, Accounting, Banking, Auditing or other related fields from an accredited university and with at least 10 years of working experience because it was just bare like that, as a university degree in Law, Accounting and all the rest of it but we went further to qualify it because not just a degree but from an accredited university. Out of experience so we included that aspect and then of course other areas we added 10 years working experience.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: So we just want to bring that to the attention of Honourable Members that we qualified that if they are fine with that and then we accept and move forward.

THE CHAIRMAN: They have complained?

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Chairman, we have not complained but 10 years' experience why not 5 years?

THE CHAIRMAN: No 5 years is not good, is not okay.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Okay 10 years.

THE CHAIRMAN: 10 years is fair. Page 21? Page 22? Page 23? Page 24? Page 25? Page 26? Page 27? Page 28? Page 29? Page 30?

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Mr Chairman, Page 29 Clause 25. Mr Chairman, the issue of money laundry is very serious and the idea of giving a specific range for fines to me I see that as a motivation for people to continue to engage in money laundry and I think that when it comes to money laundry the fines should be based on possibly the percentage like if you are found guilty of money laundry, you pay not below 200% of what is looted but if you say not below **LE20,000** what if you have committed an amount of over Billions so you now give the Judge the discretion to either determine whether he should fine the person **LE20,000** or **LE30,000** as the case may be. That is what happens in Ghana money laundry law they peg that based on percentage they say if you are found guilty you pay not below 200% of what is being involved so by so doing you could have made money laundry a little expensive rather than pegging it to just something like **LE20,000**.

THE CHAIRMAN: Leader are you following up?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Yes I believe that would discourage money laundry instead of pegging it to an amount. I definitely buy his submission.

HON. TAMBA KELLIE: Mr Chairman, the penalties reflect public misappropriation or duplication of the act that is committed, so inevitably penalties have to be different to reflect the gravity. There is a difference between persons who come together conspire to commit an offence and the person who by some oversight carelessly or negligently commits an offence, so this is the way we look at it. And as a Lawyer Mr Chairman you know that it is the intent and the act that the criminal law punishes and it depends on the gravity of the intent and the consequence act that penalties are fixed to address so we took that into account because somebody for example failing to do this and resulting into an offence cannot be punished in the same way as somebody or two or three persons actually coming together conspiring to commit an offence, there is a whole difference so we considered that. That is the reason why we have different levels of penalties reflecting the gravity of the infraction of the act that is the way we looked at it.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: Mr Chairman, can I make a follow up please?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

HON. AARON A. KOROMA: The fact of the matter here is we are talking about Clause 25[1a] it reads; a person shall not convert or transfer. I know there are many offences, we have countless of offences those that are aiding or abetting there is a special category for that particular offence. But for people who are engaged in converting or transferring improperly funds or using the illegal means I think it is but fitting that we make this really expensive so that is why I say the issue of percentages is really something worth noting.

HON. TAMBA KELLIE: Mr Chairman, I think the essence of penalty is to serve as a deterrent from those criminal practices. So I want to toe the line of the Leader there that we agree on the percentage of whatever crime that you commit I think that will deter them from doing it rather than charging. Let the gravity of your crime determine the percentage you pay.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Chairman let me hear you.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Thank you very much Mr Chairman. One of the major reasons we are making this leap from Financial Intelligent Unit to a Financial Intelligent Agency is to meet international bench marks as far as fighting money laundry is concerned. And fines for money laundry according to international standards are proportionate so taking that into consideration, I think we focus on the phrase not less than also because setting a percentage is like also limiting maybe the Judge to certain figure because it can vary so we think the not less than really suffices and in whatever way that is the minimum so it can go even more than that 200% we are talking about, because we are doing the same thing when we say 200% we are still pegging it to a figure. But we think the Judge with so much integrity and knowing how serious the crime is, can even go more than that 200%. So I think we are on the good footing when we say not less than.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, I think we accept that.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Chairman, it is easy to accept as we are making Laws and one of the things he said trusting on the integrity of the Judges and that is where the fear comes in.

THE CHAIRMAN: No! No! Honourable Member please.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, just listen to me. I am not in any way going to challenge the integrity of a Judge that is far above my imagination. But we have just seen a situation where we see people can be in prison for one day or when somebody was sent for just one day even when the crime was big. So we are saying to make this very much less attractive, let us maintain the 200%.

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: Mr Chairman, over six years in this noble House we have never pegged penalty upon percentage. I toe the line of the Chairman and many others.

THE CHAIRMAN: That will be a deviation from the pattern.

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: So we cannot deviate from that practice to come with a percentage.

THE CHAIRMAN: Leader of the Opposition, can we please meet in my Chambers for 10 minutes? This Sitting is stood down for 10 minutes please.

MR SPEAKER STOOD DOWN THE HOUSE AT 11:00 A.M

THE HOUSE RESUMED AT 11:10 A.M.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members can we proceed? Page 28? Page 29? Page 30? Page 31? Page 32? Page 33? Page 34? Page 35? Page 36? Page 37? Page 38? Page 39? Page 40?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, just to draw the attention of this Honourable House earlier on. He is not here now the Honourable Member from Western Area on the other side, Honourable Unpha Koroma mentioned that "I had wanted to understand the pattern with regards the fines".

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman, we debated that thoroughly and in fact as you can see from even page 40 most of the fines in terms of imprisonment that we have there for five years were increased to seven years and the amount. So the term of imprisonment is in line with the amount that we have here you can see **LE20,000** was increased to **LE30,000** and sometimes you see the five years was raised to seven years because the Agency in the making gave us an indication on how severe some of these crimes are so that will determine because we do not want to give a lesser fine to a crime that is of higher magnitude so we were guided by that. So even from the Report what is five years in the Report now has been raised to seven years and also the amount has been for body corporate. Because there are some areas that had no fines for body corporate but we included them and also the revocation of licenses and sometime to both fine and revocation of licenses.

THE CHAIRMAN: Page 41? Page 42? Page 43? Page 44? Page 45? Page 46? Page 47? Page 48? Page 49? Page 50? Page 51? Page 52? Page 53? Page 54? Page 55? Madam Minister please.

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that part 1 to 8 Clauses 1 to 49 stand part of the Bill as amended.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]

(Part 1 to 8 Clauses 1 to 49 form part of the Bill as amended. Parts 9 to 12, Clauses 50 to 126 stand part of the Bill)

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that parts 9 to 12, Clauses 50 to 126 stand part of the Bill.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]

THE CHAIRMAN: The second half of page 55? Page 56? Page 57? Page 58? Page 59? Page 60? Page 61? Page 62? Page 63? Page 64? Page 65? Page 66? Page 67? Page 68? Page 69? Page 70? Page 71? Page 72? Page 73? Page 74? Page 75?

HON. ABDUL S. MARRAY CONTEH: Mr Chairman page 75. Major renumbering we expunged Clause 4 on that page, is very important that we renumbered that page.

THE CHAIRMAN: And that is in your Report not so?

HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH: Yes is in my Report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay is alright. Page 75? Page 76? Page 77? Page 78? Page 79? Page 80? Page 81? Page 82? Page 83? Page 84? Page 85? Page 86? Page 87? Page 88? Page 89? Page 90? Page 91? Page 92? Page 93? Page 94? Page 95? Page 96? Page 97? Page 98? Page 99? Page 100? Page 101? Page 102? Page 103? Page 104? Page 105? Page 106? Page 107? Page 108? Page 109? Page 110? Page 111? Page 112? Page 113? Page 114? Page 115? Page 116? Page 117? Page 118? Page 119? Page 120? Page 121?

Page 122? Page 123? Page 124? Page 125? Page 126? Page 127? Page 128? Page 129?
Yes Madam Minister.

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that parts 9 to 12, Clauses 50 to 126 stand part of the Bill as amended.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]

[Parts 9 to 12 Clauses 50 to 126, form part of the Bill as amended. Parts 13 to 16 Clauses 127 to 169 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill]

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 13 to 16 Clauses 127 to 169 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, the question is that Parts 13 to 16 Clauses 127 to 169 and the Schedules stand part of the Bill. The other half of page 129? Page 130? Page 131? Page 132? Page 133? Page 134? Page 135? Page 136? Page 137? Page 138? Page 139? Page 140? Page 141? Page 142? Page 143? Page 144? Page 146? Page 147? Page 148? Page 149? Page 150? Page 151? Page 152? Yes Madam Minister.

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Parts 13 to 16, Clauses 126 to 169 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill as amended.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]

[Parts 13 to 16, Clauses 126 to 169 and the Schedule form part of the Bill as amended.
The House resumes. Madam Minister please report]

MRS KADIATU ALLIE: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I report that the Bill entitled the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Financing of Terrorism and Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2024 having gone through the Committee of the whole House with amendment I now move that the Bill be read the Third Time and pass into Law.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed to]

[The Bill entitled the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Financing of Terrorism and Financing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Act 2024 being an Act to provide for the transformation of the Financial Intelligence Unit into an autonomous and independent body to be known as the Financial Intelligence Agency which will serve as the national center authority for the receipt analyses and dissemination of financial information to provide for the criminalization of money laundering, financing of terrorism and financing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other related matters has been read the Third Time and passed into Law]

THE CHAIRMAN: Madam Minister, thank you very much for coming, thank you very much for your effort and you may go [Applause].

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker in the last sitting you asked the Table Clerks to invite the Minister of Basic Education.

THE SPEAKER: It was not really a ruling, it was a directive that the Minister of Basic Education be invited here today to deliver his statement relating to your complaints and of course the response we have from Honourable Jabbie. Unfortunately, I had to call off that directive because of information I got but that I will explain to the Leaders of both sides of the aisles immediately after here, you meet me in my Chambers so that I will explain to you why I called off the invitation. In fact I am now referring that matter to the Committee on Basic Education to investigate and produce a report to the plenary for debate.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: That is a wise decision Mr Speaker, but I also have it upon myself to defend and clarify my integrity from allegation made by Honourable Jabbie.

THE SPEAKER: Of course, I said I was going to give you time to explain, please proceed.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Thank you very much. Let me first of all start by saying I am worried that you sent this matter again to the Committee because this matter has been with the Committee for almost two months.

THE SPEAKER: Is the Committee Chair here?

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: I wish he was here.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Jabbie is he here? [*Undertones*] Okay proceed.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker, this is not a matter that is coming to this House for the first time, when Honourable Billoh Shaw was Chairman of the Basic Education Committee way back in 2019, we have been struggling with the issue of omitting names of students from taking the WASSCE. In all situations including the Honourable Williams, we have gone up to the level of meeting with the WAEC Boss. We have met with Minister Timbo at the time; we had deliberations with the then Minister now Chief Minister, all in the pretext of resolving this matter once and for all. And in all of these all those peoples in those offices have treated us very nicely and we would find solutions to the problem. But let me first of all debunk his falsehood when he said when I mentioned the number 150,000 students are going to be omitted was not true.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes Mr Leader let me hear you.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, the fact that the Chairman is not around, and for some of us who were not here when these allegations were made we want the Chairman to be here but you have instructed that the Committee should investigate; we should rely on the Committee. The Honourable Sheban gave witness to the Committee and we expect the Committee to present the report to us.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: First of all I want to appreciate what you are saying it makes a lot of sense. But two things happened that day and one of them my position as the Chief Whip of the Opposition was put to test in my absence. I know if you were here, you would have asked the junior MP to wait for me in the first place [Laughter]. I

am a Leader of this House and he was making all assertions against me that is not true, so allow me to demystify his assertions which were not correct.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Thank you very much.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: He went again to SLBC and one of the problems we had in this saga is when I raised the issues whether the Minister of Education, the Minister of Information and the Committee Chairman instead of looking at the issue affecting the kids that are Sierra Leoneans that are going to suffer from this situation, they went to the media to think it was attacking Honourable AKK that as if that was the solution. Allow me to present my fact that was what you asked me to do.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, I will crave on your indulgence that this matter is very important; the Chief Whip of the Opposition is a very senior Member of this House. You have instructed that the Committee investigate and get back to this House. Whatever has happened we should know this is Parliament if you begin to explain now and we call Honourable Jabbie and he begins to explain we will have altercations so you have said the Committee should investigate, let the Committee investigate and bring the story clear to us.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, it seems we are not getting to the end of this particular matter.

HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA: Mr Speaker, with due respect on that day, I made this concern that in the first place the Honourable Member from Falaba stood on the wrong platform but due to the importance of the subject matter, you used your good office under S.O 42 and then you allowed him for which I had no problem even though by procedure it was wrong but the intent was correct but the issue on the ground is very important. And during his presentation, he made assertions regarding the Honourable Member from Kambia which was even based on his integrity and I also requested from your good office that based on those assertions or allegations and the Honourable Member was absent I pleaded with you that any time he is present you please give him

the opportunity to respond and you gave your word that you will allow him to respond and at least for the purpose of sanity what is wrong for the Honourable Member to respond to allegations made against his integrity [*Applause*]. I think he should be allowed to respond and you have made that ruling before.

THE SPEAKER: Hold on let me hear from the Leader. Yes Leader let me hear from you. What have you got to say?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, most of us were not here on that day and we do not know the story. We do not have verbatim in the Records of Votes and Proceedings of what the Honourable Jabbie said, that will be in the Hansard. We have read the Votes and Proceedings it was mentioned that the Honourable Jabbie stood up and raised issues in verbatim we have not read or listen exactly to what the Honourable said but the Speaker was here. So for us not to open a Pandora box in this Well, I will encourage Mr Speaker whatever allegation I have said the Honourable Member from Kambia is not just a Honourable Member is a very senior Member of this House and he is a Chief Whip of the Opposition highly respected. I will encourage us to form a Committee to investigate the issues and bring the results to this House. But if we are saying he should defend himself we would also call Honourable Jabbie again to come and explain in this Well we would not have a resolution. Let us form a Committee that would investigate considering what the Honourable has said against the Member of Parliament from Kambia. They will bring us the report that will exonerate the Member from Kambia. There is no way anybody would smear his name, he has fought so much to be where he is today and I respect that. I thank you very much.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Mr Speaker, with all due respect I do not think referring this matter to a Committee would solve the problem because already the Chairman of the Committee has already made a statement and he was very emphatic with the statement. Referring this matter to him again what new is he going to say Mr Speaker?

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I gave my word that day that I was going to listen to Honourable AKK. Just do that in summary to find a way out.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KARGBO: Mr Speaker, I will take my time not to personalize this issue because it has to do with the happiness of homes and kids who are outside and who do not know their fate. Mr Speaker, why are we here comfortably sitting as Members of Parliament is because the Principals of those schools that had been deprived from taking these exams have not come out public to tell the kids who are to take these exams that they are not taking their exams. They are still giving hope and courage to the parents that their kids will take the exams and they highly depend on us as Leaders to resolve this matter.

To the issues proper, I told the nation that 150,000 kids are omitted. Mr Speaker, when you go to the Ministry what the Ministry put out on November 7, 2023 was a press release on the steps the schools should follow before they submit entries for their kids and in this notice there is nothing that talks about cast. Please submit it to the Speaker and this was done after WAEC has had Principals for cast so if cast was a prerequisite for the exams it should have been captured in that notice from the Ministry of Education.

Secondly, school authorities do not take instructions from WAEC they take instruction from the Ministry of Education therefore that notice from the Ministry of Education would have captured that Principals should submit the cast to WAEC before going to the Ministry.

Thirdly, all schools from the days of Dr Minkailu Bah, Mr Alpha Timbo, to Dr Sengeh as Ministers of Education submit the first document to the Ministry of Education is the BECE results of their candidates to approve them if they are qualify to take the WASSCE. This year a total number of 2,002 kids submitted to the Ministry of Education, 190,000, 396 were approved by the Ministry of Education. This does not include private schools, this is just Government and Government assisted schools.

THE SPEAKER: Hold on Honourable Member. Honourable Mohamed Bangura raised a very salient point. I am beginning to exercise my mind relating to that issue he has just raised. He said that the Chairman of the Committee has already made his statement

relating to this matter so there is no way he should be allowed to handle this matter. Honourable Members, I think the Leaders on both sides of the aisles should form a Committee and invite the Minister and relevance stakeholders not in Committee Room One but in the Speaker's Conference Room classified meeting where this matter can be discussed exhaustively this is how I look at it. Let us take all the Leaders from both sides. Leader of Government Business, I want to be in that meeting as well, let us invite the Minister to be here on Thursday. Let us find a way because I know the only reason why you are raising all of these issues is because you want more pupils to be added not so?

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Can we find a way around it instead of us arguing this matter for the public? Can we have a small Committee strictly for Leaders where we can invite the Minister to come and of course his key staff so that we sit and negotiate this particular matter?

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Mr Speaker...

THE SPEAKER: No spear your breath please.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: I will, I just want to commend you for your actions. I have confidence in your leadership; I know what you stood for even before becoming the Speaker. If it was political I would have waited for these kids not to take the exams and I take a political step to gain more votes out of their parents. If it was for the sake of regionalism I would have gone to local radio station in our regions to say Government has deprived us but for the sake of these young kids I also want to admit one thing that even if all the defense the Ministry has put on ever since I raised this issue had to do with heads of schools and missions, if they are faulty let the law go after them. But our poor kids as I speak, they are still studying not knowing they will not take these exams we should not deprive them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Alright hold your breath. Leader of Government Business I want to chair this Committee myself, let us invite the Minister to be here tomorrow. Can we say tomorrow?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Tomorrow is not convenient. There is a possibility of a Cabinet tomorrow; we do not know the schedule of the Executive.

THE SPEAKER: Oh yes there is a possibility can we fix a date?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Can we say in the afternoon on Thursday?

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Thursday can be appropriate; as we speak we are expecting the WASSCE time table to come out anytime from now so the early we operate as a Parliament the better it would be.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable veronica Kadie Sesay, Honorable Neneh Lebbie I want you as mothers to be particularly present and the Chairman of the Education Committee.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Can I also submit that we invite the President of the Private School Association *[Interruption]*.

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: No! No! Let us handle it as a Parliament.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Wait, wait, if you handle an issue you do not have evidence.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Leader, let them give you all the relevant information and let us meet on Thursday at 2 PM. I will personally chair that meeting where we are going to invite the Minister to talk to us on this particular matter. Thank you very much for your concerns.

HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA: Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: On this particular matter please Clerks inform the Acting Clerk of Parliament to invite the Minister to come and meet the Leaders of this Parliament. We are not bringing him to the Plenary; he is going to meet us in the Speaker's Conference

Room on Thursday 2PM prompt. Please invite him and let have a discussion on this particular matter because this matter is a matter of national concern so we should be interested as Members of Parliament; thank you very much. Honourable Jabbie thank God you are here, please be present at the meeting on Thursday 2PM at the Speaker's Conference Room. Any Announcement?

HON. MOHAMED PAPA BANGURA: Mr Speaker, I rise on S.O 23. I am Honourable Mohamed Papa Bangura from Bombali, I rise to explain the current situation of poor electricity in Makeni and the disaster it has caused us over the last weeks. Mr Speaker, just less than two weeks, we have recorded at least ten houses been burnt down and most of the allegation is being pointed out at the poor electricity including the University of Makeni female hostels last night.

THE SPEAKER: Hold on, hold on; that is now contentious. I thought you are referring to a personal explanation.

HON. MOHAMED PAPA BANGURA: This is my personal explanation Mr Speaker about what happened last night in Makeni.

THE SPEAKER: Hold on, hold on; can you do a complaint to the Chairman of the Energy Committee for an investigation?

HON. MOHAMED PAPA BANGURA: I will Mr Speaker but let me just raise one of the most tragic situations in all of these.

THE SPEAKER: Okay.....

HON. MOHAMED PAPA BANGURA: What makes it more tragic and more worrisome is that when we contacted the Fire Force, it is sad to note that the only engine that is serving the Region in the North-East Region is faulty and they cannot intervene in any situation of fire disaster in that Region currently.

THE SPEAKER: And whose Committee is that? [*Undertone*] Internal Affairs, who is the Chairman of Internal Affairs Committee? Okay Honourable Member, please do your

complaints to the Internal Affairs Committee and meet me in my Chambers let do a follow up on that. Thank you very much.

HON. MOHAMED PAPA BANGURA: Thank you Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Yes Honourable Paramount Chief.

HON. P.C. KANDEH PARIA KAWALEH: Mr Speaker, in connection of my own issue; since the Fifth Parliament, I raised this issue. The issue of my Chiefdom change of name Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: What is it, relating to what?

HON. P.C. KANDEH PARIA KAWALEH: Relating to change of the Chiefdom name, I am from Gbanti Chiefdom from Karene.

THE SPEAKER: Okay.....

HON. P.C. KANDEH PARIA KAWALEH: Then Gbanti Chiefdom is also from Bombali. It is the same name and it always brings problem to us whenever issue of supply even to the Government it affects us. That is why I said let change my Chiefdom and my Chiefdom should be Sandaros Bomko.

THE SPEAKER: Okay, where is the Chairman for Local Government?

HON. P.C. KANDEH PARIA KAWALEH: I have raised this issue since the last Parliament but up till now nothing has not yet been done on this issue Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Okay, do a letter to the Chairman for Local Government and copy the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Leader of Government Business and the Clerk of Parliament. I will do a follow up personally on that.

HON. P.C. KANDEH PARIA KAWALEH: Okay Sir, thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Any Announcement Mr Clerk?

THE CLERK: Notice, 2024 online asset declaration process. This notice is to inform Honourable Members that the deadline for the 2024 online asset declaration process with the Anti-Corruption Commission has been deferred to the 30th April 2024. Kindly endeavor to fill your online form as required. Thank you for your cooperation, signed by Mohamed Lebbie, Acting Clerk. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we are Law Makers; we are the ones who made the Law relating to asset declaration. If you do not declare your asset, you may be prosecuted. Honourable Members is an offence not to declare your asset. Do not say Mr Speaker did not warn you, please go all out to make sure you declare your asset; is very important. We have up to the 30th of April; we are Law Makers, we must be seen respecting Laws we make in this Parliament. Thank you very much.

ADJOURNMENT

MR SPEAKER ADJOURNED THE HOUSE TO THURSDAY 18TH APRIL, 2024

AT 10:A.M.

THE HOUSE ROSE AT 1:30 P.M.

