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FOREWORD

This Report is a product of careful planning and effective execution of Ward Level Public Consultation by eight Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) members and 6 support staff with strong financial support from the Government of Sierra Leone. The Report focuses on key constitutional issues in Sierra Leone, especially, those relating to the executive, legislature, judiciary, Fundamental Principles of State Policy and Human Rights, Land, Natural Resources, the Environment, Local Governance and Information, Education and Communication.

Significant efforts have been made by the entire CRC membership under the stewardship of the erstwhile Speaker of Parliament and extant Ombudsman, Justice Edmund Cowan. CRC members and Secretariat staff have all learned a great deal from the various stakeholders in the Western Area are who participated in the consultation. Through this process, participants have also been able to advance meaningful recommendations on proposed constitutional ideas categorised/broken into seven distinct submission documents.

It is hoped that, if the CRC decides to incorporate the recommendations of this Report, there is no doubt that it will not only strengthen our emerging Constitution but will also lead to an improved, peaceful, democratic and developed society.

Yoni Emmanuel Sesay

Team 1 Leader
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Report, encapsulating thought provoking views from the public for the consideration of CRC members is based on Ward Level Consultations with an eclectic mix of people residing in Hatings, Allen Town, Wellington and Grassfields, was sanctioned by a CRC plenary as a pilot endeavour. The consultations were held from June 15th through June 25th 2015. They were meant to serve the purpose of enhancing public dialogue and augment public understanding of the Constitutional Review Process, particularly controversial issues pervasive in the current Constitution and other matters that are already receiving the attention of the public, such as the “Third Term” phenomenon.

The Report distils participants’ views on, inter alia, the powers of the executive, citizenship, residency requirements of Sierra Leoneans vying for a seat in Parliament or the Highest Office in the Country, and reformation of the conditions under which land is held, used and disposed. The Report also captures the wide held view that land tenure systems in Sierra Leone are poorly articulated and increasingly causing conflicts. In this chaotic state, participants suggested, there needs to be sufficient debate to finally, settle Sierra Leone’s land question. The spirit of any settlement in the management of land, it is opined, must promote efficient land markets and secure economic and financial returns from public and vested lands without compromising valuable customs and traditions.

The consultations further unearthed the views that Paramount Chiefs must be removed from Parliament and that their role and status in society must now be enhanced along lines that promote transparency, human rights and other democracy objectives. The Report also provides concrete examples from countries where, some of these recommendations have been implemented.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Putting on record views of diverse range of stakeholders and individuals for the proposed new constitution has been time consuming; spanned across the nation and the doggedness of CRC members whose calibre and patriotism cannot be overemphasised. They have collectively ensured free, active, effective, meaningful and informed participation in all key aspects of the constitutional review process.

Participants also showed great enthusiasm for constitutional reforms and aspire for a participatory model of governance that promotes accountability, human rights and meaningful socio-economic development. Support. Team 1 appreciates all those consulted for their spontaneous responses to critical questions on constitutionality and constitutionalism in Sierra Leone within a very short time.

Finally, Team 1 writes with pleasure to acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions made by various individuals and institutions while preparing this report.

Yoni Emmanuel Sesay
Team Leader
Chief Somanoh Kapen - Ranking Member
Assumana Fowai - Ranking Member
Prince Coker - Ranking Member
Aruna Mans-Davies - Ranking Member
Mr Sheik Gibril Koroma - Ranking Member
Ebeneer Victor Mogan - Ranking Member
Hlimatu Deen - Ranking Member
INTRODUCTION

In order to accomplish the Terms of Reference for the review of the 1991 Constitution the CRC conducted an eight-day ward level consultation tour in the Western Area from the 15 June to 25 June, 2015. The consultation tour was divided into five teams. Team 1 comprised of eight committee members. One Legal and Technical Associate and six auxiliary staff. This Report summarises process and views gathered by Team 1.

Composition of Team 1

Before the commencement of the first ward consultation on the 15 June, 2015, a short Team Meeting was held wherein, Mr. Yoni Emmanuel Sesay was unanimously chosen as Team 1 Leader. The Team comprised the following CRC members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRC Member</th>
<th>Role – Presenting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yoni Emmanuel Sesay (YES)</td>
<td>Land, Natural Resources and the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>– 077470712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Somanoh Kapen (CSK)</td>
<td>Executive Committee – 076661194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madam Haliamtu Deen (HD))</td>
<td>Information, Education and Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– 078473734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ebenezer Victor Morgan (EVM)</td>
<td>Judiciary – 077341210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiek Gibril Koroma (SGK)</td>
<td>Legislature – 076978036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ansumana Mambu Fogra Fowai (AMPF)</td>
<td>Directive Principles, Policies of State and Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– 078470930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aruna Mans–Davies (AMD)</td>
<td>Local Governance –078428294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Prince Coker (PC)</td>
<td>Research – 078345022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Members of the Team who played equally significant roles in ensuring that the consultations were conducted in a comfortable, safe, participatory, inclusive, orderly and structured manner are listed in the tables below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Roles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Densil Dennis</td>
<td>Legal and Technical Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Ngaiteh Kamara</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Altina Syl-Turay</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant and IT Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jinna O. J.</td>
<td>Sierra Leone Police Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign interpreter</td>
<td>Kasim Mansary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorie Kamara</td>
<td>Driver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Unisa Kamara</td>
<td>Driver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Radio and TV Stations**

Venues, dates and Chairpersons of consultations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue (Wards)</th>
<th>Name of Chairperson</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hastings Twin Tower</td>
<td>Mr Chernor Kasim</td>
<td>Performance Analyst</td>
<td>15TH – 16TH JUNE 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre (326,327,328,329)</td>
<td>Bangura,</td>
<td>– State House</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat Lee Complex,</td>
<td>Dr Sullay Kamara</td>
<td>Chairman Board of Statistics Sierra</td>
<td>18TH – 19TH JUNE 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Town (346,347,348 &amp; 349)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haja Fatmata, Calaba</td>
<td>Mrs Mariatu Mansary</td>
<td>Principal, Municipal</td>
<td>22ND – 23RD JUNE 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town (350,351 &amp; 352)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Junior Secondary school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassfield (353,354 &amp; 355)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yoni E Sesay</td>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>25TH – 26TH JUNE 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All consultations started with the registration of participants and prayers.
SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE BY THE TEAM LEADER

Team Leader, Mr Yoni Emmanuel Sesay (YES), dramatized his opening statements with a song that became the signature of Team One consultations across the nation. The lyrics of the song are hereby reproduced below.

This land is my land
This land is your land
From Freetown harbour
To the Kono borders
From the Sherbro Island

To the Loma Mountains

This land was made for you and me.

YES went on to recall the launching event of the Review process, 30 July 2013 and remarked that the President had recognised ‘the Constitution to be a serious and fundamental part of Sierra Leoneans democracy, and consequently reform requires the full involvement and participation of all Sierra Leonens’. In his statements, Mr. Sesay made mention of Dr. Peter Tucker’s Report of 2008, and described what the fundamental elements of modern constitutionalism. He urged participants to take the consultation process seriously. He went on to say that the purpose of the consultation is to collect the views of the people with a view to incorporate such views in formulating the CRC recommendations for the revised Constitution. He explained that the CRC is divided into eight different subcommittees, each with the responsibility to look at a specific area in the current Constitution including four subcommittees to consider four new proposed areas. He went on to give a brief description of the mandate of each subcommittee and concluded by introducing the subcommittee members and the Legal and Technical Associate. Each subcommittee representative (see list below) was given 10 minutes to make a presentation.
On the second day of consultations, the erstwhile Speaker of the House of Parliament and current Chairman of the Ombudsman and also Chairman of the CRC Justice Edmund Cowan made brief statements. Highlights from all his statements have been summarized below.

The Chairman spoke about the importance of the Constitution and respect for the law. He admonished participants to take the process seriously, adding that Sovereign belongs to them because they will have to give the final accent to the revised Constitution in a referendum. He referenced to Section 108 of the 1991 Constitution to substantiate his assertions.

He informed participants that previous reviews of the Constitution were only limited to few educated elite. In contrast however, he added, ‘this review process is different because it is inclusive of all members of the public from the educated to the non-educated, open and transparent for all to witness and scrutinise respectively’. He reminded participants of the fact that he, as Chairman, is the only person appointed by the President and that the rest of the Committee members were selected to represent their respective institutions. He clarified by saying that Political Parties representation amounts to 32 members in the Committee.

The Chairman then stressed on the importance of non-partisanship in the review process because, he said, the Constitution binds everyone in the country. He urged participants to proffer the good and right recommendations because posterity would judge them if they choose to make the bad and wrong decisions. He also warned that not every recommendation will be included in the Constitution because, some recommendations would have been provided for in Acts of Parliament. He informed participants that the
committee will return to meet the people for the validation process wherein, they will ascertain that the recommendations they made have been captured.

He then highlighted some constitutional controversies that have surfaced over the course of the consultation process including the separation of the office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, citizenship, basic human rights and land tenure.

In all his statements he told participants that Constitution is a sacred document that is not often subjected to an amendment or review process. Therefore, he pleaded, ‘we should all do our best to give “THIS SACRED DOCUMENT” the respect it deserves by contributing meaningfully. He urged participants to discuss the issues in their houses, amongst families and friends and within their communities and to submit position papers or additional comments if necessary.

He ended to statements by encouraging participants to ask questions. He said that if they have any question(s), they should ask the subcommittee members present, and if they are dissatisfied, they should send in their questions and recommendations to the Constitutional Review Secretariat.
As representative of the subcommittee on Lands, Natural Resources and the Environment, YES gave a summary of Constitutional law proposals related to issues of land and natural resources and the environment. He went on to say that there are inadequate and unclear provisions in the Constitution to protect and manage our natural resources. He then explained the CRC reasoning behind the proposal for a new and separate chapter on the subject. He mentioned the enormity, economic and social significance of the subject to the nation and the world to hammer his point. He said that the thematic area has been divided into three sub-themes already mentioned above.
On land, he highlighted the issue of land rights, the dual land tenure system and its implications for effective utilization of land for the benefit of citizens. He warned participants that progress on land management is dependent on appropriate Constitutional and legal frameworks and that this requires thorough public consultation such as the one the CRC is undertaking.

On the environment **YES** pointed out that “the environment” is the source of our livelihood, knowledge and wealth and that if we, as Sierra Leoneans, destroy our environment, we are effectively destroying our nation. He called on participants to protect their respective environments for sustainable development of their communities and by extension Sierra Leone. He further drew the attention of participants to the fact that they still have the opportunity to protect and preserve the environment by participating in the process and suggesting stringent yet, balanced views on issues of Constitutional law provisions.

On natural resources, **YES** spoke about distribution and management of the proceeds of our natural resources. He told participants that, as a nation, we derive our wealth from our natural resources and made mention of the issues relating to the right to harness these resources for the benefit all in Sierra Leone. He encouraged participants to thoroughly discuss the issue and proffer meaningful strategies in addition, to answering the sixty-four questions in the submission form.

**YES** ended his presentations by drawing the attention of participants to the Foreword in the submission form. A citation is reproduced below.

"Enacting specific Constitutional provisions on management and administration of land, Natural Resources and the environment for the first time in the Constitution of Sierra Leone will revolutionize the nation's traditional view of the environment and encourage citizens to adopt a more cautionary approach to their relationship with nature and to the exploitation of the country’s resources."
Chief Sumana Kapen also made a brief statement to emphasize the Chairman’s comments. He asked Participants to work for themselves, help themselves from themselves and that God will, in turn, guide them in making their decisions. He told them that if they got involved in the process they will feel a sense of ownership of the Constitution at the end. He urged them to make very good use of this opportunity because it will be difficult for them to have this kind of opportunity in the future and to forget about party affiliations. He told them that the youths, with all their strength must occupy there undeniable positions in the process because they are the foot soldiers for and of future communities. He urged the women to become more involved in the process and in national issues generally. He pleaded with participants to read and understand the issues in the Constitution in order to be able to offer meaningful recommendations for a good Constitution.

As a representative of the subcommittee on the Executive theme of the review process, subcommittee, Chief Sumana Kapen explained their mandate in detail and highlighted some of the questions in the submission forms including:

Whether we should have a Presidential or Parliamentary system of government? What age should be stipulated as a qualification to become a candidate for Presidential elections? And, whether we should have a ceiling on cabinet positions?
Mr Gibril Koroma explained about the mandate of the subcommittee and clarified proposals presented in the submission document. Key questions clarified are as follows:

1. Whether we should have one or two houses of representatives?
2. Whether Paramount Chiefs should continue to be in Parliament?
3. Who should qualify to contest Parliamentary Elections?
In his presentations, EVM summarized the various themes of the subcommittee on the Judiciary and highlighted controversial matters relating to Constitutional laws. Some of his highlights are shown below:

a. Appointments and removal of Judges and other Judicial Officers

b. Causes of undue delay of cases

c. Composition and duties of the judicial and legal service commission

d. Financial and other resources including the local courts

e. Adequacy of financial resources with specific references to probate

f. Control of resources of local courts

g. Machinery for the investigation and prosecution of offences to improve the current situation

h. Independence of the judiciary in dispensing justice in the Country

i. Law Reform Commission

j. Repealing or amending moribund statutes
Local governance

Mr. Denzil Dennis, the Legal and Technical Associate, was asked to present on behalf of CRC member, Mr Aruna Mans-Davies. He started by asking the participants if they thought local government was a very important part of Government? The response was a BIG yes. He then spoke about the need to have a separate Chapter in the proposed Constitution in order to guarantee the role of local government in the whole governance structure. He further made mention of the Local Government Act, 2004 and told participants that there are a lot of provisions in that Act that could be to be included in the new Constitution. Mr. Dennis told participants that the subcommittee’s main subject is divided into three broad areas namely, Local Councils, Chieftaincy and the Civil Service. He concluded by giving participants a brief outline of some of the questions in the Submission Form. Some of these questions included, who should pay tax? Who should collect tax? The issues of a National House of Chiefs, retirement age of civil servants, and how to improve conditions of service in the civil service?

Mr. Mans-Davies, on his return, laid emphasis on the very important nature of local governance which involves direct contact with the people and addressing their needs and concerns.
Research

PC was forthright in his presentations. He focused his talk on Constitutional provisions and policy proclamation of other jurisdictions including the Constitutions of Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Ethiopia, Botswana and Rwanda drawing, in process, on lessons that could be learnt from such countries. The lessons he drew on have been summarized in the following headings:

1. The recall provision and also the residency provision of an MP in the Kenyan Constitution

2. Youth employment programme in the Kenyan and Ethiopian Constitution

3. Natural Resources on land in the Uganda and Ghana Constitutions

4. Detailed obligations in respect of specific natural resources as well as human aspect of environmental management in Kenya Constitution

5. Exclusive right of the State to exploit non-renewable natural resource in Botswana

6. Transfer of land custody from Paramount Chiefs to the State and subsequent establishment of land boards without infringing on customs and traditions of Botswana

7. Integrity Clause of Kenya

By a way of closing, PC informed participants that Dr. Peter Tucker had recommended innovative Constitutional law provisions that is worthy of consideration and encouraged all present to utilise the Report in their deliberations.
Information, Education and Communication

HD gave a brief statement on the following headings:

- Mandate – Bringing information about CRC to the people
- Civic educating on Constitutionalism
- Responding to question found in various submission Forms
- HD highlighted the following themes:
  - Information and Mass media i.e. How they monitor and regulate IMC, SLBC, NATCOM, MOI, MEST, other Radio Broadcasting Institutions and the Print Media
  - Effectiveness of the institution mentioned above
  - The need to enact laws to ensure effectiveness
  - Restructuring of the Ministry of Education with a view to create two separate governance entities
  - Strengthen Tertiary Education Commission
  - Mainstreaming child (3–5years) education
  - Skills training for schools dropouts
  - People’s responsibilities to the rights free basic and quality education
AMPF stated the mandate of the subcommittee on State Policy – to review Constitutional laws found in Chapters II and III respectively titled “Fundamental Principles of State Policy” and “The Recognition and Protection of fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms of the Individual” in the 1991 Constitution. He added that the mandate extends to the development of a new Chapter on Citizenship taking into consideration recommendations of Dr. Peter I. Tucker’s 2008 Report and other relevant documents like the Sierra Leone TRC Report of 2002.

In addition, AMPF explained the following subjects:

- The 10 Sections that defined the purpose of State, existence (Chapter II)
- Aspirational or visionary provisions
- Provisions relating to the relationship between the State and the people,
- National ideals and values principles and ethics and ideologies,
- State objectives and goals and duties of citizens

He further identified some national concern embedded in the Chapter. These were:

- Justiciability,
- Accountability,
- Compliance,
- Implementation,
- Limitations or drawback clauses, etc

With respect to Chapter 3, the following issues were highlighted and their implications explained:
• Limitations or drawback clauses,
• Discrimination,
• Death Penalty,
• Same Sex Marriage,
• Emergency Powers of the President,
• Enforcement of protective provisions

AMPF ended his presentation by encouraging participants to also, carefully, consider recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

It should be Reported at this stage that all statement and presentations were translated to sign language for the benefit of the deaf and dumb.
CHAPTER THREE

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

HASTINGS

At the end of subcommittees’ presentations, participants were divided into seven thematic groups with one subcommittee member assigned to each group to facilitate deliberations. In what follows next are significant recommendations (all paraphrased) from participants across the four venues. The evidence for such a list of recommendations could be found in groups–submission forms and flip charts. However, the contents of these documents have been reproduced in the annexes attached to this Report. Original copies can be located in the CRC Secretariat.

Executive Subcommittee

- There should be two terms of five years (5) for the presidency.
- The age requirement as qualification for the presidency should be forty years (40).
- The President should be required to pay tax.
- There should be a fixed date for elections after every Presidential term.
- There should be a time interval of one month after the elections before the President assumes office. 60 people voted in favour of this as opposed to 32 who were against it.
- The office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice should be separated into two separate and distinct entities.
- Persons vying for the Presidency should not have dual citizenship. Majority voted in favour of this as opposed to 4 who were against it.

Judiciary Subcommittee

- The Judicial and Legal Service Commission should appoint judges.
- Appointment of judges including the Chief Justice should be subject to parliamentary approval.
- Judges should take a maximum of three months to give their decisions.
- Investigators and prosecutors should undergo special training programmes to enhance their capacities.
• Allocate more financial and human resources to the judiciary.
• The Chief Justice should manage the resources allocated to the judiciary.
• The death penalty should be implemented.
• The bar association should be the body that appoints the Attorney-General and judges including the Chief Justice by election.

Legislative Subcommittee
• There should be clear separation of powers between the Legislative and the other arms of government.
• There should be a youth representative in parliament.
• Persons arrested illegally should be compensated by the government or the person who made the alleged complaint that led to the arrest.
• The government should recognize religious leaders in the law making process.
• The commissioners of the National Electoral Commission should remain as they are in the different provinces.
• Parliamentarians should be removed from office for dishonest acts.
• The commissioners of the Political Party Registration Commissions should be appointed on a full time basis.
• The different constituencies should be given names as opposed to numbers.
• Paramount Chiefs should not be in Parliament.
• The President should not be a Member of Parliament.
• Members of Parliament that have served two terms of five years should be eligible for pension.
• The age for contesting parliamentary elections should be raised to thirty-five (35) years.
• There should be a second chamber (Bi-cameral legislature
• The Speaker of Parliament should be elected on a simple majority.
• The members of Parliament should not be answerable to their different parties at all times.
IEC Subcommittee

- Communications and technology should be made compulsory in the school curriculum from pre-primary to the tertiary stage.
- There should be free education from pre-primary to the tertiary stage.
- The government should allocate more resources to improve on the quality of education.
- Educational programmes e.g., distance learning should be taken to the Ward level.
- The non-justiciable rights which would be enforced by the state as and when possible should be made mandatory and compulsory.
- Every school should be well equipped, including vocational schools.
- Slander and libel in the Public Order Act should be reviewed.
Subcommittee on Local Governance

- Central government should not collect local taxes.
- Revenue should be allocated to Councils based on their performance.
- All citizens should be required to pay local tax including the President.
- Local tax should be made mandatory and collected on a house to house basis.
- Local and traditional leaders should be given legislative powers.
- There should be a National House of Chiefs.
- Local authorities should consult the people in their localities before taking decisions.
- Women should be given equal opportunity to contest Paramount Chief elections.
- Local Council elections should not be conducted on partisan basis.
- Councilors should be paid monthly salary.
- Non-citizens should also pay local tax.
- Supervision and monitoring by the central government will allow adequate transfer of functions or power to the Local Councils.
- Paramount Chiefs being given a specific term of office will ensure accountability.
• Local traditional leaders should be entrusted with judicial powers with supervision from the Ministry of LOCAL GOVERNANCE.
• More consultations with local residents and improved communication between local residents and local elders are some of the ways in which local residents can be involved in the decision-making process.
• Chiefdom Councils should be maintained to work side by side with the Local Councils to improve coordination and partnership.
• Chiefdom boundaries should be included in the Constitution to avoid dispute between chiefdoms.

The following can be done to address the human resource deficiency in the Civil Service—

i. Provision of medical facilities.
ii. Give bonuses on merit.
iii. Improvements on salaries
iv. Regular promotions of the civil servant

• Staff should be appraised on performance-related basis as it leads to motivation and encourages hard work.
• The Civil Service rules and regulations should be included in the Constitution.
• The creation of various service commissions will help to reduce corruption and improve on efficiency.

The following can be done to elude Civil Service personnel from party politics—

i. Ensure that symbols of political parties are not present in government office.
ii. Stop political appointments.
Citizens should be able to sue the government.

Certificates should be issued for customary marriages.

The seditious libel law in the Public Order Act should be strengthened.

Dual citizenship should not be allowed.

There should be a non-partisan body advising the President.

Majority voted in favour of the death penalty for murder. However in the case of treason 47 voted for it and 38 against it.

Majority voted overwhelmingly against same sex marriage and for criminalizing it.
Subcommittee Natural Resources

- Women should be given the right to inherit land before and after marriage.
- A percentage of the national territory of Sierra Leone should be acquired for grazing purposes as it will help to protect the natural environment.
- Land laws should be reformed with liberal economic policies and there should be checks and balances through the government.
- Land courts should be established to ensure the management and decentralization of the land.
- Progressive land tax should be instituted for commercial investment in urban and rural areas. It will benefit the people living in these localities.
- It must be the duty of the citizen and the State to conserve the land.
- 10% of tree cover should be maintained by the government with a 20% increase annually.
- Animal hunting should be regulated with certain animals reserved for research and tourist attraction.
- The rights of citizens to use the natural resources of Sierra Leone should be guaranteed.
- Environmental courts should be established.
- There should be areas marked out as sociological areas.
- Protection of the environment should be included as a subject in the school curriculum.
- Banning Carbon trading should be included in the Constitution.
- Slash and burn procedures for land should be regulated.
- The depreciation values of natural resources should be calculated.
- The burden and benefits of natural resources should be shared equitably.
- The land tenure system should not be harmonized.

The flip charts and group submission forms were handed over to the chairman who in turn handed them over to the team leader for submission to the Constitutional Review Secretariat.
ALLEN TOWN

Executive Subcommittee

- Election for the presidency should be done by secret ballot.
- President should serve for a maximum of two terms of five (5) years.
- Persons with dual citizenship should not be allowed to contest for President.
- Political Parties should submit candidates for Presidential election.
- There should be a residency requirement of five (5) years for persons contesting for Presidential election.
- The impeachment of the President should be by public hearing.
- The President must be a citizen by birth.

Judiciary Subcommittee

- A Committee should be set up which will work with the Judicial and Legal Service Commission for the appointment and removal of judges.
- The position of judges should be advertised to show transparency.
- All judges including the Chief Justice must go through Parliament for approval.
- The retirement age for judges should be extended to 70 years with no extension.
- There should be better conditions of service in the judiciary.
- The 3 months requirement within which judges should give their decisions should remain the same.
- The legal system should be revised and our laws updated.
- The criminal justice system in the country must be reviewed.
- Fines and other monies collected by the judiciary should be allocated as follows, 40% to the judicial account and 60% to the consolidated fund.
**Legislative Subcommittee**

- The commissioners of the National Electoral Commission should remain as they are in the different provinces.
- The different constituencies should be identified by names as opposed to numbers.
- Paramount Chiefs should be in parliament.
- There should be a bicameral system in the legislature.
- The Speaker of Parliament should be elected on a simple majority.
- The life of Parliament should be five (5) years.
- The quorum for sittings in Parliament should be two-thirds majority.
- Public servants who resign their positions to contest for parliamentary elections should not be allowed back into the service.

**IEC Subcommittee**

- Operators who violate the rules and regulations of NATCOM should be fined and if possible shut down.
- Trained and qualified persons should be eligible to become editors and station managers three (3) years after qualification.
- Untrained persons should be eligible to become editors and station managers after five (5) years.
- Freedom of information should be guaranteed.
- Government should maintain schools and equipment’s.
- The language of the Constitution should be simple to comprehend.
- The term ‘Chairman’ in the Constitution should be changed to ‘Chairperson’.
- Bill of rights should be published in our local languages and made available everywhere.
- Sign language should be included in the school curriculum.
Subcommittee on Local Governance

- Councilors should be paid monthly salary.
- Ward committee members should be given allowances.
- Members of Parliament should be part of the ward committee.
- Local tax should be collected at the beginning of the year.
- The chiefs should be in charge of the collection of local taxes but should be supervised by the central government.
- Taxes should also be collected through institutional heads both public and private.
- Retirement age for civil servants should be 60 years.
- The position of permanent secretary should be abolished.
- There should be two permanent people who shall serve as referees in the tribal councils.
- Councils should have an office in each ward.
- The decentralization of government should be fully practical.
- Measures should be put in place to allow tribal and local elders to be impeached.
- Women should be given the opportunity to become Paramount Chiefs.

State Policy And Human Rights Subcommittee

- Death penalty should be abolished, imprisonment for life without parole.
- Same sex unions and marriages should not be allowed.

Natural Resources Subcommittee

- Women should be given the right to inherit land before and after marriage.
- Investment on land from foreign companies should be limited to certain number of years.
- Land tenure system should be harmonized.
- Government should put in place more measures to protect our natural resources.
Executive Subcommittee

- There should be a residency requirement of five (5) years for persons vying for Presidential election.
- There should not be more than 18 cabinet members.
- The non-justiciable rights should be made mandatory.
- The right to employment should be included in the Constitution.
- The age requirement for eligibility to contest Presidential elections should be thirty (30) years.

Judiciary Subcommittee

- A committee should be set up which will work with the Judicial and Legal Service Commission for the appointment and removal of judges and other judicial officers.
- A special committee should be set up to oversee the administration of the judiciary.
- Judges appointed should be subjected to parliamentary approval.
- The retirement age for judges should be 65 years.
- The 3 months requirement within which judges should give their decisions should remain the same.
- Effective systems should be put in place to prosecute cases.
- Undue arrest and detention should be addressed properly.
**Legislative Subcommittee**

- There should be a representative of the inter-religious council in parliament.
- The President should not be in parliament.
- Paramount Chiefs should not be in parliament.
- Paramount Chiefs should be eligible for pension after 10 years.
- There should be a residency requirement of five (5) years for persons contesting for Parliamentary Election.
- Persons contesting for parliamentary election should be university graduates and be married.
- The age requirement for eligibility to contest parliamentary elections should be twenty-one (21) years.

**IEC Subcommittee**

- A media court should be set up to prosecute violators of the codes and conduct of the Independent Media Commission.
- Journalists should be given huge fines when found wanting.
- Journalists should be required to choose the commissioners of the Independent Media Commission.
- The Sierra Leone Broadcasting Cooperation should be free from political interference.
- The Deputy Minister (ONE) of the Ministry of Education should be responsible for basic education.
- The Deputy Minister (TWO) of the Ministry of Education should be responsible for tertiary education.
- The Minister of Education should have a supervisory role.
- A subject titled ‘Love Sierra Leone’ should be introduced into the school curriculum.

**Local Governance Subcommittee**

- Local tax should be collected by the central government.
- Revenue should be allocated to councils based on their performance.
- Revenue should be allocated in proportion to the taxes collected.
- Citizens should be required to pay tax.
- Persons 18 years and above should be required to pay tax.
- Local and traditional leaders should be given legislative powers.
● Paramount Chiefs should have a stipulated term of office.

● Local tax should be called developmental tax.

● Paramount Chiefs and Mayors should be required to pay tax.

● Taxes and other sources of revenue collected by the central government should be distributed equally.

● Local Council elections should not be conducted on partisan basis.

● Paramount Chiefs being given a specific term of office will ensure accountability.

● The Council of Chiefs should be reformed.

● Local traditional leaders should be not be entrusted with judicial powers.

● There should be a National House of Chiefs to maintain separation of powers and to uphold the cultural ethics of Sierra Leone.

● Chiefdom Councils should be maintained to work side by side with the Local Councils for the development of the local communities and for accountability.

● There should be equal opportunity for both sexes across all regions for Paramount Chiefs elections.

● Chiefdom boundaries should be included in the Constitution to avoid boundary conflicts between chiefdoms.

The following can be done to address the human resource deficiency in the Civil Service—

i. improve on the educational sector

ii. training

iii. establishing more institutions

iv. free education from primary to secondary level

v. increase on the rate of employment for qualified citizens

vi. increase salaries

● Staff should be appraised on performance related basis as it leads to motivation and encourages hard work.

● Work conditions in the Civil Service can be improved with adequate salaries, improvement on other benefits like medical, transportation and accommodation facilities and provide a safe working environment.

● The Civil Service rules and regulations should be included in the Constitution.
- The creation of various service commissions will not help in addressing the low performance situation in the Civil Service because they are been influenced by parliament/government. This makes them lack independence.
- All employment of Civil Service personnel must go through the labour pool.

**State Policy And Human Rights Subcommittee**
- Paramount Chiefs should have two terms of five (5) years in office.
- Persons 18 years and above should be eligible to vote.
- Petitions for election results should be heard and decided upon before a President is sworn in.
- Specific dates should be stipulated in the Constitution for all elections.
- Same sex unions and marriages should be criminalized.

**Natural Resources Subcommittee**
- There should be a separate chapter for environmental issues in the Constitution.
- Environmental courts should be set up.
- A land management commission should be established.
- A land management system of 10% tree cover should be implemented.
- Women should be given the right to inherit land before and after marriage.
- Land tenure system should not be harmonized.
GRASSFIELD

Executive Subcommittee

- There should be a clear separation of power to safeguard freedom.
- The President should be a citizen of Sierra Leone.
- Only citizens should be eligible to vote and be voted for.
- Persons with dual citizenship should not be allowed to contest for President.
- There should be a residency requirement of five (5) years for persons contesting for Presidential election.
- The President should be required to pay tax as he is also paid from the taxes collected.
- If no candidate in a Presidential election attains a 55% majority then a run-off should be held.
- There should be regional balance in the formation of the cabinet.
- The position of the office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice should be separated.

Judiciary Subcommittee

- A committee should be set up which will work with the Judicial and Legal Service Commission for the appointment and removal of judges and other judicial officers.
- These positions should be advertised and applied for.
- Judges and other judicial officers including the Chief Justice should be subjected to parliamentary approval.
- The retirement age for judges should be 65 years.
- The conditions of service in the judiciary should be reviewed.
- Legislations should also be reviewed and updated to meet modern trends.
- Increase on the training of police prosecutors.
- Employ more prosecutors.
- There is the need for more magistrate courts.
- There is the need to set up more law schools.
- Fines and other monies collected should be managed by the judiciary.
- The position of the office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice should be separated.
**Legislative Subcommittee**

- The commissioners of the National Electoral Commission should be banned from holding public office.
- The Political Parties Registration Commission should remain the same.
- The commissioners of the Political Parties Registration Commission should be appointed on a full-time basis.
- The Administrator and Registrar-General should be removed as a commissioner of the Political Parties Registration Commission to enable her to be more efficient in her duties.

**IEC Subcommittee**

- The Independent Media Commission should be strengthened to protect members of the public.
- Members from the civil society, journalists and the government should be involved in the appointment of the Chairman and commissioners of the Independent Media Commission.
- The media should be guaranteed Constitutional freedom for good governance and accountability.
- There should be free access to information for transparency.
- Persons working in the print and electronic media should not be paid salaries below the minimum wage.
- Complaints made about the media by the public should be addressed within one month.
- Trained and qualified persons should be eligible to become editors and station managers two (2) years after qualification.
- Untrained persons should be eligible to become editors and station managers after five (5) years.
- It should be made mandatory for radio and television stations to have full insurance cover. This will ensure that victims of libel will be able to get compensation.
- There should be free quality education at both primary and secondary levels.
Local Governance Subcommittee

- Local tax should be renamed development tax.
- Revenue should be allocated to councils based on their performance.
- Local residents should be involved in the decision making process by creating suggestion boxes which could be placed at strategic areas in the communities for people to drop in their suggestions on issues being discussed.
- Periodic consultative meetings should also be organized.
- The chiefdom councils should seek their authority from the local councils.
- Local councils should have representatives in parliament.
- The administration of local councils should be reviewed.
- The Administrator and Registrar-Generals office should collect local taxes.
- LOCAL GOVERNANCE should have a separate chapter in the Constitution.
- Chiefdom councils must work with local councils to seek authority and councils to coordinate and update chiefdom councils through their chiefdom representatives.
- LOCAL GOVERNANCE Act to be revised with new enactment for new reforms.

State Policy And Human Rights Subcommittee

- Not all rights should be suspended during a state of emergency.
- House of Parliament should be changed to House of Representatives.
- Same sex unions and marriages should be criminalized.
- Land should be provided to every citizen at an affordable cost.
- The Local Content policy should be implemented.
- A child protection policy should be established.
- The Presidential term should remain the same.
- The death penalty should be maintained.

Natural Resources Subcommittee

- Land ownership should not be 100% as it leads to fluctuation in prices.
- Foreign investors should be given a fifty (50) years lease on lands with the possibility of an extension of twenty-five (25) years based on their land conservation programmes.
- Natural resources and the environment should be included as a subject in the school curriculum.
- The proceeds from the natural resources taken from the communities should be put back into those communities.
- Land tenure system should not be harmonized.

The flip charts and group submission forms were handed over to the Chairman who in turn handed them over to the Team Leader for submission to the Constitutional Review Secretariat.
CHAPTER FOUR

LIMITATIONS

1. Small numbers of participants (stakeholders)
2. Poor quality of participants
3. Members of the public not properly informed about the meeting
4. Little or no civic education on Constitutionalism

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Increase number of participants
2. Properly inform the public for any pending consultation
3. Participants selection process needs to be properly scrutinised prior to consultation
4. Proper civic education ahead of consultation
5. Involve local networks rather than individuals to organise and plan the event

CONCLUSION

Although participants have expressed dissatisfaction with respect to the inadequacy of civic education and consultation coverage, they have by and large, appreciated the fact that they have been given the opportunity to add their voice to the review process.

Similarly, CRC members have emerged to regard the means (process) to the end (recommendations) as a dialogue with a social character from which they have benefited. In this sense, the ward level consultation has served a purpose beyond collecting views and recommendations. It has passed as an indispensable component of the process of both learning and knowing for CRC members and participants, respectively.