



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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PRESS RELEASE



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (PAC) TABLES REPORT ON THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORTS FOR 2021 AND 2022 FINANCIAL YEARS

On Thursday, 27th March 2025, the Deputy Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, Hon. PC Desmond Mahayei Kargobai, on behalf of the Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in Parliament, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh tabled the Committee's Report on the Auditor General's Reports for the financial years 2021 and 2022 for consideration and adoption by Parliament.

He said, among other things, that the Report is resultant of extensive public hearings held both in Freetown and regional headquarters, during which PAC examined MDAs, Local Councils, Public Enterprises, and Donor Funded Projects. The Committee also heard key issues, including revenue irregularities, procurement breaches, payroll anomalies, and substandard project execution in line with provisions in the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No. 6 of 1991 and the Standing Orders of Parliament, Revised in 2006.

Significantly, the PAC facilitated the recovery of over NLe 23 Million and resolved 70.2% of audit queries, thereby demonstrating improved accountability and prudent financial management through collaboration and corrective actions.

The Deputy Chairman also commended the Auditor General, Committee Members, the PAC Secretariat, and all cooperating institutions before formally tabling the Report for consideration and adoption by Parliament.

CPA AFRICA EXTOLS SPEAKER THOMAS AND HON. MARRAY-CONTEH CHAIRS CPA 88TH EXCOM IN SEYCHELLES

Following the recognition of the immediate past President of CPA Africa Region, Rt. Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas of the tremendous strides he had made for the transitioning of CPA Africa Region, from a charitable organisation to an international one, Hon. Abdul Sulaiman Marray-Conteh, Vice Chairperson of the Executive Committee of CPA Africa Region, chaired the 88th Executive Committee Meeting today 28/03/2025 in Mahe, Seychelles at the Savoy Resort and Spa Hotel.

Hon. Abdul Sulaiman Marray-Conteh is also the Chairman of the Legislative Committee in the Parliament of Sierra Leone, under whose watch a lot of progressive Bills have been committed and later enacted into laws for the development of Sierra Leone.

PARLIAMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION DISCUSSES EMERGING ISSUES

In a bid to strengthen human rights initiatives in Sierra Leone, the Human Rights Commission, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Human Rights Secretariat, engaged the Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Human Rights on Thursday, March 27, 2025. The event, which was held at The Hub Hotel, Wilberforce, Freetown focused on providing an overview of human rights mechanisms and discussing emerging human rights issues in the country.

In his welcome address, the Deputy Clerk of Parliament, Mr. Gilbert Bosco Nhabay, reaffirmed Parliament's commitment to supporting all its committees to function effectively. He highlighted that the Human Rights Committee in Parliament is constituted in accordance with the Standing Orders and the Constitution of Sierra Leone, underscoring its critical role in advancing human rights within the legislative framework.

Mr. Nhabay also outlined key progressive legislations enacted by Parliament to uphold human rights, emphasizing Sierra Leone's adherence to international human rights standards

and best practices. He expressed gratitude to the Commonwealth Secretariat for its continuous support in strengthening the country's development.

PARLIAMENT APPROVES 5 PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

The Ninth Report of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Honourable Sahr Mathew Nyuma, has on Thursday 27/03/2025 been debated and unanimously approved by Parliament

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

1. Ambassador Mohamed Foday Yumkella, Ambassador of Sierra Leone Embassy, Conakry, Republic of Guinea
2. Dr. Abdul Rahim Jalloh, Deputy Minister 2, Ministry of Energy.
3. Mr. John Sumailah Chairman, Rokel Commercial Bank
4. Madam Mary Massah Katta, Member Sierra Leone Road Safety Authority (SLRSA)
5. Mr. Moses Tiffer Baio, Chief Immigration Officer.

Presenting the Ninth Report, the Majority and Leader of Government Business, Honourable Mathew Sahr Nyuma, said the Presidential Nominees were interviewed on oaths and under strict procedures on issues pertaining to their educational backgrounds. Probing questions covering a wide range of issues relating to track records pertinent to their declared assets, tax obligations, and vision for sustainable tenure. He assured the plenary that the report is the unanimous decision of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service.

SIERRA LEONE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ATTENDS 88TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN SEYCHELLES

The Sierra Leone Parliamentary Delegation headed by Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas participated in the 88th Executive Committee Meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Africa Region, held in Mahe, Seychelles from 25th-29th March, 2025.

In a virtual address, Chairperson of CPA Executive Committee and Speaker of the Parliament of Malawi, Rt. Hon. Catherine Gotani Hara welcomed participants and encouraged them to strengthen and promote the cause of CPA, Africa Region by enhancing parliamentary democracy, promotion of human rights, and good governance.

Delivering his remarks, Chairperson of the Executive Committee, CPA International, Hon. Dr. Christopher Kalila updated participants about the transitioning process regarding the legal status of CPA from a registered charitable organisation to an international one with a larger scope aimed at getting an observer status at the UN and revenue mobilisation aimed at investing in the health sector such as immunisation among others. He thanked Africans for electing him in Sydney, Australia, last year and called on branches to make significant inputs in respect of making the new vision of CPA International, which awaits a secondary

legislation to give effect to its new legal status and commended his predecessors who had worked tirelessly for the realisation of same.

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