REPORT ON WESTERN AREA WARD LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIONS
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Team 2

15 & 16th June 2015
Ward - 356, 357, 358, 359
Venue - Changes Complex
  123 Bai Burch Road, Grassfield
Time - 9 am

18 & 19th June 2015
Ward - 360, 361, 362, 363
Venue - Changes Complex
  123 Bai Burch Road, Grassfield
Time - 9 am

22nd & 23rd June 2015
Ward - 364, 365
Venue - St. Martins Church,
  Blackhall Road
Time - 9 am

25 & 26th June 2015
Ward - 331, 332, 333, 334, 335
Venue - Great Hall, Milton Margai,
  Goderich
Time - 9 am
FOREWORD

This Report is a product of careful planning and effective execution of Western District level public consultation by eight CRC members and 6 support staff with a strong financial support from the Government of Sierra Leone, the United Nation and other donor partners. The report focuses on key constitutional issues especially, those relating to the executive, legislature, judiciary, 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, Justice Edmund Cowan, CRC members and administrative support staffs have all learned a great deal from the various stakeholders in the various Wards who participated in the consultations. Through this process, participants were able to advance meaningful recommendations on constitutional issues relating to the seven thematic areas.

It is suffice to say here that if these recommendations in this Report, are taking in to consideration there is no doubt that it will not only strengthen our emerging Constitution but will also lead to an improved, democratic and developed society.

JULIUS B. COLE
TEAM LEADER
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Putting these views on record for the people on the purpose of reviewing the constitution has been time consuming, the patriotism shown by CRC members cannot be overemphasized. 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 social justice, accountability, human rights the rule of law and meaningful socio-economic development. Therefore, Team II offers you all a calabash of palm wine.
SUMMARY

The District Level Consultation was centred on seeking the views from the public for the consideration of CRC members; it was based on interactive methodology to involve the people in the review process. The consultations were held from May 4th through May 12th 2015, in Kailahun, Kenema and Pujehun District respectively. They were meant to serve the purpose of enhancing public dialogue and augment public understanding of the Constitutional Review Process.

The Report details is based on participants’ views on the powers of the executive, citizenship, chieftaincy, property rights for women empowerment, the role of Paramount Chiefs in Parliament etc, The report also captured the views of the public on land, natural resources and environment, local government, and the independent of the Judiciary.
1.0 COMPOSITION OF TEAM TWO

Team Two was made up of the following members;

1. Gibril Thullah Legislative sub-committee;
2. Lois Kawa Esq. State policy and Human Rights sub-committee
3. Marie Bob-kandeh Information, Education and Communication sub-committee;
4. Mary Harding Local Government sub-committee;
5. Vandy Konneh Executive sub-committee;
6. Alimamy D.Conteh Natural Resources sub-committee;
7. Gershon L. Macarthy Legal and Technical Associate (L.T.A.)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

1. Mary Ellie Administrative Assistant;
2. Julius B. Cole Administrative Assistant.
3. Christiana Lewis Security
4. Hassan Kamara Driver
5. Abdul Kamara Sign Interpreter
CHAPTER ONE

REPORT ON WESTERN AREA CONSULTATIONS AT CHANGES COMPLEX, 123 BAI BUREH ROAD, GRASSFIELDS, FREETOWN ON THE 15TH AND 16TH JUNE 2015.

On the 15th of June 2015, Team Two started a two day consultation with stakeholders and representatives of various groups in wards 356, 357, 358 and 359 on the ongoing Constitutional Review Process. The mandate of Team Two was to consult with the representatives of the people of those wards on the 1991 constitution and the Peter Tucker Report and collate their opinions, views and recommendations for the furtherance of the Constitutional Review Process and then submit such opinions, views and recommendations to the secretariat of the Constitutional Review Committee (C.R.C.).

FIGURE 2 A PARTICIPANTS ENGAGING ON DISCUSSIONS

DAY ONE. THE CONSULTATIONS IN WARDS 356, 357, 358 AND 359.

The consultations of the 15th of June 2015 commenced with Christian prayers led by Mr B. S. Conteh and muslim prayers led by Chief Alimamy Sesay.

The Administrative Assistant; Mr. Julius B. Cole then introduced Mr. Alhassan Kamara as the Chairman of the two-day consultation.
In his opening statement, the Chairman welcomed the representatives of the C.R.C to their community and urged the participants to treat the discussions with the utmost seriousness. He suggested that time be made a requirement for all meetings and that this suggestion be put in the Constitution.

Councilor Kalawa of Ward 358 in his statement on behalf of the constituency chairman also welcomed the C.R.C. members and drew attention to the constraints that councilors face in carrying out their duties in their various wards. He suggested that the Constitution should make provisions for councilors to be put on salaries and allowances.

It was then time for statements from the representatives of the various sub-committees of the C.R.C. Lois Kawa Esq. in her statement on behalf of the C.R.C. explained the role of the C.R.C, the history of the Constitutional Review process, touching on the Human Rights Commission, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the 1991 Constitution and the Peter Tucker Report of January 2008.

Vandy Konneh made a statement for the Executive sub-committee. Mr Konneh drew attention to Chapter V of the 1991 Constitution stressing on the powers of the president, the procedure of his election, process of his removal, the vice president and other public officers.

Lois Kawa Esq. made a statement for the Judiciary Sub-committee and the State Policy and Human Rights sub-committee. She took a look at Chapter VII of the 1991 Constitution; the court system, judicial appointments, the public perception of litigation generally, the constraints faced in justice delivery and the age old laws that are still in our law books. On the part of State Policy and Human Rights Miss Kawa examined Chapters 11 and 111 of the 1991 Constitution the obligations and objectives of the government to the people as against Section14 which makes those objectives non-justiciable. She drew the attention of participants to the Human Rights provisions in the constitution and asked whether the rights are protected enough. She also drew attention to the Peter Tucker recommendations.

Gershon L. Macarthy made a statement for the Information, Education and Communication sub-committee. He drew attention to the fact that the 1991 Constitution does not have a separate chapter on Information, Education and Communication but that it is only chapter 11 (which in fact falls under State Policy) that has sections that provide for I.E.C. issues. He talked about the educational system in the country generally, the operation of the mass media, the social media and the telecommunication situation vis-à-vis the emerging threats of insecurity. He asked participants to come out with suggestions that would make the I.E.C. situation better.

Gibril Thullah, talking for the Legislative sub-committee referred to Chapters 1V and VI of the 1991 Constitution. He looked at the National Electoral Commission, the Political
Parties Registration Commission and the perceptions people hold about those commissions. Mr Thullah challenged participants to examine the chapters closely and make recommendations with a view to make them better. On Chapter V, he drew attention to Parliament, election of members of Parliament, whether parliamentarians really work for the people and if not, whether the new constitution should provide a recall clause. He also asked whether an integrity clause would be relevant in the new constitution.

Mary Harding made a statement for the Local Government sub-committee. As a former councilor, she dilated on the problems that pervade local government institutions in the country. She took a historical look at local government in the country from the early post-independent period. She lamented the closure of Local Councils in the country and attributed the current weakness of councils to that closure. She said that it is pathetic that councilors who are looked upon as the prime movers of development programs in their wards are currently not on salaries. She said that the 1991 Constitution does not make provision for local government and that as a matter of fact; chiefs are not treated seriously in the country. Consequently, she asked participants whether it is relevant to put local government in the new constitution.

Alimamy D. Conteh spoke for the Natural Resources sub-committee. As a representative of the Revolutionary United Front Party (R.U.F.P) on the C.R.C. he told all present that they have always agitated for the proper management and equitable distribution of the natural resources of the state. He said that the R.U.F raised that point at the signing of the Lome Peace Accord in 1996. Mr Conteh said that as a nation which depends on its natural resources as a major source of revenue, there should be a chapter on natural resources in the new constitution. He lamented that the diamonds of Kono only benefited foreigners and not Sierra Leoneans because we as a nation have never taken diamonds or natural resources seriously in our constitution.

Gershon L. Macarthy talked on behalf of the Research sub-committee. He told participants that the Research sub-committee is the biggest sub-committee in the Constitutional Review Committee as it is the only sub-committee that looks into all the other sub-committees to find out how to make their work better and meet international best practice. He said that the Research sub-committee embarks on research using the internet, hard publications and all other material that will help to enhance the production of a good constitution. He also said that the Research sub-committee studies the constitutions of other countries especially those whose constitutions are modern democratic constitutions where best practice is observed. He informed participants that the C.R.C. plans to send some members of the Research sub-committee to other countries that have had good constitutions to study their constitutions with a view of using their experiences to help do our own constitution.

At this stage, questions and contributions were invited from participants.
QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Mamusu Sesay, assistant secretary general of Ward 358 observed that when walking along the streets, she sees so many posters showing children. She wanted to know whether those are provided for in the constitution. She also asked that more power be given to the Research sub-committee to go to the diaspora. Talking on mineral resources, Mamusu said that such resources have done nothing important for their children and so wants a chapter on natural resources in the new constitution.

2. Abdul P. Y. Sesay was happy for the constitution but regretted that ignorance of the constitution is their problem. He however urged all present to participate thoroughly.

3. Chief Ya Alimamy Bangura also known as Iyaroh asked whether I.E.C. is prevailing in this country. She said she did not feel so even though education is the key of the world.

4. Hannah Mbogba, a Community Health Officer at the Approved School Health Centre regretted that there was no sub-committee on health but she suggested that health be given priority in the new constitution.
5. Chief Pa Alimamy Wusu Carpen observed that the judiciary is the most problematic. In dealing with people. He asked whether a practicing lawyer is part of the judiciary because such lawyers humiliate witnesses in court.

He went further to say that even when it comes to mining, it is the lawyers who represent foreign business people and protect their mining interests.

He said that local government is the oldest government in the world but that with the coming of the white man, they replaced them with councilors who they do not pay now. He said that even with the coming of Ebola it is the chiefs that are threatened with removal if they do not end Ebola.

Responding to the first part of Chief Pa Alimamy Wusu Carpen’s observations Mary Harding of the C.R.C. said that people are treated the way the chief mentioned because they do not know our laws. She said that people have the option of going to the High Court. Lois kawa Esq. of the C.R.C. said that lawyers are subject to the General Legal Counsel so the issue is not a constitutional matter.

6. Mr Abubakarr Sankoh said that he believes in research and that the constitution mentions research on dance, art and traditional medicine but that we only pay attention to films. He said that even though our traditional practices work, they are not recognized. He suggested therefore that we should legislate in favor of our traditional practices like in Kenya.

7. Marwan Kamara of G. Unit Social Club thanked the C.R.C. for including the disabled persons. He was concerned about state policy and human rights. He said that there are people who frown at the disabled. He said that the president says things and people do not respect it and that talking about human rights, theirs is abused daily. He said that the physically challenged should be helped to get their suggestions into the constitution.

Vandy Kanneh of the C.R.C. assured Marwan that their interests are adequately represented on the C.R.C.

8. Haja Fatu Turay asked whether there is justice in the country. She said that if the answer is ‘no’, then it should be put into the Constitution.
9. Councilor Turay, a pharmacist turned politician refers to sections 7 and 8 of the 1991 Constitution which provides the social and economic objectives together with additional Acts but was concerned with enforcement. He asked what government is doing about enforcement of the laws.

10. Ibrahim Amadu Bah also known as Fidel observed that we have good laws but problems of enforcement. He mentioned the issue of bail at the police stations. He therefore pleads with the C.R.C. and law enforcement to implement and enforce the laws dispassionately. He also believes that people should benefit from their minerals.

11. Mohamed Musa Kamara was interested in research but asked whether the Eric Bangura, a youth leader said that laws should be made to check the criminal record of mayors, parliamentarians and councilors.

12. Pastor Abraham Bangura, Chief Executive Officer, Lowcost Amateur Association asked what guarantee C.R.C. would give them that there will be no political operation/doctoring of what they were going to say.

13. Mary Harding and Lois Kawa Esq. explained that the track record of the Chairman of the C.R.C. and the fact that there is a second chance for them in a referendum when they will have an opportunity to vote against it if it had been changed is enough guarantee.

14. Musa B. Sillah, Community Health Officer asked what the people could do to the government if it fails to do what it should do; that is, use political interference to refuse somebody his or her rights.

15. Gershon L. Macarthy responded that the 1991 Constitution confers rights and freedoms on individuals though with limitations. If people however believe that their rights have been violated, it is only a court of law that can determine whether such violation has taken place and if so, imposes a penalty.
At this stage participants were put into sub-committee groups and the other half of the day’s work was all group work.

**DAY TWO**

Day Two was the 16th of June 2015. We started work with Christian prayers by Pastor Jeffrey Kamara and Muslim prayers by Chief Alimamy Sesay. As soon as the recap of the activities of Day One was about to be read, the Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee arrived and was welcomed and introduced to participants by Julius Cole.

Recap of day one was done and the Chairman took time to respond to several issues that participants had raised the previous day. The Chairman also gave a history of the Constitutional Review Process. He explained the relevance of review of constitutions the world over and the benefits to a nation.

The Chairman addressed the issue of whether participants’ suggestions will not be doctored. He said that the answer rests with the in the referendum and the fact that the constitution says the people are sovereign.
After the Chairman’s address it was time for the reports from the various sub-committee groups, starting with group one.

**FIGURE 6 MR. VANDY KONNEH WHO CHAIRED THE EXECUTIVE GROUP AND HE ALSO MADE HIGHLIGHTS ON THEIR MANDATE**

**GROUP ONE---------Executive Sub-Committee.**

**FIGURE 7 PARTICIPANTS GOING THROUGH SUBMISSION FORMS**
GROUP TWO----------------Judiciary Sub Committee

FIGURE 8: PARTICIPANTS READING OUT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The office of the Chief Justice should not be based on political appointment, but rather by an independent body of legal minds and well-meaning and influential Sierra Leoneans. This is to enhance fair and impartial dispensation of justice. Because where the president appoints the Chief Justice, there is always the tendency for him to exercise control over the judiciary.

2. The appointment of the Inspector General of Police should not be political but rather one that should be made by a politically neutral, non-partisan or independent body. The appointment of senior police officers from the rank of Assistant Superintendent to that of the Deputy Inspector General should not be subjected to political approval, but rather by an independent body comprising representatives from the civil society, members of the local partnership boards, the independent media and representatives of political parties. This is to enhance absolute neutrality, impartiality and fair play in the dispensation of justice because when such happens, nobody will be afraid of orders from above.

3. The constitution should make provision for informal resolution and restorative justice for matters at community level.
4. There is need for the appointment of more magistrates and judges. This will lead to speedy trial of cases and swift dispensation of justice.
5. The appointment, approval and removal of judges and other judicial officers is not sufficiently transparent. There should be a judicial commission to appoint, remove and approve such appointment to ensure sufficient transparency.

GROUP THREE--------Information, Education and Communication.

![A committee member giving an overview of group work](image)

**FIGURE 9: A COMMITTEE MEMBER GIVING AN OVERVIEW OF GROUP WORK**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. All practicing journalists must be well trained, matured and have appropriate experience. The I.M.C. must issue and withdraw licenses when necessary.
2. The Constitution must provide for media Houses to be paid subsidy to enable them operate devoid of political control.
3. The constitution should seriously consider setting up a special court that would conclude libel and seditious matters in the stipulated 30 days.
4. The I.M.C must be empowered to protect journalists against undue arrest and intimidation. The I.M.C should provide ready legal counsel as a protective mechanism in the course of doing their professional duties.
GROUP FOUR--------The Legislative Sub-Committee

FIGURE 10 A PARTICPANT READING RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Introduce the Recall Clause.
2. Implement the Integrity Clause for Members of Parliament.
3. Timing must be adhered to in Parliamentary sessions
4. Every member of Parliament should be directly elected by the people. There should be no nomination of members to Parliament. No traditional rulers should sit in Parliament without being directly elected by the people of the Local Assembly.
5. Members crossing the floor should lose their seat.
6. The principle of Separation of Powers should be respected
7. The Paramount Chiefs must have a separate House of Chiefs that recognizes the tribal head vote.
8. A Bi-Cameral system of Parliamentary representation

The House of Senate

9. Two-third majority provisions should be of all members of Parliament without absentees in order to discourage MP’s boycotting and cross carpeting.

10. No seat should be reserved for selection, all seats should be elective.
11. To reduce the number of political parties to a minimum of five.
All members of Parliament should reside in their constituencies during or after elections

GROUP FIVE---------------Local Government Sub-Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Local Government should be entrenched in the Constitution.

2. Chiefs must have the power to use warrant to enforce the appearance of persons accused or complained in Local Courts to avoid or prevent interference and protection from superior authority.

3. All Parliamentarians must display the National Flag Logo on their dress in Parliament because Parliamentarians represent the people of Sierra Leone instead of their party, symbol or logo.

4. Local Government should pay more attention to local policing partnership boards to ensure security at community level.

5. All companies must be headed by competent Sierra Leoneans.

6. A law to prosecute those who confess witchcraft.

7. The pronoun ‘He’ must be ‘He and ‘She’.
GROUP SIX----------------Natural Resources Sub Committee

FIGURE 12 NATURAL RESOURCES SUB COMMITTEE DELIBRATING ON THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That all natural resources must be properly managed for the benefit of the nation. For this to be achieved, the state needs to establish a land, minerals, fisheries and environmental Commission to monitor everything about our natural resources.
2. The commissioners must be part of any arrangement/agreement with all foreign and local investors, the state and the communities.
3. Any national found guilty of infringing the laws that shall govern extraction and fisheries in the country must face the full penalty of the law.
4. All M.D.A’s and employees in these sectors must be honest and reliable.
5. Communities must benefit more directly from whatever revenues derived from natural resources extracted in those areas.
6. Fisheries and marine resources must be treated more seriously as they affect all citizens in the country.
GROUP SEVEN---------State Policy And Human Rights Sub-Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The research sub-committee must consider documents like the Abidjan Peace Accord, Lome Peace Accord, the Abuja 1 and 11 Accords and the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions for relevant materials.

2. Compulsory citizenship education from primary to tertiary levels and strict adherence to the application of the laws.

3. To revisit all mining agreements in the country and the involvement of locals in the arrangement of mining contracts.

4. The state must start productive industries to manufacture our raw materials into finished products.

5. There must be an annual national conference which will include stakeholders like paramount chiefs, religious leaders, politicians, civil society organizations and other relevant groups in the country to discuss development.

6. There should be ward development funds into which constituency allowances should be paid.

7. Retirement age of civil servants should be revisited.
FIGURE 14 ADMIN. ASSISTANT IN ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
CHAPTER 2

DAY ONE: PARTICIPANTS OF WARDS 360, 361, 362 AND 363

Team Two held consultations with stakeholders and representatives of various groups in wards 360, 361, 362 and 363 on the 18th and 19th of June 2015 at the Changes Complex, 123 Bai Bureh Road, Grassfield in the eastern part of Freetown.

Day One of the consultations started with a welcome address by Mr. Julius B. Cole; Administrative Assistance at the C.R.C. That was followed by Christian prayers led by Rev. David Tangabay and Muslim prayers led by Sheik Ibrahim Mammy Sesay. Mr. Cole introduced Rev. Desmond A. J. Kamara as the Chairman of the occasion.

The Chairman extended a hand of welcome to the C.R.C. members and all the various group representatives hoping that the events of the two days would be beneficial to their communities and the country as a whole.

Councilor Gabriel M. Kabia of ward 360 welcomed all on behalf of the Freetown City Council. He told the gathering that they should understand their reason for being called to a meeting on the Constitution which is the bible or guide to organizations and countries. Mr. Kabia emphasized that when it comes to development, Councilors are the first port of call, that they write projects but unfortunately, the Local Government Act of 2004 does not permit them to handle money even though they are not paid. He admonished everyone to contribute meaningfully as it will greatly help the development of the country and as the peoples’ representatives, to send their message loudly.

Lois Kawa Esq. of the C.R.C. made a statement in which she welcomed all and pleaded that they should take the discussions seriously. She informed the speaker before her that the 2004 Act is subsidiary to the 1991 Constitution but that his point is good for subsidiary legislations. Miss Kawa pointed out the source of the president’s power to declare a state of emergency as in that for Ebola. She traced the constitutional history of Sierra Leone since 1961. She informed participants that in July 2013, His Excellency the president launched the C.R.C. with the mandate to involve all Sierra Leoneans to look into the 1991 Constitution in tandem with the Peter Tucker Report and come out
with the people’s opinion. She said that this opportunity comes from the president and urged all to take group work seriously.

At this point, Mr. Julius B. Cole introduced the C.R.C. members who were present.

Vandy Konneh of the Executive sub-committee made a statement, touching on the 1991 Constitutional provisions that have to do with the offices of President, Vice-President and cabinet. He said that they would go into groups to examine things like the powers of the president or whether there should be separation of powers, presidential term, qualifications for the office of presidency, division of office of Attorney General and Minister of Justice, how representative cabinet should be, should President appoint his cabinet from parliament or not, should the president be removed secretly or not, should the speaker act in the absence of the President and Vice President.

Lois Kawa made a twin presentation for the Judiciary sub-committee and the State Policy and Human Rights sub-committee. She looked at the court system, the jurisdiction of the various courts, reasons why cases delay in courts the people’s misconceptions of the workings of the judicial system, the tribal courts especially in the Western Area, bail especially at the police stations. For the Fundamental Principles of State Policy and Human Rights, Miss Kawa examined the glaring contradictions in the 1991 Constitution especially Section 14 which makes the fundamental principles non-justiciable. She referred to Chapter 111 of the 1991 Constitution and asked participants for their opinions of what actually prevails. She also drew attention to the Peter Tucker recommendations in the combined documents.

The presentation on the Information Education and Communication sub-committee was done by Gershon L. Macarthy. He drew attention to the importance of information, education and communication in every country. He acknowledged that there are existing Legislations that provide for the running of information, education and communication in the country but asked whether it is necessary to give it additional pre-eminence in the revised 1991 constitution. Mr Macarthy drew participants’ attention to the current state of education in the country especially when it is compared to that in other English speaking countries in West Africa. He said that during their secondary school days, Indian, Nigerian Ghanaian and other foreign professional teachers were their teachers but asked where they are now. He asked why there are grossly inadequate qualified teachers in our schools today. For information and communication, he drew attention to the emerging social media and asked whether it is important to devote a whole chapter in the revised constitution on information and communication.

At this time, Madam Hannah Jayah of the Freetown City Council arrived and was welcomed accordingly and asked to make a statement. She started by appreciating the
work of the C.R.C. but regretted that the Local Government Act did nothing for the
Councilors compared to parliamentarians who get development funds, salaries and
allowances. She said that water is a problem in her ward and that basic facilities should
and must be provided in all wards.

Gibril Thullah did a presentation for the Legislative sub-committee. He emphasized the
importance of the 1991 Constitution, the Legislature and its work. Mr. Thullah said that the
constitution should have reader friendly language. He also explained the idea of the
power of recall and the question of the voting age of all who vie for political offices.

Mary Harding of the Local Government sub-committee then did a presentation. She said
that their mandate is to review the 1991 Constitution in tandem with the Peter Tucker
Report and other constitutions and make recommendations in respect to local government.
She explained the history of local government in Sierra Leone up to the 2004 Act and its
short comings. She also talked about local government revenue, powers, and civil service
review as three parts of their group work.

Alimamy D. Conteh of the Natural Resources sub-committee talked on the poverty of the
country in the midst of abundant natural resources. He informed participants that it is
important for the issue of natural resources to be treated seriously for the benefit of all.
He said that only foreigners have so far benefitted from our natural resources because it
appears as if we have never actually known how to take care of our resources. He
concluded by saying that the issue of natural resources is so important that we should
provide a whole chapter on it in the constitution like other African countries which are now
doing better.

Gershon L. Macarthy talked for the Research sub-committee. He said that research is very
important as it makes available to the researcher very vital information which he would
otherwise not have known. Mr. Macarthy informed all that the Research sub-committee
helps all other sub-committees with important findings on their thematic areas. He informed
participants that in the plenary of the C.R.C. that preceded that consultation, it was
announced that the C.R.C. was planning to send researchers to a few African countries to
do research on their constitutions with the aim of helping the review process.

It was then time for contributions from participants.

CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Chief Haja Bowara Kamara in her contribution asked what had been done for the
chiefs because she felt that the only thing they always get is blame when things
don’t work well like in the case of Ebola. She said that the C.R.C. Chairman should know that if things are fine, it is the women. She said that it must be noted that even with the much trumpeted free education, teachers still take money from their children.

2. Emmanuel Kamara of Brima Lane Ataya Base asked all to look at the Public Order Act of 1965. He said that it is archaic and so should be removed.

3. Mamanie Fadika said that as ward committee members, they are suffering. She said that if councilors have no pay, what can ward committee members have?

4. Abubakarr Brima of Ataya Base Cassel Farm talked on education. He brought out the issue of bribery to teachers and lecturers. He said that clever students who are poor are not given deserving honors because of money. He went further to say that the mode of awarding contracts to companies is faulty like in the African Minerals case.

5. Edward Yokie of Ward 360, Cassel Farm talked about the constituency Development Funds that are awarded to Parliamentarians who do not involve the councilors. He said that in the end, the people cry down the councilors, not knowing that councilors are not even paid salaries.

C.R.C members addressed most of the concerns raised and thereafter, participants were put into groups for group work which lasted for the other half of the working day.
DAY 11.

Christian prayers by Abdul Hakim Caulker and Muslim prayers by Sheik Ibrahim Mammy Sesay opened the activities of Day Two. That was followed by three further contributions from participants.

1. A.C.M. George, an ex-serviceman in his contribution talked on the separation of powers in the operations of the state. He said that government should formulate policies and local councils should carry them out but that there is huge disagreement between them. He said that the meeting was to clarify it.

   Mr. George whether chiefs are tribal heads or court chairmen in the Western Area. He urged participants to look into that. He asked how councils can do their work when M.P’s control all the funds and there are so much overlaps.

2. Chief Pa Alimamy Kamara of Ward 361 suggested that foreign businessmen should register their businesses under Sierra Leoneans so that Sierra Leoneans can benefit.

3. Abdulai Kargbo suggested that local government should play a vital role in combating armed robbery and that city council should electrify the streets.

   As soon as group reports were about to commence, the Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee arrived. He was introduced and introduced to the participants and there was a standing ovation.
The Chairman made a statement in which he underscored the importance of the Review process, the history of the review and the relevance of citizens’ participation in the process. He referred to the process as an opportunity which every Sierra Leonean should contribute to. His statement was followed by the group reporting stage.

**GROUP ONE----------Executive Sub-Committee.**

1. There should be proper data collection and monitoring system in the civil service.
2. Government should embark on training, integration and capacity building of civil servants.
3. There should be safe and improved working conditions for all civil servants.
4. Recruitment of all civil servants should be done by merit.
5. The nomination and or appointment of members in the police council should be based on performance.
6. All civil servants should be out of party politics.
GROUP TWO--------Information, Communication and Education Sub-Committee

FIGURE 17 PARTICIPANT OF THE IEC MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

GROUP THREE--------Judiciary Sub-Committee.

FIGURE 18 A PARTICIPANT OF THE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS.
1. The judiciary must be reviewed.
2. The delay in delivering judgments must be seriously monitored.
3. Anti-Corruption Commission is doing its job but it totally involve the judicial council.
4. On the whole, the judicial principles must not be left in the hands of the magistrates or judges alone but a rule should be provided for normalcy in the judicial system.
GROUP FOUR--------Legislative Sub-Committee.

GROUP FIVE----------Local Government Sub-Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS.
1. Salaries should be allocated to all councilors who should also be in charge of the constituency fund.
2. The collection of taxes must be given to council with proper monitoring.
3. The Local Government Act should be reformed.
4. The functions of the council administration should be reformed.
5. There should be equal allocation of resources to various councils.
6. Local or traditional leaders should not be entrusted traditional powers for a lifetime.
7. There should be a National House of Chiefs for informed decision making.
8. There should be equal opportunities to paramount chieftaincy for both men and women.
9. Chiefdom boundaries should be included in the constitution to avoid conflict and confrontations.

**GROUP SIX--------------Natural Resources Sub-Committee**

**GROUP SEVEN-------------State Policy and Human Rights Sub-Committee.**

**FIGURE 21 A SECTION CHIEF OF 364 AND 365 MAKING A STATEMENT ON NATURLA RESOURCES**

**FIGURE 22 A PARTICIPANT OF STATE POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**
RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Water, sanitation and hygiene should be entrenched in the constitution.
2. The rights of the consumer must be enforced by creating an entire chapter on it.
3. The government should give annual reports to its citizens.
4. The office of Attorney General and Minister of Justice should be separated.
5. In order to ensure justice without fear or favor, there should be an independent body charged with the responsibility of appointing judges.
6. The Constitution should be simplified and made available to the citizens of Sierra Leone.

These were the recommendations from the 18th and 19th of June 2015 engagements.

Concluding, a participant; Fatmata Nicol thanked the C.R.C. but pleaded that the review should come down to their level as they do not understand the constitution.

While appreciating the C.R.C., Mr.A.C.M. George said that constituency 360 is very large and so recommended that more meetings be held to make the constitution a wonderful one. He suggested that the C.R.C. prepares a draft first and come with it to the people in order to make it people owned.

The Chairman; Rev. Desmond A. J. Kamara expressed appreciation to all for a successful two days engagement and asked the C.R.C. to forward their views into the Constitution.
CHAPTER THREE

DAY ONE: CONSULTATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF WARDS 364 AND 365.

The Western Area consultations covering wards 364 and 365 was held at the St Martins Catholic Church Hall, Blackhall Road in the eastern part of Freetown on the 22\textsuperscript{nd} and 23\textsuperscript{rd} of June 2015.

The activities of Day One started with a welcome of all participants by Mr. Julius B. Cole; Administrative Assistant at the C.R.C. attached to Team Two. The introduction was followed with Christian prayers by Mr. Noah Bangura and muslim prayers by Mr Foday Fofana. Madam Marie Bob Kandeh; C.R.C. committee member in her introduction of the Chairlady of the occasion began by informing participants that the program is gender sensitive. She introduced Madam Abibatu M. Bangura, Chairlady of the Bottom Mango Market Women’s Association as the chairlady of the two days engagement.

In her statement, the Chairlady welcomed the C.R.C. members and all participants to the meeting and admonished all to listen keenly to the messages for a better understanding.

After the chairlady’s statement, Councilor Ibrahim Adeziah Kamara also known as ‘Most Popular’, made a statement on behalf of Ward 365. He admonished participants to talk even in their own languages as someone but politely as someone will be there to do the interpretations.
Mr. Gershon L. Macarthy; Legal and Technical Associate (L.T.A.) of the Legislative sub-committee of the C.R.C. then made a statement on behalf of the C.R.C. He traced the history of the review process, touching on the foundations of the 1991 Constitution itself, the Commission to Review the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone and the January 2008 Report thereto by Dr. Peter L. Tucker, on to the July 2013 inauguration of the current Constitutional Review Committee (C.R.C.) under the chairmanship of Justice Edmond K. Cowan by His Excellency, President Ernest Bai Koroma. Mr Macarthy talked about the importance of the review to all Sierra Leoneans and implored all present to put their very best into it.

Mr. Vandy Konneh of the Executive sub-committee of the C.R.C. started the statements by C.R.C. sub-committee members. He talked extensively also on the National Committee for Persons with Disability. While referring to Chapter V of the 1991 Constitution, he told participants that the C.R.C. had come with a questionnaire carrying 32 questions on the presidency including the vice-president, cabinet, and their powers and limits. He asked whether participants wanted separation of powers, what should be the tenure of the presidency, citizenship qualifications, method or criteria for choosing presidential candidates, voting, whether 55% vote won in presidential elections should avert a run-off, whether the president should be elected from parliament or in general elections, whether cabinet should be all inclusive, whether president should be removed secretly or by popular decision and whether the Speaker should assume office in the absence of the president and vice-president.

Mr. Gershon L. Macarthy talked on behalf of the Judiciary sub-committee. He drew attention to Chapter V11 of the 1991 Constitution, specifically the justice delivery system, the courts starting from the Supreme Court to the Magistrate Courts, their composition, jurisdiction, powers and citizens’ perceptions.

While talking on behalf of the Information Education and Communication sub-committee, Madam Marie Bob-Kandeh divided her work into three areas. For education, she pointed out Section 9 of the 1991 Constitution which provides the educational objectives of Sierra Leone. She said that area two is communication and it also refers to the former Sierra Leone External Telecommunications (S.L.E.T.). She talked about culture and linguistics and asked whether learning two or three languages is important. She also asked whether the 6334 system of education is more preferable to the 6344 system. For the area or information, she said that people are detained because information does not flow properly. She said that there are good and bad people in the media. She referred to the current cost of passports and the media interpretations. She said that there is a questionnaire from which they would address all of those concerns. She ended by saying that the Independent Media Commission, the Ministry of Information, the Access to Information Act are all meant to protect damage to people’s names and characters but asked what should be the limitation to the Freedom of Information laws.

Mr Gibril Thullah talked on behalf of the Legislative sub-committee which is about Parliament and parliamentarians. He said that the people are sovereign and so they should control the government, that M.P.’s make laws, that in previous areas visited, people had agitated for a power of recall. At that point, there was loud clapping but Mr. Thullah also talked about the voting age, the integrity clause and the powers of the Electoral Commission and the Political Parties Registration Commission.

Madam Mary Harding of the Local Government sub-committee said that their mandate as a sub-committee is to take an overview of local government in Sierra Leone. She said that local government is not in the 1991 Constitution because it had long been suspended. She said that we need local
government with decentralization which means service delivery starting with the community before going nationwide. She said that otherwise there would be no development as the local council through the councilor is the driver for development. She said that despite their importance councilors are not paid so how can they help the people. She urged participants to advocate for councilors to be paid like parliamentarians who also get constituency allowances but hardly visit their constituencies. She said that Paramount Chiefs now receive salaries while councilors receive only sitting fees. She recommended that local government be made a separate chapter in the revised constitution.

Mr Alimamy D. Conteh presented on behalf of the Natural Resources sub-committee. He said that in 1996 in Lome, the R.U.F. pointed out the absence of natural resources in the 1991 Constitution and as a consequence, people were not benefitting from our resources. He asked participants to realize that for once Sierra Leoneans should learn to take their God given resources seriously for their own prosperity.

Gershon L. Macarthy talked for the Research sub-committee. He said that the research sub-committee is an all-rounder sub-committee as it does research on thematic areas of all sub committees. He therefore informed participants that to make the final outcome a complete people’s document, research will be done even in other countries. He pointed out to the people however that their salient contributions are the best for the researcher and so asked them to take the process seriously.

Lois Kawa Esq. talked on behalf of the State Policy and Human Rights sub-committee. She gave a background of the C.R.C. and the source of the powers of the president in declaring a State of Public Health Emergency. She also alluded to the fact that the 1991 Constitution recognizes the citizenship of children of Sierra Leonean men as against women referring to that practice as gender discrimination. She said that the 1961 constitution was handed to us but the 1991 constitution paved the way for a two party system. She said that though it is not all bad, we still have a long way to go, that views some views will be taken but others will go into enabling legislations.

Miss Kawa looked at chapter 11 of the 1991 Constitution on Principles of state policy; that is what government should be about, a state based on freedom, democracy and justice where sovereignty belongs to the people. She said that we have clever minds but how do we monitor our people, what are our own responsibilities and obligations? She asked how we should hold our government accountable when Section 14 takes rights from the people.

At the end of the C.R.C. presentations, it was time for contributions from participants.

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

1. Gibrilla Kamara of Ataya Base Kissy Brook Market observed that the invitation was for 9:o’ clock but why the late start. He said that he was 49 years old and had seen a lot.
2. Samuel S.A. Sankoh of Texas Group Youth Organization appealed for the setting up of a special committee to agitate for the poor people.
3. Kassim Sillah Conteh; secretary to Colbert Elders Committee appealed for a change of the name; Freetown as people do things feeling they are free to.
4. Jattu Kamara; women’s leader representing Comewin Women’s Organization asked that women be allowed by the constitution to own land.
5. Zainab A. Kamara said that foreigners have more rights than us Sierra Leoneans especially in the mines.

6. Solomon Kamara; ward committee member Ward 364 said that there are three arms of government that own the country but at the same time, they let the citizens down. Therefore, the executive should pay the people.
   He said that the police spoil cases for those without money so the judiciary should monitor cases right from the police stations. He said that the Legislature should take care of lapses in the constitution.

7. Isaac Koroma; teacher at Moyiba School said that he had observed Chapter 1 of the 1991 Constitution and seen the Public Seal and National Anthem but no Coat of Arms.

   Mdm Marie Bob-Kandeh responded that the Coat of Arms is in the Constitution, that whatever is in the Constitution would be honoured by any government in power. She said they were agitating for more women to be empowered so encouraged more women to talk.

   Lois Kawa Esq. responded that not all what the people said would go into the revised Constitution as some would be secondary legislation.

8. Chief Pa Alimamy Ortortorkor Dumbuya condemned the high table for not allowing him to talk.
   He talked on behalf of his community tracing the early chiefs’ relationship with the white man. He had been in Freetown since 1959 but this is the first time he is taking part in Constitution making. He pleaded for chiefs to be paid salaries and blessed the C.R.C. member who made the statement for local government.

   Miss Lois Kawa addressed the concern of the chief promising to involve him more the next day.

   It was then time for group work and participants were put into the thematic groups. Group work lasted for the remaining half of the working day. It was agreed that the reports from the group sessions be presented the next day.
DAY TWO

Day Two started with Christian prayers by Solomon Junior Kamara and Muslim prayers by Chief Pa Alimamy Ortortorkor Dumbuya. As group leaders prepared their final reports discussions were allowed to continue.

Alhaji Mohamed Kamara said that the judiciary should do something about the cases in the courts and that there were lots of constraints in the education and employment sectors.

Issa S. Mansaray suggested that all citizens who finish higher institutions but do not have jobs be given a token.

Chief Yabora Turay of Kissy Dockyard asked that lawyers should not take their cases from them.

Ibrahim Bakarr; a bike rider said that he had seen nothing done towards the development of the youths and suggested that government should concentrate on the youths.

The C.R.C. Chairman arrived at this point and was introduced to participants who gave a very loud applause. The Chairman made a statement in which he told the history and relevance of constitutions and the current review process. He reminded all however that not all views would go into the constitution as some would only be good for enabling Acts or legislations.
GROUP THREE------------------ JUDICIARY SUB-COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Lawyers charges are too exorbitant and need to be reduced.
2. Workers and lawyers should be paid well.
3. Compensation for detainees who have not been found guilty.

GROUP FIVE--------------------- LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. To divide all amalgamated chiefdoms in Sierra Leone.
2. All councilors should be on salaries.
3. The Sierra Leone Constitution should start with the name of Go
GROUP SIX--------NATURAL RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There should be a separate environmental court of the status of High Court to improve land management system in the country.
2. National and Regional Land Commissions be established to reduce pressure on the Lands Ministry.
3. The Constitution should mandate the Commission to stipulate conditions/principles under which land is held and used.
4. Government should empower the Lands Commission to hold land in trust for the people.
5. The land tenure system should be harmonized.
6. Statistics data relating to land issues be supervised by the National Land Commission.
7. All rights over and interests in the acquisition of land should be vested in the citizens only.
9. Industries for production and extraction of biofuel be established.
10. Land grabbing be discouraged and to be enforced by the National Land Commission.
11. All Sierra Leoneans should enjoy equal rights to land at all times.
12. Certain lands be reserved for grazing and tourism.
13. A separate prosecuting Authority be established to try environmental crimes.
14. Protection of places and objects of historical significance be enshrined in the Constitution.
15. No foreign ownership in all investment sectors.
CHAPTER FOUR

REPORT ON WESTERN AREA CONSULTATIONS AT THE GREAT HALL, MILTON MARGAI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY, GODERICH, FREETOWN ON THE 25TH AND 26TH JUNE 2015. WARD 331, 332, 333, 334, AND 335

Figure 28 A GTA OF TEAM TWO ADDRESSING PARTICIPANTS AT THE GREAT HALL AT THE MMCET

Team Two held consultations with stakeholders and representatives of various groups in wards 331, 332, 333, 334, and 335 on the ongoing Constitutional Review Process. The mandate was to consult with the representatives of the people of those wards on the 1991 Constitution and the Peter Tucker Report and collate their opinions, views and recommendations for the furtherance of the Constitutional Review Process and then submit such opinions, views and recommendations to the secretariat of the Constitutional Review Committee (C.R.C.).

DAY ONE.

The consultations of the 25th June 2015 started with a welcome statement by Mr. Julius B. Cole of the C.R.C, muslim prayers led by Sheik Gibril Koroma and Christian prayers led by Pastor Charles Wester-Coker. Those were immediately followed with an introduction of the C.R.C. group by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Gibril Thullah of the C.R.C. introduced Mr. Andrew S. Kamara as the chairman of the two days engagement. In his opening address to participants, the Chairman encouraged all to participate with open minds. Mr. Thullah then invited Chief John Lamin of Ward 333, Adunkia to make a statement. The chief said that it was the first time they were allowed to take part in deciding what their own constitution should contain.
Councilor Mohamed Lafia Sesay of Ward 333 who referred to himself as the host of the gathering urged everyone to contribute meaningfully for the progress of Sierra Leone.

For his part, Hon. M.P.Kallon of constituency 93 thanked the C.R.C. for the good work they were doing and assured all that constituency 93 members believed they were united to make inputs for the good governance of the country. He endorsed the democratic credentials of the president and assured that participants were proud to take part. He urged all to look at issues of the disabled, gender empowerment, human rights, citizenship and so on. The Honorable Member of Parliament assured that there would be equal opportunity for all to participate fully and advised that as a democratic and civilized community, there should be no confrontation or violence. He said that as leaders, it is their duty to tell those they represent about the national assignment they are on.

It was time for statements from the C.R.C. representatives and the chairman invited them in the following sequence for the respective sub committees;

a. Mr. Vandy Konneh  
   Executive sub-committee
b. Mr. Gershon L. Macarthy  
   Judiciary sub-committee
c. Mr. Gibril Thullah  
   Legislative sub-committee
d. Mr. Gershon L. Macarthy  
   Information, Education and Communication sub-committee
e. Madam Mary Harding  
   Local Government sub-committee
f. Mr. Alimamy Conteh  
   Natural Resources sub-committee
g. Mr. Gershon L. Macarthy  
   Research sub-committee
h. Lois Kawa Esq.  
   State Policy and Human Rights sub-committee.

At the end of the sub-committee presentations by the C.R.C. members, it was time for contributions from participants.

CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Alhaji James Slow observed that the representative for local government had talked about paramount chiefs (sec. 72 of 1991 Constitution) but not village heads.
2. Councilor Mamudu Dumbuya of Ward 335 observed that based on what he had heard, if the C.R.C. sticks to their messages, things will be fine. He asked whether tribal authorities cannot be changed till they die. He said that the central government cannot operate successfully without local government and suggests that the term “token” which is used to refer to the remuneration of councilors be revisited as when compared to what parliamentarians are paid, it is very unfair.
3. Chief John Lamin compared the powers of chiefs in the provinces to those in the western area and suggested that government should empower chiefs in the western
area. He said that our prison at Pademba Road is constantly overcrowded today because government has taken powers from chiefs even for minor offences like verbal insults.

4. Mr. Olu from Goderich accused the judiciary and some lawyers of not treating the people fairly. He said that magistrates and judges take a lot of bribes and so the law should send them to Pademba Road prison. Mr. Olu even accused the Ombudsman’s office of not being fair in the treatment of cases and so, they too should be sent to prison. Looking at education, he recommended that the Minister of Education be in attendance at the consultation the day after as he felt that all education officers should be sent to prison. He referred to the Information ministry as “misinformation of information ministry” as according to him, money prevents them from crosschecking their information. He was grateful that councilors had vented out their grievances and criticized the Rural District Council and the Moyamba District Council.

5. Victor Carew of Ward 332 claimed that the 1991 Constitution does not talk about tourism and sport and so asked the C.R.C. to take tourism and sport on board as the two bring income. Miss Kawa responds to Mr. Carew’s claim and refers him to section 12 of the 1991 Constitution.

6. Zainab Kamara; ward committee member of Ward 332 wanted to know which assurance they could be given that the authorities would listen to their recommendations. Again, Miss Kawa allayed Zainab Kamara’s fears by drawing attention that citizens have another opportunity to see if their recommendations were taken on board in a referendum. She however cautioned that not all suggestions can be constitutional materials.

At the end of the contributions participants were put into sub-committee groups for group work which took the rest of the remaining half of day one. It was agreed by all the groups that the reports of the various groups be deferred to day two.

DAY TWO

The activities of Day Two commenced with a call to order by the chairman and Mr. Julius B. Cole who also introduced the Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee (C.R.C.). That was followed with silent prayers and a recap of the activities of Day One.

At the end of the recap, the C.R.C. Chairman made a statement. He addressed every concern raised by participants on Day One. He said that law is important in the life of people, that the constitution is the supreme law. He went further to say that previous constitutions did not consider the opinions of the masses as in 1961, 1971, 1978 and 1991. He said that as supreme law, the constitution supersedes all other laws. The Chairman went further to say that other laws are enabling Acts. He said that participants
had been asked to take part as they are very important in the process and the final document would have to go to a referendum which further underscores their importance and the importance of the process. The C.R.C. Chairman said that there are very good laws but the problem is enforcement. He said that we were all there to sit and draw up the rules and regulations for Sierra Leone. The C.R.C. Chairman then took the following questions from participants, addressing each and every one of them.

**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS**

1. Unisa Mansaray praised the Chairman for emphasizing that they voted in the previous election on party lines and so would find it very difficult to remove M.P’s since they did not vote them but the parties.
2. Christopher Dove wanted to know if village heads too can be in the constitution.
3. Bai M.S. Kamara from Tokeh talked about the entrenched laws. He was not happy for the fusion of the office of Attorney General and Minister of Justice.
4. Alhaji Abdulai Barrie wanted to know the state of students in the Constitution and the assurance that their voices would be reflected.
5. Pa Morlai Bangura; Ward Development Committee member, Ward 333 wanted to know about the free health care, whether it could be in the constitution and suggests that if endorsed, it should cater for children under ten years.
6. Malikie Abu Kamara observed that the chairman for the two –day consultation was appointed impromptu and that all the councilors were A.P.C.
7. Zainab Kamara was concerned about the educational system and the bribery involved to access entrance into Medical School. She too asked which assurance was there that their concerns would be put into the constitution.
After addressing the concerns raised, it was time for reports from group work of Day One.

GROUP THREE-----------------JUDICIARY SUB-COMMITTEE

![Figure 29: Judiciary Sub Committee at Group Work](image)

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. A standard litigation fee be charged in the Judiciary.
2. Magistrates and Judges should be first class citizens.
3. Improve upon integrity in the Judiciary.
4. The adoption of international charters and agreements must not lose sight of the contextual relevance in terms of our moral values e.g. legalizing institutions such as same sex marriage, that are alien to our culture, before God, man and natural order of procreation.
GROUP FOUR---------------------LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

FIGURE 30 PARTICIPANTS READING THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Add the recall clause to the constitution.
2. Also add the integrity clause to the constitution.
3. All those who intend to be members of parliament should first be councilors before they contest parliamentary elections.
4. All those who intend to be members of parliament must have originated from the constituencies they want to represent.
5. The voice of the people must be taken into consideration when it comes to law making and amendment.
6. There should be student representation in parliament when laws are made or amended.

GROUP FIVE---------------------LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

FIGURE 31 A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MAKING A PRESENTATION
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Stipend/honorarium to Councilors must reflect the economic climate of the country because voluntarism has limits.
2. Development fund given to parliamentarians must be given to councilors instead.
3. All submissions must be enacted and entrenched in the constitution.
4. Anybody wishing to contest for councillorship, he/she must have completed Senior School'
5. The Chairman, prospective aspirants or candidates must have obtained at least a first degree in any discipline.
6. All councilors and Chairmen/Mayors must report to or inform their subjects on council activities after every three months.
7. That any councilor, Chairman/mayor found wanton for any crime or grievous offence must be brought to book/justice and face the full penalty of the law.
8. Council/Headmen elections must not be partisan.

GROUP SEVEN----------------------State Policy and Human Rights Sub-Committee

FIGURE 32: PARTICIPANT S READING OUT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. We recommend that all government officials’ children/wards should attend government run schools. (Chapter 11 section 9 a, b, and c of the 1991 Constitution).
2. Free medical facilities for all school-going children.
3. Councilors and village heads should be benefiting from the Consolidated Fund.
4. The Constitution (new) should be studied in school as a separate subject.
5. Let chiefs not be politicians.
6. The recruitment into both the army and police should be on qualification basis of at least a teachers’ certificate.
7. It should be a constitutional right for all Sierra Leoneans to have access to legal services as and when needed.
8. It should be a constitutional right for women to rent or lease or even to inherit property as the case may be.
9. Let it be a constitutional right that women should have 30% seats in parliament.
10. It should be a constitutional right for displaced persons to be benefiting from the consolidated fund.
11. Let there be a limit to the term of office for all parliamentarians at least two terms of 5 years.
12. Citizenship must be by birth no matter your background.

All the recommendations on the flipcharts were submitted to the C.R.C. Secretariat for proper compilation and recording.

Faithfully submitted,

Gershon L. Macarthy.

(L.T.A, Legislative Sub-committee)