

## GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

## PRESS RELEASE

## PAYMENTS TOWARDS SIERRA LEONE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2021 AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS QUALIFYING MATCHES AGAINST LESOTHO AND BENIN AND THE PARALYMPIC GAMES IN TUNISIA

The Ministry of Finance wishes to inform the General Public that the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) has approved the disbursement of Le11,284,782,657 to the National Sports Authority (NSA) to facilitate Leone Stars' participation in the two remaining qualifying football matches for the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations against Lesotho and Benin on the 27th and 30th March 2021 respectively.

Of this amount, the sum of Le8,835,325,769 is paid to facilitate the match against Lesotho in Maseru on 27th March 2021 and Le2,449,456,888 as allowances to players for the match against Benin in Freetown, Sierra Leone on 30th March 2021.

As part of the Government's commitment to supporting the development of sports in the country, Government has also approved the disbursement of Le542,487,191 to the National Sports Authority for Sierra Leone's participation in the just concluded Paralympic Games in Tunisia; where the team won (4) four medals.

We would like to further inform the General Public that Government has disbursed Le68,318,694,632.75 to the Ministry of Sports and NSA since April 2018 for the promotion, development and international participation of different sporting disciplines in the country.

While it wishes Leone Stars the best of luck in both Marches, the Ministry of Finance assures the nation of the fullest commitment of the Government to financing the development of sports in the country.

26<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 For more information: Contact: +232 78 584 006 or <u>asesay@mof.gov.sl</u>