



# PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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## PRESS RELEASE



### PARLIAMENT CONCLUDES ITS ANNUAL REVIEW AND PLANNING FOR 2024

The Parliament of Sierra Leone concluded a three-day engagement on its Annual Review process for 2024 on Thursday, 25/4/2024, at Lagoonda Hotel in Aberdeen, Freetown, under the theme "Enhancing Strategic Planning Through Co-creation." The review aimed to track the progress on performance, and discuss, and agree on key priorities for the Parliamentary Service and its corresponding Departments and Specialised Offices for 2024.

The Annual Review process saw the participation of the Leadership of Parliament, the Director General of Parliament, the Director and Deputy Directors of the Department, Principals, and Senior Officers of Parliament. All the Departments and Specialised Offices of Parliament presented their successes in 2023, highlighted challenges, and provided recommendations to strengthen the administration's capabilities to support Members of Parliament in fulfilling their constitutional responsibilities.

Mr. Mohamed Jalloh, the Director of CSPS, presented Parliament's achievements and challenges put together by all the participants. He emphasized Parliament's work in building institutional capacity, strengthening law-making, oversight, representation, and resource mobilization. While the institution excelled in institutional development, law-making, oversight, representation, and citizen participation, it faced challenges in resource

mobilization to enhance support services. Director Jalloh reported major challenges, including inadequate office space, limited equipment, security concerns, insufficient resources for implementing annual plans of the Directorates and Specialised Offices, and limited implementation of the institution's Human Resource Policies.

In response to the work of Parliament, Hon. Sulaiman Marry-Conteh, the Parliamentary Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, commended the administrative wing for their outstanding efforts in elevating the Parliament of Sierra Leone to a standard level. He stressed the need for further improvements in the administrative functions of the House, emphasizing the importance of enhancing corporate identity, and behaviour among staff. Highlighting the challenges faced, particularly the inadequate office space for MPs and staff, he underscored the significance of addressing these issues promptly. Hon. Marry-Conteh recommended that the Human Resources policy should comprehensively cover all aspects to promote professionalism.

Hon. Margaret Johnson, a female representative, echoed praise for the administration's performance and acknowledged the pressing issue of limited office space as a significant hurdle. She welcomed the extensive training initiatives for female MPs aimed at capacity building within Parliament.

Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh, Deputy Chief Whip 2 of Parliament, encouraged a culture of learning and recognizing the administrative team's hard work. He emphasised the importance of staff being innovative and respectful in their roles, fostering collaboration and unity. Hon. Conteh urged collective acknowledgment of the successes and failures while addressing concerns such as indiscipline, lack of timeliness, and ensuring full engagement in Parliamentary activities. He assured staff that the Leadership of Parliament would tackle the identified challenges effectively.

Further discussions centered on enhancing Parliamentary accountability to achieve a higher standard and implementing safety and security measures within the House. Plans were mentioned to safeguard the precinct effectively. Emphasis was placed on continuous capacity building for staff and MPs, while maintaining efficient record management practices within Parliament.

In her closing remarks, Madam Finda Fraser, the Director General of Parliament, speaking on behalf of the Clerk and the Leadership of Parliament, expressed gratitude towards the staff for their invaluable contributions and efforts in advancing the Parliamentary Service. She commended the staff for their dedication and urged them to uphold timely teamwork to enhance service delivery effectively.

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