



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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PRESS RELEASE



WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE 8/12/2025

Chairman of Parliamentary Committee on Transport Tables Report on Stakeholders Engagement To Boost Transport Sector

In a move aimed at building an efficient, resilient and future-ready transport ecosystem, Hon. Dickson Momoh Rogers, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Transport and Aviation, has today Tuesday 02/12/2025 presented a Report to Parliament following a high-level stakeholders engagement held at the Atlantic Hotel, Lumley Beach Road, on 4th June 2025.

The forum, which brought together senior government officials, parliamentary leadership, regulatory agencies, private-sector operators, civil-society organisations, development partners and other key industry stakeholders, served as a strategic platform for dialogue, collaboration and collective reflection on the state and future of Sierra Leone's transport and aviation sector.

Speaker Thomas Warns MPs of Privilege Limitations Over Non-Punctuality for Parliamentary Sittings

In a bid to keep the House running smoothly, the Rt. Hon. Speaker, Segepoh Solomon Thomas reminded Members of Parliament that plenary proceedings begin at 10:00 AM prompt. The Rt. Hon.

Speaker also sent a strong worded warning to Members of Parliament especially the Leaders of Limitations to Parliamentary Privileges, relating to attendance of Sittings in Parliament.

Speaker Thomas praised the House for its recent commitments to regular attendance, noting that many legislators have already shown “exemplary dedication” by arriving on time. He urged Members to maintain that momentum, stressing that punctuality is essential not only for the efficiency of the Legislature but also for the credibility of the institution in the eyes of the public.

“When we start on time, we send a clear message that the work of the people matters,” the Speaker said. To reinforce the point, he announced that, moving forward, he would begin naming MPs who fail to be in their seats when the clock strikes Ten.

TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE TABLES OVERSIGHT REPORT IN PARLIAMENT

The Parliamentary Committee on Transparency and Accountability, chaired by Hon. Ambrose Maada Lebby, on Tuesday 2nd December 2025, tabled its oversight report during parliamentary proceedings. The report covers the Committee’s nationwide oversight visit to Local Councils to review compliance with Section 119 of the Local Government (Amendment) Act 2022 and assess financial and procurement activities for the period 2023–2025.

Presenting the report, the Chairman, Hon. Ambrose Maada Lebby, stated that the Committee conducted its oversight engagements from 18th to 21st August 2025 across various Local Councils in Sierra Leone. The objective, he said, was to evaluate adherence to statutory obligations and examine the financial management and procurement systems in place. The report, he added, highlights both commendable practices and critical governance challenges.

Parliamentary Delegation Participates in 2025 Second Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Parliament in Abuja

A high-level delegation from the Parliament of Sierra Leone is currently in Abuja, Nigeria, participating in the 2025 Second Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Parliament, scheduled from 30 November to 13 December, this year.

The session brings together lawmakers from across the sub-region to deliberate on critical security, economic, and political challenges affecting West Africa.

The Sierra Leone delegation is led by Hon. Veronica K. Sesay, with Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama serving as Deputy Leader. Other members of the delegation include Hon. Abdul Kargbo, Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina, Mohamed Koroma, and Favour M. Bangura.

As part of the broader programme of engagements, the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Sierra Leone, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh, is expected to join the delegation in Abuja. He will represent the Rt. Hon. Speaker, Segepoh Solomon Thomas, at the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the ECOWAS Parliament, scheduled for Thursday, 4th December 2025, at the Bola Ahmed Tinubu Conference Centre.

* (FIRST ALLOTED DAY)

PARLIAMENT COMMENCES DEBATE ON THE 2026 NATIONAL BUDGET

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Wednesday 03/12/2025 commenced debate on the Bill entitled: "The Appropriation Act of 2026", for the services of Sierra Leone, on the theme "Enhancing Domestic Revenue Mobilization to Sustain Economic Development for Service Delivery".

The Bill seeks to authorize expenditure from the consolidated fund for the services of Sierra Leone for the year 2026 and for other related matters.

Speaker Thomas Announces Penalties for MDAs Skipping 2026 Budget Debate

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, Segepoh Solomon Thomas Esq., has on Thursday the 4/12/2025, warned that Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) who failed to attend the ongoing debate on the 2026 National Budget will face punitive action. Speaking on the second allotted day of the budgetary discussions, Speaker Thomas reiterated his instruction to the Clerk of Parliament to ensure that senior representatives of all MDAs are present to witness the deliberations.

"The 2026 budget is the lifeline that will fund the programmes of every Ministry," Speaker Thomas said. "It is incumbent on MDAs to witness how Members of Parliament scrutinise the allocation of resources, because that debate shapes the implementation of government policies."

(SECOND ALLOTED DAY)

PARLIAMENT CONTINUES DEBATE ON THE 2026 NATIONAL BUDGET

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday, 04/12/2025, continued debate on the Bill entitled: "The Appropriation Act of 2026", for the services of Sierra Leone, on the theme: "Enhancing Domestic Revenue Mobilization to Sustain Economic Development for Service Delivery".

The Bill is seeking to authorize expenditure from the consolidated fund for the services of Sierra Leone for the 2026 year and to provide for other related matters.

Anhui Province Delegation Strengthens Ties with Sierra Leone Parliament

Zheng Hong, Vice Chairperson of the Anhui Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, in the early hours of Friday the 5/12/2025, led a high-level delegation to the Parliament of Sierra Leone, where they met with Rt. Hon. Speaker Segepoh Solomon Thomas Esq., to deepen bilateral relations between the two nations.

The delegation's visit, described as a courtesy call, focused on fostering collaboration in technology, trade and governance. Zheng Hong began by thanking the Speaker for the warm reception, noting that the Anhui Province seeks to expand its over 50-year friendship with Sierra Leone through structured exchange visits.

"We invite you to plan a visit to Anhui," he said, "so we can explore ways to enhance economic and technological cooperation, particularly in artificial intelligence and innovation."

Zheng Hong highlighted Anhui's achievements, including over \$60 million in import-export trade in 2024 and emphasized the importance of local-level partnerships. "Mutual support between our regions is key to advancing shared development goals," he added, and called for regular exchange visits between the Sierra Leone Parliament and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

. (THIRD ALLOTED DAY)

PARLIAMENT CONCLUDES DEBATE ON THE 2026 NATIONAL BUDGET

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Friday, 05/12/2025, concluded debate on the Bill entitled: "The Appropriation Act of 2026", for the services of Sierra Leone, on the theme: "Enhancing Domestic Revenue Mobilization to Sustain Economic Development for Service Delivery".

The Bill is seeking to authorize expenditure from the consolidated fund for the services of Sierra Leone for the financial year 2026 and to provide for other related matters.

PARLIAMENT ENGAGES STAKEHOLDERS ON SANITATION MANDATE TRANSFER TO WATER RESOURCES MINISTRY

The Parliamentary Committee on Water Resources, in collaboration with GOAL and WASH-NET on Saturday 06/12/2025, held a dialogue with sanitation stakeholders at Parliament in Freetown and discussed the transfer of sanitation responsibilities

With the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation.

The Chairman of the Committee Hon. Abdul Karim Kamara, who also doubles as the Whip of Opposition, emphasized the need for collaboration, emphasizing, "To deliver sanitation effectively, all sectors must work together. Issues relating to sanitation are now in the hands of the Ministry of Water Resources." He encouraged the Ministry to address sanitation challenges for Sierra Leoneans, stressing, "We are here today to discuss how our nation will move forward."

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