



# POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION COMMISSION

OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Email: [info@pprc.gov.sl](mailto:info@pprc.gov.sl) / [pprcsierraleone@yahoo.com](mailto:pprcsierraleone@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.pprc.gov.sl](http://www.pprc.gov.sl)

+23276 640437/ 78201770 / 23234117201



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The British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone Lisa Chesney MBE on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 paid a courtesy call on the Chairman of the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC), Mr. Abdullai Masiyambay Bangura at the Commission's headquarters in Freetown.

Welcoming the High Commissioner, Mr. Bangura expressed delight for the visit and hope that this initial meeting will bring forth programs that will improve on the work of the Commission.

Speaking on the current work done by the Commission, Mr. Bangurah informed the High Commissioner that the Commission is in the process of reviewing the Political Parties Act of 2002, in line with recommendations of the Elections Observer Missions in the 2018 elections. He said that the proposed amendments are with the Office of the Hon. Attorney General and Minister of Justice for presentation to Cabinet for concurrence. He furthered that, if this review goes through parliament and becomes law, the Commission will now have intermediate enforcement powers of its mandate.

Other issues highlighted included the just concluded All Political Parties Women's Association (APPWA) retreat, the Multi-Party Forum, Engagements with Political Parties on emerging National issues, the dialogue lunch hosted by the four Political Parties in Parliament alternately, during which conversations on issues of national Concern are had, to get the leadership of those Parties engaging themselves on such issues. ( this he says will eventually be extended to all Seventeen (17) registered political parties),

Speaking on the challenges faced by the Commission, Mr. Bangura says staff strength and capacity, are serious challenges, as the commission is not present in every district in the country. He assured the High Commissioner that the Commission is working assiduously to overcome some of these challenges by 2022.

In her statement, the High Commission Lisa Chesney MBE, says she is impressed with the work done by the Commission amidst all of these challenges and says she looks forward to working with the Commission in areas within her mandate in Sierra Leone.



For further information, contact the outreach unit on 078201770/+23234117201