



**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT
PARLIAMENT BUILDING
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL
FREETOWN**

E-mail: sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com/admin@parliament.gov.sl



07th November 2018

PRESS RELEASE

WELFARE COMMITTEE DEMANDS FOR HARMONIZATION OF THE WAGE BILL

The Welfare Committee of Parliament has on Wednesday 07th November 2018 in Committee Room Number One Parliament Building requested the Financial Secretary of the Ministry of Finance to submit the Wage Bill to Parliament in order for it to be restructured and harmonized in line with the salaries of Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government payable out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

This call is followed by a public outcry in light of an unsigned memo that had leaked relating to improved conditions of service for MPs.

Speaking to Journalists and Civil Society Organizations on the proposed salary increment for MPs, Chairman of the Parliamentary Welfare and Legislative Committees, Hon. Daniel B. Koroma has “demanded that all salaries for both public and civil servants be looked into and harmonized in the best interest of the country”. He also called on the media and Civil Society Organizations to collaborate with MPs in their efforts to harmonize the Wage Bill revealing as MPs they are “paid around Le12 Million and other public heads are paid above Le70 Million”, describing such as “unfair to the elected representatives of the people”. He concluded that “salaries should be harmonized in the best interest of the economy and the people of Sierra Leone and that this year’s budgetary debate will be focused on cutting budgetary expenditure and the harmonization of the country’s pay roll”.

Contributing, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh, Deputy Chairman of the Welfare Committee said “as representatives of the people, we are working in the best interest of the country and we also want to reveal that plans are underway to reduce budgetary expenditure and leakages”, during the course of debating the Government Budget of 2019. He also described the “discrepancies in the Wage Bill as a government leakage”, whilst calling on the media and Civil Society to “help MPs to fight a just cause”.

On the part of Hon. Foday Mario Kamara, the Deputy Leader of NGC in Parliament said in solidarity that “MPs are together in the fight for their welfare and conditions to be improved”, stating that “it is our constitutional right and the right of every Sierra Leonean to advocate for their welfare”. He also said that “we are not fighting with anybody but we are fighting for our right”.

Members of Civil Society who had the opportunity to contribute supported the call of MPs for the harmonization of the Wage Bill reflecting the current state of the economy, whilst speaking on the need for transparency, accountability and their continued involvement until the matter reaches its logical conclusion.

Department of Public Relations
Parliament of Sierra Leone
+23278495023/+23277669726/+23278426851