

NON STATE ACTORS PROJECT NEWS LETTER

Issue 6

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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

APPWA holds Biannual Retreat at Magburaka

On 24 and 25 March, the All Political Parties Women's Association (APPWA) held its bi-annual retreat at the Education Center, Magburaka, Northern Region. The retreat brought all the national and regional officers together to review their activities, address emerging issues, challenges, incorporate members from other parties as well as develop clear guidelines to strengthen the association's structure to achieve its objective of increasing women's political participation.

The retreat was chaired by the PPRC Programme and Mediations Manager, Mr. Robert Paine. The PPRC Registrar Mr. Abraham John urged APPWA to use the retreat to reflect on their activities and emerge with concrete steps to address challenges and to strengthen the association. Short statements were made by each political party. Standard operating procedures and guidelines were developed outlining channels of communication, member's roles and responsibilities



and other pertinent details regarding the functioning of the association. A SWOT analysis of the association was also done.

National Commission for Democracy promotes peace and civic education in Kenema and Pujehun

The education campaign by the National Commission for Democracy continued in Kenema and Pujehun districts. Started on 12 March, a NCD mobile team NCD is touring the country's 112 constituencies. The team is engaging men and women on the themes of national unity and cohesion; tolerance and co-operation; patriotism, anti-violence; gender parity and youth participation. The team is raising awareness on the importance of elections as well as a careful selection by the electorate of candidates seeking public office. The need to recognize and respect public property as well as fundamental tenets of good governance were canvassed. The messages, jointly developed with partners and the political parties, have been translated in to five major languages. The NCD education officer, pictured left in the centre of the picture, said he was pleased with the enthusiastic response of the out-



reach. Up to now, the team has completed the first stage of the civic education drive in the south and the eastern part of the country. Under the NSA programme, a second tour will take place closer to the elections. In addition, NCD will also, through its regional offices, in partnership with UNIPSIL, engage with civil society, Paramount Chiefs, the Interreligious Council, local government, and other partners, trying to resolve conflicts which might otherwise impact negatively on the elections.

**The Non State Actor Project
Implementation Unit wishes you a Happy
& Peaceful Easter**

NON STATE ACTORS PROJECT UPCOMING EVENTS (7–14 April 2012)

Event	Dates	Location	UN Focal Point
Dissemination of Civic Education Messages	7 April	Bombali, constituency 28 and 29	Agneta Kisese (76 800066, 076—679 247)
	9 April	Port Loko, const. 50 and 51	
	10 April	Port Loko, const. 58 and 49	
	11 April	Port Loko, const. 53 and 52	
	12 April	Kambia, const. 39 and 40	
	13 April	Kambia, const. 38 and 37	
	14 April	Kambia, const. 41 and 42	
Regional Meeting Paramount Chiefs	12–14 April	Kenema	Dr. Robert Moikowa (076 679 246)