



HRCSL HOLDS STRATEGIC INTERACTION WITH NEC, EU AND UNDP

Continuing with its strategic engagements, Commissioners of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) on Tuesday April 30th, 2019 met with the Chairman and Commissioners of the National Electoral Commission, the UNDP Resident Representative and the European Union Ambassadors. The HRCSL shares the same building with the National Electoral Commission and the two institutions collaborate on elections which has human rights implications.

At the UNDP who are the HRCSL's traditional partner, the HRCSL Chairperson, Mrs. Patricia Narsu Ndanema assured the UNDP Resident Representative of her Commission's renewed zeal in the protection and promotion of human rights. She also spoke of the Commission's quick and long term strategies to enhance their work in their regions and districts and expressed gratitude to the UNDP for their support over the years.

Dr. Samuel G. Doe, who is the UNDP Resident Representative, congratulated the Commissioners for being fully constituted. He explained that the UNDP has been a partner with the HRCSL since it was established.

Issues on how to reposition the HRCSL, technical advice, strategic vision on how to drive the commission forward were also discussed.

Appreciating their appointment and the new dynamism in the HRCSL Commissioners, the European Union Ambassador and Head of Delegation to Sierra Leone Tom Vens also related the issues of women and girls rights that needs attention. The Ambassador expressed willingness to the HRCSL as one partner of the EU to move with and speak the same language of human rights protection.

On 9th May, The British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, Guy Warrington paid a visit to the Commissioners at their Headquarters, NEC Building, Freetown.

The British High Commission on 2015/16 supported the Human Rights Commission to undertake the dissemination of its Annual State of Human Rights Report for that year in Kambia. During the visit, there were discussions on the strategic goals of the HRCSL and the UK's human rights interest on the abolition of the death penalty, gender issues on sexual violence, FGM, exclusion of girls from schools, freedom of speech and interest in people trafficking.

The HRCSL Commissioners continue to engage strategic partners in their envisioned way of protecting and promoting human rights in Sierra Leone.