



COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN SIERRA LEONE

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Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL) Statement on The Situation in Post Publication of the COI's Report and Government White Paper

The Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL) has existed in this country since 1924. Over its 90 years of existence the Council has been fully involved in the socio-economic life of the country fulfilling its role as

- The prophetic voice of the voiceless in Sierra Leone
- The moral guarantor of peace in this country and
- The provider of items to relieve those entrapped by disaster and those infected and affected by endemics such as the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) and pandemics like COVID-19

In living up to its Vision and Mission the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone has been observing all elections since 1996

- Successfully mediated between the former President H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma and the current President H.E. Julius Maada Bio following the impasse resulting from the 2012 Presidential Elections
- Tried to bring together the different factions within the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) before the election of the Party's 2018 flag bearer.
- Council commends the efforts of government in its fight against corruption manifested by the establishment of the Commissions of Inquiry followed by the publication of the White Paper on the reports of the Commissions.
- No doubt Government has succeeded in raising the awareness of the populace of the devastating effect of massive corruption on the country's development and government's capability to deliver services to its people.

Members: African Methodist Episcopal, Baptist Convention Sierra Leone, Bo Anglican Diocese, Christ Apostolic Church, Christian Reformed Church, Church of the Lord Aladura, Church of God of Prophecy, Church of God World Missions Sierra Leone, Congregational Evangelical Mission, Countess of Huntingdon Connexion, El-Shaddai Charismatic Ministries, Emmanuel Baptist Conference, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Evangelical Mission, Freetown Anglican Diocese, Methodist Church Sierra Leone, Missionary Church of Africa, National Evangelical Mission, National Pentecostal Mission, United Brethren in Christ, United Methodist Church, Vine Memorial Baptist, Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone and West African Methodist Church. **Affiliate:** Bible Society Sierra Leone, Christ United Pentecostal, Faith Worship Ministries, Scripture Union, Sierra Leone Theological College & Management and Church Training Center, St. Peters Healing Church, United Church Women, Young Men Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association.

However, the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL) wishes to express its deep apprehension of the current state of affairs in our beloved country:

Council holds that as laid down in the country's constitution due process must be allowed to take its course. The ninety (90) days for judicial appeal must be allowed to expire before any action sequel to the recommendations of the Commissions of Inquiry is taken.

In the process Council prays that our judiciary will be allowed to perform without let or hindrance. Our system/reputation is at stake and all Sierra Leoneans should cease appealing to the Court of Public opinion. We call on the Judiciary to stand the test of times and be seen to be credible at this very crucial time of our history.

Thus, Council appeals to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to find ways and means of pursuing its investigations of the former President including interviewing him with little or no tension.

The open animosity between the former President and the current President does not augur well for this country and undermines the unity and needed cohesion of our nation. Consequently, Council once again offers its services and prayers to mediate between both these statesmen.

We condemn all forms of lawlessness at all levels and appeal to supporters of political parties, particularly our youths, to refrain from all forms of violence and be patient as the process takes its course.

The peace that we yearn for in our nation can only be experienced in the proper exercise of justice, truth and freedom. Real peace is only derived from justice.

Council prays for the peace of our beloved Sierra Leone

