



ACADEMIC STAFF ASSOCIATION UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE

PRESS STATEMENT

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 4th January 2021: Resumption of ASA-USL Industrial Action

At a General Meeting held on the 4th December 2020, at IPAM Building, the Academic Staff Association, University of Sierra Leone (ASA-USL) resolved to suspend the industrial action till 31st December 2020, pending a signed written commitment to actualize ASA's foremost demand:

'The payment of our agreed 100% Salary Adjustment to reflect in our take-home (net) salary after all tax deductions, effective January 2021'.

The suspension of the industrial action which was as a result of appeals from several stakeholders went on for over two weeks; the specified period that the USL administration requested for, to complete the second semester examination. During that period the executive of ASA-USL held two key meetings with stakeholders. The first was the Ministry of Labour and Social Security stakeholders' meeting of 1st December, 2020, and the second, the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education stakeholders' meeting of 8th December 2020. The University Court was also convened in respect of the industrial action.

To summarise the outcomes of the meetings; all key stakeholders agreed thus:

1. That salary review within the university system in Sierra Leone is long overdue.
2. That ASA-USL is justified to request for salary adjustment
3. That a meeting with His Excellency, President Julius Maada Bio is strategic if the issue is to be resolved.
4. The Minister of Technical and Higher Education and the Minister of Labour and Social Security, both promised individually, during the first and second meetings respectively to book an appointment for us to see His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio to chart the way forward.

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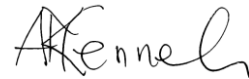
This is how far we have come and this is what our negotiations have achieved so far.

In respect of the specific mandate given to us by the general body of ASA-USL, that a signed written commitment to actualize ASA's foremost demand (as stated above in italics) should derive from the negotiations, we have received no such document.

On that note, as resolved during the last ASA-USL meeting at IPAM, the industrial action is resumed henceforth.



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President, ASA-USL



Alhaji Yankuba Kenneh
Secretary General, ASA- USL

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