



*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Republic of Sierra Leone
OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown*

Ref: 3079/155

12 October 2018

From:

The Director-General and Ambassador-at-Large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Tower Hill
Freetown

To:

The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament Building
Tower Hill
Freetown

Dear Sir

**Ratification of Agreement on Establishing the Consultation Mechanism
between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the
Republic of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's
Republic of China**

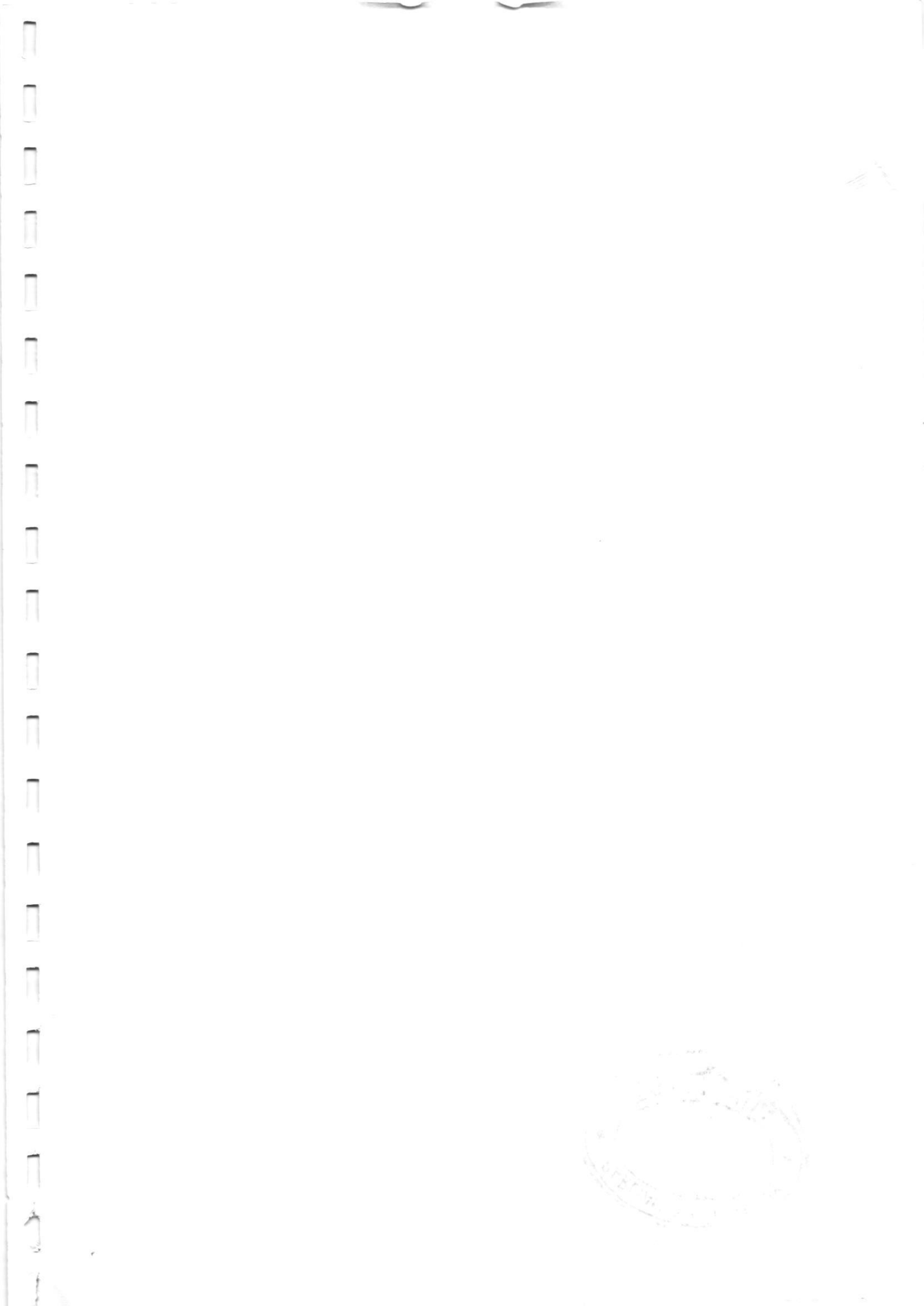
I am directed to refer to the above subject-matter and to submit the abovementioned Convention and respectfully request dates for the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to lay the said New York Convention before this Honourable House for ratification.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration as I await to hear from you.


Patrick Hassan Morlai Koroma

FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL & AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE

CC: The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation



EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

to the Agreement on Establishing the Consultation Mechanism between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

This Agreement was among those signed during former President Ernst Bai Koroma's State Visit to China in December 2016. It seeks to pursue a common aspiration between Sierra Leone and China by enhancing mutual understanding and further develop friendly relations. The Agreement will establish a consultation mechanism to communicate and coordinate on bilateral relations, regional and international issues and mutual interests.

Although Sierra Leone has bilateral diplomatic relations with China, this Agreement will elevate the relationship between our two Foreign Ministries to a higher status for the benefits of our respective countries. In addition to our existing bilateral diplomatic relationship, this Agreement commits the two Foreign Ministries to regular and periodic meeting at ministerial or director-general level in Beijing and Freetown. The parties will consult on existing fields of cooperation including political, economic and trade, education, culture, security, consular, etc. and explore new areas and ways of cooperation between competent departments, local governments, civil organisations and enterprises of our two countries.

This Agreement will contribute to the realisation of His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio's vision for inclusive representation and effective participation at the local level of governance. The Agreement will also foster deeper interaction between our two foreign ministries so that through the regular consultations, relevant stakeholders in government and through the private sector in Sierra Leone will tap into China's huge outbound direct investment.

The Agreement was considered and received approval at the Cabinet meeting held on 19 September 2018.

The focal person for this Agreement, on behalf of the Director-General and Ambassador-at-Large, to liaise with Parliament is:

Patrick Hassan Morlai Koroma

Director, Human Rights and Compliance

Legal Affairs and International Conventions Division

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Done: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Dated: 12 October 2018



AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHING
THE CONSULTATION MECHANISM BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the two parties"), with a common aspiration to enhance mutual understanding and further develop friendly relations, have reached agreement as follows:

Article I

The two parties decide to establish a consultation mechanism to communicate and coordinate on bilateral relations and regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Article II

Through the consultation mechanism, the two parties will work together to enhance the existing cooperative relationship in political,