

NON STATE ACTORS PROJECT NEWS LETTER

Issue 4

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by UNIPSIL NSA Project Implementation Unit

The Non State Actor project provides an innovative approach of support to electoral processes and consolidation of peace in Sierra Leone. It aims to create an atmosphere of political tolerance and of non-violence by investing in the influence that political parties and other non-state actors have on Sierra Leone's political process. It also seeks to promote greater political participation in particular by women. It is funded by a 5 million US\$ from the UN Peace building Fund

APC intra party Dialogue in Makeni

On 24 February PPRC facilitated an APC intraparty dialogue in Makeni. A total of forty participants took part in the event, in attendance were the APC district chairmen and organising secretaries

from across the country. The objective of the dialogue was to engage APC party executives in order to chart the way forward ahead of the 2012 elections. The chairman National Commission for Democracy, Dr. Abubakar Kargbo was the lead facilitator. His presentation was on the theme "Coordination between party members and government functionaries." Participants discussed the relevance of internal party democracy and the need for decentralised award of party symbols. He recommended that political parties should go beyond regional and tribal boundaries and forge networks with civil society organisations. Speakers called for a speedy announcement of the party's running mate, and urged the party to remain united. In addition, party members discussed the different roles and responsibilities of party and government functionaries, and how to improve coordination among them.



Soweis National Conference Follow up

As a follow up to the National Conference of Female Traditional Leaders, in Kenema on 8 February, on 21 and 22 February, in Freetown, more than 26 Female Traditional Leaders gathered to discuss their role in ensuring free, fair and credible elections. The training was the fourth in a series of other trainings that have taken place in the last two weeks. These events are part of a programme to help female traditional leaders countrywide to formulate action plans in order to encourage more women to play a greater part in the election process, to sensitise their communities, as well as to reduce election-related, gender based violence in their own communities. The training was organised by the African Foundation for Development, Sierra Leone.



CSO Platform on Non Violent Elections decides on 2012 Action Plan

From 23 to 25 February, 55 members of the CSO Platform on Non Violent Elections met in Makeni to chart the way forward for the implementation of the CSO activities under the NSA project. During the review, members committed to consolidate the unity of civil society in Sierra Leone, share information with other CSO members, develop common standards, decide on who does what, refine structures and set up an operational framework. The retreat was facilitated by members of the Steering Committee with support from UNIPSIL. At the meeting, the platform also appointed a permanent chairman.

Event	Dates	Location	UN Focal point
Interparty dialogue	10 th March 2012	Tongo - Kenema (pending clarification of finance)	Moses Orogade (076632410)
APPYA meeting with youth gangs	TBC	Freetown	Patrick Buse (076679247)
PPRC Launching of DCMCs in Urban / Rural Western Area	6 th March 2012	Freetown, Atlantic Hall	Moses Orogade (076632410)
Inter Religious Council Meetings	7 th - 14 th March 2012	All districts (Schedule for each district to be provided)	Robert Moikowa (078256401)