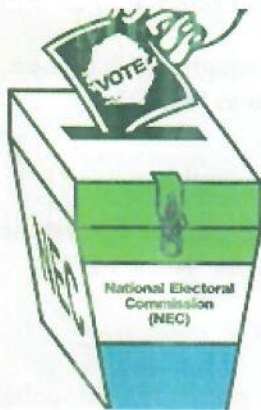


MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG



**THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION
(NEC-SL),**

**THE POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION
COMMISSION (PPRC-SL),**

**THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
DEMOCRACY (NCD-SL),**

&

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIC
EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT
(NaCCED-SL)**

The National Electoral Commission, represented by and through its Chairman, Mr. Mohamed Kenewui Konneh, hereinafter known and referred to as "NEC";

The Political Parties Registration Commission, represented by and through its Chairman, Mr. Abdullai Masiambay Bangurah (Esq.), hereinafter known and referred to as "PPRC";

The National Commission for Democracy, represented by and through its Chairman, Dr. Abubakarr Hassan Kargbo hereinafter known and referred to as "NCD"

And

The National Council for Civic Education and Development, represented by and through its Chairman, Mr. Kalilu Totangi, hereinafter known and referred to as "NaCCED".

CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

WHEREAS this Memorandum of Understanding outlines the principles for collaborative engagement and partnership among the National Electoral Commission (NEC), the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC), the National Commission for Democracy (NCD), and the National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED); it is prepared based on the mutually agreeable issues that emerged during the meeting held on Monday, September 28, 2020, under the auspices of NEC, among the four institutions.

WHEREAS the National Electoral Commission (NEC) is an independent body set up by an Act of Parliament to serve as the electoral authority with its constitutional mandate under Section 33 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, Act No. 6 of 1991; Section 7 (1) of the Public Elections Act, 2012; and Section 28 of the Paramount Chieftaincy Act, 2009, NEC is mandated among other things to conduct all public elections and referenda and perform related functions in the fulfillment of such mandate.

WHEREAS the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC) is established by an Act of Parliament to serve its constitutional mandate concerning Sections 34 & 35 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, Act No. 6 of 1991; the Political Parties Act, Act No. 3 of 2002, PPRC is mandated among other things to register and supervise the conduct of all political parties in the country in addition to the performance of such other functions as stipulated in its core mandate.

WHEREAS the National Commission for Democracy (NCD) was established by NPRC Decree No. 15 of 1994 and the Superseding Act No. 3 of 1996, it is an independent, dynamic, and decentralized Commission dedicated to raising awareness on the objectives of the Constitution of Sierra Leone in addition to assessing for the information of government any deficit in the attainment of true democracy based on existing inequalities among others. The Commission exercises these functions to promote transparent, accountable, and responsive democratic processes and institutions, strengthen civil society and develop an engaged, informed, and responsible citizenry.

WHEREAS the National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED) was established in 2019 as a Presidential initiative to enhance civic education in the context of national development, NaCCED comes into existence to plug existing gaps in the governance architecture of the state.

WHEREAS the mandate of NEC, PPRC, NCD and NaCCED are mutually reinforcing in the context of the governance imperative of the nation, this MOU, therefore, sets the tone for operations and activities that are related to Voter Education, Political Education, Education in

Democracy, Development Education, Peace Education, Human Rights Education, and Gender Education, amongst others, as Citizenship Education is enhanced from a multi-sectoral perspective in the furtherance and consolidation of democratic good governance in Sierra Leone.

WHEREAS in complimenting efforts in promoting their respective inter-related mandates, have thereby agreed to adhere to the principles of good partnership stated in this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

ARTICLE I

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

NEC, PPRC, NCD, and NaCCED have considered their respective mandates as mutually reinforcing in strengthening the pillars of constitutionality, good governance, civic consciousness, nationalism, patriotism, unity, tolerance, and cohesion, among others, in Sierra Leone, have agreed to adhere to the terms and conditions stated herein;

1. *ALL* the Institutions have agreed to undertake activities mutually determined and agreed upon to contribute to the achievement of their common goals of promoting good governance. The terms of such cooperation and participation shall be determined by an agreement or through consultation among the institutions.
2. *ALL* the Institutions have agreed to complement efforts in their various functions and areas of responsibilities as per the existing legal frameworks concerning the various Acts of Parliaments and Presidential proclamations.
3. *ALL* the Institutions shall provide mutual support and assistance in areas of mutual interest bordering on the realization of their respective mandates of promoting electoral, political, and democratic good governance, producing good citizens, and enhancing national unity and cohesion, among others, in Sierra Leone.
4. *ALL* the Institutions will exchange information and guide good practices while working towards strengthening their respective mandates.
5. *ALL* the Institutions have agreed to cooperate whenever consulted on other matters in the pursuit of their respective institutional goals and objectives.

ARTICLE II

COMMITMENT TO JOINT INTERVENTIONS

As *ALL* the Institutions have affirmed commitment, and as such underscored the need for joint interventions in the areas of mutual interest, and have agreed to adhere to the below stated collaborative partnership rules herein stated; *ALL* have consented and are:

1. *WILLING* to provide regular and timely feedback on project activities including the provision of regular progress reports, monitoring and evaluation reports as well as other reports during the implementation of joint project activities.
2. *WILLING* to provide periodic information on the event beyond the remit of the project itself but which is expected to impact project outcomes.
3. *WILLING* to ensure transparent and open practices in the implementation of joint project activities.

4. **WILLING** to undertake joint fundraising activities, which also necessitate ensuring strong donor coordination and information sharing on the activities with partners.
5. **WILLING** to support and assist each other in the realization of their respective mandates.
6. **WILLING** to collaborate in inculcating the spirit of patriotism and nationalism by encouraging visible and active participation in different initiatives that might not have been specifically referred to in this MOU.

ARTICLE III

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

In a climate of trust, **ALL** the Institutions have agreed to adopt some safeguards including the principles of privacy, confidentiality, and consent. Given this:

1. **ALL** have considered it necessary to safeguard confidentiality, during the exchange of key information that may hinder their respective mandates.
2. **ALL** have agreed that any documentation of whatever nature or situation or issues relating to the confidential information which is acquired or may be acquired should be treated as a matter of privacy;
3. **ALL**, during the implementation of joint activities, should only be disseminated based on mutual consent.

ARTICLE IV


ENTERING INTO FORCE

1. **THIS AGREEMENT** shall enter into force on the date it is signed by the duly authorized representatives of the four Institutions. **ALL** the institutions shall make all necessary administrative arrangements for the implementation of this agreement.
2. **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGREEMENT** shall be facilitated by the Director of Media and External Relations, NEC or his designee, the Mediation and Programmes Officer, PPRC, or his designees, the Director of Communications and Public Relations, NCD, or his designee, and the Director of Programmes and Research, NaCCED, or his designee.
3. **THIS AGREEMENT** may be amended by mutual consent provided that any institution proposing the amendment notify the others in writing or at a meeting mutually solicited.


IN FAITH WHEREOF, the duly empowered representatives of the National Electoral Commission (NEC), the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC), the National Commission for Democracy (NCD), and the National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED), hereto affix their respective signatures:

Signed in FREETOWN this 3rd Day of February 2021

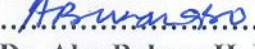
The National Electoral Commission (NEC)


.....
Mr. Mohamed Kenewui Konneh
CHAIRMAN, NEC

The Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC)


.....
Mr. Abdullai Masiyambay Bangurah
CHAIRMAN, PPRC

The National Commission for Democracy (NCD)


.....
Dr. Abu Bakarr H. Kargbo
CHAIRMAN OF NCD

The National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED)


.....
Mr. Kalilu Totangi
CHAIRMAN, NACCED