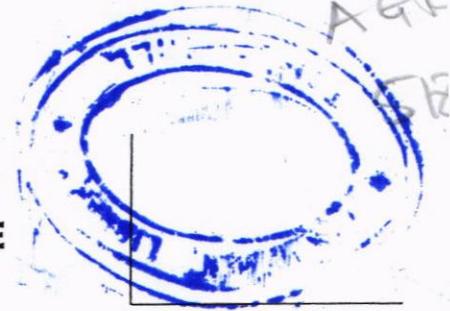




GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

MINUTE PAPER



MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- (i) CP(2019)39 issued
- (ii) Below is Extract from Cabinet Minutes of the 3rd meeting of 2019:

TRAVEL REPORT ON PARTICIPATION AT THE FORUM ON CHINA-AFRICA COOPERATION (FOCAC) COORDINATORS' MEETING AND THE CHINA ECONOMIC AND TRADE EXPO IN BEIJING AND CHANGSHA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, 24 – 29 JUNE, 2019

Memo. No: CP(2019)39

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

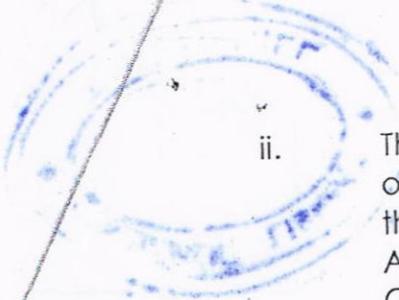
The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation presented a report on her participation at the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Coordinators' Meeting and the China Economic and Trade Expo in Beijing and Changsha, People's Republic of China, 24-29 June 2019.

1. Key Objectives/Theme(s) of the meeting:

- i. To discuss practicable ways in implementing the outcomes of the FOCAC's Beijing Summit in 2018
- ii. To dialogue on ways to improve trade and investment relations between China and all African countries which are members of FOCAC.
- iii. To strengthen bilateral cooperation between China and Sierra Leone in the various spheres.

2. Principal Outcomes of the meeting:

- i. Based on the deliberations and adoption of the Joint Statement of the Coordinators' Meeting as well as the holding of side-line meetings with the State Councillor and Foreign Minister of China, Wang Yi, and the Head of Politburo, Yang Jiechi on 23rd June and 25 June 2019 respectively, the following outcomes were achieved:

- 
- ii. The Concessional Loan Agreement on the implementation of the National Transmission Backbone Project Phase II and the Agreement for the Construction of the Foreign Service Academy were signed for and on behalf of the two Governments;
 - iii. The Government of China stands committed to support the Government of Sierra Leone to succeed in the implementation of its Medium Term National Development Plan (MTNDP 2019-2023);
 - iv. The Joint Statement of the Coordinators' Meeting was adopted;

3. Recommendations from the meeting:

The Minister made the following recommendations to Cabinet pertaining to issues emanating from the meeting:

- i. approve for the establishment of a FOCAC Committee comprising representatives of relevant authorities, mandated to implement the outcomes of the 2018 Beijing Summit, the FOCAC Action Plan 2019-2021 and all other matters related or incidental to FOCAC, including the following:
 - Concessional Loan Agreement for the National Backbone Project Phase II (Two Hundred and Seven Million RMB Yuan) with an interest of 1% per annum, signed on behalf of the Government of Sierra Leone, by the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
 - Constitution of an agreement for the construction of the Foreign Service Academy
- ii. note for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to include "skills transfer in technical areas of cooperation" in the existing Joint Commission Cooperation (JCC) with China;
- iii. note that the Ministry of Works and Public Assets should collaborate with the Office of Presidential Infrastructure Initiative with a view to ensuring that Sierra Leone benefits adequately from the Belt and Road Initiative which has been accessed by other African Countries.



Sierra Leone Government

Ref: L/FA/1

5th December, 2018.

From: Solicitor-General

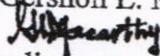
To: The Director- General and Ambassador-at-Large , Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Internal Cooperation.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SIERRA LEONE FOREIGN SERVICE DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY.

I refer to your memorandum No. MFA/Admin/101/Legal-HRC of 4th December 2018, requesting the concurrence of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice to a memorandum to Cabinet requesting Cabinet to consider and approve the proposed establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy.

2. Attached is the response of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice to your request.

Law Officers' Department
Freetown.

(Gershon L. Macarthy)

Parliamentary Counsel
For: Solicitor General

CABINET DECISION

Cabinet approved the Travel Report Memorandum and the recommendations therein presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.



Sonia U. Karim (Ms.)
for: Secretary to the Cabinet and Head
of the Civil Service

8TH AUGUST 2019

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT

CABINET

COMMENTS ON MEMORANDUM

| |
|--|
| Title of Memorandum: Establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy |
| Memorandum from: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Internal Cooperation |
| Comments from: The Attorney-General and Minister of Justice |
| Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support recommendations<input type="checkbox"/> Support recommendations with qualifications/amendments<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose recommendations<input type="checkbox"/> Require further information |
| Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The proposed establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy is intended to –<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) train Sierra Leone's Foreign Service Officers on capacity building to pursue a successful diplomatic career within the Ministry and present an effective representation of the country in its missions overseas;(b) support and strengthen Sierra Leone's diplomacy;(c) equip Sierra Leonean diplomats with the knowledge and skills required for diplomacy and meeting the current and evolving global programmes; and(d) create a forum for engagement on emerging foreign policy issues.2. The establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy is supported on the grounds that the Diplomatic Academy would train Sierra Leone's Foreign Service Officers on capacity building to pursue a successful diplomatic career within the Ministry and present an effective representation of the country in its missions overseas;3. Further, the establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy is supported on the grounds that it would offer courses to Foreign Service Officers, public servants in other Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and private sector candidates from national, regional and international organizations.4. In light of the above, the concurrence of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice is hereby conveyed for the establishment of the Sierra Leone Foreign Service Diplomatic Academy. |
| Abdulai M. Bangura Deputy Attorney-General and Minister of Justice |
| Signed: <i>MA</i> For Attorney-General and Minister of Justice |
| Date: 5 th December 2018 |



SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT

Ref. No. PS/MTHE/12/18

FROM: The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Technical and Higher Education

TO: The Director-General & Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation

DATE: 3rd December 2018

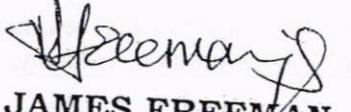
Copy: The Minister, MTHE

RE: REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE ON THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY BEING A CENTRAL PLANK IN H.E. PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO'S FOREIGN POLICY PRONOUNCEMENT

I am instructed to refer to your correspondence MFA/Admin/101/Legal-HRC of 25th November 2018 on the above subject matter and to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the same.

In relation to your request for concurrence, I am to convey this Ministry's 'no-objection' to the draft cabinet paper for the establishment of a Diplomatic Academy.

Please be assured of this Ministry's cooperation and collaboration at all times.


JAMES FREEMAN

For: Permanent Secretary

CSF/275 Vol. IV

The Secretary to the Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service

The Director-General and Ambassador-at-Large, Min. of
Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

26th November 2018

cc: Director
Legal Affairs & International Conventions Div.

**RE: REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE ON THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH
A DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY BEING A CENTRAL PLANK IN
H.E. PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO'S FOREIGN POLICY
PRONOUNCEMENTS**

I am directed to refer to your memorandum of 21st November, 2018 on the above subject and to forward herewith Cabinet Secretariat's comments on the proposed Diplomatic Academy.

2. I am also to inform you that the Secretariat has no objection to the establishment of the Diplomatic Academy as long as it is done within the general framework of the Public Service Academy.

Benny
P.M. SAMA
for: Secretary to the Cabinet
and Head of the Civil Service

CABINET SECRETARIAT
TOWER HILL
FREETOWN

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COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY BY
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIONS (MFAIC)

INTRODUCTION

In 2010, erstwhile President Ernest Bai Koroma approved of the construction of a Public Service Academy (PSA) which objectives are:

- to foster sustained human and industrial capacity development.
- to conduct research to inform Government agencies on Policy (future and ongoing)
- to develop a centre for the integration of all training programme of MDA's
- to provide an independent source of expertise and data on which the wider Public Service is able to draw
- to develop a centre of excellence capable of meeting the high level knowledge, skills and expertise needed for on-going national development.

After launching the project, a parcel of land measuring 1, 160 Acres Squarely Located between Bureh Town, Bongo Wharf, Damzin and Kent communities was acquired by the Government of Sierra Leone. Pledges both by individuals and institutions for the construction of the Academy were made. Some of these pledges have been honoured.

A study was conducted by Adam Smith international of the Commonwealth Secretariat on the establishment for of the Academy. A business plan was prepared as an outcome of the study.

Works however, have not started as the current funds contributed through the pledges and salary deductions from Senior Civil Servants for this purpose remain inadequate.

However, a full proposal for the construction has been factored into the secretariat Development Budget Estimates and presented to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development for the attention of Ministry of Finance.

Notwithstanding the present status of the PSA, it is held that MDA's with full blown training programme ready for implementation should go ahead but within the general frame work of the PSA.

OUR POSITION

With the stated stretch of land involved in this project and the amount of money that will be used to construct this academy, we are of the view that all MDA's wishing to establish specialised Schools:

- (i) should be encouraged to do so on the Public Service Academy Land but on a constituent college system to avoid duplication of resources and effort
- (ii) should be encouraged to partner with the Cabinet Secretariat, Ministry of Works and Public Asset (MWPA), Ministry of Lands, Housing and the Environment (MLHE), Accountant General's Department, Public Service Commission, Public Sector Reform Unit, Human Resource Management Office and Civil Service Training College to not only source funding for the construction of the Academy but review the Public Service Academy business plan and BoQ, to reflect the current Economic realities, with MWPA and MLHE focusing on the technicalities whilst others concentrate on the narratives.
- (iii) should collaborate with the above named institutions in (ii) above to translate the plan into specifics that are appropriate to the Sierra Leonean situation.
- (iv) should be encouraged to consolidate all funds meant for the construction of the Academy into one account for transparency sake.

CONCLUSION

Going forward, the proposed diplomatic Academy should be integrated into the PSA as part of a grand MDA's training apparatus.

Cabinet Secretariat
Tower Hill
FREETOWN



8 Jones Street,
Freetown
P.O. Box 67, Freetown
(Email - tertiaryeducationcommission7@gmail.com)



28th November 2018

The Director General & Ambassador at-Large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation (MFAIC)
Tower Hill
Freetown

Dear Sir,

Re: Request for Concurrence on the Proposal to Establish a Diplomatic Academy being a central plank in H.E. President Julius Maada Bio's foreign policy pronouncements

The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) is in receipt of your letter dated 21st November 2018. The Commission notes your intention to establish a Diplomatic Academy and will remain ceased for further development i.e. (Cabinet and Parliamentary approvals).

Once these are done, we hope you will liaise with the TEC to put in place mechanism for the registration and affiliation of the Academy.

Meanwhile, we are forwarding to your office the following documents for your information and to serve as guide in the process of interaction with the TEC:-

- Conditions for the Establishment of Universities in Sierra Leone
- TEC's Policy on Affiliation
- Accreditation

With many thanks, we look forward to your application.

Yours faithfully


Josephus Sawyer
Acting Admin Manager

CC: The Secretary to the President
The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
The Chairman TEC

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