



# POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION COMMISSION

OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Email: [info@pprcsierraleone.org](mailto:info@pprcsierraleone.org)/[pprcsierraleone@yahoo.com](mailto:pprcsierraleone@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.pprcsierraleone.org](http://www.pprcsierraleone.org)



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A Consultant from the Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries (ECF-SADC), Zambian born Ms Priscilla Isaac has met with representatives from nine Political Parties in Sierra Leone.

Welcoming the Consultant, the Chairman of the Political Parties Registration Commission, Hon Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson says the Commission is established to register, supervise, monitor and regulate the affairs and conduct of Political Parties. This he says has been done since the establishment of the Commission. He informed the consultant that it has been a very challenging process but over the years the Commission has been able to carry out its mandate and function.

Speaking at a meeting held at the headquarters of the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC), Madam Isaac says her visit is an International Consultant Research on the Electoral Process in Sierra Leone. She says Sierra Leone was chosen because of the accolades received from local and international observers after the 2012 multi-tier Elections.

She says she will like to know how Political Parties operates in one hand and what were their success and challenges on the otherhand.

Political Parties representatives after one another highlighted the following issues:

- Since the establishment of the PPRC in 2006, the commission has been a blessing in disguise.

- Not happy with the nomination fees prescribed by the National Electoral Commission for the 2012 Elections. This according to most of them was an attempt to deprive smaller parties from participating.
- The management of the electoral process by NEC and the Announcement of results.
- Mediation done by the PPRC between and Among Political Parties
- PPRC Legal Framework and the violation of the Political Parties Act and the Code of Conduct
- Lack of Finances for Training
- The Need for Funding for Political Parties
- Cancellation of votes

In her response, Madam Pricilla says Political Parties must be consulting and communicating with Electoral Management Bodies at all times during the electoral process. This she says is the key to a successful electoral process.

The Meeting was attended by the All Peoples Congress (APC), National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Peoples Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC), United Democratic Party (UDM), Peace and Liberation Party (PLP), Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Citizens Democratic Party (CDP), Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP), and the United National People's Party (UNPP).

**For more Information please contact:  
078201770/ 033777627/079715283**