



Institute for Governance Reform-IGR

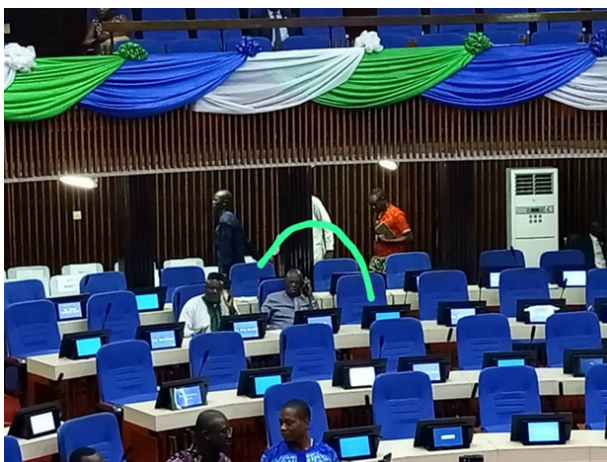
Bridging knowledge and policy

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SIERRA LEONE: PARLIAMENTARY PERFORMANCE TRACKER (2nd Edition);

JAN – MAR 2022

Sierra Leone Parliament recorded an increase in absenteeism of its members. Nearly a quarter (24%) of Sierra Leone MPs (35) did not attend half of the 14 sittings between January and March 2022. This represents a 4% drop in attendance when compared to the last quarter of 2021 where 20% of MPs did not half of the sittings, according to the official attendance records published on the parliamentary website.



Left photo: At 10.20am, on 29th June 2022, Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin, one of the most frequent and punctual MPs already in the well waiting for his colleagues

Right photo: At 10.47am, on 29th June 2022 Hon Speaker, Dr. Abass Bundu (standing) still waiting for MPs to form the 25% required quorum to commence the business of the house.

As stated in our maiden tracker, the purpose of monitoring MP performance is to increase legislators' commitment to their representative duties and to strengthen the legislative process. Sitting should start at 10 a.m. and is mostly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. However, just as in the last quarter, Parliament rarely met on time, and we recorded an average late start of about 30 minutes for the quarter as the leadership waited to meet the 25%-member presence required to form a quorum. The two photos above illustrates the poor punctuality of members.

For January 2022 all the three sittings started on time (10am prompt). For February, all the sittings started at 10.40am on average. Average start time in March was 10.28am.

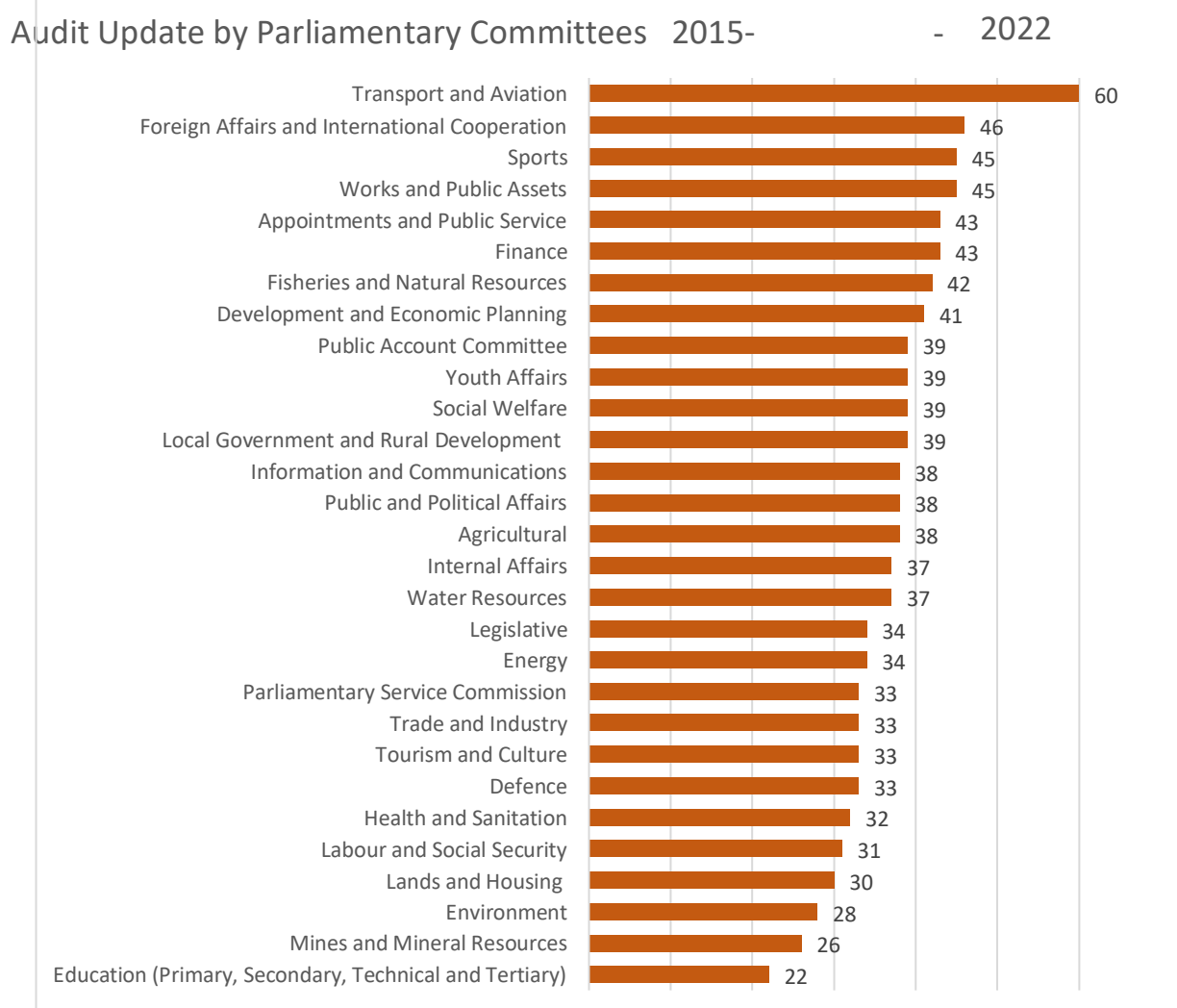
THREE SITTINGS WITH THE HIGHEST ABSENTEEISM

- February 17th, 2022 – 88 MPs attended (58 MPs were absent) – 39.7%,
- March 15th, 2022 – 88 MPs attended (58 MPs were absent) – 39.7%,
- March 24th, 2022 – 88 MPs attended (58 MPs were absent) – 39.7%.

MONITORING PERFORMANCE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

IGR also monitors the performance of the Parliamentary Committee and earlier this year, released a report on the enforcement of recommendations of the annual audit report of GoSL. In total, 2,655 audit recommendations were produced by the Audit Service Sierra Leone (ASSL) for all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and local councils for the period covering – 2015-2020. Only 38% of audit recommendations were enforced by MPs in the six years. The Committees on Transport and Aviation (60%); Foreign Affairs (46%); Public Works and Assets (45%); and Sports (45%) were high on enforcement of audit recommendations.

Up Take Audit Recommendations by Parliament (2015 – 2020)



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