



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT
PARLIAMENT BUILDING
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL
FREETOWN
Tel: 232-076-615187
E-mail: admin@parliament.gov.sl



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Parliament Joins Action Aid to Celebrate National Women Farmers' Convention

Members of Parliament drawn from various parliamentary Committees have joined Action Aid Sierra Leone to celebrate National Women Farmers' Convention with the theme "more food, less poverty."



Women Farmers Presenting Position Paper to MPs in Support of Land Rights for Women

Giving background information on the Women Farmers at the CCSL Hall, King Harman Road in Freetown, the Executive Director of Action Aid Sierra Leone, Mr. Mohamed Sillah, said that the idea was conceived in Tanzania in 2012, where leaders of international organizations came together to promote women farmers' organizations around the world and advocate for their

rights to land. He said this year; they brought together women farmer organizations from the entire fourteen Districts in the country and youths to articulate land policies in respect of women farmers.

Various women farmers organizations presented a joint position paper to the Members of Parliament, who are representing committees on Lands, Political & Public Affairs, Energy, Water Resources, Social Services and Agriculture in Parliament; demanding that Government should formulate laws to protect women's rights to land; to review land lease agreements, improve feeder roads and create employment opportunities for women.

The Chairperson of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Lands and the Environment, Hon. Jariatu Smith, who chaired the programme, welcomed the initiative from Action Aid to support women farmers around the country. She said that their position paper will be look into and that the bill on Land Rights for Women, when brought up by the Executive, will be treated with the utmost respect it deserves.

The Chairman, Agriculture Committee, Hon. Alimamy G. Kargbo who is also a master farmer, pledged his support to the project, whilst Chairmen of Social Services, Water Resources and Energy, made significant contributions to the Women Farmers' Convention.