

SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources 5th Floor, Youyi Building, Brookfields, Freetown

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 10th, 2021

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone - We wish to inform members of the public that following lengthy discussion and negotiations, the matter between the Government of Sierra Leone and SL Mining Ltd / Gerald Group has been amicably resolved in the best interest of the people and government of Sierra Leone and SL mining Ltd / Gerald Group.

Members of the Public could recall that in 2019, the Government of Sierra Leone cancelled SL Mining's license on sundry grounds which resulted in the closure of the mines.

In the spirit of the resolution, both parties in the dispute have dropped their respective claims. A new company will be formed and a new mining lease agreement negotiated to ensure greater benefits for the people of Sierra Leone.

We wish to use this opportunity to assure all employees that government will continue to work with the new company to ensure that all Sierra Leonean employees and service providers of SL mining / Gerald Group are not disadvantaged in any way.

The public will be kept updated on further developments as and when they unfold.

Minister of Mines & Mineral Resources