



ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION  
CATHEDRAL HOUSE  
3 GLOUCESTER STREET  
FREETOWN  
SIERRA LEONE, WEST AFRICA

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16<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**ACC'S CLARIFICATION ON AFRICANIST PUBLICATION ON ALLEGED CORRUPTION**  
**AT THE NRA**

The attention of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has been drawn to an article, published in the Africanist online newspaper, dated 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2020; titled "Le3.2 billion foreign travel tax revenue missing in Sierra Leone" in which the publication seems to suggest that action has not been taken on the loss.

The ACC wishes the public to know that it had investigated these allegations and have accordingly instituted appropriate actions. The ACC's findings established that between March, 2018, and September 2019, Revenue Officers, **ABUBAKARR SIDIKIE KAMARA, MARIAMA BALLAH CONTEH, and JENEBA SESAY**, Revenue Officers, Report Processing and Return Payment (RPRP) Department of the National Revenue Authority (NRA) misappropriated a total sum of **Five Billion, Three Hundred and Eighty-two Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand, Six Hundred and Five Leones (Le5, 382,944,605)** of Public Revenue, being Foreign Travel Tax paid by the airliner, **Royal Air Maroc**, and Foreign Travel Tax, paid by **Euro World SL Ltd**. In February 2020, the ACC charged all three former NRA officers with eight (8) counts of Misappropriation of Public Revenue, contrary to Section 36(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2008. The matters are currently ongoing in court before the Hon. Justice Cosmotina Jarrett, J.

However, **ABUBAKARR SIDIKIE KAMARA**, who in his then capacity as **Revenue Officer** in the RPRP Department of the NRA, misappropriated a total sum of **Three Billion, Eighty-Eight Million, Eight Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand, Five Leones (Le3, 088,878,005)** of Public Revenue, being Foreign Travel Tax paid by the airliner, **Royal Air Maroc**, and Foreign Travel Tax, paid by **Euro World SL Ltd**, is on the run while being tried *in absentia*. A wanted person notice was accordingly issued. He faces four (4) counts of Misappropriation of Public Revenue, contrary to Section 36(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2008.

**MARIAMA BALLAH CONTEH**, who between March and May 2018, misappropriated a total amount of **One Billion, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Three Million, Eight Hundred and Fifty Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Leones (Le1, 723,859,600)** of public revenue, being Foreign Travel Tax paid by **Euro World SL Ltd**. **MARIAMA BALLAH CONTEH** faces three (3) counts of Misappropriation of Public Revenue, contrary to Section 36(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2008.

**JENEBA SESAY**, who was Revenue Officer, RPRP Department, NRA, on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, misappropriated public revenue amounting to **Five Hundred and Seventy Million, Two Hundred and Seven Thousand Leones (Le.570, 207,000.00)**, being Foreign Travel Tax paid by **Euro World SL Ltd.** **JENEBA SESAY** faces one (1) count of Misappropriation of Public Revenue, contrary to Section 36(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2008.

Meanwhile, the ACC has recovered **One Billion Leones (Le. 1,000,000.000.00)** from one Travel Agency as settlement due to the complicity of one of its staff in the scam. The culprit staff had been sacked and was out of Sierra Leone during the period of the investigation.

In this light, the Commission wishes to reassure the general public of its unshaken resolve to fight acts of corruption at all levels in Sierra Leone, especially in revenue generating institutions given the fact that they are the lifeblood of States, therefore crucial to State survival. It also wishes to make it clear that the Management of the National Revenue Authority and all relevant institutions fully supported and cooperated with the investigations which had long been completed and action accordingly taken as aforesaid.

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