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### **HRCSL Monitors Yenga Dispute**

Yenga is a small, quiet village nestled among the lush green hills of Kissi Teng Chiefdom in Kailahun District. But behind its scenic beauty lies a long-standing geopolitical wound. Since 2002, this borderland has been the subject of a bitter territorial dispute between Sierra Leone and Guinea — a standoff that has left Yenga's residents trapped in a state of limbo, and now, under threat.

Following a disturbing incident on April 29, when Guinean troops reportedly reoccupied parts of Yenga, the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) conducted a fact-finding mission on Thursday, May 15, and Friday, May 16. The goal was



### **HRCSL Proposes New Legislation to Strengthen Human Rights Mandate**

In a significant move to modernise its legal mandate, the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) has formally presented proposed drafting instructions for the repeal and replacement of the HRCSL Act of 2004. The presentation was made to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Mr. Alpha Sesay, and his Deputy during a meeting held at their Guma Building office in Freetown.

The HRCSL delegation, led by Vice Chairperson Commissioner Victor Idrissa Lansana, Esq., and Commissioner Simitie Laval, Esq., unveiled a draft of the proposed legislation titled “The Independent National Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone Act 2025.” The draft aims to redefine the legal foundation of the Commission, strengthen its authority, and improve its alignment with international human rights standards.

Commissioner Lansana noted that the proposed law would expand the Commission's current focus on violations to also include abuses, allowing for a broader approach to human rights issues. He outlined several key reforms designed to increase the Commission's effectiveness and independence.

#### **Key Proposals in the Draft Legislation:**

**Revised Composition:** The Commission will comprise seven members, including five resident Commissioners representing each of Sierra Leone's regions. The draft requires at least two Commissioners to be qualified lawyers with a minimum of five years' experience, and at least three women to ensure gender representation.



**Victor Idrissa Lansana Esq.**  
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## Editorial

### Understanding — Human Rights Violations vs. Human Rights Abuses

In a world where the global spotlight increasingly shines on matters of justice, equity, and human dignity, conversations around human rights have gained heightened importance. Yet, within this discourse, two terms are often used interchangeably — human rights violations and human rights abuses. While they may seem synonymous to many people, the distinction between them is both critical and consequential for legal accountability, policy action, and advocacy.

Human rights violations refer to breaches of rights that are protected by domestic and international law, committed by state actors or agents of the state. These include acts such as unlawful detention, torture by security forces, censorship, or denial of fair trial rights. Violations are formally recognised under human rights instruments like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, or a country's constitution.

What sets violations apart is the clear responsibility it places on the state. In other words, a violation would mean the failure of the government to uphold its duty to protect, respect, and fulfil the rights of its citizens. This is why such violations are subject to investigation by national human rights commissions, international treaty bodies, and, where necessary, international courts.

On the other hand, human rights abuse often refers to acts that infringe on rights but are not necessarily carried out by the state. These can include violence against women, vulnerable groups, human trafficking, child labour, or discrimination perpetrated by private individuals, companies, armed groups, or even family members. Although abuses may not always be legally classified as violations under international law, they represent a serious affront to human dignity.

The state's role in addressing abuses lies in its obligation to prevent such acts through laws, enforcement, and access to justice. If the state fails to prevent or respond to these abuses adequately, then the failure itself may be classified as a violation — transforming neglect into complicity.

Understanding the difference between violation and abuse helps to determine the pathway to justice for people. For a violation, the state can be held directly accountable in courts and international fora. For an abuse, the remedy may involve civil litigation, social reform, or criminal prosecution of private actors. Misconstruing these two may blur lines of accountability and confuse the public about where to direct advocacy or pressure.

Moreover, in transitional justice and post-conflict settings — such as Sierra Leone's recovery from civil war — distinguishing between violations and abuses has helped clarify the roles of government, communities, and non-state actors in both perpetration and redress.

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## HRCSL Proposes New Legislation to Strengthen Human Rights Mandate



**Enhanced Enforcement Powers:** The proposed law gives the Commission greater authority to enforce its recommendations, summon public institutions, and recommend sanctions or punitive measures for non-compliance.

**International Standards Alignment:** The legislation

will formally establish the HRCSL as Sierra Leone's National Human Rights Institution (NHRI), bringing it into closer alignment with the Paris Principles—the globally accepted standards for independent and effective national rights bodies.

Attorney General Alpha Sesay welcomed the proposal and praised the HRCSL for its thorough and forward-thinking approach. He emphasised the need for a technical review of the draft instructions before they are submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

"This presentation provides a clear sense of where the Commission wants to go. We will work closely with you to ensure the final legislation is robust and future-focused," said Mr. Sesay.

The proposed Act is expected to pave the way for a stronger and more empowered human rights institution capable of addressing both long-standing and emerging challenges in Sierra Leone.

## HRCSL Monitors Mpox Outbreak and Healthcare Response Across Sierra Leone

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) has concluded a nationwide monitoring mission assessing the state of preparedness, treatment, and human rights standards in the ongoing response to the Mpox virus outbreak. The exercise, conducted on 5th June 2025, covered seven government hospitals and one treatment centre across all regions of the country.



Led by the Commission's Directorates of Monitoring and Research (DMR) and Regional Ser-

vices (DRS), the exercise targeted facilities in the Western Area (Kingdom Police Hospital, Connaught Teaching Hospital, China Friendship Hospital—Jui, 34 Military hospital, Freetown City Council Calaba Town Mpox Treatment centre and the Police Training School Treatment Centre), Bo, Makeni, Kenema, and Port Loko.



The monitoring aimed to evaluate how patients infected with Mpox are being treated and what preventive and curative mechanisms are in place. Findings from the visits paint a mixed picture—while some centres are showing commendable progress, others continue to struggle with resource gaps.

## HRCSL Monitors Yenga Dispute

to listen directly to the voices of those most affected.

In nearby Koindu Town, where many Yenga families have fled, Town Chief Tamba Nyuma recalled the night of their escape. “We had to flee in the night, barefoot for our lives,” he said, emotion still fresh in his voice.



Homes in Yenga are being guarded by foreign troops. Schools are still shut down since the incident in April. Farms — the very backbone of local survival — are out of reach. What was once a peaceful border village has become a hostile zone. And for residents, the disputed land isn't just a map marker — it is home, heritage, and livelihood.

During the HRCSL visit, Chairlady Musu James described their grim reality with a voice cracking under strain:

“We can't sell. We can't farm. We can't send our children to school. We have become refugees in our own country.”

The emotional burden runs just as deep as the material losses. Families are scattered, futures uncertain. The call from the community was unified and heartfelt — they are not only asking for protection, but for clarity, recognition, and above all, peace.

Though the Government of Sierra Leone has reportedly stationed troops near the area, residents say Guinean forces have established physical structures, hoisted flags, and restricted local movement — actions widely seen as a slow-motion annexation.

Chiefdom Speaker Fallah Jusu said he has repeatedly alerted Sierra Leonean authorities since these incursions began:

“We don't want war. We're just asking for a peaceful and permanent solution.”

Leading the HRCSL delegation, Commissioner Simitie Lavalley reassured displaced families:

“We are here not just to listen, but to act. Your suffering will be documented, and your voices will reach the authorities that must resolve this.”

The HRCSL team, in collaboration with the Independent Commission for Peace and National Cohesion and the Kailahun Dis-

trict Human Rights Committee, visited affected communities, including Sokoma and Pengu Bengu. There, they spoke with residents, documented conditions, and gathered evidence to inform a report for national decision-makers and peacebuilding institutions.

But Yenga's story is not just about a contested border. It is a human rights crisis hiding in plain sight. These are not merely unmarked lines on a map — they are forgotten lives, suspended in uncertainty, still clinging to the only home they've ever known.

And as yet another chapter of tension unfolds, one truth remains: A nation cannot afford to leave its people behind — not in Yenga, not anywhere. This is all the more reason why HRCSL has recommended continued diplomatic efforts with the government of Guinea, whilst gathering historical evidence to prove that Yenga belongs to Sierra Leone.

The Commission recommended the construction in Koindu town or its environs of temporary accommodation structures for displaced residents from Yenga, as most of them are internally displaced in surrounding communities, and also urged the National Commission for Social Action (NacSA) or the Ministry of Social Welfare to provide financial support to affected families, especially those with school-going children.



# The Abortion Dilemma—Sierra Leone Must Choose

**By Mohamed Tiamieu Fofanah**

**Director of Regional Services - HRCSL**



The Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health (SMRH) Bill in Sierra Leone remains stalled. This bill aims to improve maternal health outcomes and tackle repro-

ductive health issues by increasing access to quality care and services, mainly seeking to decriminalise abortion. Until this bill is passed, abortion remains illegal in Sierra Leone.

Under Sierra Leone law, the Offences Against the Person Act of 1861 remains in force. This Act bans all abortions and subjects anyone performing an abortion, as well as a pregnant woman consenting to an abortion, to imprisonment. A law introduced in 1988 to regulate pharmacy practice (Pharmacy and Drugs Act of 1988) also forbids any advertising of drugs or services that could be used to terminate or influence the course of a human pregnancy.

Nonetheless, under general principles of criminal law regarding necessity, an abortion may be carried out to save the life of the pregnant woman. Moreover, Sierra Leone, like many Commonwealth countries that base their legal systems on English common law, follows the precedent set by the 1938 *Rex v. Bourne* decision when assessing the legality of an abortion performed for health reasons. In the *Rex v. Bourne* case, a doctor was acquitted of the offence of performing an abortion on a woman who had been raped. The court decided that the abortion was lawful because it was carried out to prevent the woman from becoming “a physical and mental wreck”, thereby establishing a precedent for future abortion cases involving the health and well-being of the expectant mother.

The SMRH Bill proposes to decriminalise abortion in

specific situation, potentially allowing it in cases of rape, fetal abnormalities, and when a woman’s life or health is at risk. This bill is progressive it has been argued that it seeks to endure gender parity that the right to a safe abortion gives women the same freedoms as men to have full rights over their bodies (including the right to decide whether or not to carry a fetus to birth) - without this right they do not have the same moral status as men.

The abortion issue surfaced in 2015 during the presidency of Dr Ernest Bai Koroma in the form of a bill entitled “The Safe Abortion Act”. The bill had been unanimously passed by MPs, but the former president refused to sign it after protests by religious leaders.

The rejected abortion bill was proposing among others that women could terminate a pregnancy in any circumstances up to 12 weeks and cases of incest, rape and foetal impairment up to 24 weeks.

When the former President refused to sign the bill to law and sent the legislation back to parliament, he asked for it to be reviewed after consultation with religious and women's groups as it went beyond an African Union protocol on women's rights, which only backs abortion in cases of sexual assault and medical emergencies.

Under Sierra Leone's current constitution, the president cannot veto a bill which received a two-thirds majority in parliament; however, the speaker of the house could sign the Safe Abortion Act into law, but he never did, and the abortion bill died a natural death.

The discussion on Abortion ignited again in 2024 with the introduction of the SMRH bill, and it is languishing! The bill had progressed to its final stages in the House of Parliament and had tremendous support from women’s groups, civil society and even the political will. The current President, HE Julius Maada Bio, had made a passionate plea, given reassurances and called for the bill to be passed. The President argued that “No one will accuse me or my government of wanting to take life, because when it was considered risky or unpopular, I ended the death penalty. This is because I value life. But the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Bill is about saving the lives of wom-

# Making Rights Real in Rural Sierra Leone

**A**cross Sierra Leone's rural communities, quiet but powerful work is being done to protect and promote human rights. The Regional Offices of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) are stepping in where help is most needed—bringing justice, hope, and dignity to people who might otherwise be forgotten.



Take the story of Mbalu (not her real name), a woman detained at the Bo Correctional Facility for 15 days despite having met all her bail conditions. Charged jointly with two others for conspiracy, she was not released simply because her co-accused could not meet their bail requirements. It was during a routine monitoring visit that staff from HRCSL's Bo Regional Office discovered her situation. Acting swiftly, they engaged the presiding judge, who reviewed the matter and ordered Mbalu's release.



In the North-West Region, Abdul (also not his real name) found himself ensnared in a prolonged detention without due process. Accused of embezzling property by a business tycoon living abroad, Abdul was arrested in Waterloo and held for 15 days. He was then transferred to Lunsar and later to Port Loko, where he remained in police custody for an additional 10 days without a formal charge. It was only when HRCSL's Port Loko Regional Office became aware of his plight that action was taken. The office intervened, and the charges—lacking substantial evidence—were dropped. Abdul was released, and his family expressed deep appreciation for the Commission's commitment to justice.



These are just two examples of the many lives being positively impacted by the Commission's five regional offices located in Waterloo (Western Area), Port Loko (North-West), Makeni (North), Bo (South), and Kenema (East). Since 2009, these offices have served as crucial arms of the HRCSL, mirroring the mandate of the headquarters to handle human rights complaints, monitor detention facilities, educate the public, and build partnerships across the human rights ecosystem.

# e: The Impact of HRCSL's Regional Offices

## **Snapshot of Regional Interventions (January–June 2025):**

**North-West Region (Port Loko):** Received 30 complaints (9 male, 21 female). Of these, 6 were given legal advice, 8 were referred, 13 mediated and resolved, and 3 complaints were kept in view.



**Eastern Region (Kenema):** Logged 22 complaints (12 male, 10 female), with multiple cases already resolved or referred to relevant institutions.

**Northern Region (Makeni):** Received 41 complaints (15 male, 26 female), of which 28 were mediated and resolved. Three complaints are under continued monitoring.

**Western Region (Waterloo):** Registered 25 complaints (7 male, 18 female). Three involved violations by public officials, while 22 involved other human rights abuses. Eight matters were resolved with legal advice, two mediated, three under investigation, and nine pending further review.

**Southern Region (Bo):** The highest number of cases—66 in total (31 male, 35 female)—were recorded here. Impressively, 51 complaints were mediated and resolved, 5 were referred, and 10 are pending further investigation due to challenges in locating respondents.

These numbers reflect more than statistics—

they represent real people whose rights were upheld, whose grievances were heard, and whose lives were improved through the dedication of HRCSL's regional teams. Operating in often challenging conditions with limited logistics, these



teams are on the front lines of human rights protection, bringing legal literacy and accountability into communities that might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Beyond case resolution, the regional offices also serve as vital conduits between international human rights standards and the daily experiences of Sierra Leoneans. By engaging directly with local leaders, law enforcement, and the public, the HRCSL ensures that human rights are not just theoretical ideals but lived realities—even in the most remote corners of the country.



## HRCSL Monitors Mpox Outbreak and Healthcare Response Across Sierra Leone

Kingdom Police Hospital has managed over 400 cases with a dedicated 22-bed unit but faces severe resource constraints, including a reduction in meals and patients being required to buy their medications. Connaught Teaching Hospital, which treats only severe cases, has recorded 14 deaths and relies on limited NGO support for patients, while staff receive no government incentives. In contrast, the newly established Police Training School (PTS) Treatment Centre has been praised for offering free treatment, consistent meals, adequate vaccine supplies, and risk allowances for staff, setting a strong example for other facilities.



Other hospitals show troubling shortcomings. China Friendship Hospital – Jui now functions only as a holding centre where patients pay for water and drugs amid limited public education efforts. Makama Hospital in Makeni reported 212 cases but struggles with drug shortages, no food provision, and a lack of staff incentives. The Bo Government Hospital is overwhelmed with limited beds, no free medication, and no food or water for patients. In Kenema and Port Loko, patients must pay for treatment and medication, with minimal food support and inadequate supplies. These disparities highlight urgent gaps in Sierra Leone's Mpox response and underscore the need for im-

proved resource allocation and rights-based healthcare delivery.



The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone recommends urgent measures to strengthen the national response to Mpox. These include providing risk allowances for frontline health workers, making Mpox medications free at all treatment centres, and ensuring that patients receive at least three meals daily. The Commission also calls for intensified public awareness campaigns to reduce stigma and encourage early reporting, improved logistics and timely funding from the Ministry of Health and Finance, and prioritised access to safe drinking water and sanitation, particularly in under-resourced facilities.



## HRCSL Raises Red Flag on Child Rights Act 2025 Over FGM Loophole

**T**he Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) has expressed deep concern over the newly passed Child Rights Act of 2025, citing a glaring omission that fails to protect children from Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The Act, which was passed by Parliament on Thursday, July 3, 2025, is intended to replace the Child Rights Act of 2007 and align national child protection frameworks with international standards, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. While it introduces stronger safeguards against child abuse and exploitation, it fails to explicitly prohibit the practice of FGM on girls under the age of 18.

HRCSL describes this omission as deeply troubling, as it allows harmful traditional practices to continue under cultural pretexts. According to the Commission, the absence of a clear clause criminalising FGM for children effectively leaves thousands of girls vulnerable to cruel treatment.

In a Position Paper submitted to Parliament during the review of the bill, the Commission strongly recommended that the law include a provision that explicitly exempts children under 18 from being subjected to FGM, stating that children are not legally capable of giving informed consent.

“We know in law that children cannot give consent,” said HRCSL Vice Chairperson, Victor Idrissa Lansana Esq., “and therefore the law should be very clear that all persons under the age of 18 should not be subjected to cultural practices such as FGM.”

While clarifying that the Commission is not calling for a total ban on FGM, Commissioner Lansana emphasised the importance of protecting minors. “Our advocacy is for a clear, specific clause in the Act that bans FGM for children. Cultural rights are protected under the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, but not when those practices are harmful,” he said.

The Commission has since called on President Julius Maada Bio to withhold his assent to the new law and return it to Parliament for revision. HRCSL maintains that failure to criminalise FGM for minors not only undermines the purpose of the Act but also contravenes Sierra Leone’s international human rights commitments.

The HRCSL is urging all stakeholders, including civil society and international partners, to join in advocating for the protection of children from harmful traditional practices and ensure that the Child Rights Act of 2025 lives up to its promise of safeguarding the future of Sierra Leone’s children.

## The Abortion Dilemma—Sierra Leone Must Choose

en and our girls. We cannot do the transformative changes that are required if we are timid”

But Sierra Leone is still “timid.” The bill still faces serious opposition from Religious leaders who simply argued that abortion violated a clause in the Constitution that said, “No person shall be deprived of his life intentionally”. The bill had still not been passed.

As Sierra Leone undergoes a constitutional review, now is the moment to decide. Will the country cling to 19th-century laws, or will it recognise the reproductive rights of women as fundamental to health, dignity, and equality?

The question remains: Where does Sierra Leone stand? It is time to choose—clearly, boldly, and legislatively.

## At HRCSL’s Community Outreach, Small-Scale Fishers Demand a Voice

In the windswept communities of Tombo and Funkia, the ocean is not merely a backdrop; it is a way of life. Here, the rhythm of the waves governs everything, from mealtimes to market days. However, for small-scale fishers, that rhythm is no longer consistent. Trawlers, commercial interests, and an increasing sense of powerlessness are disrupting it.

On June 4th and 12th, 2025, the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL brought together 100 small-scale fishers to talk about something too often ignored: their rights. The engagement, part of the Sustainable Oceans project—a collaborative effort involving the Commission and the Danish Institute for Human Rights, supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency—is not merely another seminar. It aims to raise awareness about critical human rights issues affecting small-scale fishing communities and establish community-led Human Rights Committees within these communities, providing effective monitoring for problems such as child labour, sea safety, and marine intrusion.

In February this year, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources implemented a month-long closure of artisanal fishing activities to protect fish stocks. The move was to allow fish populations to replenish during their spawning period.

At St. Peter’s Hall in Tombo and the Funkia Community Centre, fishermen, harbour masters, and community leaders didn’t just list their grievances; they told stories of lost livelihoods, broken nets, and fading hope.

For Abdul Rahman Sesay of Tokeh Community, this was more than a community outreach. It was an overdue platform. “We now use almost 150 litres of fuel for a trip that used to take half that. The trawlers push us farther into dangerous waters, and even then, we return with empty nets,”

he lamented.

He described a time when artisanal fishers could rely on familiar inshore waters. Now, with industrial vessels invading their traditional zones, they are forced to take longer, riskier journeys with dwindling returns. Momoh M. Bangura, Harbour Master of Goderich, also expressed concerns beyond the catch. “We are seeing a lot of child labour and child neglect. Children are left to take care of the home while their parents are in the high sea or the marketplaces,” he said.

These social side effects, often invisible, show how environmental and economic pressure erode family and community structures.

The Sierra Leone’s Fisheries and Aquaculture Act prescribes fines for industrial vessels intruding into the Inshore Exclusion Zone (IEZ)—waters reserved for artisanal fishers.

As waves crash along the shoreline and fishers mend their nets, one message is clear: these communities don’t want pity. They want respect. And with each engagement, that fight for dignity is finding its voice.

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone stands ready to continue engaging the fishing communities, particularly small-scale fishers, to ensure that issues hindering their human rights are addressed, while they also keep the peace when they feel aggrieved.

# voices

Your voice matters

## UMARU JALLOH

*Businessman – Garrison Street.*

“Human rights seem to be for those in power, not for ordinary people who lack good healthcare, education, electricity, or even food. I’ll say people are not enjoying their human rights. Just weeks ago, police destroyed makeshift stalls of petty traders at Abacha Street, claiming it was ‘an order from above’—yet no one has been held accountable.”

*Graduate, Social Work Department –  
Fourah Bay College.*

“There has been some improvement in human rights, especially in freedom of speech and democratic governance. But challenges remain—particularly in gender equality, access to justice, and protection from police brutality. Corruption, inadequate healthcare and education still affect our rights. Vulnerable groups—women, children, and the marginalised—face discrimination and limited access to essential services. More needs to be done to ensure all citizens enjoy their rights.”

## ESTHER B. SESAY

*Petty Trader*

“Human rights? To me, it means if a man beats his wife, she should be able to report him and get help. But many women are still suffering abuse in their homes. So I don’t think people are enjoying their rights—especially women.”

**ALIEU YAYAH**  
*Civil Servant*

“As a Sierra Leonean, I should enjoy rights to health, education, and more. But only a few people do. The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone has the responsibility, but the reality is that the majority aren’t benefitting.”

**ALHAJI DARAMY**  
*Student*

“Since the war ended, human rights have advanced in some areas, like freedom of speech. We’ve seen outdated laws reviewed or repealed—like the abolition of the death penalty. But despite these efforts, many still don’t enjoy their rights. Police often act with impunity, infringing on citizens’ rights through excessive force and arbitrary actions.”

## AFRICANUS FOSTER

*Senior Loan Officer – ECOBANK*

“There are many types of human rights—from the right to life and education to employment and freedom of movement. But right now, people are not enjoying these rights. Many graduates are unemployed, and people are jailed simply for speaking the truth to power. So no, human rights are not being respected.”

## OSEH JOHN

*Unemployed*

“Human rights are God-given. The government should guarantee them—security, employment, and housing. But most Sierra Leoneans are not enjoying these rights. I’m unemployed, and that, to me, is a violation of my right to work.”



## Our Mission Statement

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone exists to take the lead role in building a culture of human rights (including respect for individual responsibilities) which maintains human dignity for all in Sierra Leone in full compliance with the constitution, laws, international and regional instruments, through effective partnership and collaboration.

## Our Vision Statement

A Sierra Leone where a culture of Human Rights prevails and the People respect the rule of law and live in peace and dignity.

## HRCSL Mandate and Functions

Section 7(1) of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone Act (No. 9) of 2004 stipulate that "The object for which the Commission is established is the protection and promotion of human rights in Sierra Leone." and section 7(2) states the following functions:

- Investigate or enquire into any allegation of human rights violations
- Promote respect for human rights through public education and awareness raising Programs
- Publish guidelines, manuals, and other materials on the human rights obligations of public officials and others;
- Cooperate with institutions working in the field of human rights;
- Review existing legislation and advise government on its compliance with international obligations
- Monitor draft legislations, policies, programmes and administrative practices to ensure they comply with human rights principles, standards and obligation;
- Advice and support government in the preparation of treaty body reporting.
- Visit correctional centres and other places of detention to inspect and report on conditions;
- Monitor and document violations of human rights in Sierra Leone; and Publish and present to the President and Parliament an Annual Report on the State of Human Rights in Sierra Leone.

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