



## PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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### PRESS RELEASE



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE 23/6/2025

#### SIERRA LEONE'S EMBASSY IN TURKEY HONOURS PARLIAMENT WITH LEGISLATIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

In a ceremony underscoring international parliamentary performance, the Embassy of Sierra Leone in Turkey recently presented Distinguished Legislative Performance Award to the Parliament of Sierra Leone on Friday 30/5/2025. The award recognised the Parliament's outstanding contributions to effective lawmaking, democratic governance, and its commitment to fostering strong bilateral ties with Sierra Leone.

“The Award is for the Legislative Arm of Government, with sincere gratitude to the House of Parliament of the Republic of Sierra Leone in appreciation of your dedicated service, legislative excellence and steadfast contribution for promoting good governance and National progress”.

Presenting the award to the Parliament of Sierra Leone, the Majority and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma said, the Embassy organized an Investment and Trade Seminar, in Istanbul Turkey, where Ministers and other Government Agencies made PowerPoint presentations including the Clerk of Parliament who presented on behalf of Parliament.

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT ENGAGES LINE STAKEHOLDERS

The Parliamentary Committee on Transport and Aviation chaired by Hon. Dickson Momoh Rogers, on Wednesday 04/06/2025, engaged different stakeholders in the Transport Sector. The meeting was held at the Atlantic Hotel in Freetown on the theme "Innovative Solutions, Stronger Partnership and Robust Measures for Resilient Transport and Aviation Sector".

In his brief remarks as the Master of Ceremony of the event, the Deputy Clerk of Parliament, Gilbert Bosco N'habay said, Transport and Aviation sector is a critical sector and has great economic impact. He continued by stating the need for more legislation to address certain challenges affecting the transport sector. He said that engagement with stakeholders would provide better resolutions, which will eventually address potential problems affecting the sector.

Welcoming participants during the engagement, the Chairman of Parliamentary Committee on Transport and Aviation who doubles as the Government Chief Whip of Parliament, Honourable Dickson Rogers, said the gathering was not only timely but essential in finding solutions to addressing transport challenges in the country. He said there is a need to embrace innovations to boost the transport sector in Sierra Leone. "The success of our transport sector depends on collective work with all players in the sector," he said. Hon. Dickson Rogers continued that Parliament is a partner in supporting the transport and aviation sector and that the oversight committee would work to ensure that policies are established to strengthen the sector. He categorically stated that as the Chairman of the oversight Committee, he would ensure that Parliament gives full support to the sector players with the required legislation to improve the transportation in Sierra Leone.

## VP OF NATIONAL OBSERVATORY FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN MOROCCO COMMENDS SPEAKER THOMAS FOR PROMOTING KIDS' PARLIAMENT

Professor Ghizlaine Benjelloun, Vice President of the National Observatory for Children's Rights in Morocco, on Monday, 9/6/2025, paid a courtesy call on the Rt. Hon. Speaker Segepoh Solomon Thomas and also commended the Speaker of the Sierra Leone Parliament for promoting the Kids Parliament. Professor Ghizlaine Benjelloun also lavished tremendous praises on the Rt. Hon. Speaker Segepoh Solomon Thomas for enacting progressive legislations geared toward ameliorating the welfare of children and women.

In her commendation message to the Rt. Hon. Speaker Segepoh Solomon Thomas, Professor Ghizlaine Benjelloun expressed elation for the courtesy call they made on the Rt. Hon. Speaker. She added that the delegation felt joyful for being hosted in the office of the Speaker. She confessed that she felt impressed by all the things she heard about Parliament geared towards promoting the rights of children and women. She also commended the Rt. Hon. Speaker and the House of Parliament in its entirety for the abolition of Child Marriage. She concluded by anticipating an undying collaboration between the two Nations to continue promoting the rights of children and women.

In his address, the Rt. Hon. Speaker Segepoh Solomon Thomas accorded a red carpet welcome to the Delegation from Morocco. He assured the delegation that Sierra Leone has been doing tremendously well in terms of promoting issues relating to children and women. Speaker Thomas added that the

Parliament of Sierra Leone had already passed into law progressive legislations geared toward promoting the rights of women and children. Speaker Thomas reiterated that the Sixth Parliament, under his leadership, treats matters relating to children very seriously. The Rt. Hon. Speaker commended the Kids Parliament, adding that all the Kids in the Kids Parliament are smart kids and potential leaders of Sierra Leone. Speaker Thomas furthered that due to the deliberate measures put in place for the girl child, he said the country now records the highest number of girls attending school, are far more than the boys. The Rt. Hon. Speaker also elucidated that the Parliament of Sierra Leone had given 30% quota for female representation in Parliament and in governance nationally. Speaker Thomas reassured the delegation that the Parliament of Sierra Leone would continue to make progressive laws to promote the rights of children and women across the country. The courtesy call was climaxed with the Vice President, Professor Ghislaine Benjelloun, gifting the Rt. Hon. Speaker.

## FEMALE PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS TRAINS ON STANDING ORDERS AND THE GEWE ACT

Female Parliamentary Caucus in collaboration with International IDEA with funding from the European Union, has held a two days engagement from the 15-16 June 2025, with Members of the Female Parliamentary Caucus and selected civil society organizations in Kenema City.

The training is aimed at strengthening participants to understand the Parliamentary Standing Orders and enhancing accountability for the implementation of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Act.

Speaking at the opening session, the Country Director of International IDEA, Dr. Mamoud Bah reaffirmed the organization's commitment to strengthening democratic institutions and governance in Sierra Leone. He emphasized that International IDEA's core mandate is to support democracy and inclusive political processes. Dr. Bah organization had played a central role in the facilitation of the 2023 Tripartite Agreement. He disclosed that preparations were underway for the implementation of its key recommendations, including reforms within the legislative sector.

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