

POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION COMMISSION

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The Chairman of the Parties Registration Commission Hon Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson on Tuesday 2nd July 2013 met with members of the District Code Monitoring Committee (DCMC'S) in both western urban and rural area.

Addressing the meeting at the Commission's headquarters in Freetown Hon Justice Tolla Thompson informed the DCMC members that the commission will be embarking on a regional dialogue with DCMC's to chat the way forward as to how the DCMC's will contribute to the furtherance of Democracy in Sierra Leone now that elections is over.

These dialogues he says will look at challenges faced during the 2012 elections and the way forward. Funding for the programme, he says will come from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

He encourages members who are politicians to encourage their parties to be operating as political parties even when elections are over.

On the Political Parties Code of Conduct, Hon Justice Tolla Thompson, says during the constitutional review, efforts will be made to incorporate the document into the Political Parties Act.

Concluding, the chairman expressed dismay over the lack of activities of most political parties after the 2012 elections.

In his statement, Edward B.S. Dumbuya of the National Commission for Democracy (NCD) expressed concerns that during the 2012 elections, Political Parties launched their manifesto very close to the election. Because of this he says the electorates were ignorant of the contents. He advised that during the review process, a time line for the launching of Party's Manifestos should be included in the Political Parties Act. This was supported by Alex B. Kai Kai of the United Democratic Movement (UDM).

Lawrence Quaku Woode of the All Peoples Congress (APC) admonished members and Politicians to be united before, during and after elections. This he says will help in the furtherance of Political Tolerance and Democracy in Sierra Leone.

In another engagement, the former Supreme Court Justice received in audience a cross section of members of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party including Dr. Abass Bundu and Dr Kadie Sesay presenting their dissatisfaction over the conduct of some of the party's district and constituency mini-conventions. The matter has been rescheduled for full discussion on Friday 5th July 2013 at 3:30pm

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