



**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT
PARLIAMENT BUILDING
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL
FREETOWN**



E-mail: sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com/admin@parliament.gov.sl

4th February 2021

PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT RATIFIES FINANCING AGREEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH SECTOR

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday 4th February 2021 with unanimity ratified several financing agreements aimed at strengthening maternal and child health sector projects in the country.

The following agreements were ratified by Parliament:

1. Framework Agreement (Installment Sale Financing) Between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank, Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health Strengthening Project.
 2. Agency Agreement (Installment Sale Financing) Between Republic of Sierra Leone and the Islamic Development Bank, Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health Strengthening Project and
 3. Technical Assistance Grant Agreement Between the Republic of Sierra Leone and Islamic Development Bank, Regarding the Maternal Neonatal and Child Health Strengthening Project
- Presenting the agreements prior to ratification, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Dr. Patricia Laverley highlighted the importance of the healthcare agreements geared towards the development of the health sector; underscoring that the project would target Bo, Moyamba, Karene and Pujehun Districts for the purpose of improving and reducing infant mortality, maternal, and morbidity rates in the country.

Dr. Laverley said, the project agreements would focus on the rehabilitation of twelve health centers, equipping three hospitals, maintenance of staff quarters of health workers, maintenance of the fistula center in Bo Government Hospital and training facility for Nurses. Dr. Laverley also noted that the projects are urgent and necessary for the development of the health sector. On her part, Hon. Neneh Lebbie said the agreements are prudent for the development of the health sector in the country; adding that the deprived communities would benefit. She called on MPs to support the implementation of these projects through monitoring for the benefit of the people.

Hon. Cathrine Zainab Tarawally in her contribution to the motion commended the Deputy Minister of Finance for championing development of such nature and praised the agreements as good for the development of the health sector. She underscored the point that the agreements would benefit women, teenagers and health facilities positively.

Hon PC. Meama Bintu Kajue-Koroma representing Moyamba District said the agreements are non-controversial and they are geared toward the development of the health sector.

Chairman of Health Committee in Parliament, Hon. Moses B. Jorkie said maternal and infant mortality are high and such agreements would ameliorate existential situation in the country; and underscored that some of the areas identified for projects implementation are really in place. He called on Members of his Committee to conduct robust supervision in respect of projects implementation.

Rounding up the debate, Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Chernor R.M Bah said "considering the importance of these agreements toward women and children, I support these agreements".

Concluding the debate, the Acting Leader of Government Business, Hon. Bashiru Silikie likewise acknowledged the benefits of these agreements toward the improvement of the health sector and urged the Health Committee to do the needful on their oversight engagements during the course of implementing these projects.

Department of Public Relations

Parliament of Sierra Leone

+23278495023/+23278426851/+23278697776/+23278032986