

## **ALL PEOPLES CONGRESS (APC)** MOTTO: ACTION PROGRESS COMMITMENT

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## APC CONDEMNS THE SUSTAINED HASRASSEMNT OF HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF FREETOWN

The All Peoples Congress (hereinafter "APC") takes note and condemns the litany of obstructive acts and sustained campaign of harassment, threats and intimidation directed at Her Worship, the Mayor of Freetown, Madam Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE since she took up her elected office by supposedly independent state institutions and agents of the President Bio SLPP Led government. In the last three months, the Anti-Corruption Commission, The Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development have all instituted investigations on the Mayor's office on spurious allegations of corruption, a euphemism for witch hunt by the President Bio led government.

The latest attempt to harass and intimidate the Mayor is evidenced in the regrettable futile attempt by the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to dissolve the Mayor's Delivery Unit, an integral unit to the Mayor's successful effort to transform Freetown and delivering of municipal services to its residents. The Mayor of Freetown is the Chief Executive Officer of the Freetown Municipality, together with her elected Councilors they can bring to life any unit that will help them deliver much needed transformation of the municipality. The Local Government Act 2004, or any other law doesn't cloth the Minister or his Ministry with such authority.

It could be recalled that in October 2018, the then Deputy Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Phillip Tehtema Tondoneh directed and rained verbal attack on Her Worship the Mayor, Madam Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr after she insisted on having accountability structures in the failed monthly cleaning exercise which allegedly saw billions siphoned. The APC unreservedly condemned and will continue to condemn such misogynistic acts.

We reassure our membership and the public that we are firmly behind Her Worship the Mayor, Madam Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE and will provide her the necessary moral and political support to continue the good work she is doing for the municipality.

The Party leadership has intervened to bring harmony and concord between the Mayor and her Deputy a situation which had the potential to weaken the council to the advantage of the line ministry. It is our hope that the independent institutions will endeavour to maintain an impartial position in the exercise of their sacred functions. We hereby reiterate our support for the Mayor in her struggle to transform Freetown.

Signed:

Amb. Dr. Alhaji OSMAN Foday Yansaneh

National Secretary General - APC

Gansane