



## CSO Strategy Workshop on Implementation of UPR Recommendations, 7-9 March, 2016, Bo City, Sierra Leone

### Outcome Charter

Sierra Leone's human rights record was reviewed for the first time in 2011 during which time the Government received 129 recommendations out of which it Accepted 126 of them and Noted 3 recommendations. Sierra Leone underwent the second time on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at the United Nations in Geneva, during the Universal Periodic Review. The State of Sierra Leone received a total of 208 recommendations and will have until the next UPR in 2021 to implement them.

Within the UPR framework, it is encouraged to include civil society in the implementation of UPR recommendations. The success of CSOs' engagement in the UPR ultimately depends on their ability to follow up on UPR obligations and to form partnerships with their government.

In order to explore possibilities of cooperation among the different stakeholders involved in the UPR process, Sierra Leone Civil Society Organisations (see annex 1) met during 3 days to constructively discuss how to collaborate with the Government and other stakeholders to implement UPR recommendations.

As a result of this 3 day workshop, and based on the analysis of all the recommendations received by Sierra Leone, Civil Society Organisations have agreed to advocate for and to prioritise the following objectives:

- **To lobby for the finalisation of the Constitutional review process;**
- **To ensure that the new Constitution reflects the needs and aspirations of the people of Sierra Leone and international human rights standards;**
- **To ensure that the Government of Sierra Leone implements all the recommendations;**
- **To ensure that the Government of Sierra Leone creates space for civil society and promulgates laws protecting human rights defenders;**
- **To enhance access to justice for children in conflict and in contact with the law;**
- **To reduce the number of children coming in contact with the law;**
- **To increase the number of reported cases of GBV prosecuted;**
- **To ensure the speedy investigation and trial of cases of GBV;**
- **To increase the percentage of women and girls attending school and taking State examinations after child birth by 2019;**
- **To increase the percentage of women participation in governance by enacting and adopting relevant laws and policies by 2021;**

- **To put in place laws and policies that increase women’s access, ownership and control to land and property by 2021;**
- **To increase the percentage of children accessing basic education;**
- **To increase the independence and efficiency of the National Human Rights Institutions;**
- **To review laws that criminalise defamation and seditious libel;**
- **To decriminalise and repeal all laws that target the LGBTI persons and advocate for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against LGBTI communities;**
- **To increase access to health services for LGBTI persons by 2021;**
- **To advocate for disability friendly services both in public and private sector for people with disabilities by 2021;**
- **To increase access to sexual reproductive health services and education for women and girls;**
- **Repeal laws that criminalise abortion;**
- **To improve and increase access to safe water;**
- **To increase access to justice for women and girls;**
- **To reduce the marginalisation of women and girls;**
- **To lobby for the criminalisation of FGM;**
- **To increase the fight against corruption through prosecution.**

With this Outcome Charter, the signatories commit to continue working on the implementation of UPR recommendations, together with all relevant stakeholders, and to meet regularly in order to facilitate the discussion and provide updates on the status of their activities.

Bo City, Sierra Leone, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

## Annex: List of CSOs

### **Civil and Political Rights/Other Vulnerable Groups**

Amnesty International – Sierra Leone (AISL)  
Prison Watch Sierra Leone (PW-SL)  
Center for Democracy and Human Rights (CDHR)  
Concern Women Initiative (CWI)  
Dignity

### **Women’s Rights/Rights of the child**

Community Action for Human Security (CAHSeC)  
Defence for Children International – Sierra Leone (DCI-SL)  
Women’s Initiative Movement for Justice (WIMJ)  
Foundation for Democracy, Development and Human Rights (FODDHR)  
Human Rights Defenders Network-Sierra Leone (HRDN-SL)  
Action for Community Task (ACT)  
Organisation for Development and Human Rights (ODHR-SL)  
Center for the Coalition of Human rights Activist  
Action for Community Transformation and Sponsorship (ACTS)  
Initiative for Community Development  
Child Rights Coalition – SL (CRC-SL)  
Women Action for Human Dignity (WAHD)  
Women Empowerment and for Gender Equality (WEGE-SL)

### **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Western Area Human Rights Committee (WAHRC)  
Women on Mining and Extractive (WoME)  
Good Shepherd Development Ministry (GSDM)  
Sierra Leone Network on the Rights to Food (SILNORF)  
United for the Protection of Human Rights (UPHR)  
Human rights Commission – Sierra Leone (HRC-SL)  
Network Movement for Democracy and Human Rights (NMDHR)

### **Justice**

Center for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL)  
Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD)  
CSO UPR Monitoring Group (CUMG)  
AdvocAid  
Sierra Leone Association of Journalist (SLAJ)  
Media Action Network  
Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD)  
Human Rights Defenders Network-SL (HRDN-SL)  
Coalition for Justice and Accountability (COJA)  
Women Empowerment for Gender and Equality  
Disable Rights Movement (DRIM)  
Forum for Sierra Leone Youth Network (FoSLYN)