

NON STATE ACTORS PROJECT NEWS LETTER

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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

Traditional Authorities and Religious Leaders address election issues & call for peaceful elections

The National Council of Paramount Chiefs, collaborating with the Inter-Religious Council, organized consultations in four regional capitals of Kenema, Bo, Makeni, and Western Area. Both organizations greatly appreciated the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest and interact with other actors from government, civil society and the security sector. Their role in the elections, political violence, and other topics were discussed. At the occasion, Paramount Chiefs called upon partners to respect their neutrality, and adopted a Communique calling for the peaceful resolution of conflicts and political tolerance. As part of the 3 day events, Chiefs and members of the IRC also benefited from trainings in conflict prevention and mediation. In addition, the NCPC also elected district and regional structures. As part of the NSA Project, the NCPC also receives support to set up a functional national office.



National Commission For Democracy spearheads regional conflict Consultations



Throughout the week the National Commission For Democracy (NCD) in collaboration with security, governance, and other stakeholders held a series of regional consultations to identify latent conflicts at the community level which could morph into political conflicts and impinge negatively on the 2012 elections. So far consultations took place in Kenema (3 May 2012), Bo (4 May), Makeni (5 May) and Freetown (7 May 2012). During the discussions, land/boundary and paramount chieftaincy issues came up as some of the major potential conflict areas. In a second round next week, regional stakeholders will propose resolution interventions for funding from the NSA. This activity complements the activities of the District Security Coordination Councils as well as the District Code of Conduct Monitoring Councils.

Civil Society Platform holds Soccer Gala at Waterloo

In Waterloo, Western Rural Area, the Civil Society Platform called for a soccer gala competition in Bassa Town football field on 5 May 2012. A total of twelve participating teams, named Home Base 1, Go Draw, Reggae Boys, Area Friends, Home Boys 2, Home Boys 3, Las Palmas, Gbanga Farm and Kola Tree, and others participated in the competition.



There were separate teams for girl and boys. Hundreds of ex-combatant fans, Fambultok, UNIPSIL, Councillors and other community leaders witnessed the matches, and passionately urged the spectators to make the 2012 elections peaceful, a plea which was joined by comedians and civil society. The day ended in jubilant mode with music. Another competition is scheduled for the 13 May 2012. As part of the Non State Actor Project, ex-combatants, many of whom are residents in the area, will later engage in community work and further disseminate the message of non-violence.

NON STATE ACTORS PROJECT UPCOMING EVENTS (14-19 May 2012)				
Event	Dates	Location	UN Focal Point	Implementing Partner
National stakeholders Conference	17-18 May 2012	Freetown, Bintumani Hotel	Moses Orogade (076632410)	PPRC
Conflict prioritization and Validation Consultations	14 May 2012	Freetown Youyi Building	Agneta Kisese (076 800066)	National Commission For Democracy (NCD)
Peace Carnival	19 May 2012	Waterloo	Abu Sessay (076800030)	Action Aid/ Campaign For Good Governance (CGG)