



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTY-SECOND SITTING**



VP: Vol. 52

[Ref: OP/6/02/52]

THURSDAY 29th MAY, 2025

The House Met at 10:05 a.m.

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, Segepoh Solomon Thomas, Presided.

I. ATTENDANCE:

THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE PRESENT:			
NO	NAME	PARTY	DISTRICT
1.	Hon. Abdulai Charles Osman	SLPP	Bo
2.	Hon. Amara Haja Miatta	APC	Western Area Rural
3.	Hon. Aruna Massay Ngahiteh	SLPP	Bo
4.	Hon. Bah Alpha Amadu	APC	Western Area Urban
5.	Hon. Bah Zinab	APC	Western Area Rural
6.	Hon. Bangura Abdul Karim	SLPP	Karene
7.	Hon. Bangura Adama	SLPP	Kambia
8.	Hon. Bangura Cecilia Mabinty	APC	Karene
9.	Hon. Bangura Daniel Amadu	APC	Tonkolili
10.	Hon. Bangura Mariama	APC	Western Area Urban
11.	Hon. Bangura Mohamed	APC	Karene
12.	Hon. Banya Sarty	SLPP	Kailahun
13.	Hon. Barrie Ibrahim	APC	Bombali
14.	Hon. Bayoh Alie	SLPP	Kenema
15.	Hon. Bockarie Momoh	SLPP	Kenema
16.	Hon. Boima Sylvester Arnold Maxwell (Rtd. Capt.)	SLPP	Moyamba
17.	Hon. Conteh Hawa	APC	Koinadugu
18.	Hon. Conteh Ibrahim Tawa	SLPP	Western Area Urban
19.	Hon. Conteh Kemokoh	APC	Western Area Rural
20.	Hon. Conteh Mohamed	APC	Bombali
21.	Hon. Conteh Paul Samba	APC	Bombali
22.	Hon. Daramy Princess Kadie	SLPP	Western Area Urban
23.	Hon. Edwin Moses A.	SLPP	Bonthe
24.	Hon. Fatorma Juliana Aliematu	SLPP	Kenema
25.	Hon. Fofanah Musa	SLPP	Kono
26.	Hon. Fornah Daniel	APC	Tonkolili
27.	Hon. Gbreh III P.C Bai Shebora Sheba	P.C	Port Loko
28.	Hon. George Edward	SLPP	Moyamba
29.	Hon. Gevao Hindolo Moiwo	SLPP	Kailahun
30.	Hon. Goba Mariama Ella	SLPP	Kenema
31.	Hon. Gondor II P.C. Foray Cyril	-	Kailahun



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32.	Hon. Jalloh Memunatu	APC	Port Loko
33.	Hon. Jalloh Mohamed Alpha	APC	Bombali
34.	Hon. Jalloh P. C. Alhaji Musa Bamba Foray Kulio III	-	Tonkolili
35.	Hon. Johnson Margaret Feimata	SLPP	Kailahun
36.	Hon. Kabba Ibrahim	SLPP	Western Area Rural
37.	Hon. Kallon Hawa	SLPP	Pujehun
38.	Hon. Kamara Alusine Bash	APC	Karene
39.	Hon. Kamara Idriss Sahid	SLPP	Western Area Urban
40.	Hon. Kamara Joseph Abdul Bash	SLPP	Bo
41.	Hon. Kamara Mahmoud	APC	Western Area Urban
42.	Hon. Kamara Marie	APC	Bombali
43.	Hon. Kamara Rugiatu	APC	Tonkolili
44.	Hon. Kanbgai Beatrice Maaya	SLPP	Bo
45.	Hon. Kanneh Mohamed	SLPP	Kailahun
46.	Hon. Kanu Abdulai Karim	SLPP	Port Loko
47.	Hon. Kanu Rugiatu Rosy	APC	Western Area Urban
48.	Hon. Kargbo Amara Momoh	SLPP	Western Area Rural
49.	Hon. Kargbo John Sartty	APC	Western Area Rural
50.	Hon. Kargbo Mohamed Sheriff	APC	Karene
51.	Hon. Kellie Lucinda Finda	APC	Kono
52.	Hon. Kellie Tamba	APC	Kono
53.	Hon. Kemokai Abu	SLPP	Pujehun
54.	Hon. Koroma Daniel Brima	APC	Koinadugu
55.	Hon. Koroma Ernest Dura	APC	Kambia
56.	Hon. Koroma Peter Yamba	APC	Bombali
57.	Hon. Kumabeh Alice Jebbeh	SLPP	Bonthe
58.	Hon. Lahai Musa	SLPP	Kailahun
59.	Hon. Langley Beatrice Iyamide	SLPP	Western Area Rural
60.	Hon. Lansana P.C Bio Prince	-	Bonthe
61.	Hon. Larkoh Aruna Papay	APC	Tonkolili
62.	Hon. Lebbie Nenneh	SLPP	Bo
63.	Hon. Mackery Yusuf	SLPP	Bo
64.	Hon. Mansaray Alpha Ben	APC	Moyamba
65.	Hon. Mansaray Hamidu Holla	APC	Koinadugu
66.	Hon. Mansaray Konkofa Farah	SLPP	Koinadugu
67.	Hon. Marrah III P.C Alie Balan Sama	-	Koinadugu
68.	Hon. Marrah III P.C Thor Thor Sheku Terenah Tongos Neya Konkoroba Fanko Lai	-	Falaba
69.	Hon. Marray – Conteh Abdul Sulaiman	SLPP	Western Area Urban
70.	Hon. Momodu Sahr Koutu	SLPP	Kono



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71.	Hon. Moriba Amie Nyava	SLPP	Bo
72.	Hon. Ngbak IV P.C Bai Farama Tass Bubu	-	Kambia
73.	Hon. Pyne Umu	SLPP	Moyamba
74.	Hon. Rogers Alex Mattia	SLPP	Pujehun
75.	Hon. Rogers Dickson Momoh	SLPP	Pujehun
76.	Hon. Sandy Alice Kornya	SLPP	Kenema
77.	Hon. Sankoh – Yillah Ishmael	SLPP	Port Loko
78.	Hon. Saquee V P.C Paul Ngaba	-	Kono
79.	Hon. Sellu Mustapha Musa	SLPP	Moyamba
80.	Hon. Sesay Abdul Latiff	APC	Port Loko
81.	Hon. Sesay Jawah	APC	Tonkolili
82.	Hon. Sesay Pessima Mariatu Racheal	SLPP	Port Loko
83.	Hon. Sesay Sallieu Osman	APC	Bombali
84.	Hon. Shaw Mohamed Billoh	SLPP	Falaba
85.	Hon. Siafa Rosaline Hawa	SLPP	Kailahun
86.	Hon. Songa Bernadette Wuyatta	SLPP	Kailahun
87.	Hon. Soukenah Fatmata Sarah	SLPP	Western Area Urban
88.	Hon. Tamu P . C. Saffa Monya	-	Pujehun
89.	Hon. Tarawally Cathrine Zainab	APC	Bombali
90.	Hon. Taylor-Bangura Mabinty Alice	APC	Kambia
91.	Hon. Tengbeh Fallah Kenawah	SLPP	Kailahun
92.	Hon. Tholley Foyoh	SLPP	Tonkolili
93.	Hon. Thompson Alfred Ayodele	APC	Western Area Urban
94.	Hon. Timbo Osman Abdal	APC	Western Area Urban
95.	Hon. Tommy Sia Mahawa Habiamia	SLPP	Kono
96.	Hon. Tongi Emilia Lolloh	SLPP	Kailahun
97.	Hon. Tucker Tom Issic	APC	Kono
98.	Hon. Turay Benjamin	SLPP	Western Area Urban
99.	Hon. Williams – Lamin Joseph	SLPP	Bo
THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE ABSENT:			
1.	Hon. Bangura Mohamed Papa	APC	Bombali
2.	Hon. Bangura Rose - Marie	APC	Tonkolili
3.	Hon. Bockarie Bintu Fatmata	SLPP	Bonthe
4.	Hon. Conteh Adama	APC	Western Area Urban
5.	Hon. Dauda Idris Moiwei	SLPP	Bonthe
6.	Hon. Fofanah Abu Bakarr	APC	Wester Area n Rural
7.	Hon. Fofanah Mohamed Tawallie	SLPP	Kambia
8.	Hon. Jabbie Alpha Fodie Madie	SLPP	Falaba
9.	Hon. Johnny Tamba Simeon	SLPP	Kono
10.	Hon. Kamara Abdulai A.	APC	Western Area Urban



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11.	Hon. Kamara Abdul Karim	APC	Port Loko
12.	Hon. Kamara Mohamed Sheridan	APC	Kambia
13.	Hon. Kanneh P. C. Alameen	-	Kenema
14.	Hon. Kanu Ahmed Joseph	SLPP	Western Area Rural
15.	Hon. Kargbo Sheikh Santigie Ibrahim	SLPP	Port Loko
16.	Hon. Kargobai P.C Desmond Mahayei	-	Bo
17.	Hon. Kawaleh II P.C Kandeh Paria	-	Karene
18.	Hon. Koroma Ibrahim	SLPP	Kenema
19.	Hon. Mansaray Brima	SLPP	Kenema
20.	Hon. Moijueh Jibrila Sur	SLPP	Bonthe
21.	Hon. Munda Boston	SLPP	Kenem
22.	Hon. Quee Komba	SLPP	Kono
23.	Hon. Rahman – Coker Mohamed Sheriff	SLPP	Western Area Urban
24.	Hon. Tarawalli-Mussaffa Rugiatu	SLPP	Kenema
25.	Hon. Vandy Christopha Kekura	SLPP	Bo
THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE ABSENT WITH AN EXCUSE:			
1.	Hon. Bangura Ibrahim Aziz	APC	Port Loko
2.	Hon. Conteh John Charles	APC	Bombali
3.	Hon. Fabbah Habib Keifa	SLPP	Bo
4.	Hon. Forna Mabinty	APC	Tonkolili
5.	Hon. Jalloh Osman Wurie	SLPP	Western Area Rural
6.	Hon. Kaisamba Francis Amara	SLPP	Kenema
7.	Hon. Kamara Abdul Karim	APC	Kambia
8.	Hon. Kamara Rebecca Yei	SLPP	Kono
9.	Hon. Kargbo Abdul	APC	Port Loko
10.	Hon. Keiha III P.C Kandeh Baba	-	Bombali
11.	Hon. Koroma Aaron Aruna	APC	Tonkolili
12.	Hon. Koroma Meama Kajue P.C Haja Fatmata Bintu	-	Moyamba
13.	Hon. Koroma Unpha Sorie Gbessay	APC	Western Area Urban
14.	Hon. Lamina Saa Emerson	SLPP	Kono
15.	Hon. Lebby Ambrose Maada	SLPP	Bo
16.	Hon. Nyuma Mathew Sahr	SLPP	Kenema
17.	Hon. Salia – Konneh Quintin	SLPP	Kailahun
18.	Hon. Sama Shiaka Musa	SLPP	Pujehun
19.	Hon. Sesay Aminata	APC	Port Loko
20.	Hon. Sesay Veronica Kadie	SLPP	Moyamba
21.	Hon. Silikie Bashiru	SLPP	Bo
22.	Hon. Tunis Sidie Mohamed	SLPP	Pujehun
23.	Hon. Turay Alhaji Sorieba	APC	Tonkolili
24.	Hon. Zombo Mariama Munia	SLPP	Pujehun



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Pronouncement of Quorum:

The Deputy Clerk of Parliament, **Mr. Gilbert Bosco N'habay**, made the following pronouncement as quoted: "Mr. Speaker, Hon. Members. Pursuant to Section 89 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone 1991 (Act No. 6 OF 1991) in tandem with S.O. 7(1) of the Standing Orders of Parliament, this House had now form a quorum to commence its proceedings".

1. Prayers were read by Ms. Esther Boima (Table Clerk).

2. Suspension of S.O. 5 (2) at 10:20 a.m.

The motion for the suspension of S.O. 5(2) at 10:10 a.m. was moved by **Hon. Nenneh Lebbie** from **Bo District** for the commencement of proceedings. The motion was seconded by **Hon. Massay Ngahiteh Aruna** from **Bo District** and approved by the House.

3. Adoption of the Record of Votes and Proceedings for Thursday 22nd, and Tuesday 27th May 2025 Respectively:

The motion for the adoption of the Record of Votes and Proceedings for Thursday 22nd, and Tuesday 27th May 2025 Respectively was moved by **Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin** from **Bo District**. It was seconded by **Hon. Billoh Shaw** from **Falaba District** and adopted by the House.

4. Announcement:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Segepoh Solomon Thomas**, recognized the diligence of the following Hon. Members that were in the Chamber before 10:00 a.m. for the commencement of proceedings.

NO.	Names of Hon. Members	Party	District
1.	Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin	SLPP	Bo
2.	Hon. Umu Pyne	SLPP	Moyamba
3.	Hon. Adama Bangura	SLPP	Kambia
4.	Hon. Alie Bayoh	SLPP	Kenema
5.	Hon. Hawa Conteh	APC	Koinadugu
6.	Hon. Marie Kamara	APC	Bombali
7.	Hon. Amie Nyava Moriba	SLPP	Bo
8.	Hon. Musa Fofanah	SLPP	Kono
9.	Hon. Mariam Ella Goba	SLPP	Kenema
10.	Hon. Daniel A. Bangura	APC	Tonkolili
11.	Hon. Idris Sahid Kamara	SLPP	Western Area Urban



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12.	Hon. Abu Kemokai	SLPP	Pujehun
13.	Hon. Edward George	SLPP	Moyamba
14.	Hon. Lucinda F Kllie	APC	Kono
15.	Hon. Alex M Rogers	SLPP	Pujehun
16.	Hon. Falla Kenawah Tengbeh	SLPP	Kailahun
17.	Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	SLPP	Bo
18.	Hon. Memuatu Jalloh	APC	Port Loko
19.	Hon. Rugiatu Rosy Kanu	APC	Western Area Urban
20.	Hon. Ibrahim Kabba	SLPP	Western Area Rural
21.	Hon. P. C. Alhaji Sheku Thor Thor Tongas iii	PCMP	Falaba
22.	Hon. Margaret Feimata Johnson	SLPP	Kailahun
23.	Hon. Mohamed Conteh	APC	Bombali
24.	Hon. Dickson Rogers	SLPP	Pujehun
25.	Hon. Paul Samba Conteh	APC	Bombali
26.	Hon. Beatrice Maaya Kangbia	SLPP	Bo
27.	Hon. P. C. Paul Sagee V	PCMP	Kono
28.	Hon. Alusine Bash Kamara	APC	Karene
29.	Hon. Massay Ngahinteh Aruna	SLPP	Bo
30.	Hon. Mohamed Banguara	APC	Karene
31.	Hon. Rugiatu Kamara	APC	Tonkolili
32.	Hon. P.C Bio Prince Lansana	PCMP	Bonthe
33.	Hon. Abdul Karim Bangura	SLPP	Karene
34.	Hon. Moses A. Edwin	SLPP	Bonthe
35.	Hon. Alice Jebbeh Kumabeh	SLPP	Bonthe
36.	Hon. Momoh Bockarie	SLPP	Kenema
37.	Hon. Rosaline H. Siafa	SLPP	Kailahun
38.	Hon. Tom Issic Tucker	APC	Kono
39.	Hon. Abdul Sulaiman Marray-Conteh	SLPP	Western Area Urban
40.	Hon. Daniel B. Koroma	APC	Koinadugu
41.	Hon. Bernadette Wuyatta Songa	SLPP	Kailahun
42.	Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh	SLPP	Western Area Urban
43.	Hon. Haja Mattia Amara	APC	Western Area Rural
44.	Hon. Mohamed Billoh Shaw	SLPP	Falaba
45.	Hon. Sylvester Boima	SLPP	Moyamba
46.	Hon. Osman Charles Abduai	SLPP	Bo
47.	Hon. Foyah Tholley	SLPP	Tonkolili
48.	Hon. Sarty Banya	SLPP	Kailahun
49.	Hon. Konkofa F. Mansaray	SLPP	Koinadugu
50.	Hon. Ernest Dura Koroma	APC	Kambia
51.	Hon. Yusuf Mackery	SLPP	Bo



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52.	Hon. Mustapha M. Sellu	SLPP	Moyamba
53.	Hon. Tamba Kellie	APC	Kono
54.	Hon. Aruna Papay Lakol	APC	Tonkolili
55.	Hon. Ibrahim Barrie	APC	Bombali
56.	Hon. Mohamed Kanneh	SLPP	Kailahun

He informed the House about two sets of delegations that would be visiting the Parliament of Sierra Leone and would also be in the Chamber. Firstly, he stated that amongst the delegation, would be the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Liberia, who would be presenting on the establishment of the Mano River Union Parliament. He noted that the most diligent Hon. Members would be appointed to represent Sierra Leone in that Parliament. He asked the House to give him the opportunity to address them when he comes.

Secondly, the Indian delegation, which would be having a meeting with the general Membership of the House in Committee Room 1, and a closed meeting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. He further stated that there was a move to establish the Sierra Leone/India Parliamentary Friendship Group.

In his final statement, he further informed the House about a memorial mass, in honor of the Late Hon. Musa Peter Moigua, at the St. Elizabeth/Daniel Quasi Parish Aberdeen, Freetown at 5:00 p.m. He asked all Hon. Members to attend.

5. Laying of Papers:

- (A) The Table Clerk, **Ms. Esther Boima** called upon the Minister of Finance to lay the following papers that were itemized on the Order Paper.

Papers laid by the Deputy Minister of Finance 1:

The Deputy Minister of Finance 1, laid the following papers.

- (i) Articles of Agreement of the Islamic Cooperation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit.



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(ii) African Development Fund Project Preparation of Sierra Leone Rural Electricity Access Project (SLREAP) Republic of Sierra Leone Dated 15th January 2025.

(iii) Subsidiary Grant Agreement between Republic of Sierra Leone Represented by Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Energy (Preparation of Sierra Leone Rural Electricity Access Project (SLREAP)).

(B) Laying of Paper **(B)** was omitted from the Order Paper.

Recognition of Delegations:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Segepoh Solomon Thomas**, recognized the delegations from both Liberia and India.

Liberian Delegation:

NO	NAMES	DESIGNATION
1.	Hon. Richard Nagbe Koon	Speaker of the House of Representatives, Republic of Liberia
2.	Hon. Austin B. Taylor	Co-Chair- Committee on Foreign Affairs
3.	Hon. Samson Q. Weah	Co-Chair – Committee on Maritimes Affairs
4.	Hon. J. Obediah Varney	Chairman- Committee on Public Utility
5.	Hon. Samuel N. Brown	Senior Chair – Committee on Commerce
6.	Hon. Nyan Flano	Chairman- Committee on Education
7.	Hon. Augustine B. Chiewolo	CO-Chair- Agriculture & Health
8.	Macdella Cooper	Senior Adviser to the President

Indian Delegation:

NO	NAMES	DESIGNATION
1.	Shrikant Eknath Shinde	Hon. Member and Leader of Delegation
2.	Bansuri Swaraj	Hon. Member
3.	Eranhikkal Thalappil Mohamed Basheer	Hon. Member
4.	Atul Garg	Hon. Member
5.	Sasmit Patra	Hon. Member
6.	Manan Kumar Mishra	Hon. Member
7.	Surendrajeet Singh Ahluwalia	Minister of State



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8.	Sujan Romeshchandra Chinoy	Former Ambassador
9.	Asokan Amaranth	Deputy Chief of Mission, Abu Dhabi
10.	Baisnab Charan Pradhan	High Commissioner of India to Sierra Leone
11.	Nishant Ketu	Media
12.	Mayank Pushkarna	Media

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Segepoh Solomon Thomas**, asked the House to stand and observe a moment of silence as a result of the press statement of the Security Council which Sierra Leone had expressed concerns regarding the attack that took place in Jammu, Nathashnia on the 25th April, 2025, that resulted in the loss of 26 lives and injuries.

Suspension of Standing Order 79:

The Government Chief Whip, **Hon. Dickson M. Rogers** from **Pujehun District**, moved a motion for the suspension of S.O 79, to allow the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia to address the House. The Motion was seconded by **Hon. Bernadette Wuyatta Songa** from **Kailahun District**, and approved by the House.

**REMARKS BY HON. RICHARD NAGBE KOON, SPEAKER OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LIBERIA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO
THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE**

Your Excellency,

The right Honorable Segepoh Solomon Thomas, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Honorable Members of Parliament, Visiting members of parliament from India, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with great honour and a profound sense of brotherhood that I stand before you today on this special occasion of my official visit to the beautiful Republic of Sierra Leone.

Let me first express, on behalf of the Government and People of Liberia, and in my own name, our deepest gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to my delegation and me. This gracious welcome is a reflection of the enduring spirit of friendship that unites our two nations, sister republics bound not only by geography but by history, culture, and shared aspirations.



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Liberia and Sierra Leone are more than neighbors. Our relationship is deeply rooted in shared history, culture and mutual aspirations for peace and development. Both nations have historically served as homes for ex-slaves from the Americas and people rescued from the transatlantic slave trade, giving rise to the Americo-Liberian and Krio communities that shaped the early political and social landscape of our respective countries.

We are co-founders of the Mano River Union, brothers in the cause of peace, and champions of a future shaped by cooperation. Our parliaments, as the voices of our people must now lead with greater urgency to translate this unity into bold legislative actions that uplift the subregion.

The Mano River Union (MRU), founded in 1973, has served as a framework for cooperation among our countries: Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Cote d'Ivoire. Over the years, we have seen joint efforts in trade peace building, and regional development. However, the time has come to elevate our cooperation from executive dialogue to legislative coordination.

It is in this spirit that I affirm Liberia's unwavering support for the establishment of a Mano River Union Parliament Body, a platform through which we can deepen regional cohesion, harmonize policy responses, and collectively tackle our common challenges, from youth empowerment and security to climate resilience and economic integration. Particularly, our eyes are set on meeting the following objectives.

- **Promote Harmonized Legislation:** To align national laws on trade, security, education, and infrastructure to support regional integration.
- **Strengthen Democratic Oversight:** To ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of MRU projects.
- **Facilitate Dialogue:** To serve as a forum for conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and dialogue between peoples of our sub-region.
- **Support Youth and Gender Inclusion:** To champion cross-board policies for youth empowerment and gender equity.
- **Environment and Resource Governance:** To collectively address climate change and sustainably manage shared natural resources.
- **Presenting common legislative Positions on regional issues:** The proposed Mano River Union Parliamentary Body is not merely an institutional formality. It will be a strategic instrument designed to harness the collective strength of our legislatures and unify our voices on matters that transcend borders.



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This vision is not born in isolation. It echoes the fruitful dialogue I held earlier this year with His Excellency Adama Bictogo, Speaker of the National Assembly of Cote d'Ivoire, who equally shares our conviction for a united MRU parliamentary front.

As we navigate the evolving landscape of West African politics, peace and stability remain the bedrock of our development. Liberia remains firmly committed to preserving democratic governance and regional security. I call upon all MRU legislatures to champion conflict prevention mechanisms and to ensure robust parliamentary oversight in fostering peace across our borders.

In advancing economic development, we must move with equal resolve. Let us advocate for more seamless cross-border trade, invest in infrastructure, and leverage regional frameworks such as the ECOWAS Trade policy and the AfCFTA to unlock prosperity for our people.

Parliamentary diplomacy, too, must take its rightful place in this new era. Let our engagements be frequent, our voices united, and our efforts guided by the desire to bring hope, opportunity and dignity to every citizen of the Mano River basin.

Distinguished Colleagues, I would be remiss if I did not convey Liberia's heartfelt appreciation for Sierra Leone's continued diplomatic support, particularly in backing our candidacy for a Non-Permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. This is a profound gesture of trust one that we cherish deeply.

We stand today at a crossroad in regional history. Our people are interconnected by geography, history, and aspirations. They deserve a shared vision reflected not only in policies but in laws, debates, and institutions. Let us rise above our national boundaries and build a Parliament that reflects the voice of the Mano River people.

As we look to the future, let us craft a shared vision of a Mano River Union that is inclusive, peaceful, and resilient; of a West Africa where parliamentary leadership becomes a catalyst for transformation.

Together, let us rise above borders, beyond barriers and build the legacy of unity our founding generations only dreamed of.

May God bless the Mano River Union, and may he bless our nations.

I thank you.



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4. Standing Order 23 (Personal Explanations):

- (1) Hon. Mustapah M. Sellu**, from **Moyamba District**, brought to the attention of the House regarding an issue he raised five weeks ago about two mining companies in his chiefdom, specifically concerning their operations and the impact on the local community. He stated that Mr. Speaker had directed the Committee in charge to handle the issue. However, five weeks had passed with no action taken and no report from the Committee. The community had therefore decided to take matters into their own hands and meet with the mining companies themselves.

Mr. Speaker's Response:

Mr. Speaker responded that he had issued an ultimatum that if the Committee failed to handle the issue, he would personally intervene. He said the time was now appropriate for him to step in directly. He requested all relevant details to be forwarded to the Chief of Staff in the Office of the Speaker, in conjunction with the Deputy Clerk of Parliament, to summon the mining companies, strategic stakeholders, National Mineral Agency (NMA), and the Ministry of Mines to Parliament. Meanwhile, Mr. Speaker would also invite members of the Public Interest Committee and the Leadership to investigate the issue and bring it to a resolution.

The Government Chief Whip, **Hon. Dickson M. Rogers**, advised that the Leadership should also be engaged regarding the reason MDAs do not comply with Committee summons. He explained that when MDAs are summoned by Committees, they often report to the leadership instead, citing the summons, and due to personal interests from leaders, they fail to comply with the Committees. He further advised that the leaders should prioritize state matters over personal interests.

Mr. Speaker agreed with his submission and requested the Deputy Speaker to be present at the meeting so that the documents, licensing, tax and everything relating to them could be looked into.

- (2) Hon. Tamba Kellie**, from **Kono District**, also raised concern over the issue of the Matotoka/Kono Road which is in a very bad state, and the matter to which had been brought to the House. It was referred to the Chairman on Works Committee. He appealed with the Chairman on Works to have an engagement with the Sierra Leone Road Authority (SLRA) to see what can be done to fix it.

Mr. Speaker asked him to do it in writing to the Chairman on Works, and copy him.

Adjournment:

**Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to Thursday 5th June, 2025 at 10:00 am.
The House rose at 11:45 a.m.**