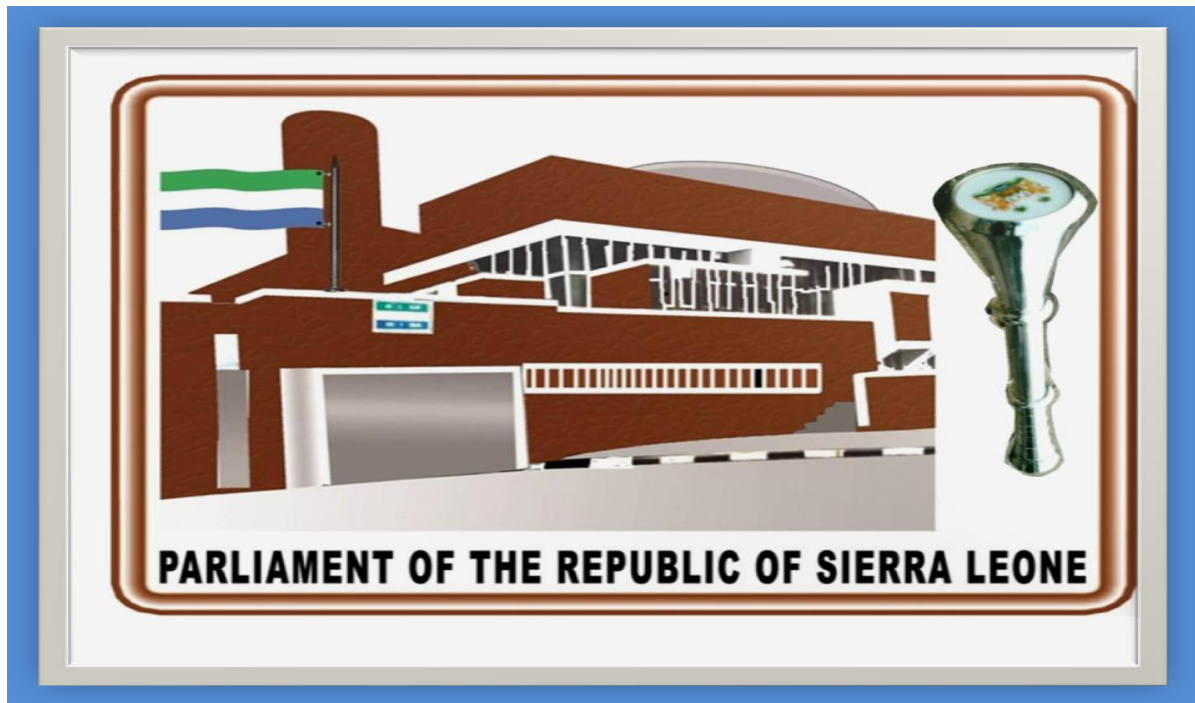


*POSL/Dept/Hansard/Vol. 2 No. 24/18/12/25*



**OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

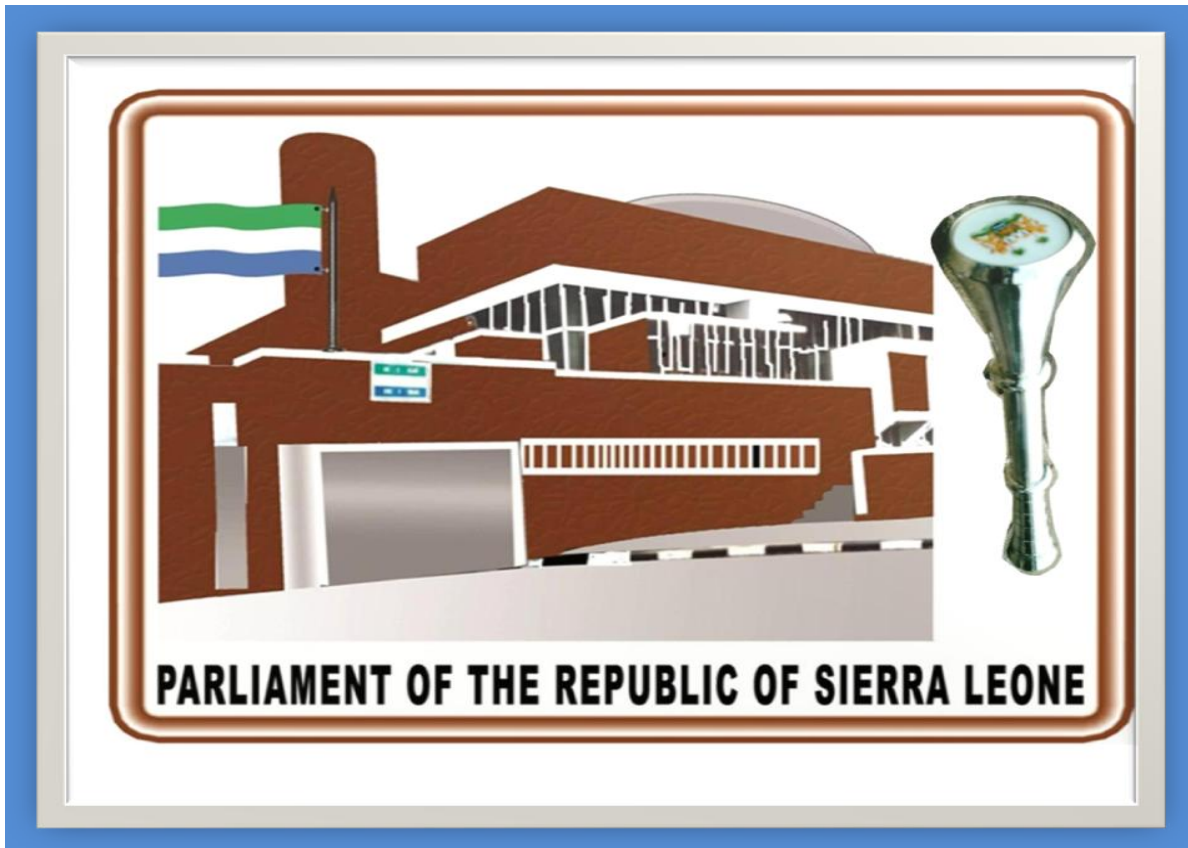
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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**THIRD SESSION – FIRST MEETING**

**THURSDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**SESSION – 2024/2025**



**OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**VOLUME: II**

**NUMBER: 24**

**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 Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**



**THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

**Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House**

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**THIRD SESSION – FIRST MEETING**

**OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT**

**OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

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**Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**

**I. PRAYERS**

[The Table Clerk, Mrs Fatmata Bintu Weston, read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:25 A.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. O. 5[2]**

### **II. THE RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER, 2025**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, the Record of Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday 16th December, 2025.

**HON. MATHEW NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, let me approach your desk because you are the appropriate person to address it.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, let us take the Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday 16, December, 2025.

**HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, I want to draw your attention to the same issue that I raised in the last sitting with regards the Votes and Proceedings that page five is still missing.

**THE SPEAKER:** Page five is still missing in your tablet?

**HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH:** Yes.

**THE SPEAKER:** Do we have printed copies? Because I have page five. Today we will defer the counting of page five and tomorrow, we expect page five to be printed in hard copy and circulated to Members. Is that fair? So we would defer page five and start our counting from page six. Page six? Page seven? Page eight? Page nine? Page 10? Page 11? Can any Member move for the adoption of the Votes and Proceedings?

**HON. NENNEH LEBBIE:** I so move Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any Seconder?

**HON. EMILLIA LOLOH TONGI:** I so second Mr Speaker.

***[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]***

***[Record of Votes and Proceedings for Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2025 has been adopted]***

## **RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, the Record of Votes and Proceedings for Wednesday 17, December 2025. Page five? Page six? Page seven?

**HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH:** Yes Mr Speaker, on page seven.

**THE SPEAKER:** So it means that Mr Speaker made a ruling that no staff of Parliament should be allowed to put on short dress and pants within the Precinct of Parliament. I did not say within the precinct of Parliament, but in the Chamber of Parliament. So there should be an exception, except it is a full tailored made suit.

**HON. ABDUL MARRAY S. CONTEH:** Because that can sometimes fall within the category of cooperate suit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Except it is a full tailored made suit or it is a cooperate dress, we can accept that. Page eight? Page nine? Can a Member move?

**HON. ABDUL LATIFF SESAY:** I so move Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any Secunder?

**HON. TAMBA KELLIE:** I so second Mr Speaker.

***[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]***

***[Record of Votes and Proceedings for Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2025 has been adopted as amended]***

### **III. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR SPEAKER**

**THE SPEAKER:** Today, we are going to take seven Reports so the Director of Committees and team should make sure that we have seven Reports ready today. So we are going to take them in this format, the presenter or Chairperson that will read the Report will consider the recommendations so the literature or the objective of the Ministries Departments and Agencies [MDA] and the issues raised, Members should read it and the presenter or the Chairman would report it as stated, and then we consider at least two important recommendations from each MDA, if they are up to two. So we can consider the Report quickly, and we take the debate from Members and the Minister would round up then we move to the next Reports. That is the announcement I have.

**HON. ABDUL KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, in as much as we have seven Reports, I was going to suggest that the seven Chairmen present their Reports. And when we debate, we debate the seven Reports then you will pick on each specific areas you want to emphasize, instead of us debating Report after Report. The presentations are all done at the time because there are Reports that somebody will not want to debate on but want to debate on another Report.

**THE SPEAKER:** I consider the submission by the Leader but the challenge we have is, I am not sure we have all seven Reports ready now. I think we have two ready. The ones that are ready, we will take them now like you suggested, and you note your concerns that you may have seen in either of the MDAs, so when we conclude the ones we have now, then we take the debate. So whilst you are debating, the Minister will take note and the others will be ready, I agreed with the amendment.

#### **IV. PAPERS LAID**

##### **A. HONOURABLE P.C DESMOND MAHAYEI KARGOBAI DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC ACCOUNT COMMITTEE**

**HON. DESMOND P.C MAHAYEI KARGOBAI:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Clause 1 to Section 119, Act Number Six of 1991 Constitution, I beg to lay the following Papers on the Table of this Honourable House.

[A] Report on performance of the Financial Intelligence Agency [FIA] in the anti-money laundry.

[B] Audit Service Sierra Leone follow up on audit of the welfare of the Auditor General's Report on account of Sierra Leone Finance Act 2024.

##### **B. HONOURABLE BOSTON MUNDA CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, before I take the next Report let me recognize the presence of the Auditor General of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Deputy Auditor General and all other Auditors present, you are welcome. Go ahead Sir.

**HON. BOSTON MUNDA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay the oversight Report on Parliamentary Committee on Communication, Technology and Innovation.

##### **C. HONOURABLE VERONICA KADIE SESAY**

**LEADER OF THE DELEGATION OF THE ECOWAS PARLIAMENT  
SIERRA LEONE BRANCH**

**HON. VERONICA KADIE SESAY:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table on behalf of the delegation of the ECOWAS Parliament, the First Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Parliament meeting held in Abuja from the 20th to the 31st May, 2025.

**D. HONOURABLE HAJA MIATA AMARA  
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE OF SOCIAL WELFARE**

**HON. HAJA MIATA AMARA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table of this Honourable House, the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Social Welfare on an oversight visit to the Ministry of Social Welfare rehabilitation centres and its authentic Agencies focusing on issues relating to drug abuse, human trafficking and persons with disabilities in the Western Region.

**V. BILL**

**COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY, THE APPROPRIATION ACT 2026**

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**THE HOUSE RESOLVED INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, I have seen indication of Reports that are ready for Group One, Group Three, Group Seven and Group Twelve. We have five Reports already sent to our Tablets so we would start with Group One.

**THE CLERK:** Vote 11601, Vote 12101, Vote 13101, Vote 13801, Vote 20601, Vote 20901, Vote 31301, Vote 31001, Vote 31002, Vote 40101, Vote 41601, Vote 41801 and Vote 70101 to stand part of the Schedule.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Appropriation Sub-Committee One.

**MRS KADIATU ALLIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the schedule. Vote 11601 Parliament, 85,000,000 Leones, Vote 12101 Audit Service Sierra Leone, 19,015,800 Leones, Vote 13101 Revenue Appellate Board, 400,000, Leones Votes 13801 Statistics Sierra Leone 8,000,000 Leones, Votes

20601 Sierra Leone Police, 240,806,800 Leones, Vote 20901 Central Intelligence and Security Agency, 15,000,000 Leones, Vote 31301 National Youth Service, 3,394,900 Leones, Vote 31001 Ministry of Youth Affairs, 4,177,100 Leones, Vote 31002 National Youth Commission, 6,455,500 Leones, Vote 40101 Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, 95,335,000 Leones, Vote 41601 Civil Aviation Authority, 141,058,900 Leones, Vote 41801 Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute, 8,000,000 Leones, Vote 70101 Port Loko Local City Council, 3,350,077 Leones, Vote 70101 Bonthe Municipal Council, 5,000,452,069 Leones.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, the following Votes as pronounced by the Minister stand part of the Schedule.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Appropriation Sub Committee One is pleased to present a Report on the comprehensive process it undertook in relation to the annual budget estimates for 15 budgets vote heads and divisions. These estimates underwent meticulous review and rigorous coordination. The Committee adheres to the prescribed headlines outlined in Section 111, Sub Section Three and Four. Sub Section 112 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act Number Six of 1991, the Sub Committee followed the provisions of S.O 64 [3] and S.O 66 [1] as stipulated in the reversed Standing Orders of the Sierra Leone House of Parliament. The budget estimates involved a thorough examination of various Ministries, Departments and Agencies, procedure as stated, MDAs head as stated, mandate as stated. The Committee consists of the following Members and Secretariat, Honourable Dickson M. Rogers, Chairman, Honourable Mustapha Sellu, Deputy Chairman, Honourable Ibrahim Barrie, Honourable Hindolo Gevao, Honourable Emilia Lollu Tongi, Honourable Mariama Bangura, and the rest as stated, Secretariat as stated, acknowledgement as stated, general observations and recommendations. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, throughout the hearing, the appropriation Sub-Committee carried out its constitutional mandate, and adhered to relevant instruction, registration, and while performing its functions, this approach led to identification of the following findings and observations.

- 1.** The Committee observed that the late submission of the budget to Parliament and the rush conciliation of the budget significantly impacted on the effective and inefficiency of the Committee's work, the short notice for summons and submission of documents hindered throughout scrutiny and in depth analysis to address the challenges posed by the late submission of the questionnaires of the budget.

2. The Committee recommended that in future budget circles, the Ministry of Finance should ensure the timing submission of as well as completed questionnaires in Parliament.
3. There should be concrete effort to provide adequate notice for someone, allowing both the Committee and relevant stakeholders the sufficient time for comprehensive review analysis. This will contribute to a more informed and effective budget process, enhancing transparency and accountability in financial matters.

The other recommendations as stated Mr Chairman to address the challenges of each of its own home source, the Committee recommends implementing new revenue source and ensures measures to adhere, collection, effectiveness for Local Councils. These could involve conducting a comprehensive review of existing revenue generation, potentials and strategies, exploring innovative approaches and identifying abstract opportunities for generating additional revenue. In addition, the Committee suggests that Local Councils collaborate with the relevance stakeholders, including the private sector to explore partnership that can contribute to revenue enhancement, revenue collection, records management and improve in economic activities within their localities by adopting these proactive measures Local Councils are expected to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of revenue collection, thereby ensuring that they meet their revenue target more effectively. Mr Chairman, this is so because during our investigation, we found out that the Local Councils are now having their subventions either on time or they do not have their subventions at all. But I believe that when fully operational, the Local Councils can generate enough income for themselves like the Honourable Member from Kono said yesterday, let us remove the political influence on the Local Councils.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Are you reading the Report or you are making a suggestion?

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Yes I am just justifying why we should give support to the Local Council.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Is it offhand justification or in the Report?

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Committee therefore recommended that the proposed financial year 2026 budget allocations for the affirmative MDA who failed to participate in the vetting process be withheld. Specific finance and accommodation, as stated the Committee therefore recommends the following, that MOF consider Parliament for the supplementary budget in the 2026

financial year, the Committee recommends timely release of funds to support the effective implementation of deliverables. That is for Parliament.

Mr Chairman, Vote 21201, Audit Service Sierra Leone as stated, recommendation as stated for Statistics, Sierra Leone. Vote 13801, as stated, Vote 60101 as stated, Vote 20601, Sierra Leone Police, Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Committee made the following observations. There is a Personnel gap within the Sierra Leone Police due to the high attraction that there is an increase demand for policing service, and communities are contemporary with security issues related. Thereby continues to be a budgetary shortfall and timely disbursement of innovation to the SLP, that the SLP is embodied in a situation of inadequate patrol vehicles, including special traffic vehicles and motorbikes, inadequate allocation for SLP personnel. Low technical assets, particularly in the area of forensic service. Committee recommends the following as stated, Vote 20601 Central Intelligence and Security Agency. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, a total of 15,000,000 Leones is proposed from the Ministry of Finance to the Central Intelligence and Security Agency. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, considering the very critical role this Agency plays in the context of the current security situation, the Committee recommends a supplementary budget for the 2026 financial year. Ministry of Youth Affairs as stated, National Youth Commission as stated, the Committee recommends as follows, the Ministry of Finance [MOF], to ensure timely disbursement to be ready for the allocation to the Commission to enable to undertake its venture. The 2026 initiative across the Country, the Commission be considered supplementary budget provision particularly to resolve the persistent and recovery vehicle challenges for the Commission. All others as stated, Vote 40101, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security as stated. Recommendations, the Committee recommends the following, that the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security be considered for supplementary budget in 2026 that the Ministry with the possibility with the intervention of Parliament to strengthen inter agency partnership and collaboration, particularly with the National Revenue Authority, the Audit Service Sierra Leone and other potential Agencies. The Ministry of Finance with National Revenue Authority [NRA] to have a swift insurance of NRA receipt for payments made by the exporters, importers through the banks. The Ministry in collaboration with the relevant MDAs to intensify their sensitization campaigns on compliance for import and export of plants and plant products. The Ministry to seek legal advice from the Office of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice on increasing the penalties for non-compliance and people who choose not to obtain the correct import permit and export certificate or forge such certificate. Vote 41601, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation as stated. Committee recommendation as stated, Sierra Leone Agriculture Research Institution as stated,

documentation as stated. Vote 410721 Port Loko City Council, Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Committee observes that the Council is seriously constrain financially and unable to meet its own revenue collection target for the first, second and third quarter.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, we are going to lay all six Reports that are ready including the submission that we are getting from the Chief Whip. We are going to stand down the House for one hour so that Members can read the various Reports. When we come back, we are going to debate all the Reports so Members can take note of the key recommendations.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, I wonder if all the Members have those Reports.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** They have been circulated; they are already in the tablets of Members. We expect that those who do not have it in their tablets will request for hard copies. Within one hour you should request for hard copies and we go through it then when we come in, we will take the debate.

**HON. NENNEH LEBBIE:** Mr Chairman Group Five is ready.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay Sub-Committee One on the Table of the House for deliberations.

**HON. BOSTON MUNDA:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay Sub-Appropriation Committee Group Two.

**THE CLERK:** Group Five, Group Seven.

**HON. ABDUL LATIFF SESAY:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay Sub-Appropriation Committee Group Seven.

**THE CLERK:** Group Five, Group 12.

**HON. VERONICA KADIE SESAY:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay Sub-Appropriation Committee Group 12.

**THE CLERK:** Group Five.

**HON. NENNEH LEBBIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table the Report from Appropriation Sub-Committee Group Five.

**THE CLERK:** Group 3, Group 10.

**HON. SALIEU O. SESAY:** Mr Chairman, I beg to lay the Report on the Sub-Appropriation Committee 10.

**THE CLERK:** Group 3.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** We have tabled six Reports. It should be seven but the Chairperson or representative for Group Three is not here, so when we come after the one hour Madam Minister, we are going to consider the Votes that we had read and we would pass them. We will call the Votes out for all the Reports one by one and then they can be debated.

**THE HOUSE STOOD DOWN AT 11:40 A.M.**

**THE HOUSE RESUMED AT 12:40 P.M.**

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, we have heard the Clerk read out the Votes for Group One and the Minister has done the same. You will read out the Votes for each of the Groups that have laid their Reports individually and the Minister will do the same and then the debate will start. You should give the Minister all the copies and put them in the correct order, we have taken Group One already. So Group One is out so we will start with Group Two, Group Five, and Group Seven so Madam Minister in that order, Group Ten and Group Twelve. The Clerk would read out the Votes and then the Minister would announce the Votes and the amounts and then we make the pronouncement in respect of the Groups read out by the Clerk and the Minister.

**THE CLERK:** Group 2, Vote 10601, Vote 10602, Vote 10603, Vote 10604, Vote 10701, Vote 32001, Vote 41501, Vote 10703, Vote 14001, Vote 41201, Vote 30901, Vote 14301, Vote 70113 and Vote 70117 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the Schedule. Vote 10601 Office of the Chief Minister, 16,778,900 Leones, Vote 10602, Office of Presidential Infrastructure and Initiative, 1,605,800 Leones, Vote 10603, Governance Advisory Unit, 203,600 Leones, Vote 10604, Delivery and Performance Tracking, 606,200 Leones, Vote 10701, Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs, 13,614,800 Leones, Vote 32001, National Sports Authority, 18,594,900 Leones, Vote 41501, Sierra Leone Marine Time Administration, 115,757,100 Leones, Vote 10703, Eastern Province Kenema, 1,145,600 Leones, Vote 14001, Mass Media Services, 1,000,300 Leones, Vote 41201, National Communication Authority, 10,714,000 800 Leones, Vote 30901 Pharmaceutical and Medical Board, 400,000 Leones, Vote 14301 Judicial and Legal Service Commission, 500,000 Leones,

Vote 70113, Bo City Council, 5,573,023 Leones and Vote 70117 Moyama District Council, 14,978,562 Leones.

**THE CLERK:** Group 5: Vote 14201, Vote 10501, Vote 31801, Vote 31902, Vote 40901, Vote 40902, Vote 40903, Vote 40904, Vote 40906, Vote 42601, Vote 13901 and Vote 70118 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the Schedule. Vote 14201, National Public Procurement Authority, 8,063,500 Leones, Vote 10501, Ministry of Public Administration and Political Affairs, 5,068,000 Leones, Vote 31801, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, 9,696,300 Leones, Vote 31902, National Children's Commission, 3,126,400 Leones, Vote 40901, Ministry of Trade and Industry, 7,891,900 Leones, Vote 40902, Sierra Leone Standard Bureau, 1,510,800 Leones, Vote 40903, Department of Cooperatives, 804,200 Leones, Vote 40904, Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Company, 442,200 Leones, Vote 40905 Sierra Leone Monitoring Board, 3,421,200 Leones, Vote 40906, Consumer Protection Commission, 3,135,400 Leones, Vote 42601 Sierra Leone Seed Certification Agency, 2,000,000 Leones, Vote 13901 National Commission for Privatization, 3,000,000 Leones and Vote 70118, Pujehun District Council, 14,182,151 Leones.

**THE CLERK:** Group 7: Vote 710801, Vote 10801, Vote 10901, Vote 12601, Vote 12701, Vote 13701, Vote 21201, Vote 30101, Vote 31601, Vote 31901, Vote 32101, Vote 11001, Vote 10702 and Vote 70104 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes to stand part of the Schedule. Vote 10801, Sierra Leone Commission on Small Arms and Ammunitions, 1,564,000 Leones, Vote 10901, Independent Commission for Peace and National Cohesion, 1,219,100 Leones, Vote 12701, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, 18,180,200 Leones, Vote 13701, National Commission for Democracy, 2,000,000 Leones, Vote 21201, National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency, 5,000,000 Leones, Vote 30101, Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education, 1,311,673,400 Leones, Vote 31601, Civil Service Training College, 1,000,000 Leones, Vote 31901, Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs, 3,459,400 Leones, Vote 32101, Student Loan Scheme Secretariat, 9,000,500 Leones, Vote 11003, National Assets and Government Property Commission, 543,100 Leones, Vote 10702, Provincial Secretary's Office, Southern Province, Bo 1,252,700 Leones, and Vote 70104, Kenema District Council, 11,322,214 Leones.

**THE CLERK:** Group 10, Vote 11701, Vote 12301, Vote 14101, Vote 14601, Vote 21401, Vote 21501, Vote 30001, Vote 30003, Vote 30502, Vote 40501, Vote 42001, Vote 70115 and Vote 70122 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move the following Votes to stand part the Schedule. Vote 11701 Cabinet Secretariats, 6,400,021 Leones, Vote 12301, Public Service Commission, 4,600,700 Leones, Vote 14101, Government Printing Department, 4,730,900 Leones, Vote 14601, Ministry of Western Region 1,000,000 Leones, Vote 21401, National Cyber Security Coordination Centre, 600,000,000 Leones, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 600,000,000 Leones, Vote 30001, Ministry of Technical and High Education, 25,110,300 Leones, Vote 30003, Tertiary Education Commission 6,000,800 Leones, Vote 30502, National Commission for Persons with Disability, 3,168,600 Leones, Vote 40501, Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, 7,570,600 Leones, Vote 42001, Sierra Leone Environment Protection Agency, 114,138,800 Leones, Vote 70115, Bonthe District Council, 9,347,838 Leones, Vote 70122, Karene District Council, 10,377,663 Leones.

Group 12, Vote 10723, Vote 10704, Vote 10705, Vote 11001, Vote 13501, Vote 13502, Vote 13503, Vote 21101, Vote 30201, Vote 30201, Vote 30601, Vote 31201, Vote 31401, Vote 32201 and Vote 40302 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes to stand part of the Schedule. Vote 10723, Falaba District Council, 8,356,977 Leones, Vote 10704, Provincial Secretary, Northern Province, 1,237,400 Leones, Vote 10705 Provincial Secretary, North West Province, Port Loko 1,084,300 Leones, Vote 11010 Local Government Service Commission, 669,300 Leones, Vote 13501, Ministry of Communication, Technology and Innovation, 4,500,000 Leones, Vote 13502, Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, 3,960,000 Leones, Vote 21101, Immigration Department, 1,500,000 Leones, Vote 30201, the Ministry of Sports, 2,266,500 Leones, Vote 30601, Ministry of Lands and Country Planning, 7,300,200 Leones, Vote 31201, Teaching Service Commission, 4,000,000 Leones, Vote 31401, National HIV and AIDS Commission 1,000,000 Leones, Vote 32201, National Land Commission for Sierra Leone 4,300,000 Leones, and Vote 40302, National Minerals Agency 2,000,000 Leones.

### **[Question Proposed]**

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Honourable Members, the Committee recommended the following:

1. That MOF considers Parliament in the supplementary budget for the financial year 2026.
2. The Committee recommended a timely release of funds to support effective implementation of deliverables.

Honourable Members, whenever we sit here as the arbiter of this House, it is important that Parliament is treated with the dignity it deserves as provided for by Section 97 of the Constitution. This Parliament is responsible for the effective and efficient discharge of all the works of the Organs of Government. The Constitution was created by Parliament and passed by Parliament for Sierra Leone to have a document to use by other organizations of the State. I am sure the Leader of ECOWAS delegation, Leaders of other delegations, other Parliamentary associations where we have to pay our annual subscription fees, you will realize that other Parliaments that come to those Associations operate an independent financial system. The Drafters of the 1991 Constitution envisaged that Parliament should operate its own financial system.

Honourable Members, that is why Section 74 [4] of the Constitution is clear that we should determine our budget allocation. We are not saying that they should give us beyond the ceiling. They are saying that the ceiling that is given to Parliament should be timely disbursed because the work of Parliament continues to expand. Two years ago, we had no business talking about tripartite. Today, we have tripartite recommendations coming to Parliament. We have the Constitutional Review coming to Parliament. We have the census and its regulations coming to Parliament, which means the administrative works of Parliament have expanded, and we also require necessary support to run Parliament.

Madam Minister, part of the recommendations of the Committee I know the recommendation for supplementary budget deals with a number of factors that are provided for in Section 112 Sub-Section 3 of the Constitution. If those conditions are met there will never be a need for supplementary budget, they have to be a trigger for an incident and we know that our financial situation in Parliament is not as bad as people will want to think, but it is not good. It is fair. We accept it, and the Ministry of Finance is very supportive but we want Parliament and other Organs of Government be considered like the Executive. Most of the budgets passed, we passed it for the Executive. You look at the composition of the budget, all of the Agencies, Ministries, they are in the Executive, and let us receive what due us in a timely manner. That is my contribution other Members can now take the Floor.

**HON. DR UMPHA SORIE KOROMA:** Mr Chairman, my attention will be on Port Loko City Council and Bonthe Municipality after looking at page 32 and 33 of the Committee's Report on all the challenges faced by the respective Councils, I did not see the challenges that these Councils respectively have faced throughout this financial year of 2025, and what is consistent with all these Councils, including the ones that our Committee saw, is that all of these Councils have not received their subventions for the whole year. I think if we are going to make reports on challenges faced by respective Councils across the Country, we should be very deliberate in ensuring that these Councils have not received all the money or even some of the money allocated to them for that respective financial year stated because own source revenue mobilization is important, and we know that Councils cannot function without them. If Government does not meet their own part of the deal in ensuring that these Councils are able to raise funds for their respective Councils, it will be undermining the functions of these respective Councils. So I think that should be captured.

Mr Chairman, I also looked at my own Reports and that was not captured as well. The Councils are constrained, then they will not be able to perform. I note of a specific Council that informed us that, they have been forced to go to banks to acquire loans to run respective projects in their Councils, the Government is taking loans from banks. Council should not be taking loans from banks. We know how banks are giving loans to private entities. Mr Chairman, that is one aspect of this Report that caught my attention.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you.

**HON. FALLAH K. TENGBEH:** Mr Chairman, considering own source revenue they did not specify how they generate those revenues, they just indicate the processes in the revenue generation challenges in the Report. For example, in my own Report, I just put Moyamba District Council and Bonthe District Council, they did not mention anything that has to do with challenges and also that has to discuss or utilize the own source revenue and considering the fact that these processes are still part of the processes that have to deal with budget allocation so we still have to do them.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I agreed with both of you because Local Councils set their own source revenue target but year in year out they do not meet their own source revenue target. The reason they themselves cannot explain because, if you are setting a target using certain parameters to determine that target, the first level of tax collection or the highest volume of own source revenue comes from licenses. The next comes from business registration, sign boards and so on and so forth but the challenge that we

faced that we are trying to address was part of the Audit Report the issue of harmonizing work of the Local Councils. It is a major problem. We have started the engagement few weeks ago. We assembled 182 Paramount Chiefs, and all 22 Local Councils. We are starting an engagement because a whole lot of their revenue sources are in the Chiefdom, but because they could not harmonize their relationship with the Chiefdom, the Chiefdom Councils either refuse to support them in the collection of the revenue, or they collect those revenues and they utilize it for the operation of the Chiefdom. The Chiefdom Councils are also complaining that the Chiefdom Clerks, the CAs, when they collect monies, they are not accountable. They utilize such monies at the direction of the District Officers, and when they report to the Provincial Secretary, all they will do is to just transfer the Chiefdom Clerks and the CAs. So these are all inherent problems that we have to address if we do not address them the issue of own source revenue target will always be an issue wherein the Councils will set targets, but they will not meet the targets. So Madam Minister, as part of the outcome of that engagement, we drew up some resolutions that were adopted by both the Paramount Chiefs, the Local Councils, the Provincial Secretaries, District Officers and others, that we have to work by establishing a committee. So that committee will look at the legislations of the 1960s CAP 64 the establishment of the CSCs, because these structures are actually affecting the smooth functioning of the Local Councils, because as per Section 105 of the PFA Act, Chiefdom Council should report to the Local Council, and the Local Council should approve their budgets. But the budget that are approved for Chiefdom Councils by Local Councils are not implemented because the CACs and the CCACs, when the Chiefdom authorities collect monies, they give these monies to be deposited. These monies are mostly not deposited. So I agreed with both of you that the Councils themselves cannot explain the challenges because they themselves cannot relate better to the challenges, because the CCACs and DOs are impediments to their operations.

**HON. QUINTIN SALIA KONNEH:** Mr Chairman, this whole thing about institutions fixing targets for themselves and not achieving I think it makes no sense, because by right, you should know your capability. You should know what you are capable of looking at all of the challenges facing your institution. But what we saw during the Sub-Appropriation Session was that institutions set targets for themselves, and at the end of the day they could not. This is something that as a Parliament, we should be able to take very strong decisions with the help of the Ministry of Finance, because this is also happening at the national level. If that is not the case, I see no reason why the Ministry of Finance will tell MDAs about their budget ceilings and MDAs go ahead to fix their budget ceilings and at the end of the day, allocations are different, and with regards

disbursement we have to start right from national level, that whatever is available at the end of the day, we want to see coherence between allocations and disbursements. Mr Chairman, I will take you to Group Two, a presentation made and for those of us using the Tablet, if you go to slide 17, you would see the Dental Medical Board. I realized some recommendations have been done here by the Committee that their budget allocation should be withheld but I realized in the past, these are recommendations that have been made by Chairmen, but at the end of the day, we see the Ministry of Finance giving disbursements to the same institution which means as a Parliament, we are not treated seriously. Parliament is one of the strongest institution, so if we stand in the Chamber making recommendations, I believe the MDAs should be very much deliberate in actually taking the recommendations proffered by the Ministry of Finance. Last year, we experienced the same, and even this year, Kambia did not come even after many calls, they said they are not interested. So that was an affront, last year, the same thing happened with Moyamba District. The Chairman here recommended that their budget should be withheld until they appear. They did not appear. Their budget was not withheld. They were given disbursement, which means that is a slap on the face of Parliament.

Mr Chairman, we should be able to follow up on whatever recommendations we are doing and the Ministry of Finance should be very much deliberate in actually looking at all of these recommendations. If you look at the turnout around the Sub Appropriation this year, it was very much low, apart from the fact that the budget was presented to Parliament very late beyond the estimated time. But apart from that, like it used to happen in the Fifth Parliament, you see the anxiety and the desperation. But somehow, they are very much used to it, because they know whatever recommendations we give will not hold. They will be given their budgets, and they will implement. They will come with the same generic problem. Mr Chairman, with your leave, we need to make a Motion so that, these recommendations especially on MDAs, we are recommending that their budgets should be withheld until pending appearance. We want to move a Motion so that we adopt it and it goes down in records. I rest my case.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I want to thank the Honourable Member for his wonderful contribution. Let me just make few clarifications and the first one is the budget turnout. Indeed, you are right, the budget turnout has dropped significantly not only among MDAs appearing in Parliament but if we could recall, even at the time of reading the budget by the Minister and some of their functionaries were not present. The mistake we have been making is when we make these recommendations, because already, the Reports of the Sub Appropriation Committee of Supply are passed with the Motion of

the Plenary of the whole House and they are carried. So what we need to do for this budget going forward is all those Agencies that you are withholding their budgets, but the Clerk of Parliament will do a formal communication of the resolutions of Parliament with regards Agencies whose budgets have been withheld. So if the Ministry of Finance disburses money to any of those Agencies, then we know the Ministry of Finance will now be in contempt of Parliament. They would have affronted Parliament, but if we do not communicate it to them at the end of this exercise even the Ministry of Finance when they go, they take the goodies and leave the others. We do not take the recommendation to withhold budget. So because we have recommended this time and want it to be implemented, the Office of the Clerk at the end of the budget exercise, will do a formal communication of all the resolutions with regards MDAs and should be sent to the Ministry of Finance, copy to the Accountant General's Office and keeping a copy in the Clerk's Office for the implementation of Parliament.

**HON. CATHERINE ZAINAB TARAWALLY:** Mr Chairman, thank you very much. I could remember vividly in 2020 when we prepared the budget for the Local Government Ministry, the then Speaker did the same recommendation which you have just made. Madam Minister, it is an affront to Parliament. Whether you receive a dime from Government or not, you are working for Government. You are receiving salary from Government, and you are accountable to Government through Parliament, that is the routine. We have Kono District Council, Bo District Council, and Tonkolili District Council. They did not receive a dime from Government, but they came. We were supervising the Appropriation Committees. We met them. We asked the Chairman to allow them to go, but Kambia District Council called on the Chairman because of Party lines, they said they are not interested. How a whole Medical and Dental Association did not come to tell us their constraints?

Mr Chairman, sometimes we need to raise the bar again high for the benefit of Sierra Leoneans. Let us put politics aside in things that are very matter. Let us work for the benefit of our people. This time, if we are saying, this is our resolution, it has to stand the test of time, we cannot continue with this situation. You are receiving, and you are having your own source revenue as a Council, and we know the Government grant is there to help you boost the project that you are doing. Come and tell Parliament that this is our situation. We will tell you the situation of Government again, we are in this together. It is not a single man's business. It is a business of every Sierra Leonean but if you do not come to talk to Parliament Mr Chairman, it is an affront to Parliament, and we cannot allow that to happen. We cannot condole such, Mr Chairman. So we are asking you, kindly to implement the recommendations of the Chairman of this particular

Committee for onward transmission, so that we will set precedent in the House. No Ministry, Department or Agency will do such. I thank you.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I give the Floor to Honourable Nenneh Lebbie to be followed by Honourable Veronica Kadie Sesay and then Honourable Abdul Latiff Sesay.

**HON. NENNEH LEBBIE:** Thank you Mr Chairman. I want to call the attention of the Minister that whether it is an oversight or whatever, but a very important Agency, African Peer Review Mechanism has no budget line. They presented 12 Million Leones and nothing was approved. So I want to call the attention of Madam Minister, there is no budget line for APRM.

Secondly, Mr Chairman, we want to see performances within the MDAs. We have realized from Children's Commission that Vote 31902 over the years, they have always submitted their budget lines, but we want to see issues of children being treated seriously. I am bringing this up because there is serious under budgeting for them. I cannot imagine asking for 9 Million Leones and you only give them 2 Million Leones so much of what we realized as a Committee is that much of the money given to them cannot do much activities. Taking into cognizance international treaties signed, there are lots of projects that they should implement in relation to international treaties. They cannot afford to do it, so they are constrained very seriously. That is why I want to call the attention of Madam Minister. Please, let us see what we can do to help our children of Sierra Leone that will be our future leaders.

Mr Chairman, I also want to call on the attention of the Minister for Vote 42601 Seed Certification Commission. We have actors in agriculture that should be supplying seeds, but according to the presentation that was made to us, the actors are not complying with what the Commission is asking, and most times they come with arbitrated seeds at the end of the day, the seeds will not be yield at all. So I want to call on the attention of the Minister to see how they can help because according to them, they get the funds late due to that when they go in for seeds, they do not get the viable ones. Of course, the recommendation is on page 17, to see how the Committee on Agriculture can improve on their oversight functions because most of these things we really need to find out otherwise, we keep complaining every year. So according to the findings, the Committee observed that the Agency has consistently failed to generate revenue from quality control and certification for the consecutive financial years including 2025. According to the Agency, this situation is largely attributed to the persistent noncompliance of the seed actors. So therefore we recommended, the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture should conduct an oversight exercise to investigate the

underlying causes of the continued noncompliance based on the Agency's performance operations. The proposed 2026 budget would be given quickly and let them see how we can have viable seeds. So those are the few ones I want to call the attention of Madam Minister. Thank you very much Mr Chairman.

**HON. VERONICA KADIE SESAY:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I just want to toe the line with my Colleagues in making the following observations. It is just a meaningful observation, and we made our own recommendations due to the findings after looking into their budget allocation. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, as you know, the roles of the MDAs, they are given these allocations so that they can discharge the duties for the people we are representing. They are not representing themselves. So when we call them, they are supposed to be here but it has become a norm that when we call these MDAs, or if we ask them to bring their questionnaires they always come late, and that is why it creates problems for us, because it will give us extra time to do our work. In that light, the Committee strongly recommended that, Parliament insists that the MDAs to comply with the early submission of completed questionnaires in the coming year. Also Mr Chairman, I observed that during questioning, sometimes they bring women and we want to see the women to take pivotal role in some of the discharge of duties. We are not saying that it should be 100% women. That is the sad thing, in fact there will be a gender gap in most of their Ministries or Departments. But they do not take it serious because we have passed it here. We want to see the 30% of female representation in everything that they do in their institutions.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, the Committee recommended that going forward Parliament is notified by relevant Ministers or Authorities for donations, grants, gifts and pledges made to the State. The Committee observed that the MDAs that received these donations, grants, gifts and pledges have failed to comply with the constitutional requirement. So with that, Mr Chairman, going forward any MDA that fails to do so Parliament must take stringent action against that MDA, and also coming to the Councils, Falaba District Council they have a large constraint that they explained to us about their disbursement and their allocations, the quarter allocation, sometimes it does not come on time. So we are appealing to Madam Minister, considering the area that they are in terms of roads, and also they have so much activities. The owe source revenue they collect is not visible because in the District, they have certain Laws that bring some problems to the Council. So we want that one to be ratified, and also with your assistant Madam Minister to please liaise with the Local Government Minister so that this can be solved. So with that, these are some of the few comments that we

want to make sure that you give them on time, even though it is small but you have to give them on time so that they can do their work. Thank you very much.

**HON. ABDUL LATIFF SESAY:** Thank you very much Mr Chairman. I was thinking that we are going from one Report to another but I have seen the mother of the House has already done her own submission. Mr Chairman, let me start with Group One. Group One basically mentioned Port Loko City Council. Port Loko City Council is one Council that does not even have Office on its own. So it means that every year, the Mayor will have to pay for the house that they are using as an office. And I believe it is one very important thing that we should consider for our Councils, let them have their own offices that will help. But I can tell you, most of the Council's offices are on rent. I know I do not have an office in Parliament, it is normal but for the Councils, it is very unfortunate. But that does not mean that we should not advocate for the Councils that are doing their work at their own level.

Mr Chairman, when you look also the amount that is allocated for the Sierra Leone Police, for me, I think if only they will receive that amount it will be fine. But most times, the problem that we face during interview period is that sometimes we will allocate certain amount of money, for an MDA, and they will only receive less than half of what was allocated to them. And that is a very big problem. I believe if we allocate certain amount for an MDA, let us ensure that they receive that amount so that they will be able to execute what they have already planned for the year. But now if you look at the 2026 Budget, you would see the amount and you would think they have received everything. But at the end of it all, they will not receive it.

Mr Chairman, the Committee observed that allocations approved by Parliament for MDAs did not always correspond with the actual amount disbursed or released. The Committee recommended that the Ministry of Finance provides clear explanations and formal reconciliation statements for any variance between approved allocations and actual disbursement, and ensure that such adjustments are communicated to Parliament in a timely manner. During our engagement, we noticed that the Ministry of Finance will allocate certain amount added to a specific amount that was located to an MDA. And for me, I think the only competent body that has that power is Parliament. So if you want to do any increment, you should contact Parliament so that Parliament takes it into consideration. But for the Ministry of Finance to be increasing allocations for their offices without recourse to Parliament, I think it is not a good practice. Parliament should take note of that and the Ministry of Finance also.

Mr Chairman, delay of funds released resulted to unfinished activities and project building rollover into subsequent financial years with such rollover expenditures often inadequately defended by Vote controllers. The Committee recommended that MDAs prioritize activities within approved budgets and timeliness, and that Vote controllers adequately justify all rollovers and expenditure to mitigate the risk of misappropriation of public funds. And the other observation is that late submission of questionnaires for me, when you ask the institutions, they will tell you that they receive the questionnaires very late. That is why they did not submit them earlier and if it is so, it means Parliament should also ensure that, at least we distribute the questionnaires earlier than what is actually happening now. We shall at least give them a week plus, so that they will be able to prepare the questionnaires, and they also should have at least two or three days to submit the questionnaires so that Members of the Committee should be able to go through those questionnaires and get ready to engage those MDAs. The Committee observed that some MDAs submitted budget proposals exceeding the expenditure ceiling issued by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee recommended that MDAs complies strictly with approved budget ceilings and that the Ministry of Finance enforces compliance during the budget preparation process. Some Vote Controllers do submit their questionnaires unsigned and that is not acceptable, because the Vote Controller needs to take responsibility, but leaving it so open, it means that the MDAs are actually not taking responsibility. Also the Vote Controllers they are there to ensure that they take responsibility of whatever that is in their documents, they should ensure that they sign their documents.

Mr Chairman, another thing that we observe also, they are not using the organization's email address. Instead, they are using their own personal email addresses, and that is very unacceptable. I believe that every Ministry should have their own email address so that has to be looked into. I think the Ministry that is responsible is the Ministry of Communication. I think it is very key to expedite whatever process they are doing now, to ensure that we actually have email addresses for the different MDAs. Because, if not, how can you use a Gmail for a very sensitive institution? It means somebody else is sitting there in America having access to all your information and that is not good for security reasons.

Mr Chairman, another observation is that carried forward of cash balances. The Committee observed that most MDAs carried forward cash balances, which in some cases contributed to expenditures exceeding amounts received during the 2025 financial year. The Committee recommended that MDAs strengthen cash management and expenditure controls and that the Ministry of Finance provides clearer guidance on

treatment and reporting of carried forward balances. I think those are some of the observations. I thank you very much.

**HON. MAMOUD KAMARA:** Thank you Mr Chairman. I only want to add or share the same sentiment expressed by Honourable Members during the Appropriation Sub Committee. Let me focus on the Tonkolili District Council because throughout the year they did not receive a dime from the Ministry of Finance. This is very disheartening and discouraging. It is difficult to see Government Agencies that would receive more than 40% of its allocation. So we really need to engage the Ministry of Finance before these Agencies come for the Sub Appropriation. The Ministry of Finance actually needs to communicate to them to ensure the reality of the amount they can actually allocate to them. But it is actually disheartening when you put 7,000 Leones and you end up getting 1,000 Leones.

Mr Chairman, for the Local Councils throughout 2025 none of the Local Councils received a dime from the Ministry of Finance. I want to share the pain these Local Councils are going through when they are being called to appear before the Committee they find it very difficult because they know the trend will continue whatever action Parliament might want to do. Let the Ministry of Finance allocate funds to most of these institutions. I thank you.

**HON. TAMBA SIMEON JOHNNY:** Thank you very much Mr Chairman. I want to lend my voice to the failure of those Councils to appear for the Sub Appropriation Committee. I believe there is no justification as one of the Honourable from Bombali mentioned and I believe what the Councils are getting from Government is a support. Mr Chairman, if you go around some of these Councils, they have a lot of other means they are receiving revenue on behalf of the people of this Country for which they need to come and explain so that we will be able to know what they have received and their challenges. We all know that there are Councils in this Country that have received EU assistance in the tune of 1 Million Euros, and they have executed it as we speak. There are others that are in possession of 500,000 Euros and you did not receive this money for your own personal use but for the people of this Country, and if the representatives of the people of this Country call you to come and explain, I think it is but imperative on you to come and explain exactly how you have dispensed what you have received on behalf of the Councils.

Mr Chairman, when some of these Councils met the Committee they would come with so many challenges as if there are no other means they can get revenue. I began to ask them their means of collections. For example, Port Loko District Council I asked

them how many fuel stations from Songo to Lunsar and to Kambia border, and you are collecting revenues from all of them? How many quarries do you have? How many factories do you have? They were just saying the Airport is not paying. How many dugout canoes? And you are collecting revenues. Sand mining is going on along the coastal areas and all these other places. So they have other means to get revenue. Is just that for whatever reason they do not want to be accountable. So if you have other means of getting money, you have mining companies, for those that are coming from mining areas, and then people know that these things are happening and you are not coming forward, then you begin to say, because Government has not allocated money to them so they should not come and that should not be an excuse, Mr Chairman.

Mr Chairman, the Ministry of Finance actually needs to improve on how they give resources to MDAs. Honestly, it is disheartening when some of these MDAs, they come forward especially those that are not income generating entities, they only depend on the money that they receive from Government and at the end of the day, they are not receiving what they are supposed to receive. When the Ministry of Finance wants to give allocations to these MDAs, they should make sure they are certain that this is what they will be able to generate in 2026 if it comes in excess, no problem. You can increase, but you cannot go and assure the MDAs that you are going to give them the said amount of money and they begin to invite Suppliers or Contractors because they know that they are going to receive the said amount of money. Contractors are now supplying. They are undertaking other projects and when the time comes to pay Contractors they begin to harass Permanent Secretaries. Permanent Secretaries will be giving them excuses. It is actually embarrassing to lots of Permanent Secretaries and Contractors using unprintable words against them as if these are the people who do not want to pay them their monies. The Ministry of Finance should be able to give the actual allocation to these MDAs for the smooth running of these MDAs. Thank you very much Mr Chairman.

**HON. JIBRILA SUR MOIJUEH:** Thank you very much Mr Chairman. With your leave Mr Chairman, I want to start my submission from where you made a comment, and I am quite sure it was not a ruling. It was just a comment with regards the area of withholding allocations to MDAs that refused to honour the process of Sub Appropriation Committee. The Standing Orders 66 [1] makes it very clear for people serving in various capacities to appear but however the Standing Orders recognizes Vote Controllers and their Accountants. Instead of withholding the allocations to the MDAs, I would recommend that Parliament works with the Ministry of Finance to hold accountable those stakeholders in those institutions refusing to perform their functions.

Mr Chairman, we are talking about under disbursement of allocated amounts to MDAs, which I agreed with. Honourable Colleagues, there is something I want us to look into clearly that came out from the Appropriation exercise. If you look at the bank balances at closing balance at the time of the reporting period, you would realize that even when those monies are allocated they were not fully disbursed. There were significant amount in those MDAs accounts at closing balance. I can assure you, we can look at the Report closely, and we would see that clearly. To certain extent, there were cooked up Report that came out clearly and Members from the Sub-Appropriation Committee will attest to the fact that we were constantly stepping down MDAs so that they would be able to do their reporting in a very straightforward manner. We noticed the same amount given to them are the same amount stated when reporting not even a point zero addition or subtraction. I will recommend to the Minister of Finance in determining the ceiling budget for those institutions. Let us go back and check how they utilize those monies, because if we are saying that the monies allocated to those MDAs are under disbursed, yet those under disbursed funds are not being exhausted within the reporting period. Individuals in those institutions are utilizing those monies, and when the time comes for reporting, they are cooking up the Report when appearing before Parliament. If you look at the Report for Public Service Commission, for instance, opening balance at January 1, 2025 they had above One Million Leones, and the money disbursed to them for this whole 2025 was Four Million Leones. As closing balance at September, they had above One Million Leones again. So the ceiling that was approved was Five Million Leones. So let us say it was Five Million Leones that was approved and Four Million Leones was disbursed, that is under disbursement but for this exercise, they still have the money in their account that was the same for most of the MDAs that appeared. I attended some other Sub Appropriation Committee groups, and that was the same thing.

Mr Chairman, today we are here and we are struggling with people not taking Parliament serious. In terms of those refusing to come, last year that office did not appear, this year again, it did not come. How would that be happening as Parliament? For the Councils during the time of the debate, we exhaustively discussed issues of transfers to Councils. There is one culture I realized from the Councils, this area of 'scapegoat blaming'. Somebody will say, "I am the CA in this Council, but I was there just less than one year". And if you go to that same Council where that person was the CA there, now will complain the same thing. So if you are sitting here and now talking about you came to Kailahun District Council in less than one year, and you are trying to fix up something than you are discrediting what the CA was doing there over the time and where you are now coming from the other CA who is there now will do the same

thing. Imagine somebody accounting for repairs of two motorbikes 76,000 Leones and 76,000 Leones can buy two or three brand new motorbikes. We saw that clearly coming out for toothpicks in an office somebody accounting 25,000 Leones for toothpicks. How is that realistic?

Mr Chairman, I will summarize and conclude on this note, let us go back to the drawing board, those monies that were allocated to those MDAs, maybe we can revisit thoroughly the matrix and start directing those monies to the felt needs of Sierra Leoneans. I thank you so much.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I want to thank the Honourable Member. I thought this side was fully exhausted that was why I was paying attention over there. But the Chief Whip, if you want to attract my attention, I will give you the Floor. These are the last three contributions I will take then we take two more Reports and close for the day.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Thank you very much Mr Chairman. I just want to make a comment on late disbursement of funds to MDAs. Mr Chairman, this is not a new phenomenon, I have been in this Parliament now for almost 15 years. This is a regular happening in every system. Mr Chairman, budget itself is a projected figure. It depends on the amount of what Government will collect as revenue. That is the money they will use, the money is not available but Government will raise the revenue. Mr Chairman, like Honourable Simeon Johnny said the Councils are deliberate. We know that funds are not readily available, but they have own source revenue, and even the own source revenue it is difficult for them to be accounting for them.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, we know the amount of mining Companies and Iron Ore Companies that are in Port Loko and every year they give money to those Councils. Are they reporting for those monies? No, the monies are not even factored under their income. But I want to ask the Ministry, please pay more attention in collecting revenues in those Districts, because I believe District like Port Loko has so many mining Companies and they are giving loyalties to those mining Companies. There are so many telecom poles and they are giving the Councils I think, 5% or 10% for every payment. Where are those monies going? If there will be an arrangement where those communication Companies will be sending the money to the Consolidated Fund and later give to the Councils, but let us stop this 'baby crying'. They need to generate revenues for themselves. I wonder if they are giving targets so that is what you have to look at. Let us give them target. Like in Pujehun, they are collecting allowances or property tax. They are also issuing out market dues. They are not accounting for those market dues. What is the Ministry doing? Madam Minister, let us

stop this. Let us tell the Councils to stop this 'baby crying'. Let us put a mechanism that you will use to monitor the collection of own source revenue. Maybe you can only top them up. Like for Port Loko, I do not see need of Government giving them subsidies because there are so much money coming in that District. What I am trying to say is that you just round it up because if they are very serious in collecting the own source revenue, believe you me Port Loko will be self-sufficient and will not need money from Government coffers. That is the truth Mr Chairman, I rest my case.

**HON. RUGIATU ROSY KANU:** Quick correction, we have two Councils in Port Loko. The District Council is collecting revenue from mining Companies while the City Council is crying because they do not have any of those mining Companies paying anything to them. That is the problem we are having between the City and the District. All of the Companies are paying to this District Council, not to the City Council. The City is still hosted by an owner and the owner of the house is asking them for rent. That is the difference.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** That is the case. I want to suggest that the Ministry of Mines or Ministry of Finance puts in place a mechanism that the District Council should be given some percentage of that money to the City Council. That is my recommendation. Thank you Mr Chairman.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Well noted.

**HON. RUGIATU ROSY KANU:** Thank you Mr Chairman. A lot has been said about the Councils. I will go straight to our Committee, Group 10 and I just got one of the key recommendations that I have not heard. One of it is that the Committee observed that the total allocations approved by the House of Parliament for MDAs were not the actual amount allocated to MDAs. That is, there was a decrease in the final funds disbursed to MDAs. So, as a Committee we recommended that the Ministry of Finance ensures full disbursements of amount allocated and approved by Parliament.

Mr Chairman, on that note, I would like to zoom on two Ministries that have challenges, and one is the Ministry of Western Urban. The Ministry of Western Urban was established or pronounced by the President. But the office is not effective, it does not have furniture, it is under-staff and they do not even have logistics to do their work effectively. So, it is as if the Ministry is there, but then it is not functioning effectively. And so Mr Chairman, we made a recommendation for the approval of the proposed allocation of Le1, 000,000 for the Ministry for 2026 budget. The Committee found this account to be insufficient as a result recommended for additional funding to empower

the Ministry to support the communities to engage in collaborative effort and effective monitoring and evaluation of Government programs. We want to see the Ministry to do their job. We want to ensure that it is effective and so we are appealing for an increase of resources.

Also, Mr Chairman, the Tertiary Education Commission was established by Parliament to regulate tertiary education institutions but what is happening in that Commission is disheartening. From our probing, we came to observe that the Chairman and the rest of the staff in that Commission are in no talking terms. There is a significant grief between the Chairman and members of the Commission. We had a lot of difficulties to have an input from the Chairman, and another significant problem was, the Vote Controller. The Executive Secretary is there and the Chairman also is there, but when you go through the Act, it says the Executive Secretary is the overall administrative head of the Commission and then the Chairperson of the Commission is the head of the Commission to supervise but when it comes to the area of Vote controlling, the Chairman is the Vote Controller. So it is somehow not too clear but for me when they talk about taking care of the entire administration from my own administrative perspective, the Executive Secretary should be. We made a recommendation on that, that the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education should try to resolve this issue of Vote controlling, and the issue of the internal grief within that institution. Mr Chairman, it is greatly affecting that institution. So, we recommended as a Committee that the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education and the Parliamentary Committee for Technical and Higher Education should investigate the ongoing impasse between the Chairman and the administrative staff. This initiative aims to identify the underlined causes of the conflict and implement solutions to resolve the issues effectively. We want this recommendation to be immediate otherwise, a critical and very important institution like the Tertiary Education Commission will crumble.

Mr Chairman, on the issue of the Office of the Chief Examiner even though Honourable Moijueh has said something on that, I think during the last Appropriation I made the recommendation that the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner should not be given allocation until they do the needful. And again for this Appropriation the same Office of the Chief Medical Examiner was also assigned to me. We made several efforts to contact him and the institution but to no avail. So, we are also recommending, again that no allocation should be made to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner until they do the necessary actions. Mr Chairman, I think I will stop here for now.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Well for the Kambia District Council, the Chief Medical Examiner's Office and the Government Printing, we also have a recommendation on them yesterday.

**HON. TAMBA KELLIE:** Mr Chairman, for the Tertiary and Regulatory Commission, if there is any confusion in the functions of the Chairman and the Executive Secretary then it must be a fault of this Parliament and therefore we need to look at the Act and see if we can make any amendment because it should never happen. There should never be a confusion as to governance and the administration. The Executive Secretary is the Vote Controller and not the Chairman. The Chairman is responsible for governance.

**HON. RUGIATU ROSY KANU:** Mr Chairman, I want to make a clarification, it is only the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner that laid emphases on.

**HON. ABDUL KARIM KAMARA:** Thank you Mr Chairman. I think I should start from the observation that the Honourable Member from Kono made. It is obvious that the Act is clear on who should be the Vote Controller when it comes to the Tertiary and Regulatory Commission. I was part of that Committee, we probed into the activities of that Commission and I think the issues around the Commission are so many and as the Chairperson read out the recommendations we want to see the two Ministries, the Ministry of Finance as well as the Ministry of Higher Education to intervene. Also, the Committee here in Parliament that is responsible to oversee the activities of the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education because when we took a look at the financial statements and from the financial statements there were issues around who takes responsibility in terms of disbursement. When you look at the receipts from the financial statements, in fact, there were monies that came into that account of the Commission that were not meant for the Commission. In fact, the Chairman who is acting as the Vote Controller admitted that when they saw that amount to the tune of Five Million Leones according to him, they contacted the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Finance said they did not send any money to that account. At present, we are having issues around money laundering. The administrative staff are saying they are not aware as to who sent in the money into that account. The Ministry of Finance according to the Vote Controller who is the Chairman of the Commission said he contacted the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Finance said they did not send a dime into that account. So, who sent the money into that account? So that issue must be investigated, Madam Minister to avoid problems because we know what money launderers are doing and it is important. The money is still there and in fact when we enquired into what the

Commission has done in terms of utilization of the money, the Chairman said he instructed the administrative staff to use the money for the construction of the Secretariat. But why are you using that money when you do not know the source of the money? So we questioned them and we asked that the Ministry of Finance should investigate them so that is important.

Mr Chairman, one important aspect that captures my attention and this is one recommendation that cuts across Committees it is clear, the delays of monies coming in and going to MDAs and sometimes MDAs even do not receive money for the year under-reviewed. Mr Chairman, we know rollover is a regulatory measure but the purpose of the PFM Act is to secure accountability and transparency if we continue to encourage large rollover it will definitely disrupt the budget system. So I want the Ministry of Finance to take note of this because sometimes when you investigate the MDAs they will tell you they receive a rollover for the last quarter of the previous year in the third quarter of this particular year. So you will find out that if you want to reconcile sometimes you find it very difficult and it is challenging. We know it is important for MDAs to receive their rollover but again, we should be cautious that sometimes the rollover disrupts the budget and the planning process. We know the budget is a plan and if you plan to implement activities within a specific period in our case January to December and we have issues up to the fourth quarter of the year which you cannot disburse monies to the MDAs. When the rollovers are too huge or too large they will disrupt the planning process.

Mr Chairman, I want to draw the attention of this House and the Minister to look at the issue of rollover of our MDAs. Many times we discovered that the rollovers are too huge and it will definitely disrupt the management of the budget. Mr Chairman, we have to take serious action against those MDAs that are not appearing before Parliament and if we continue to see some of these MDAs receive monies when they are called upon they do not come to Parliament it will affect the morale of MPs as well as the Ministry of Finance. Because they will not treat the Ministry of Finance and Parliament seriously and of course they will not treat the activities or the work they are doing seriously so on that note I want to thank you very much for this brief statement that I have made.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I want to thank the Honourable Member and all other Members that have taken the Floor before you and I will give the Floor to the Minister but before I do, I want to make few clarifications. Honourable Members, if you look at Section 56 of the PFM Act, the Minister will now have the sole priority to determine the allotment as approved in the Appropriation. So the Ministry of Finance have the legal backing from

Parliament to manage the resources involved at their levels. Also Section 108 of the PFM Act gives the Councils and other Agencies in the central Government the right and liberty to go and seek out loans but they cannot do so without the Ministry of Finance. So we have given the Ministry of Finance a whole mandate and they are discharging that mandate. Sometimes when it comes back to us we tend to review it but we must find a way through the Chairman for the Committee of Finance to ensure that he pays attention to Section 56 of the PFM Act that he receives monthly and quarterly performance so he knows and understands exactly how the budget works on a quarterly bases.

Honourable Members, the issue of rollover in Section 44 [1] and [3]. Rollovers are only considered as rollovers if they are within the fiscal year or not beyond the first of January. Anything beyond the first of January is no longer a rollover, however, it is considered as disbursement under the new Appropriation and that is what the PFM Act says. So we have to be mindful of what we called rollover especially during some Appropriation process. So we know when it was disbursed, whether it is rollover or it is a new disbursement. So I think these are the clarifications I have.

Finally, the issue of questionnaires, the Chairman for the Committee of Finance is here. Parliament must design a mechanism wherein questionnaires are sent in September because the reporting period for which the MDAs and other Agencies of the Government Reports during Appropriation process is from January to September of the current year and the fourth quarter of the previous year which means if you give them the questionnaires in September, they should be able to report from January to September and they already have the data for fourth quarter of the previous year. So if the questionnaires are sent in September, it does not matter how slow the MDA, but by October they would have completed the questionnaire. The questionnaires would have been in possession of Parliament distributed to Committees even before the Committees are set up. So everybody would be familiar with the issues in the MDAs allocated to them. That is my humble suggestion Madam Minister. They will do the response and then you will have to patiently go through all of the Votes again group by group for us to pass them.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, let me once again thank this House and the different Committees like 1, 2, 5, 7, 10 and 12 for their diligence and hard work that they have put into these Reports and the different recommendations they have provided. Mr Chairman, I would start where you ended for so eloquently explaining the rollover problems and misconceptions around that. You

have clearly explained to this House all the differences in the composition on how the budget actually is being executed. So thank you once again for that.

Mr Chairman, on that note, I want you to remind this House that as a Ministry of Finance we have actually paid out over 78% of the allocations and the exact amount we have paid for 2025 is 223.7 Million Leones against a total allocations of 287.5 Million Leones. That is not a perfect record but it indicates the intent on our path and the willingness for us to work together and to make sure that the work of the people especially at the local level is carried on. Mr Chairman, as a Ministry in terms of implementing Parliamentary recommendations, we will do that at the Ministry level when we receive official instructions from this House so in terms of the MDAs for which you have recommended holding their allocations as a Ministry we await a future correspondence to give us the authority and the mandate to do exactly that and you have a full assurance once we receive those recommendations, we will implement them accordingly. On the African Peer Review Mechanism not having a budget name, we do have a budget name for the African Peer Review Mechanism. It is under the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development and its budget Vote is 12713. I think a lot of the discussions have been around the MDAs responsibilities and also the Local Councils and how they source revenue accountability at that level and the relationship with the Ministry of Finance has been clearly defined as indicated in the Finance Act and not only the Finance Act but also in the PFM Act and we would continue to do so accordingly. I take note of the issue around the different Commissions, Agencies and how they relate with the aligned Ministries and part of what we see from the Ministry of Finance that most of these Agencies and Commissions as established in the Act of Parliament and those Acts prescribed how and who the Votes Controllers are, who controls the budget line and how we implement them.

Mr Chairman, if this House thinks it is necessary all they have to do is to send us instructions or aligning some of those Agencies and Commissions with the aligned Ministries so that there are clear lines of responsibility and accountability. It is noted that we as a Ministry this year due to several competing demands from the Ministry, we could be better next year in terms of submission of the questionnaires to the different MDAs that have been noted. We will work on making sure that it is not repeated on our side. And hopefully the MDAs too can turn around on a timely basis. I think over the past couple of days we have discussed in detailed the risk of Ministries, Department and Agencies using their personal emails. And we have talked about how the Ministry of Communication and Technology and Innovation is working on creating an official email for every MDA and that exercise needs to be expedited.

Mr Chairman, I think everything has been discussed prior disbursement and timely disbursement and release of funds from the Ministry and Agencies like the Children Commission needing more allocation and those have been noted. Mr Chairman, this House also be considered in the supplementary budget for additional resources that too has been noted. As you know Mr Chairman, the Ministry of Finance, we are friends of Parliament so we will do our utmost to make sure that this Parliament operates effectively and efficiently and it has the resources needed to do that. So I will conclude now and read the Votes heads.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the Schedule. This is for Group 1, as read earlier, Group 2 as read earlier, Group 5 as read earlier and Group 7 as read earlier.

**HON. RUGIATU ROSY KANU:** Mr Chairman, please, I still want to hear from the Minister something about APRM because I did not hear something like that.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Yes, she said their budget is under the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** It is under the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development with Vote head 12713. Group 7 as stated, Group 10 as stated and Group 12 as stated.

**[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]**

**[The following votes as pronounced by the Minister form part of the Schedule]**

**THE CHAIRMAN:** So we will take Group 3 and Group 9 and then we close for the day. We would start with Group 3.

**HON. MAMOUD KAMARA:** Thank you very much Mr Chairman. Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table of this House the Report of the Sub Appropriation Committee Group 3 on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee and I am the Deputy Chairman of the said Committee.

**THE CLERK:** Group 3: Vote 12201, Vote 12405, Vote 20101, Vote 14050, Vote 11011, Vote 20701, Vote 42401, Vote 42101, Vote 422301, Vote 40801, Vote 11009, Vote 42901, Vote 10705, and Vote 10708 to stand part of the Schedule. Group 9, Vote 14401, Vote 14501, Vote 30501, Vote 41701, Vote 41401, Vote 41010, Vote 41301 Vote

41300, Vote 41204, Vote 30503, Vote 10701, and Vote 10701 to stand part of the Schedule.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the Schedule. Vote 12201, Human Resources Management Office, 5,935,900 Leones, Vote 12405, Legal Aid Board 7,000,200 Leones, Vote 120101, Ministry of Defense, 274,447,400 Leones, Vote 40501, National Tourist Board, 2,388,100 Leones, Vote 11011, Public Sector Reform Unit, 1,080,100 Leones, Vote 20701, Sierra Leone Correctional Services, 128,937,200 Leones, Vote 42401, Sierra Leone Petroleum Directorate, 41,163,000 Leones, Vote 42101, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency 2,000,000 Leones, Vote 42301, Sierra Leone Petroleum Regulation Agency 96,088,000 Leones, Vote 40801, Ministry of Works and Public Assets 25,316,500 Leones, Vote 11009, Sierra Leone Insurance Commission, 753,400 Leones, Vote 42901, Sierra Leone Mines and Minerals Development Management Corporation, 50,000,000 Leones, Vote 10705, New Sembehun City Council, 8,922,315 Leones, and Vote 10708 Bombali District Council, 8,989,054 Leones.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes stand part of the Schedule. Vote 14401, Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone, 4,994,900 Leones, Vote 14501, Right to Access Information Commission, 3,000,000 Leones, Vote 30501, the Ministry of Social Welfare, 17,034,300 Leones, Vote 41701, Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Agency, 6,000,000 Leones.

### **SUSPENSION OF S.O. 5[2]**

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Vote 41401 the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation, 9,606,500 Leones, Vote 41001, National Protected Area Authority, 5,500,000 Leones, Vote 41301, Sierra Leone Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission, 3,500,000 Leones, Vote 41300, Sierra Leone Water Company, 4,441,700 Leones, Vote 41300, National Water Resources Management Agency, 800,500 Leones, Vote 12404, Sierra Leone Law School, 592,300 Leones, Vote 30503, the National Task Force on Human Trafficking Secretariat, 1,000,000 Leones, Vote 10701, Bo District Council, 11,331,816 Leones and Vote 10701 Tonkolili District Council, 17,816,774 Leones.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** We may need to effect few corrections. For the Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO] instead of Vote 41308 is now Vote 41403, and the National Water Resource Management is also Vote 41405 instead of Vote 41300.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I move that the following Votes 41403 the Sierra Leone Water Company, 4,441,700 Leones and Vote 41405, National Water Resources Management Agency, 800,500 Leones.

**[Question Proposed]**

**[Debate continues for Group 3 and Group 9]**

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I think the concerns and the recommendations are almost the same and we have addressed most of them. The one which has to do with late disbursement, of course, now we know it is provided for in Section 56 that we have passed our mandate to the Minister of Finance to determine allocation as provided for in line with the cost that are available. We have also highlighted them and the Chairman is here that hopefully next year the questionnaires are sent in September. So if the questionnaires are sent in September, because what they are reporting for is January to September and for the fourth quarter of the previous year. So they should be able to complete and submit the questionnaires as late as possible by the end of October so the issues are almost the same.

**HON. MAMOUD KAMARA:** Mr Chairman, it has been made abundantly clear here that there are no rollovers, and that allocations received by every given year are allocations for those respective years. MDAs should know that, when they come to Parliament any indication that they have not received allocation for that given year will be a misrepresentation to Parliament, and that whatever is received for that given year should be reported as what has been received for that year. Whatever was not received for the previous year should be seen as an arrear from that previous year.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** It is an important addition, and I should also draw the attention of Members of Parliament to S.O. 66 [1] that the Sub-Appropriation Committees do not only look at budget, they also look at policy statement from Ministries. So MDAs should know that when they come for the Appropriation Sub-Committee, it is not just about what has been disbursed to them. Parliament is also interested in understanding how they are managing the human resources, how they do the requirements plan for the financial year in question or other revenue and how it has been implemented. These are all the full components of the Appropriation Sub-Committee so I take your point and it is very important.

**HON. TAMBA KELLIE:** Mr Chairman, the concern that I have has got to do with the situation whereby there is a framework contract in the beginning of quarter 4 and in this same frame work of contract you are asked or there is a binding Law between you and the Ministry as a Contractor to pre-finance the maintenance of water bouncers for the Ministry of Water Resources or (SALWACO). But the Ministry or the said institution Agency as at that time would be expecting a quarter 4 payment but did not come, and that payment rolls over into the first quarter of the following year, should that also be considered as a rollover?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** No Sir, it would not be considered as a rollover. A rollover is only a payment that is done with the approval of the Minister on or before the 1st of January for the succeeding year. Anything thereafter has to be expressly indicated by the Ministry of Finance so it is captured as a rollover otherwise it is deemed to be a disbursement for the fiscal year.

**HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS:** Mr Chairman, for Group 9 Tonkolili District, it is not part of the Report and I was expecting it to be part of the Report. In Tonkolili there are so many mining Companies. Most cases, when they go to see the operations of these mining Companies as to how they get their license to operate within Tonkolili they tend to make sure that they are arrested, but as soon as they take them to the Police Station, they will be released without any notice to them. So it is something serious and we assure them during the Appropriation that it is something we are going to take into consideration. It is not part of the Report but it is important that I bring it to the House and we gave that assurance to them that definitely we will take it up.

**MRS KADIATU ALIE:** Mr Chairman, I move that the following Votes heads stand part of the Schedule. Group 3 as stated, and Group 9 as stated.

***[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]***

***[The following Votes as pronounced by the Minister stand part of the Schedule]***

### **THE HOUSE RESUMED**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, we are left with Group 8 and Group 11, we would do them tomorrow. I have some additional announcements to make concerning dress code for MPs. It is expected that all Members of Parliament should dress in the manner approved in the Standing Orders and appropriately as possible in a way that

MPs who are men should appear in tailored made suit or African attire. For our ladies they should appear in African attire, or English type made suit dress. Colors should be cooperate colors mostly blue, gray, black, navy-blue, white, party colors and other cooperate colors. For MPs, party colors are accepted, and other corporate colors. No visitor should enter the Chamber except on the approval by Mr Speaker or meets the following requirements, and the visitor is an Appointee or a member of a Ministry, Department or Agency that has item on the Order Paper or on the invitation of the Leadership of Parliament. All other visitors should occupy the Galleries. These are pronouncements that will be enforceable effective 1st January, 2026. For African attires for male, it has to be three quarter and below. No short sleeves, no jeans, no business casual is accepted. Women should dress in Africana attires and other corporate English dresses and there should be no mini skirt and you should be well covered effective 1st January, 2026. No eating in the Chamber except tea and water. No other food should be brought to the Chamber and that is the end of the announcement.

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** Mr Chairman, Honourable Members, I moved a Motion yesterday and I want this Parliament to resolve it before it becomes a habit for others, for the disrespect of Honourable Members. So therefore, with your leave Mr Speaker, I would like to lay my Motion and I stand on S.O. 25.

**THE SPEAKER:** You are going to move on Section 95.

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** Mr Speaker, under Section 95 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No. 6 of 1991 do hereby institute contempt against Accord Logistics at 21 Bathurst Street, Freetown, for willful refusal and deliberate act to neglect the summon of Parliament without lawful justification, they have thereby obstructed and impeded Parliament in the performance of its oversight. This House further resolves to summon the CEO, or head of Accord Logistics to appear before the House on Friday 19th, December, 2025 at 11 a.m. I so move.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any Seconder to the Motion?

**HON. TAMBA SIMEON JOHNNY:** I Honourable Tamba Simeon Johnny so second the Motion.

**THE SPEAKER:** The Clerk of Parliament should write formally to the CEO of Accord Logistics to make himself available to Parliament. If he fails to make himself available to Parliament, the Clerk of Parliament is further instructed to write a contempt proceedings and send to the CID with regards to the issue of the CEO of Accord Logistics.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MR SPEAKER ADJOURNED THE HOUSE TO FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**AT 10:00 A.M.**

**THE HOUSE ROSE AT 15:24 P.M.**