



POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION COMMISSION

OAU Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Email: info@pprcsierraleone.org/pprcsierraleone@yahoo.com

Website: www.pprcsierraleone.org



PPRC NEWS BRIEF 25/11/13

The Chairman of the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC) Hon Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson on Monday says the Commission is now robust in achieving its mandate as the Commission moves ahead with its Flagship Programme “Political Education”.

The Commission he says will collaborate with Political Parties Representatives in the Constitutional Review Committee to help Political Parties in reviewing their party constitutions.

He congratulated the membership of the All Political Parties Women Association (APPWA) for a peaceful Conduct of the 2013 APPWA Convention in Kenema. He appealed to the APPWA members to emulate the example shown by APPWA in their just concluded Convention.

Meanwhile, the Commission has completed a three days Inter-Party Dialogue for the Ten Registered Political Parties in Sierra Leone.

The dialogue which started in Kenema on Thursday 21st November 2013 was also held in Bo on Friday 22nd November 2013 and in Makeni on Saturday 23rd November 2013 brought together Youth Leaders, Women Leaders, Regional and District Chairmen and Representatives of National Executive of the ten Political Parties.

In his Opening Remarks in Makeni, the Chairman of the Commission Hon Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson says the process is part of the Commission’s Mandate to ensure that Political Parties are accountable to their Membership. He says the process will allow party members to inform their leaders present about their challenges in the region.

In his remarks in Kenema and Bo, Commissioner Alhaji Muctarr B. Williams admonished Participants to be frank and open in their deliberations as the process will allow their National Executive Members to know their challenges in their respective districts or regions. The National Executive members he says will also have the opportunity to be accountable to their Membership.

During the exercise, the following issues were raised:

- Intolerance
- Divide in Political Parties
- Suppression of smaller Political Parties
- Security & Traditional Leaders bias during elections
- Inter/Intra Political Conflict
- Marginalization of Youths
- Corruption and infighting in Political Parties
- Lack of regular meetings
- Violation of Campaign dates & Violence
- Lack of Communication between the National Executives and the District or Regional Executives
- The Lack of Political Education
- Lack of Accountability by the National Executive Members
- The Nomination Fees for Candidates
- Lack of Offices for UNPP and CDP in the regions, and PDP in Kenema

- Lack of payment of dues

In their response to the issues raised by members of Political Parties, representatives of their National Executives of the ten Political Parties assured their members that they will take these issues back to the National Executive for remedy. They also appealed to their member to imbibe the culture of communicating through the appropriate channels.

The meetings were climaxed with Group Work and presentations on the role of political parties in the prevention of conflict between and among political parties, the role of youth in politics, the role of women in politics and how political parties should be accountable to their membership/the electorates and citizens.

In another development, the Commission has also completed its Flagship Programme “Political Education” in Kenema.

The exercise which started in Makeni brought together representatives of the Ten Registered Political Parties in Sierra Leone. The exercise was also done in Bo.

In his statement during the start of the exercise in Makeni, the Chairman of the Commission Hon Justice M.E. Tolla Thompson says this exercise is part of the Commission’s activities to strengthen the capacity of Political Parties. The programme he says is as a result of findings during the 2012 Elections which show that Political Parties were unable to sensitize the electorates about their manifestos. This he said led to people making uninformed choices during the elections as people voted on regional or tribal lines.

In his statement in Kenema, Commissioner C.C.V. Taylor says this exercise is part of the Commission’s post elections activities to bring the National Leaders of Political Parties closer to their

regional and District Executives in a bid to look at challenges faced by these parties.

In his statement in Bo, Commissioner Alhaji Muctarr B. Williams says the exercise is as a result of findings during the 2012 Elections which show that Political Parties were unable to sensitize the electorates about their manifestos.

The meetings were climaxed with Group Work and presentations on Internal Administration of Political Parties, Inter Political relationships among/between political parties, Conduct of Political Parties immediately before and during elections, Conduct of Political Parties in Power Post Elections, Conduct of Political Parties in opposition post elections and how to make good use of the media during elections.

For more Information please contact: 078201770/ 079719283