



SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown

PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation informs the public that it is in receipt of a demarche from the United States Embassy in Freetown conveying an order from the Secretary of State of the United States Government expanding visa sanctions on Sierra Leone to include immigrant and nonimmigrant visas.

The Ministry wishes the public to note that the Sierra Leone Government has for some years now been collaborating with the United States Government to facilitate the return to Sierra Leone of its nationals in the United States that have been identified for deportation. As a country, we have collaborated with the United States to the extent that we had even received non-Sierra Leonean citizens in the process of compliance.

The Government of Sierra Leone notes with concern that this visa sanction extension has been communicated in just two weeks after Sierra Leone had received eight (8) more deportees in series of deportations by the United States over the years. The Government of Sierra Leone wishes it to be known that it is willing to receive its nationals from the United States where both countries act in accordance with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Convention.

The Ministry assures members of the public that the Government of Sierra Leone is in negotiation with the Government of the United States of America for the removal of these sanctions considering the continuing compliance on the part of Sierra Leone in accepting its nationals.

Freetown, 19th September, 2020

