



**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE**  
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**LIFTING OF BAN ON OVERSEAS RECRUITMENT**

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security wishes to inform the general public that the temporary BAN placed on Labour Migration in February 2019, was lifted on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

The Ban was instituted in 2019 as a means to curtail the uncoordinated and unregulated inflow and outflow of Migrants, which were mostly facilitated by Non-Registered Under-Ground Overseas Recruitment Agencies.

Since the Ban, the Government through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, has been working assiduously to put in place Regulatory Mechanisms to ensure safe and coordinated Migration in Sierra Leone.

In this vein, any Recruitment Agency that is interested in Overseas Recruitment process must visit the Ministry of Labour for the regularization of their Agency's Status. Such Agencies **MUST** possess a Certification of Authorisation to operate as a Recruitment Agency from Ministry.

**All Recruiting Agencies are to ensure that the Ministry is involved in every stage of the recruitment process including vetting and approving Overseas Employment Contracts and MUST also note that the Ministry in partnership with SOS Global Ghana Investment is responsible to handle the departure and return of all Sierra Leonean Migrants.**

The Public is further informed that **FEES** to be charged (**where necessary**) by Recruitment Agencies is yet to be **Endorsed** or **Certified** by the Ministry.

The Public is hereby advised not to transact business with any **Individual or Recruitment Agency** without proof of the Approved Employment Certificate and confirmation of endorsed fees from the Ministry. **Anyone doing so, does so at his/her own PERIL.**

Consequent on the above, the Ministry is kindly requesting authorities at our major border crossing points (Lungi International Airport, Gbalamuya and Gendema) to deny Labour Migrants from departing Sierra Leone without evidence of the following:

- a. Approved Employment Contracts for Overseas Employment by the Minister of Labour and Social Security
- b. Overseas Employment Certificate issued by the Minister of Labour and Social Security
- c. Labour Clearance issued by the Minister of Labour and Social Security

**END**

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
Signed:   
PERMANENT SECRETARY

For: ~~Permanent~~ Permanent Secretary