

28th October 2021

The Minister of Local Government and Rural development
6th Floor Youyi Building
Brookfields
Freetown

Dear Sir,

LETTER OF COMPLAINT AGAINST HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

I bring you humble greetings from my personal behalf and all the side-lined Councillors of the Freetown City Council.

As you are aware, there has been a lot of hiccups regarding the operations of Her Worship the Mayor and her team whom she referred to as 'TEAM YVONNE' against other Councillors

Although the administrative enquiry team were with us in Council and we are yet to receive the outcomes; that did not caution the Mayor in her daily wrong doings in the running of the Council.

At the moment, we are having a divided mind in the Council on the issues of the Chief Administrator and to pass a vote of no confidence against him. At the moment, the Chief Administrator, some Councillors, Myself with some Councillors were side-lined in carrying out Council's key responsibilities and activities.

On Tuesday 22 September, 2021 Her Worship the Mayor called an emergency Council meeting to pass a resolution against me that my signature as Deputy Mayor should be withheld when she (the Mayor) travels out of the country. The reason as was stated by the Labour and Establishment Committee Chairman in the person of Councillor Collins Thomas Pearce was that Labour and Establishment Committee has received a letter from the Anti-corruption Commission which indicted me the Deputy Mayor. Up to this time of writing, I have neither received any invitation letter nor any indictment notice from the Anti-Corruption Commission.

When she travelled to the United Kingdom, we had a Council meeting and in her absence, she initiated her cohorts to engage the media houses to put the meeting on zoom and Facebook live without informing the Chief Administrator or myself being the Acting Mayor.

There have been very turbulent issues in the Council despite the intervention of several high-ranking government officials.

The Budget and Finance Committee, a statutory committee which comprised the Chairpersons of all the other committees of Council was dissolved because of "incompetence" as stated by Her Worship the Mayor and she has unilaterally replaced the committee without any consideration of the prescriptions of the Local Government Act of 2004 and the standing orders of the Freetown City Council without consultation with the Chief Administrator.

Further to the above Mr. Minister, at the last meeting of Council which was held on the 26th of October, the new Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee Councillor Dahbor tabled a resolution from his committee that when the Mayor travels, I as the Deputy Mayor should not sign cheques for and on behalf of Council. Please find attached for your perusal and retention, a copy of the resolution which was passed in the Council meeting.

Also attached Mr. Minister, is the copy of a memorandum from the Chief Administrator to Her Worship on the same issue captioned: **"PREVENTING THE DEPUTY MAYOR TO SIGN CHEQUES WHILE ACTING."**

As at today 28th of October 2021, her Worship the Mayor has travelled out of the Country and will be returning on the 9th of November 2021 without any arrangement for an alternate signature which therefore will bring the Council to a standstill in her absence. A copy of the notice to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government is attached for your perusal also.

In the light of the above I think I should bring the various issues to you being the head of our supervising Ministry for your immediate review of the situation in the Freetown City Council. I am confident that action will be taken accordingly.

Yours Faithfully,

Osman Koroma
Deputy Mayor



Copy : **Her Worship the Mayor**
The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Local Government
The Director Dec Sec.,
The Executive Secretary LGSC
The Chairman LGSC
The Director Fiscal Decentralisation Division (FDD)
The Chief Administrator
The Finance Officer FCC
File