



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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PRESS RELEASE



PARLIAMENTARY FEMALE CAUCUS PRESIDENT URGES WOMEN TO EMBRACE CAPACITY BUILDING

The President of the Parliamentary Female Caucus in the Sierra Leone Parliament, Hon. Bernadette Wuyata Songa on Thursday, 06/03/2025, strongly advised women in Sierra Leone to come forward to build their capacity in order to gain more positions of trust. The Parliamentary Female Caucus President made this statement at the two-day High Level Policy dialogue Forum in commemoration of the International Women's Day, at the Miatta Conference Center in Freetown, on the Theme; "For ALL Women and Girls: Rights Equality, Empowerment".

Hon. Wuyata Songa said that the struggle women go through is endless, but they continue to stand to the challenges. She recalled the struggles women went through in the Fifth Parliament to be reelected to the Sixth Parliament. She made reference to the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Bill that was passed into law, which eventually made it possible for more women to represent their people. The eloquent politician emphatically underscored that the capacity building

of women is a strong yardstick for women representation. Hon. Wuyata Songa stressed on quality education for all women.

Speaking on the importance of budgetary allocation for gender empowerment in all MDAs, Hon. Wuyata Songa said it's good to ensure that women are capacitated.

She used the opportunity to explain her experience in the Fifth Parliament and how some Male honourable members used to intimidate her whenever she stood up to debate, but she overcame the same. She stressed on building the capacity of women with quality in order to come forward and represent their people in governance and other spheres of life.

"How do we sustain the gains made in women's representation in governance?" she asked. Hon.

Wuyata advised compatriots and donor partners to address the loopholes identified in women representation and bring solutions for more women to gain positions of trust.

She assured that Parliament is committed to ensuring that women's capacities are built in order to gain more opportunities. The MP vehemently called on all and sundry to sustain the gains made by women in governance and progress.

Parliamentary and Public Relations Department

Parliament of Sierra Leone

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