

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

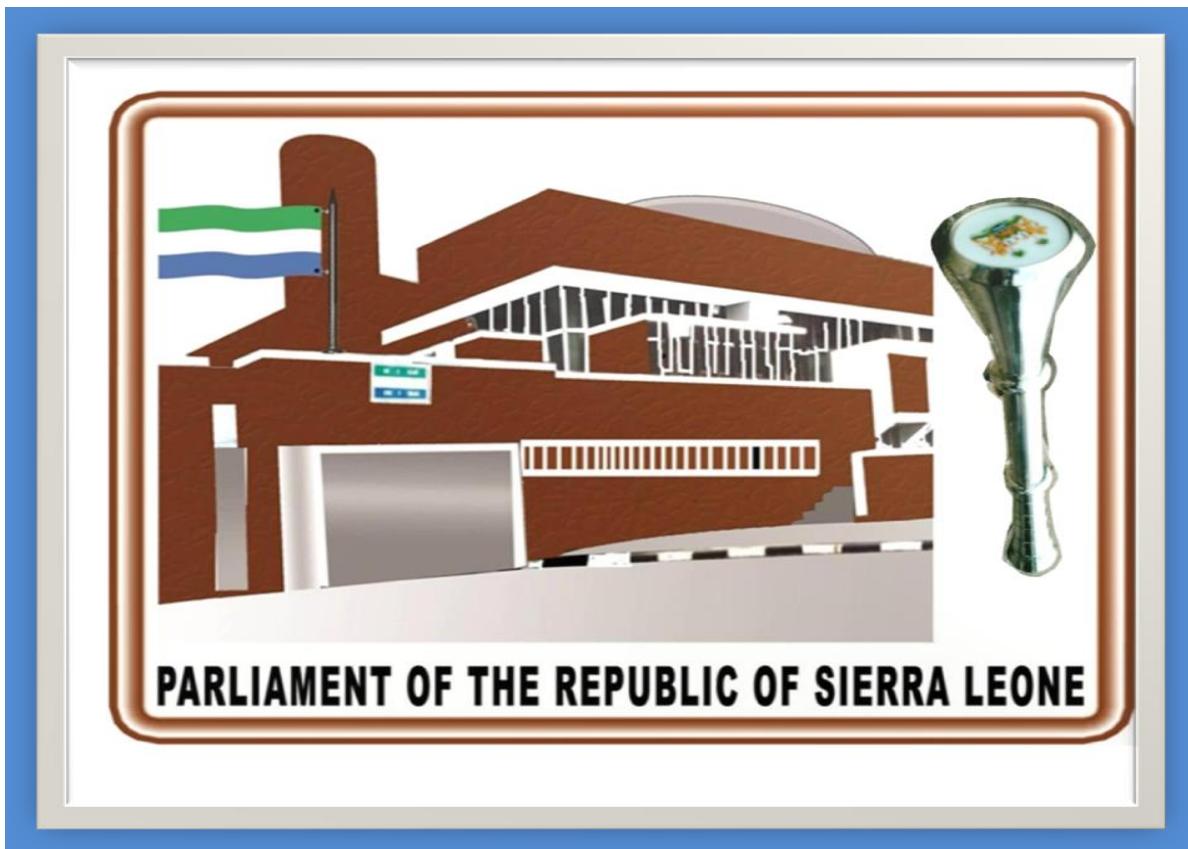
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

THIRD SESSION –FIRST MEETING

MONDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 2025

SESSION – 2024/2025



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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First Meeting of the Third Session of the Sixth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held Monday 11th August 2025

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V. BILL

THE BILL ENTITLED THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS 2025



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

**THIRD SESSION – FIRST MEETING
OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

Monday, 11th August 2025.

PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Prince Oviasuyi, Read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:10a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

Suspension of S.O5[2]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members we will skip the Records of Votes and Proceedings today because our Clerks are yet to work on the Records of Votes and Proceedings, so we proceed to the next item.

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I invite the Leadership of Parliament to my Chambers, this sitting is stood down for 20minutes.

[The House Resumes]

LAYING OF PAPER

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY:

DR ABDUL RAHIM JALLOH: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with your leave, I beg to lay on the table of this Honourable House the following paper, the Sierra Leone Electricity and water Regulatory Commission [Mini Grid] regulations, 2025, and the Sierra Leone Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission Acts 2025, Acts No. 13 of 2025. Statutory instrument No. 7 of 2025.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND PUBLIC ASSETS

DR DENNIS SANDY

THE SPEAKER: Leader can you proceed

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in the absent of the Minister, I would want to amend the Order Paper. Laying of Papers Roman Figure ii, the Minister of Works and Public Assets to be amended to read the Leader of Government Business, I so move Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. JOSEPH W. LAMIN: I Second the motion

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[The Motion to amend the Order Paper moved by the Acting Leader of Government Business has been carried]

THE LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on this Honourable House a concession agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone represented by the Ministry of Works and Public Assets [MOWPA], the Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA] and the Socite-Dura Maritel Construction [SDMC] Ltd and Partners, relating to the design, reconstruction, tolling operation and the maintenance manor junction Tongur-Bumpeh through private sector intervention using Public Private Partnership [PPP] model under Design Finance Built Operate and Transfer [DFBOT] arrangement dated 4th August 2025.

[COMMITTEE STAGE]

The National Country Plan 2024. The Minister, Lands Housing and Country Planning. The Committee resolve into the Committee of the Whole House.

Report on the National Country Planning Acts 2025, Honourable Abdul S. Marray-Conneh, Chairman Legislative Committee.

HON. ABDUL S. MARRY-CONTEH: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I rise to Present 9th Report of the 6th Parliament of the 2nd Republic of Sierra Leone on the Bill entitled the National Country Planning Acts 2025.

NINTH REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, SECOND SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE, ON THE BILL ENTITLED "THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 2025", PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT ON THURSDAY 22ND MAY 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Members, I rise to present the Ninth Report of the Legislative Committee, Second Session of the Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone, on the Bill Entitled: THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 2025 "Being an Act to promote sustainable development, establish a framework for national planning, enhance resilience to disasters, adapt to and mitigate climate change, encourage public participation, ensure effective enforcement, support the development of infrastructure, housing, and public amenities that contribute to improving the living standards of the people in both urban and rural areas, establish mechanisms for the continuous monitoring, evaluation, and improvement of planning policies and practices, harmonize

country planning efforts with national development objectives and international commitments, including those related to sustainable development, climate change, and human rights and to provide for otherrelated matters”.

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Members, the Bill having gone through Second Reading, was committed to the Legislative Committee for scrutiny pursuant to Standing Orders 51[1]. Subsequently, the Committee met on Wednesday 23rd, Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th July, 2025, in Committee Room No.1, Parliament Building, with the following objectives:

- To scrutinize in detail the principles and provisions of the bill and to make amendments if necessary.
- To ascertain the constitutional and legal implications contained therein.
- To report to Plenary for consideration by the Committee of the Whole House in line with S.O.53.

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Members, in attendance were, the Minister, Deputy Minister and Officials from the Ministry of Lands and Country Planning, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Manager and the Director of Legal Affairs, Environment Protection Agency, the Director General, National Disaster Management Agency, the Director of Forestry, the Chairman, Legislative Committee, Members of the Legislative Committee and other Members of Parliament.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Members, the Legislative Committee having scrutinized the Bill line by line, clause by clause, recommends the following amendments to the House for approval:

Short Title of the Bill– be inserted to read “The National CountryPlanning Act, 2025”.

Long Title of the Bill- be amended by inserting the phrase “ to repeal and replace the Town and Country Planning Act 1960 (Cap81)” after the word “Act”, inserting the word “ physical” after the word “national” and inserting the phrase “policies that will” after the word “planning”, to now read, “Being an Act to repeal and replace the Town and Country Planning Act 1960 (Cap81), to promote sustainable development, establish a framework for national physical planning policies that will, enhance resilience to disasters, adapt to and mitigate climate change, encourage public participation, ensure effective enforcement, support the development of infrastructure, housing, and public amenities that contribute to improving the living standards of the people in both urban and rural areas, establish mechanisms for the continuous monitoring, evaluation, and

improvement of planning policies and practices, harmonize country planning efforts with national development objectives and international commitments, including those related to sustainable development, climate change, and human rights and to provide for other related matters”.

PART I – PRELIMINARY:

Clause 1 - Interpretation – the definition of the word “Blight” be amended by inserting a new “f” to read “Environmental Impact Assessment – means the assessment required pursuant to section 24 of the Environment Protection Agency Act 2022;”

Clause 1 - Interpretation – the definition of the word “Minister” be amended by replacing the phrase “in charge of” with the phrase “responsible for” to now read, “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Country planning in Sierra Leone and “Ministry” shall be construed accordingly;”

Clause 2 sub clause 1(b)(ii) – Application of Act - be amended by replacing the phrase “the objectives of sustainable development and environmental conservation” with the phrase “existing legislations” after the word “with”, to now read, “the identification, designation, and regulation of planning areas, as determined by the Directorate of Country Planning or any other entity appointed by the Minister to perform the functions under this Act, in line with existing legislations”.

Clause 3 – Non-Application of Act - be approved.

Clause 3 – Commencement - be approved.

PART II–INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Clause 5 sub clause 2(a) – Directorate of Country Planning – be amended by removing the phrase “disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation goals in line with existing policies and legislations” from subparagraph (a), to become the new clause 5 sub clause 2(b).

Subparagraph (a) now reads, “developing and implementing national physical planning policies, guidelines, and standards that align with sustainable development”.

New Clause 5 sub clause 2(b) – Directorate of Country Planning – be inserted to read, “Promoting disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation goals in line with existing policies and legislations”.

Clause 5 sub clause 2(l) – Directorate of Country Planning – be amended by replacing the word “spacial” with the word “spatial” at the second line of the sentence.

Clause 5 sub clause 2(n) – Directorate of Country Planning – be amended by replacing the word “promoting” with the word “promotion” at the fourth line of the sentence and inserting the phrase “in line with existing policies and legislations” at the end of the sentence. The entire clause 5 sub clause 2 be amended by lettering it to reflect the changes.

Clause 6 – Local Council – be approved.

Clause 7 sub clause 1(d) – National Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the word “and” after the word “works” to now read, “one representative each from the Ministries responsible for environment, planning and economic development, tourism, finance, works and agriculture;”

Clause 7 sub clause 1(h) – National Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “and any other member deemed necessary to aid the full implementation of this Act” to now read “one representative from academia with expertise in urban planning or related fields;”

Clause 7 sub clause 1 – National Planning Committee – be amended by inserting a new subparagraph (i) to read, “co-opted Ministers from relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies to aid the full implementation of this Act”.

Clause 8 sub clause 2(b) – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “who shall be co-chair” to now read, “The Provincial Secretary”.

Clause 8 sub clause 2(f) – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the word “and” after the word “agriculture” to now read, “one representative from each relevant sectoral ministry at the regional level, including environment, agriculture and works;”

Clause 8 sub clause 2(g) – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the phrase “one of whom shall be female” after the word “region” to now read “2 representatives from civil society organizations related to spatial planning, operating within the region one of whom shall be female; and;”

Clause 8 sub clause 3 – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the phrase “the National Planning Committee” after the word “advise”, to now read, “The Regional Planning Committee under subsection (1), shall be responsible to advise the National Planning Committee”.

Clause 8 sub clause 3(d) – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “the National Planning Committee” to now read, “on regional planning issues and needs;”.

Clause 8 sub clause 3(e) – Regional Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “the National Planning Committee” and inserting the phrase “from activities related to this Act” to now read, “on revenue generation from activities related to this Act;”.

Clause 9 sub clause 1 – District Planning Committee – be amended by replacing the word “region” with the word “District”, to now read, “There is hereby established a District Planning Committee for each District of Sierra Leone”.

Clause 9 sub clause 2 – District Planning Committee – be amended by inserting new subparagraphs “a” and “b”.

New Clause 9 sub clause 2(a) – District Planning Committee – now reads, “the District Council Chairman, who shall be Chairman, where applicable”.

New Clause 9 sub clause 2(b) – District Planning Committee – now reads, “the Mayor, who shall be Cochairman, where applicable”

Previous Clause 9 sub clause 2(a) – District Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “who shall serve as the Chairperson” to now read, “the Senior District Officer or District Officer”

Clause 9 sub clause 2(c) – District Planning Committee – be amended by deleting the word “all” and the phrase “within the district” to now read, “the Chief Administrators of Local Councils;”

Clause 9 sub clause 2(d) – District Planning Committee – be amended to read, “one representative each from relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies within the District;”

Clause 9 sub clause 2(e) – District Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the phrase “one of whom shall be female” to now read, “2 representatives from civil society organisations operating within the district, one of whom shall be female;”

The entire clause 9 sub clause 2 be amended by lettering it to reflect the changes.

Clause 9 sub clause 3(e) – District Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the phrase “from activities related to this Act” to now read, “on revenue generation from activities related to this Act”.

Clause 10 sub clause 2(a) – Local Planning Committee – be amended by replacing the word “Chairperson” with the word “Chairman”.

Clause 10 sub clause 2(b) – Local Planning Committee – be amended by replacing the word “Chairperson” with the word “Chairman”.

Clause 10 sub clause 2(f) – Local Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the phrase “one of whom shall be female” to now read “2 representatives from local civil society organisations, one of whom shall be female and;”.

Clause 10 sub clause 2(g) – Local Planning Committee – be amended by replacing the phrase “2 representatives from the Community, elected by residents” with the phrase “Councilors within the Local Planning Area;”.

Clause 10 sub clause 3 – Local Planning Committee – be amended by inserting the word “to” after the word “responsible”, inserting the phrase “the Council” after the word “advise” to now read, “The Local Planning Committee under subsection (1), shall be responsible to advise the Council on-;”.

PART III- COUNTRY PLANNING FINANCE

Clause 11 sub clause 6 – National Planning Fund – be amended by moving it to become the new clause 11 sub clause 2.

Previous Clause 11 sub clauses 2, 3, 4 and 5 – National Planning Fund – be merged to become the new sub clause 3, to read “Internally generated funds obtained from the issuance of permits, collection of penalties, approval of structural plans, and any other revenue generated under this Act shall be retained as follows-

(a)Fifty percent (50) by the Local Council

(b)Ten percent (10) by the Ministry

(c) Five percent (5) by the Chiefdom Administration for the day-to-day administration of the Chiefdoms

(d) Thirty five percent (35) by the National Planning Fund to finance capital projects in the localities

Clause 12(i) – Application of Fund – be amended by replacing the word “spacial” with the word “spatial”

Clause 13 sub clauses 1,2,3, and 4 Accounts and Audit – be replaced with a new clause 13 sub clauses 1,2,3,4 and 5

Clause 13 sub clause 1 - Accounts and Audit – reads “The Ministry shall keep proper books of account and other records in relation to the activities, property and finances of the fund in a form approved by the Auditor-General, and shall prepare in respect of each financial year, a financial statement which shall include -

- (a) balance sheet accounts;
- (b) income and expenditure accounts; and
- (c) source and application of funds;”

Clause 13 sub clause 2 - Accounts and Audit - reads “The accounts of the fund kept under subsection (1) shall, not later than two months after the end of each financial year, be audited by the Auditor-General or an auditor appointed by him.”

Clause 13 sub clause 3 - Accounts and Audit - reads “For the purposes of subsection (2), the Auditor-General or the auditor appointed by him shall be entitled to have access to all books of account, vouchers and other financial records of the fund and to require such information and explanation thereon as he may think fit.”

Clause 13 sub clause 4 - Accounts and Audit – reads, “The Ministry shall provide the Auditor-General or the auditor appointed by him with all necessary and appropriate facilities for the examination of the accounts and records of the Fund.”

Clause 13 sub clauses 5 - Accounts and Audit – reads, “The AuditorGeneral or the auditor appointed by him shall submit to the Ministry a report on the audited accounts and the financial statements referred to in subsection (1) and shall, in his report draw attention to–

- (a) any irregularities in the accounts;
- (b) any matters that are likely to adversely affect the operations of the Fund; and
- (c) any other matter which, in his opinion, ought to be brought to the notice of the Ministry.”

A New clause 14 with sidenote Financial year – be inserted to read “The financial year of the Fund shall be the same as the financial year of the Government”

A new clause 15 sub clauses 1,2,3 and 4 with the sidenote “Annual report” be inserted

New Clause 15 sub clause 1 Annual report – reads “The Chairman shall, within three months after the end of the financial year, submit to the Minister a report on the performance of its functions during that year and on its policy and programmes.”

New Clause 15 sub clause 2 Annual report – reads, “The annual report shall include the accounts and annual financial statement prepared under section 13 and the report of the audit thereon.”

New Clause 15 sub clause 3 Annual report – reads, “The Minister shall lay copies of the annual report before Parliament within two months after he has received the report.”

New Clause 15 sub clause 4 Annual report – reads, “The Ministry shall make copies of the report available to all stakeholders once it has been laid before Parliament.”

Clause 14 – Fund Committee – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 16

Clause 16 sub clause 2(a) previously clause 14 sub clause 2(a) – Fund Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “of Lands” to now read, “the Minister as Chairperson”

Clause 16 sub clause 2(a) previously clause 14 sub clause 2(a) – Fund Committee – be amended by deleting the phrase “of Lands” to now read, “the Minister as Chairperson”

Clause 16 sub clause 2(a) previously clause 14 sub clause 2(a) – be amended by moving the phrase “and the Permanent Secretary who serves as secretary to the Committee” to become new subparagraph “f”

PART IV- STRUCTURE OF PLANNING SYSTEMS

Clause 15 – Operational Structure – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 17.

Clause 16 – Supervision of Planning Systems – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 18.

Clause 18 sub clause 1 previously clause 16 sub clause 1 – Supervision of Planning Systems – be amended by inserting the word “the” after the word “from” at the last line of the sentence to now read, “The National Planning Committee shall provide

overarching supervision, ensuring that all lower-level Planning Committees adhere to national policies and standards and shall intervene if regional, district or local plans deviate significantly from the national master plan”.

Clause 17 – Vertical Coordination – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 19

Clause 19 sub clause 2 previously clause 17 sub clause 2 – Vertical Coordination – be amended by inserting the word “the” after the word “to” at the last line of the sentence, to now read, “The Regional Planning Committee shall transmit national and regional policies to the District Planning Committee, ensuring that district plans reflect both regional priorities and national goals.”.

Clause 18 – Horizontal Coordination – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 20.

Clause 20 sub clause 1 previously clause 18 sub clause 1 – Horizontal Coordination – be amended by spacing the words “efforts” and “requiring”.

Clause 19 – Technical Coordination between Planning Systems – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 21.

Clause 21 sub clause 4 previously clause 19 sub clause 4 – Technical Coordination between Planning Systems – be amended by spacing the words “shall” and “focus” at the fifth line of the sentence.

Clause 20 – Information sharing and data management – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 22.

Clause 22 sub clause 3 previously clause 20 sub clause 3 – Information sharing and data management – be amended by deleting the word “data”, after the word “which” to now read, “The District and Local Planning Committees shall be responsible for the collection and initial analysis of data within their respective jurisdictions which shall be used to inform local and district planning processes and shall be shared with higher planning levels to support broader planning efforts”.

Clause 22 sub clause 4 previously clause 20 sub clause 4 – Information sharing and data management – be amended by replacing the word “adapted”, with the word “adopted” to now read, “A Planning System shall be subject to regular monitoring and evaluation processes to assess the effectiveness of planning and implementation activities and the National Planning Committee shall develop standardized monitoring and evaluation frameworks, which shall be adopted by Regional, District, and Local Planning Committees to suit their specific contexts and findings from monitoring and

evaluation activities shall be reported upwards, from Local to District, from District to Regional, and from Regional to National levels, ensuring continuous feedback and improvement in planning processes.”

PART V – LAND USE PLAN

Clause 21– National Land use Master Plan – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 23.

Clause 22– Regional Land use Master Plan – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 24.

Clause 23 – District Land use Master Plan – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 25.

Clause 25 sub clause 2(a) previously Clause 23 sub clause 2(a) – District Land use Master Plan – be amended by replacing the word “regional” with the word “district” to now read “a district spatial vision consistent with the National Land Use Master Plan;”

Clause 25 sub clause 2(e) previously Clause 23 sub clause 2(e) – District Land use Master Plan – be amended by replacing the word “region” with the word “district” to now read, “coordination of local planning activities within the district;”

Clause 25 sub clause 3 previously Clause 23 sub clause 3 – District Land use Master Plan – be amended by replacing the word “Regional” with the word “District” to now read, “The District Land Use Master Plan shall be reviewed and updated every 5 years.”

Clause 24 – Local Area Plan – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 26.

Clause 26 sub clause 1 previously clause 24 sub clause 1 – Local Area Plan – be amended by deleting the word “Land” at the second line of the sentence, to now read “A Local Council shall prepare, adopt and publish, a Local Area Plan within 5 years of the commencement of this Act”

Clause 25 – Content of Local Area Plan – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 27.

Clause 26 – Land Use Scheme – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 28.

Clause 27 – Preparation and approval – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 29.

Clause 28 – Enforcement of Land Use Plans and Schemes – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 30.

Clause 30 sub clause 3 previously clause 28 sub clause 3– Enforcement of Land Use Plans and Schemes – be amended by moving sub Clause 3 paragraphs (a) and (b) to clause 98 sub clause 2, to become the new Clause 98 sub clause 2 (l) and (m).

Clause 30 sub clause 4 previously clause 28 sub clause 4 – Enforcement of Land Use Plans and Schemes – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 30 sub clause 3

Clause 30 sub clause 5 previously clause 28 sub clause 5 – Enforcement of Land Use Plans and Schemes – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 30 sub clause 4

Clause 30 previously clause 28 – Enforcement of Land Use Plans and Schemes – a new sub Clause 5 be inserted to read “A compliance notice under sub section (1)-

(a) shall specify-

- (i) the offending activity;
- (ii) the steps required to be taken; and
- (iii) the time within which the steps shall be taken; or

(b) may, direct immediate cessation of the offending activity”

PART VI – NATIONAL ADDRESSING SYSTEM

Clause 29 – National Addressing System – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 31

Clause 31 sub clause 2 previously clause 29 sub clause 2– National Addressing System – be amended by arranging the lettering, subparagraph (e) become (b), subparagraph (f) becomes (c), subparagraph (g) becomes (d)

Clause 30 – Components of National Addressing System –be amended by renumbering it to become clause 32.

Clause 31 – Street Naming and Numbering National System – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 33.

Clause 33 sub clause 1 previously clause 31 sub clause 1 – Street Naming and Numbering National System – be amended by replacing the word “Addressin” with the word “Addressing” at the second line of the sentence.

Clause 32 – Legal recognition – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 34

PART VII – BLIGHT AND BLIGHTED AREAS

Clause 33 – Identification and designation of blighted areas – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 35

Clause 35 sub clause 1 previously clause 33 sub clause 1 – Identification and designation of blighted areas – be amended by inserting the phrase “in consultation with relevant institutions” to now read, “The Local Councils in consultation with relevant institutions shall be responsible for identifying areas within the country that meet the criteria for blight”

Clause 35 sub clause 2 previously clause 33 sub clause 2 – Identification and designation of blighted areas – be amended by separating the words “local” and “authorities”

Clause 34 – Powers of Council in blighted area - be amended by renumbering it to become clause 36

Clause 36 sub clause 1 previously clause 34 sub clause 1 – Powers of Council in blighted area - be amended by inserting the word “the” before the word “District” to now read, “The Council in a blighted area may, with the approval Powers of the District Committee, acquire property within a designated blighted Council in area, either through voluntary purchase or compulsory acquisition, to facilitate redevelopment.”

Clause 35 – Financial Incentives – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 37

Clause 36 – Community involvement and transparency – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 38

Clause 38 sub clause 1 previously clause 36 sub clause 1 – Community involvement and transparency - be amended by separating the words “the” and “public”.

Clause 37 – Enforcement and compliance – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 39.

Clause 38 – Review and reporting – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 40.

Clause 39 – Special planning zone – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 41.

PART VIII – ACQUISITION AND APPROPRIATION OF LAND, PROPERTY, ETC. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

Clause 40 – Acquisition and appropriation – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 42

Clause 42 sub clause 4 clause 40 sub clause 4 – Acquisition and appropriation – be amended by moving it to clause 98 sub clause 2 to become the new Clause 102 sub Clause 2 (n)

PART VI – CONSERVATION, PARKS, NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS, TOURISTIC AND FOREST RESERVES

Clause 41 – Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 43.

Clause 43 previously clause 41 – Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves – sidenote of clause 41 be amended to read, “Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves”.

Clause 43 sub clause 2 previously Clause 41 sub clause 2 – Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves – be amended by inserting the phrase “and any other applicable laws” after the word “Act” to now read, “An area may be designated based on scientific evaluations, ecological importance, cultural heritage, the necessity for conservation, and the prevention of deforestation, in accordance with this Act and any other applicable laws”.

Clause 43 sub clause 3 previously Clause 41 sub clause 3 – Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves – be amended by inserting the phrase “in line with existing laws” after the word “established” to now read, “The following categories of protected areas shall be established in line with existing laws under this Part-”.

Clause 43 sub clause 4 previously clause 41 sub clause 4 – Designation of conservation areas, parks, national protected areas and forest reserves – be amended by deleting the letter “A” before the word “designated” and replacing the phrase “made publicly accessible” with the word “Gazetted” to now read, “Designated areas shall be accurately mapped, documented, and incorporated into national, regional, and local land use master plans, with such documentation Gazetted”.

Clause 42 – Management and protection of designated areas – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 44.

Clause 44 sub clause 1 previously clause 42 sub clause 1 – Management and protection of designated areas – be amended by deleting the word “An” before the word “areas”, to now read, “Areas designated shall be vested in the relevant Government ministry, department or agency for development and public use”.

Clause 44 sub clause 2 previously clause 42 sub clause 2 Management and protection of designated areas – be amended by replacing the word “developed” with the word “develop” before the word “management”.

Clause 43 – Prohibited activities – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 45

Clause 45 sub clause 1 previously Clause 43 sub clause 1 – Prohibited activities – be amended by inserting a new subparagraph “e” to read “any other activities prohibited under existing laws.”

A new sub clause 3 be inserted to read “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

Clause 44 – Community involvement and co-management – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 46.

Clause 45 sub clause 1 – Environment impactment assessment – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 47.

Clause 47 previously clause 45 – Environment impactment assessment – sidenote of Clause 47 previously clause 45 be amended by replacing the word “impactment” with the word “impact” to now read “Environment impact assessment”.

Clause 47 sub clause 1 previously clause 45 sub clause 1 – Environment impact assessment – be amended by replacing the letter “a” with the word “an” before the word “impact” at the second line of the sentence.

Clause 46 - Enforcement and penalties – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 48.

Clause 47 – Protection from personal liability – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 49.

PART X – SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

Clause 48 – Principles of sustainable development – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 50.

Clause 50 previously clause 48 – Principles of sustainable development – side note of clause 50 be amended by replacing the word “sustainable” with the word “sustainable” to now read, “Principles of sustainable development”.

Clause 49 – Climate change adaptation and mitigation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 51.

Clause 50 – Promotion of green infrastructure – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 52.

Clause 51 – Disaster reduction and management – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 53.

Clause 52 – Emergency preparedness and response plan – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 54.

Clause 54 sub clause 1 previously clause 52 sub clause 1 – Emergency preparedness and response plan – be amended by replacing the phrase “that include” with the phrase “in line with the National Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery plan that include but not limited to-” to now read, “Local councils shall develop and maintain Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans in line with the National Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery plan that include but not limited to: -”.

Clause 53 – Environmental monitoring and compliance – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 55.

Clause 55 sub clause 2 previously clause 53 sub clause 2 – Environmental monitoring and compliance – be amended by inserting the phrase “and Climate Change” after the word “Environment” and replacing the phrase “develop and enforce” with the phrase “ensure compliance with”, to now read, “The Directorate of Country Planning, in

collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, shall ensure compliance with

Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, setting out the process, content, and criteria for assessment.”

Clause 54 – Sustainability, reporting and accountability – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 56

Clause 56 previously Clause 54 – Sustainability, reporting and accountability – be amended by inserting the phrase “for urban planning purposes” at the end of the sentence, to now read, “The Directorate of Country Planning, in collaboration with environmental authorities, shall establish a comprehensive Environmental Monitoring Program for urban planning purposes”.

Clause 55 – Accountability and continuous assessment – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 57.

Clause 57 previously Clause 55 – Accountability and continuous assessment – sidenote of clause 57 be amended by replacing the word “continuous” with the word “continuous”, to now read “Accountability and continuous assessment”.

Clause 56 – Environmental impact assessment and monitoring – be amended by deleting it sidenote and renumbering it to become sub clauses 3 and 4 of clause 57 previously clause 55.

PART XI – PLANNING UTILITIES AND INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION

Clause 57– Comprehensive utility planning – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 58.

Clause 58 – Utility infrastructure and safety regulations – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 59.

Clause 59 sub clause 1(b) previously clause 58 sub clause 1(b) – Utility infrastructure and safety regulations – be amended by deleting the word “ensuring” to now read, “the durability and reliability of utility systems.”

Clause 59 – Inter-institutional coordination – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 60

Clause 60 sub clause 1 previously clause 59 sub clause 1 – Interinstitutional coordination – be amended by deleting the letter “s” from the word “Committees” to now read, “The National Planning Committee shall be tasked with -”.

Clause 60 – Regional and local coordination mechanisms – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 61.

Clause 61 sub clause 1 previously clause 60 sub clause 1 – Regional and local coordination mechanisms – be amended by replacing the word “Planning” with the word “Coordination” to now read, “Regional Coordination Committee as established in each region, comprising -”.

Clause 61 sub clause 2 previously clause 60 sub clause 2 – Regional and local coordination mechanisms – be amended by replacing the phrase “District Planning” with the phrase “Regional Coordination” to now read, “The Regional Coordination Committee shall be responsible for -”.

Clause 61 sub clause 3 previously clause 60 sub clause 3 – Regional and local coordination mechanisms – be amended by replacing the word “Planning” with the word “Coordination” and replacing the word “Committees” with the word “Committee” to now read, “Local Coordination Committee shall be formed at the local council level, with members including -”.

Clause 61 sub clause 4 previously clause 60 sub clause 4 – Regional and local coordination mechanisms – be amended by replacing the word “Planning” with the word “Coordination” and replacing the word “Committees” with the word “Committee” to now read, “The LocalCoordination Committee shall be focus on-”.

Clause 61 – Information sharing, reporting, and environmental monitoring – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 62.

Clause 62 – Public engagement, consultation, and environmental awareness – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 63.

Clause 63 – Environmental and safety compliance and enforcement – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 64.

PART XII – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Clause 64 – Public participation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 65.

Clause 65 – Stakeholder engagement – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 66.

Clause 66 sub clause 2 previously clause 65 sub clause 2 – Stakeholder engagement – be amended by inserting the phrase “but not limited to”, to now read, “Stakeholders shall include but not limited to -”.

PART XIII – STRUCTURE PLANNING ON MATTERS RELATED TO TOWNS, LOCALITIES, SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS, ETC.

Clause 66 – Continuation of towns, establishment of new town or extension of existing town – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 67.

Clause 67 sub clause 5 previously clause 66 sub clause 5 – Continuation of towns, establishment of new town or extension of existing town – be amended by inserting the phrase “Pursuant to sub section 4(a) and (b)”, inserting the word “shall” and deleting the phrase “seeks to extend comply with this”, to now read, “Pursuant to subsection 4(a) and (b) the ministry shall ”.

Clause 67 sub clause 5(b) previously clause 66 sub clause 5(b) – Continuation of towns, establishment of new town or extension of existing town – be amended by replacing the word “required” with the word “required”.

Clause 67 sub clause 5(c) previously clause 66 sub clause 5(c) – Continuation of towns, establishment of new town or extension of existing town – be amended by replacing the word “encimberance” with the word “encumberance”.

Clause 67 – Housing scheme and private town – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 68.

Clause 68 sub clause 1(d) previously clause 67 sub clause 1(d) – Housing scheme and private town – be amended by replacing the word “spacial” with the word “spatial” at the second line of the sentence.

Clause 68 sub clause 6 previously clause 67 sub clause 6 – Housing scheme and private town – be amended by replacing the word “Araa” with the word “Area” at the fourth line of the sentence.

Clause 68 – Information sharing and reporting – be amended by deleting it sidenote and renumbering it to become sub clause 7 of the new clause 68

Clause 69 – Notification on town and country development by the Minister to the National Planning Committee – be amended by deleting it sidenote and renumbering it to become sub clause 8 of the new clause 68.

Clause 69 – Notification on town and country development by the Minister to the National Planning Committee – be amended by deleting it sidenote and renumbering it to become sub clause 9 of the new clause 68.

Clause 70 – Failure to comply with conditions – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 69.

Clause 69 sub clause 3 previously clause 70 sub clause 3 – Failure to comply with conditions – be amended by inserting the word “of” after the word “review” to now read, “An application for the extension of the validity or review of an application under subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee”.

A new sub clause 2 be inserted to read, “A person who proceeds, after the notice is served to establish a town or extend the boundaries of a town commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 50,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years and shall be subject to an enforcement notice”.

This clause be amended further by rearranging the numbering, sub clause 3 become 2 and sub clause 2 becomes 3.

Clause 71 – Notice to lodge survey plan – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 70

Clause 70 sub clause 1 previously clause 71 sub clause 1 – Notice to lodge survey plan – be amended by replacing the letter “a” with the word “the” after the word “applies” and inserting the word “the” after the word “by” to now read, “A person who applies to the Ministry for approval to establish a town or extend the boundaries of a town, shall be given notice by the Ministry to lodge the plans for the purposes of surveying the land earmarked for the establishment or extension”.

Clause 72 – Owner of public space – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 71.

Clause 73 – Guideline on private town – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 72.

Clause 74 – Notice to Lands Commission and prohibition of sale – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 73.

Clause 73 sub clause 5 previously clause 74 sub clause 5 - Notice to Lands Commission and prohibition of sale – be amended to read “A person who contravenes subsection 2 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

Clause 75 – Alteration, amendment or cancellation pursuant to complaint– be amended by renumbering it to become clause 74.

Clause 76 – Extension of boundaries of approved town or approved extension – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 75.

PART XIII – PHYSICAL PLANNING MATTERS RELATED TO THE SUBDIVISION OR CONSOLIDATION OF LAND

Clause 77 – Application for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 76.

Clause 76 previously clause 77 – Application for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by inserting a new sub clause 3 to read “ A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

Clause 78 – Unique parcel number – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 77.

Clause 79 – Consideration of application for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 78.

Clause 78 previously clause 79 – Consideration of application for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by replacing the letter “a” with the word “an”, replacing the word “request” with the word “application”, deleting the word “of”, replacing the phrase “except that before the Committee accepts a request, the Committee shall” with the phrase “in the manner prescribed by regulations” and deleting subparagraphs “a” and “b”, to now read, “The Local Planning

Committee may reject or accept an application for consolidation in the manner prescribed by regulations”.

Clause 80 – Granting or refusal of application for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 79.

Clause 81 – Condition for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 80.

Clause 80 sub clause 2 previously clause 81 sub clause 2 – Condition for subdivision or consolidation – be amended by to read, "A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 50,000 and shall be subject to an enforcement notice and cost of the enforcement shall be paid by the offender or serve an imprisonment not less than two years".

This clause be amended further by rearranging the numbering, sub clause 3 become 2 and sub clause 2 becomes 3.

Clause 82 – Conveyance or title deed of subdivided or consolidated land to be in compliance with this Act – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 81.

Clause 83 – Ownership and use of public space – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 82.

Clause 84 – Endorsement by Lands Commission – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 83.

Clause 85 – False or misleading information – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 84.

Clause 84 previously clause 85 – False or misleading information – be amended to become clause 82 sub clause 1, to read, "A person shall not intentionally provide false or misleading information in connection with an application made under this Act".

A new sub clause 2 be inserted to read "A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment of not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment".

Clause 86 – Regulatory notices – be amended by renumbering it to become Clause 85

A new Part be inserted to become part XIV OFFENCES and previous part XIV now becomes part XV XIV – OFFENCES

A new clause 86 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote "Unauthorized Display of Advertisements."

Clause 86 sub clause 1 Unauthorized Display of Advertisements – reads “A person shall not erect any advertisement or billboard without approval from the planning authority”.

Clause 86 sub clause 2 Unauthorized Display of Advertisements – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 10,000 per display”.

A new clause 87 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Unauthorized construction”.

Clause 87 sub clause 1 Unauthorized construction: – reads “A person shall not commence construction of a house, fence, warehouse, store, shop, extension or any development without the required permit or approved structural plan.”

Clause 87 sub clause 2 Unauthorized construction – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 120,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than 2 years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

A new clause 88 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Tempering with Planning Notices”.

Clause 88 sub clause 1 Tempering with Planning Notices – reads “A person shall not damage, remove or deface an official planning notice or enforcement”.

Clause 88 sub clause 2 Tempering with Planning Notices – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 25,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than six months or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

A new clause 89 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Obstruction of Authorized Officer”

Clause 89 sub clause 1 Obstruction of Authorized Officer – reads “A person shall not obstruct, assault or threaten a planning officer in the discharge of his lawful duties”

Clause 89 sub clause 2 Obstruction of Authorized Officer – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 50,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than six months or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

A new clause 90 sub clauses 1,2 and 3 be inserted with the sidenote “Unauthorized change of Land Use”

Clause 90 sub clause 1 Unauthorized change of Land Use – reads “A person shall not change the use of any land or building without planning permission.”

Clause 90 sub clause 2 Unauthorized change of Land Use – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 80,000 and shall be requested to demolish or undo such development.”

Clause 90 sub clause 3 Unauthorized change of Land Use – “Where a person refuses to do as instructed in subsection 1, planning authorities shall undertake to restore Land to its usual state and cost paid by the offender or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years.”

A new clause 91 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Failure to Comply with Special Planning Zones.”

Clause 91 sub clause 1 Failure to Comply with Special Planning Zones – reads “A person shall not disregard planning rules in designated blighted areas, protected zones, or redevelopment schemes”

Clause 91 sub clause 2 Failure to Comply with Special Planning Zones – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 75,000 or forfeiture of the site.”

A new clause 92 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Unauthorized development in Environmentally sensitive areas”

Clause 92 sub clause 1 Unauthorized development in Environmentally sensitive areas – reads “A person shall not undertake development in wetland, floodplains or conservation areas without environmental clearance”.

Clause 92 sub clause 2 Unauthorized development in Environmentally sensitive areas – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 150,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than three years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

A new clause 93 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Sale of plots without approval”

Clause 93 sub clause 1 Sale of plots without approval – reads “A person shall not sell or avert plots from an unapproved layout”

Clause 93 sub clause 2 Sale of plots without approval – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 per transaction or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

A new clause 94 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Noncompliance with stop work orders.”

Clause 94 sub clause 1 Non-compliance with stop work orders – reads “A person shall not Continue construction after the issuance of a stop work order”

Clause 94 sub clause 2 Non-compliance with stop work orders – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 25,000 or demolition or to both such fine and demolition”

A new clause 95 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Tampering with infrastructure”

Clause 95 sub clause 1 Tampering with infrastructure – reads “A person shall not disturb approved infrastructure such as roads, drains or utility corridors.”

Clause 95 sub clause 2 Tampering with infrastructure – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years and a restoration.”

A new clause 96 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Failure to provide public spaces in layout.”

Clause 96 sub clause 1 Failure to provide public spaces in layout – reads “A developer shall not omit required public open spaces in a layout”

Clause 96 sub clause 2 Failure to provide public spaces in layout – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 80,000 and redesign of the layout.”

A new clause 97 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Failure to Provide Public Amenities:”

Clause 97 sub clause 1 Failure to Provide Public Amenities – reads “All estates or development on lands above 20 acres shall include provision for healthcare, sanitation facilities, roads, education, security facilities and water.”

Clause 97 sub clause 2 Failure to provide public spaces in layout – reads “A person who contravenes subsection 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 150,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than 6 months or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

A new clause 98 sub clauses 1 and 2 be inserted with the sidenote “Improper drainage system.

Clause 98 sub clause 1 reads “A person shall not undertake a construction without adequate provision for drainages and water ways.”

Clause 98 sub clause 2 reads “A person who contravenes sub section 1 commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 20,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

A new clause 99 be inserted with the sidenote “Compromise.”

Clause 99 Compromise – reads “A staff compromising the implementation of this Act shall be deemed to have committed an offence and upon conviction shall be liable for dismissal, reduction in rank or as deemed fit by the authority.”

A new clause 100 be inserted with the sidenote “Corporate liability.”

Clause 100 Corporate liabilities – reads “Where an offence is committed by a body corporate, every director, manager, or person acting in such capacity who had knowledge or consent shall be jointly and severally liable.”

A new clause 101 sub clause 1 be inserted with the sidenote “General Penalty.”

Clause 101 General penalty – reads “A person who fails to comply with a requirement under this Act for which no offence is specifically created commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not less than Nle 100,000 or to a term of imprisonment not less than two years or to both such fine and imprisonment”.

PART XV – MISCELLANEOUS

Clause 87 – Offences - be deleted

Clause 88 – Regulations – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 102.

Clause 89 – Repeal and savings – be amended by renumbering it to become clause 103

CONCLUSION

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Members, the Legislative Committee, having scrutinized the Bill entitled: THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 2025, hereby recommend these proposals to the House for approval. The Report reflects the consensus of Honourable Members of the Committee. I therefore move that the House pass the Bill entitled: THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 2025, through Committee Stage, Third Reading and into Law. I thank you for your attention.

Signed:

**HON. ABDUL.S. MARRY CONTEH CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
(SECOND SESSION, 2024 -2025)**

THE MINISTER: Part 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 40 stands part of the Bill. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Part 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 40 stand part of the Bill.

[Question Proposed]

HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA: Yes this one you will agree of course is a normal Clause.

THE CHAIRMAN: is on Page 10

HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA: On Page 10 the gender issue in the report, the phrase "at least" was omitted from the Report and to delete "at least" we say one of whom shall be woman it means both cannot be women, if we delete the phrase "at least" and say one of whom shall be female then it is sacrosanct one female not more than that and the spirit of the gender is to make sure the advantageous areas are not deleted so by using the word "at least" meaning both can be female as the President deem fits which is in line with the spirit of our laws, so we add "at least" one of which shall be a woman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay that is noted, Leader, proceed Page 10, 11,

HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA: Paragraph B, second to last paragraph

THE CHAIRMAN: Paragraph B, the same certainly. Page 11. are we clear on that? Page 11, Page 12,13, the same for 13, yes the same here "at least" take note Honourable Members, let me see the final copy before publication Chairman of

Legislative, Page 14,15, 16, Honourable Members 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24,25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and part of 33. Yes Mr Minister.

The Minister: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Part 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 40 stands part of the Bill as amended

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed To]

[Part 1 to 8, Clauses 1 to 40 form part of the Bill, as amended] Part 9 to 15, Clauses 41 to 89 stand part of the Bill]

THE MINISTER: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Part 9 to 15, Clauses 41 to 89 stand part of the Bill.

[Question Proposed]

THE CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, the question that Part 9 to 15, Clauses 41 to 89 stand part of the Bill. The remaining part Page 33,34,35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, so the Minister fast to have his way? 56, 57, and 58. Yes Mr Minister

THE MINISTER: Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that Part 9 to 15, Clauses 41 to 89 stand part of the Bill, as amended.

[Question Proposed Put and Agreed To]

[Part 9 to 15, Clauses 41 to 89 form part of the Bill, as amended]

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Minister, you are so lucky you met a very cooperative Chamber

THE MINISTER: And I prayed fervently Mr Chairman

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes! yes! yes!

THE MINISTER: Mr Speaker let me confess here, that over the weekend, I did not only fast but I prayed fervently that when I enter this House today I should have a smooth ride and I want to say thank you to the Members of this Honourable House and Mr Speaker, I think I want to say this here and I want it to be on record. I have been part of academia for so long but what I experienced during this particular Legislative session, I must say it here that we still have credible and hardworking people in Sierra Leone. I have done assessment in the undergraduate and postgraduate level for years, but the pace at which and the manner in which this document was perused by Members of the Legislative Committee is one of its kind and I must say I am very highly impressed, line by line, Clause by Clause this document was really handled by the

Legislative Committee and it was not only about reading this particular document, wealth of experience from Members are all fused into this this document and I want to assure the people of Sierra Leone that this document is going to stand the test of time. So I want a say many thanks to this 6th Parliament after many years of our existence, it is now that Sierra Leone is having this Land mark law. This law is going to transform our urban cities, it is going to transform Sierra Leone. We are going to have green spaces in our cities and towns, we going to have better drainage systems in our cities and towns. We going to have a kind of planning scheme for Sierra Leone that is going to match the demands of the 21st Century, this law is here, so I want to doff my hat to you I want many thank all. My Speaker, Honourable Members, I report that the Bill entitle the National Country Planning Acts 2025 having gone through the Committee of the whole House with amendment I now move that the Bill be read the Third time and pass into law.

[HOUSE RESUMES]

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

The Bill entitle the National Country Planning Acts 2025, been an act to repeal and replace the Town and Country Planning Acts 1946 Cap 81to promote sustainable development, established a framework for national physical planning policies that will enhance resilience to deserters, adapt to and mitigate climate change, encourage public participation, ensure effective and fore spent, support the development of infrastructure housing and public amenities that contribute to improving the living standards of the people in both urban and rural areas, establish mechanism for the continuous monitoring evaluation and improvement of planning policies and practices, harmonize country planning efforts with national development objectives and international commitment including those relating to sustainable development, climate change and human right and to provide for other related matters has been read the third time and passed into law.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Minister you may leave, thank you very much.

ADJOURNMENT

The House is adjourned to Tuesday 12th August, 2025 at 10.00am

The House rose at 11:55 AM

