



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone



ECSL, O.A.U. DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

FORWARD

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) Annual Report 2021, is written pursuant to Section 32 (12) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 (Act No 6 of 1991).

“The Chief Electoral Commissioner shall submit a report on the programme and work of the Commission at least once a year to the President and a copy of such report shall be laid before Parliament”.

The 2021 Annual Report focuses on the achievements in the year and planning processes in readiness for 2023 multi-tier elections within the context of the current trends of best practices in elections. The year in question started with the finalization of Strategic Plan for 2020-2024 Electoral Cycle and administrative restructuring that is built on ten strategic Pillars.

Despite the global and local social restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic the Commission maintained commitment to its mandate and successfully conducted several bye-elections and paramount chieftaincy elections across the country in 2021. In addition, we undertook quite a remarkable transformation within this calendar year in terms of development of communication policy and strategy, review of human resource policies including Standing Orders and improvement in staff motivation.

As part of the staff capacity development program, through the India High Commission in Sierra Leone, the Electoral Commission of India facilitated a 7-man delegation to India to understudy their Result Management infrastructure and related IT system of the EC India. Similarly, the Commission sponsored a peer review and experience sharing trip to the Electoral Commission of Liberia in July 2021

As a new Chairman of the Commission, 2021 witnessed series of engagements with local and international technical partners to reassure the Commission’s commitments to credible and inclusive electoral process and at the same time garner supports for the Strategic Plan. Early in January, the UNDP Resident Rep in a courtesy visit pledged full support and commitment of the Diplomatic Community and this was followed by series of meetings for the Need Assessment Mission.

I was very mindful about election conflicts when I assumed office based on experiences from previous elections. We had already established Elections Conflict Prevention and Mediation Group in 2020 and the initiative has been very effective and productive in all bye elections. Therefore, in the first quarter of 2021, the Commission met with the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) and requested installation at the Commission the Elections Risks Management Tool to facilitate the identification and analysis of risks for mitigation before they materialized.

As part of the planning process for 2023 multi-tier elections, the Commission put priority on legal reform particularly those that has to do with Elections Observation Mission Recommendations and the Public Elections Act (PEA) of 2012. The Commission organized a Task Force to work on the 2018 Elections Observation Recommendation and in August 2021 at a National Consultative Conference, various Stakeholders validated the recommendations. This served as the basis for the consolidation of the legal reform and we are grateful to the European Union for supporting this agenda.

In demonstrating commitment to electoral inclusion, the Commission established the Electoral Inclusion Department with the strategic objective of increasing the participation of women and persons with disability. Consequently, the 2021 saw an increase in the recruitment of young

women and disabled persons in bye-elections; the establishment of working groups for women, disabled persons and first-time voters across the country.

Another strategic achievement in 2021 is the establishment of the National Elections Sustainability Trust (NEST) fund by the Government of Sierra Leone. Government and ECSL have put a framework for accessing the Fund which is now very active and operational. This Basket Fund was originally intended for partners to contribute, however, only the Government of Sierra Leone is at present committing resources into the NEST.

As we move on to the implementation year of 2022 in preparation for 2023 elections, we will continue building our capacity and strengthen infrastructural assets. We will take advantage of the technological space to increase our competence in managing electoral processes for maximum quality within minimum time frame. The support from colleague Commissioners is enormous and my main source of strength in achieving this is from the entire staff who are ready and prepared at all times.

I am therefore confident that with the support of government and people of the Republic of Sierra Leone, multilateral partners, ECSL will continue to build on its credential of conducting free, fair and credible elections in Sierra Leone including the June, 2023 Multi-tier Elections.



Mohamed Kenewui Korbeh
Chief Electoral Commissioner & Chairman

Executive Summary

The Commission in the year 2021 continued to perform its mandate by conducting elections that were Free, Fair and Credible with the results acceptable by the stakeholders.

The ECSL continued to implement its strategic plan 2020 to 2024 with the theme *“Strengthening Electoral Processes for Maximum Performance.”*

It was also the year in which the Commission continued its transformation with the appointment of the Electoral Commissioner with oversight for the Western Region.

The Government of Sierra Leone continued to sustain the funding requirements of the Commission in 2021 by providing budgetary support for salaries and allowances, recurrent costs, electoral programmes and infrastructural projects.

This report highlights the mandate and structure of the Commission within the legal framework, Election Observation Mission Reports and also provides details about the key electoral programmes implemented in 2021.

In 2021, the Commission conducted the following elections:

1. Parliamentary Bye election in Constituency 010- Kailahun
2. District Chairperson bye election in Koinadugu
3. Councillor bye elections in Ward 012 in Kailahun, Ward 405 in Freetown Western Urban, Ward 192 in Kambia, Ward 350 in Pujehun, Ward 155 in Koinadugu, Ward 069 in Kenema and Ward 091 in Kono districts
4. Paramount Chieftaincy elections:-

NO	ELECTION TYPE	DISTRICT	ELECTORAL AREA
1	Paramount Chieftaincy	Kambia	Braimaia, Gbinle, Tonko Limba
2	Paramount Chieftaincy	Tonkolili,	Yele, Fulawusu, Sambaia, Bendugu
3	Paramount Chieftaincy	Moyamba	Fakunya
4	Paramount Chieftaincy	Karene	Tambakha Yonbangia
5	Paramount Chieftaincy	Koinadugu	Tamiso, Wara Wara Bafodia, Kamukeh
6	Paramount Chieftaincy	Falaba	Sulima Falaba, Dembelia Musaia, Barawa Wollay
7	Paramount Chieftaincy	Bo	Jaiama. Lugbu
8	Paramount Chieftaincy	Pujehun	Kpanga

In 2021, the European Union (EU) continued providing support to the electoral cycle through the project titled “Support to the Governance Sector in Sierra Leone”.

During the period under review the government of Sierra Leone allocated the sum of Le **52,317,765,869.00 (Fifty Two Billion, Three Hundred and Seventeen Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Nine Leones)** for Administrative, Operational and Infrastructural Programs.

The Commission continued to invest in capacity building programmes for Commissioners and staff members both at the national and international levels.

In 2021, the Commission maintained a work force comprising four (4) Electoral Commissioners and one hundred and ninety nine (199) staff members.


.....
William Addo Davies
Executive Secretary



Mission Statement

The Mission of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) is to conduct all public elections and referenda, register all eligible voters, demarcate constituency boundaries and make regulations for the efficient execution of its functions in promoting sustainable Democracy and Good Governance.

Vision Statement

The Vision of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) is that of an independent, credible and well-resourced institution which promotes democracy and good governance by continually administering elections that meet international standards and best practices.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Commission shall endeavour to uphold the following overarching principles:

1.0 ACCOUNTABILITY

The Commission shall take full responsibility for its activities and will always be answerable to the people of Sierra Leone and its partners.

2.0 CREDIBILITY

The Commission shall endeavour to win the confidence and trust of all Sierra Leoneans and the international community through the quality of its services.

3.0 INDEPENDENCE

In all electoral matters, the Commission shall ensure that it operates freely on its own best judgment, without taking directives from or being controlled by any person or authority.

4.0 INTEGRITY

The Commission shall carry out its activities in an honest and truthful manner, and will take all reasonable measures to prevent wilful wrongdoings by its officials.

5.0 IMPARTIALITY

The Commission shall always be nonpartisan and fair in all its activities.

6.0 PROFESSIONALISM AND DEDICATION

The Commission shall endeavour to have a well-trained, professionally competent, motivated and confident staff, dedicated to the delivery of trustworthy elections.

7.0 TRANSPARENCY

The Commission shall be open at all times in dealing with all stakeholders in the electoral process.

ACRONYMS	
ACC	Anti-Corruption Commission
ADEO	Assistant District Electoral Officer
AEO	Assistant Electoral Officer
ADP	Alliance Democratic Party
APC	All Peoples Congress
APPYA	All Political Parties Youth Association
BD	Boundary Delimitation
BDMC	Boundary Delimitation Monitoring Committee
BDTC	Boundary Delimitation Technical Committee
BOC	Board of Commissioners
BRIDGE	Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections
ASSL	Audit Service Sierra Leone
CEC	Chief Electoral Commissioner
CRC	Constitutional Review Committee
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTA	Chief Technical Adviser
DEO	District Electoral Officer
DISEC	District Security Committee
EBF	Electoral Basket Fund (EBF)
ECSL	Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone
ECONEC	ECOWAS Network of Electoral Commissions
ES	Executive Secretary
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning
EU	European Union
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GoSL	Government of Sierra Leone
GPS	Global Positioning System
HQ	Headquarters
HRMIS	Human Resource Management Information Systems
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management Information Systems
IMC	Integrity Management Committee
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INEACE	Institute of Electoral Administration and Civic Education

IRN	Independent Radio Network
IT	Information Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
LAR&D	Legal Affairs, Research and Documentation
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MTF	Material Transfer Form
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASSIT	National Social Security and Insurance Trust
NACS	National Anti-Corruption Strategy
NEC	National Electoral Commission
NERC	National Ebola Response Centre
NEW	National Elections Watch
NRS	National Registration Secretariat
NSCCG	National Security Committee Coordinating Group
ONS	Office of National Security
OSIWA	Open Society Initiative for West Africa
PC	Paramount Chief
PCE	Paramount Chief Election
PEA	Public Elections Act
PMDC	Peoples Movement for Democratic Change
PPLC	Political Parties Liaison Committee
PROSEC	Provincial Security Committee
SLP	Sierra Leone Police
SLPP	Sierra Leone Peoples Party
SOB	Standing Orders 'B'
SSL	Statistics Sierra Leone
UDM	United Democratic Movement
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USL	University of Sierra Leone
UNIMAK	University of Makeni
VETO	Voter Education and Training Officer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE

OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SIERRA LEONE

1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Structure of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone.....	2
2.1 The Members of the Electoral Commission.....	4
1.2.2 End of Tenure.....	5
1.1.1 The Secretariat.....	7

CHAPTER TWO

MILESTONES/ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

2.1 Infrastructural Development.....	9
2.2 Capacity Building Programmes.....	9
2.3 Election Management.....	11
2.4 Technical Assistance/Support.....	14
2.5 Electoral Education and Inclusion.....	15
2.6 Elections Peace and Conflict Prevention and Mediation Group (ECPMG).....	16
2.7 Stakeholders Engagement.....	17
2.8 Monitoring of Elections.....	18
2.9 Online Accreditation for Election Observation.....	18
2.10 Stakeholders Engagements on the Election Observation Mission Recommendations.....	19
2.11 Election Security.....	19
2.12 Legal Reform.....	20
2.13 Financial Management.....	22
2.14 Staff Welfare Issues.....	22
2.15 National Youth Service Corps.....	23

Chapter Three

Elections conducted in 2021 and Gender in Elections.....	25
--	----

Chapter Four

Engagement by the Chief Electoral Commissioner/Chairman of the ECSL.....	34
Challenges and the way forward.....	42
Recommendations.....	42

Annexes

Management Team.....	43
International Travels – 2021.....	44
Organizational Chart for the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone.....	46
Addresses of the ECSL offices Nationwide.....	47

CHAPTER ONE

OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SIERRA LEONE.

1.1: Introduction

The Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) is an independent body set up by an Act of Parliament to serve as the electoral authority with the constitutional mandate, under Section 33 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991, (Act No. 6 of 1991); Section 7(1) of the Public Elections Act (PEA), 2012 (Act No. 4 of 2012) and Section 28 of the Paramount Chieftaincy Act 2009; to:

- Conduct all public elections and referenda;
- Register eligible voters for all public elections and referenda i.e. prepare, maintain and regularly revise the Register of Voters;
- Demarcate electoral boundaries i.e. delimit constituency and ward boundaries in accordance with the Constitution and any other enactment;
- Facilitate the observation, monitoring and evaluation of elections;
- Conduct electoral education and promote knowledge of sound democratic election processes;
- Make regulations and codes of conduct for the efficient performance of its functions;
- Regulate the process for nomination of candidates for elections;
- Carry out such other functions as may be provided for by the Constitution or any other enactment.

The ECSL is charged with the responsibility of conducting all elections including:

a. Public Elections

- Presidential;
- Parliamentary;
- Local Councils:
 - √ District Council Chairpersons;
 - √ City / Municipal Council Mayors;
 - √ Local Ward Councillors.

b. Other Elections

- Paramount Chieftaincy;
- Paramount Chief Members of Parliament;
- Village Heads.

c. Referenda

The independence of the Commission in the performance of its functions is guaranteed in Section 32(11) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 (Act No. 6 of 1991), and in the Public Elections Act 2012, (Act No. 4 of 2012) which states that:

Section 32(11) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 (Act No. 6 of 1991) “In the exercise of any functions vested in it by this Constitution, the Electoral Commission shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person or authority” and also section 3 of the Public Elections Act 2012 as follows:
“Public Elections Act, 2012 (Act No. 4 of 2012) Section 3. By virtue of subsection (11) of section 32 of the Constitution, the Commission is an independent body.”

1.2: Structure of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone

The structure of the Commission includes:

- *The Members of the Electoral Commission*
- *The Secretariat*
- The Administration

1.2.1: The Members of the Electoral Commission

The structure of ECSL as outlined in Section 32 of the 1991 Constitution shall comprise: Members of the Commission consisting of five members, headed by the Chief Electoral Commissioner who shall be Chairperson and four (4) Electoral Commissioners.

The Commissioners including the Chairman are nominated by His Excellency the President, in consultation with the leaders of all registered political parties and approved by Parliament.

They perform oversight responsibilities for respective functions of various departments under the supervision of the Executive Secretary.

In 2021, the Commission had 15 departments and an office of the Executive Secretary. Policies governing the operations of the Commission are set by the Members of the Commission.

The Commission is a corporate body having perpetual succession and is capable of; suing and being sued in its corporate name and acquiring, holding and disposing of movable and immovable property, performing all such acts as corporate bodies may by law perform. (Part II, subsection 3 (a, b and c, PEA, 2012)

The Chief Electoral Commissioner & Chairman is the head of policy and spokesperson of the Commission. The four other Electoral Commissioners are tasked with oversight responsibilities of certain specific departments and regions (i.e. East, North, North-West, South, and West).

The tenure of office for all Commissioners is five (5) years and their terms and conditions of service are prescribed by Parliament.

The Commission is the oversight and policy-making body responsible for the overall supervision and control of the electoral processes. It is responsible for the preparation, organization and adoption of all necessary measures to ensure the conduct of credible and acceptable elections.

The following table presents details of the Commissioners as at end of December 2021.

Table 1.1: Commissioners and their Oversight Responsibilities

S/N	Name	Designation	Oversight Responsibilities	Regional Responsibilities
1	Mohamed K. Konneh	Chief Electoral Commissioner & Chairperson	Ethics Unit, Finance, ICT, Data Management and Voters Roll, Internal Audit and Legal Affairs	National
2	Marian Sia Nyuma-Mojjueh	Electoral Commissioner	Human Resource, Training & Procedures, Electoral Inclusion and Administration	Eastern Region
3	Edmond Sylvester Alpha	Electoral Commissioner	Operations, Procurement & Logistics and External Relations	Southern Region
4	Zainab Umu Moseray	Electoral Commissioner	Research, Monitoring & Evaluation, Electoral Education and Media & Communications	Western Region
5	Vacant	Electoral Commissioner		North/North-West Region

The Members of the Commission



**Mr. Mohamed Kenewui Konneh
Chief Electoral Commissioner &
Chairman**



**Mrs. Marian Sia Nyuma-Mojjueh
Commissioner Eastern Region**



**Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha
Commissioner Southern Region**



**Mrs. Zainab Umu Morseray
Commissioner Western Area**

1.2.2: End of Tenure

In accordance with section 32 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone (Act No 6 of 1991) sub section (7) subject to the provisions of this section, a member of the Electoral Commission shall vacate his office—

- a) at the expiration of five years from the date of his appointment; or
- b) on attaining the age of sixty-five years; or
- c) if any circumstances arise which, if he were not a member of the Commission, would cause him to be disqualified for appointment as such.

Commissioner Miatta Lily French, Commissioner in Charge of the Western Region assumed duty on the 24th of May 2016, ended her five years tenure of office on the 24th of May 2021.

Appointment of Electoral Commissioner Western Region

On Thursday 28th October 2021 Parliament of Sierra Leone approved Mrs. Zainab Umu Moseray as Electoral Commissioner for the Western Region.

According to the Constitution of Sierra Leone the new Commissioner "... shall before assuming the functions of his office take and subscribe before the President the oath as set out in the Third Schedule to this Constitution". The newly appointed ECSL Commissioner for the Western Region subscribed to the Oath of Office before Sierra Leone's President Julius Maada Bio on Tuesday 16th November 2021.

Madam Moseray thanked God for sparing her life to serve her country Sierra Leone, saying that she appreciated her appointment by the President to hold such a prestigious office as the Western Region Commissioner for the ECSL.

"It is indeed an honour to serve in this capacity. I will not take it lightly. With the help of God, I promise to dispense my duties with dignity and excellence, guided by the fear of God and love for my country. Thank you and God bless Sierra Leone," she concluded.

In a brief statement, His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio

congratulated Mrs. Moseray on her approval by Parliament as the EC-SL Commissioner for Western Region, saying that the task ahead was enormous.

He further assured that his government would continue to support the activities of the ECSL in the exercise of its duties to the nation.

The president concluded by reiterating that: “ the ECSL as an institution doing a great job for our democracy to survive.” He congratulated her and wished her the best in her tenure of office.



Electoral Commissioner for the Western Region subscribing to the oath of office before His Excellency President Dr Julius Maada Bio on Tuesday 16th November 2021



Western Area Regional Commissioner Zainab Umu Moseray signing the Oath of Office before H.E. the President Dr. Julius Maada Bio

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

1.1.1 The Secretariat

The Secretariat constitutes the administrative offices that run the daily affairs and supervises the directorates of the ECSL.

The Commission is located at the following places:

1. The National Headquarters at Tower Hill in Freetown.
2. The National Warehouse and Data Centre at Wellington, in Freetown.
3. Sixteen district offices, one in each district. and
4. Sub district offices in Bonthe Island and Gbinti in the Karene district

Section 9 of the Public Elections Act, 2012, makes provision for the appointment of an Executive Secretary, employment of permanent staff members and ad hoc staff for the implementation of the various activities of the Commission.

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible to the Commission for the following:

- a) Day-to-day administration of the affairs of the Commission;
- b) Recording and keeping of minutes of meetings of the Commission; and
- c) Supervision and discipline of the staff of the Commission.

The Fifteen (15) departments are headed by Directors. The Directors are supported by Assistant Directors, Senior Electoral Officers, Election Officers Assistant Electoral Officers, Administrative Assistants, Drivers and Office Assistants.

The Department of Operations has a Field Coordination Unit that supervises activities of the district offices in each of the sixteen (16) electoral districts.

The Field Coordination unit is headed by Assistant Directors for the Eastern, Northern, North-Western, Southern and Western regions in Sierra Leone.

Each district office is headed by a District Election Manager and supported by Assistant District Election Manager, Voter Education and Training Officer, Administrative/Office Assistant and Driver.

CHAPTER TWO

MILESTONES/ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

2.1: Infrastructural Development

The Commission is currently constructing Regional Offices in Bo and Kenema and has a permanent office for the Northern Region in Makeni City. In addition, the Commission has acquired land for the construction of District offices in the 13 electoral districts.

Self-ownership of office building will further consolidate the independence of the Commission.

2.2: Capacity Building Programmes

The Commission benefited from Peer Review visits to the Electoral Commissions of Liberia in 2021. Both EMBs engaged in information and experience sharing on issues of mutual interest and benefit.

A good number of staff also participated in International Election Observation Missions in Africa, Europe and South America. The information, experience and lessons learnt in these missions contributed immensely in capacitating staff professionalism for the conduct of credible elections.



Staff of the ICT and Data Management and Voters roll benefitted from a two-week Study Tour to India in September 2021 courtesy of the India High Commission to Sierra Leone. The objective of the study tour was a learning and experience sharing in a bid to provide staff with the requisite skills and knowledge in their fields of operation.



ECSL Team that benefitted from the Study Tour of India

- With support from the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), the Commission and other stakeholders benefitted from a number of trainings and workshops on Election Risk Management tool and Mapping conducted in September and October 2021. The participants were drawn from all key stakeholders including EMBs, Political Parties, Civil Society Organizations and the Security Sector.

The ERM Tool and Mapping was conducted in two phases: Phase One was a Virtual Training for staff of the Commission conducted in October 2021 at the Commissions headquarters at Tower Hill in Freetown. Phase Two was facilitated in a two-day Workshop in December 2021 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Free town.



Virtual Training of ECSL Staff on Election Risk management Tool by IDEA-Int.

The outcome was mapping potential election risks and hot spots in order to mitigate and or address such risks.

A similar training workshop was also organized by IDEA Int. on mapping Electoral Risks for Voter Registration.

In a similar vein, a National Stakeholders Dialogue on Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) was also conducted in December 2021.

2.3: **Elections Management**

The Commission for the period under review conducted 9 Bye- Elections across the country. The elections were widely peaceful save for isolated incidences of violence. On the whole they were widely acclaimed by both Domestic and International Observers as credible and acceptable to stakeholders.

Below is a list of the Bye- Elections conducted in 2021

No	Election Type (Parliamentary)	District	Date
1	Constituency 010	Kailahun	27 th February 2021

No	Election Type Local Council	District	Date
1	Ward 012	Kailahun	27 th February 2021
2	Ward 405	Freetown	17 th April 2021
3	Ward 192	Kambia	6 th March 2021
4	Ward 350	Pujehun	26 th June 2021
5	District Chairperson	Koinadugu	2 nd October 2021
6	Ward 155	Koinadugu	2 nd October 2021
7	Ward 069	Kenema	13 th November 2021
8	Ward 091	Kono	13 th November 2021

The Commission collaborated with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development in the conduct of Paramount Chieftaincy elections across the country. The Paramount Chieftaincy Election is conducted in a two-Round System using the First-Past - the Post Electoral System where a run off is held in the event no candidate polls 55 percent of valid votes cast in the first round. The following stages are involved in the conduct of Paramount Chieftaincy elections:

- Revision of Councilors List;
- the Declaration of Rights;
- Polling and counting;
- Declaration of Results and winner; and,
- Installation/Inauguration of the elected Paramount Chief by His Excellency the President of Sierra Leone.

No	Chieftdom	District	Date	Winner
1	Braimaia	Kambia	12 th January 2021	Dumbuya Foday Sulaiman
2	Gbinle	Kambia	23 rd February 2021	Sankoh Yilla Alhaji Alusine
3	Tonko Limba	Kambia	8 th June 2021	Bangura Momoh
4	Yele	Tonkolili	30 th May 2021	Sesay John Bashiru
5	Fulawusu	Tonkolili	6 th June 2021	Koroma Patrick
6	Sambaia Bendugu	Tonkolili	3 rd June 2021	Jalloh Musa Bamba Foray
7	Fakunya	Moyamba	1 st May 2021	Bengeh Samuel Hindoveh
8	Tambakha Yonbangia	Karene	4 th June 2021	Kamara Abubakarr
9	Tamiso	Koinadugu	16 th January 2021	Mansaray Alimamy Sheku Sieh
10	Wara Wara Bafodia	Koinadugu	28 th May 2021	Mansaray Chernor Salifu Kaday
11	Kamukeh	Koinadugu	14 th June 2021	Kamara Alpha Umaru
12	Sulima	Falaba	8 th June 2021	Samura Salito Salifu (Dr.)
13	Dembelia Musaia	Falaba	10 th June 2021	Jawara Sorie F. (Konko)
14	Barawa Wollay	Falaba	12 th June 2021	Marah Bockarie
15	Lugbu	Bo	28 th August 2021	Nallo Ensa Badara
16	Kpanga	Pujehun	18 th October 2021	Kaikai Andrew Ibrahim Jaiah
17	Jaiama	Bo	25 th August 2021	Karteh Foday Bassie

2.4: Technical Assistance/Support

The Commission also provided technical assistance to requesting Institutions for the conduct of elections. It is worthy to mention that such assistance was only limited to the provision of electoral materials and operational support for the conduct of those elections.

Institution	Type of Assistance	Outcome	Date
Clearing and Forwarding Agency	Technical	Successful (Constitutional Knockout)	28 th November 2020
DJ Union	Technical	Successful (unopposed)	19 th December 2020
Timba Association	Technical	Successful	24 th February 2021
Sierra Leone Football Association (SLAFA)	Technical	Successful	5 th June 2021
EBK Student Union - Magburaka Campus	Technical	Successful	3 rd April 2021
COHMAS-SRC Election	Material	Material Assistance	7 th April 2021
Kailahun District Council (Election of Deputy Chair)	Technical	Successful	24 th March 2021
Student Union -FBC	Technical	Successful	9 th June 2021
SLPP Lower Delegate Elections conducted by PPRC	Observation	Successful	21 st June 2021
Sierra Leone Association for the Blind (SLAB)	Technical	Successful	27 th August 2021
Agricultural Business Centre (ABC)- Tonkolili	Technical	Successful	23 rd September 2021
Police wife-Mammy Queen election -Tonkolili	Technical	Successful	3 rd July 2021

The actual conduct of elections was the prerogative and responsibility of the requesting institutions.

2.5: Electoral Education and Inclusion

Electoral Education is an important function of ECSL. The Commission engaged with stakeholders in the following activities for the period under review:

- Face -Face electoral education with voters in the conduct of Bye-Elections;
- Recruited Town Criers and rolled out an Electoral Education Plan particularly for vulnerable persons;
- Formed School Electoral Education Focus Groups at district headquarter towns for the promotion of electoral education particularly for first-time voters at grass root levels;
- Resuscitated the Ward Electoral Education Committees (WEECs) at district level to help complement electoral education at grass root levels;
- Drafted an Electoral Education Manual to be used as a guide for all Electoral Education activities and updated a Manual for First time voters; and
- Developed and launched the ECSL Signature Tune.



Female Town Crier carrying out Electoral Education exercise

2.5: Electoral Inclusion

The commission, as a way of responding to the current trends of genders, youths and physically challenged persons has created the Electoral Inclusion Department. This department, with support from the European Union (EU), has organized several training for the aforementioned groups and also established external coordinating groups for the physically challenged men and women. The essence of these groups is to improve on the participation of the minority groups in the electoral process.



Inaugural Meeting of the Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone’s Disability Stakeholders Coordination Group.

2.6: Elections Peace and Conflict Prevention and Mediation Group (ECPMG)

In responding to elections violence, the Commission has signed a memorandum of understanding with 3 prominent Civil Society Organizations: Inter Religious Groups, Eminent Women and CHRDI to engage with stakeholders including political parties to understand their challenges and to mediate potential and or existing conflict’s.

This group attracted attention from both Local and International partners and proved to be very effective in all the bye elections conducted.



Members of the ECPMG after a meeting with Candidates and Community Stakeholders before a bye election

2.7: Stakeholders Engagement

The Commission for the period under review continued its engagement with its stakeholders on issues bordering all electoral processes. The Commission continued to hold Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC) meetings on a fortnightly basis. Participants are drawn from the leadership of the 17 registered Political Parties in Sierra Leone, Election Management Bodies, Civil Society Organizations, and the Security Sector.

The objective of this meeting is to engage, discuss and update stakeholders on the conduct of electoral activities Before, During and After Elections.



Political Parties Liaison Committee Meeting at the ECSL Conference Room Meeting

2.8: Monitoring of Elections

The Commission for the period under review provided access to stakeholders to observe the electoral process. Political Parties, Civil Society Organizations and other Domestic and International Observer groups were accredited to observe all bye- elections conducted.

This was aimed at enhancing Transparency and Accountability of the electoral process which had helped to boost the trust and confidence of stakeholders in the operations of the Commission.



Monitoring of Bye-elections

2.9: Online Accreditation for Election Observation

The Commission introduced an online accreditation process and established a link for the accreditation of Political Parties/Candidates Agents and Observers, Civil Society Organization and media institutions that observed the electoral process.

The link: accreditation.nec.gov.sl helped to facilitate online accreditation for election observation during the conduct of bye elections. This initiative eased the challenges associated with documentary accreditation.

The process enhanced Transparency, Accountability and increased stakeholders' participation in the conduct of elections. The Commission intend to use this system of accreditation for all observers and Political Party Agents.

2.10: Stakeholders engagements on the Election Observation Mission Recommendations

In 2021, the Commission engaged Political Parties, Civil Society Organizations and other relevant stakeholders on the recommendations made by both Domestic and International Observer Missions during the 2018 general elections.

The aim of these recommendations was to review systems and Procedures in a bid to conduct credible elections in future. These consultations led to the development of six thematic issues namely:

1. Electoral Legal Reform and Processes;
2. Electoral and Political Processes;
3. Election Security;
4. Electoral Offences and Petitions;
5. The Role of Media in elections; and
6. Electoral funding.

Each theme(s) was assigned to a lead institution(s) for implementation.

2.11: Election Security

The Commission continued its collaboration with the security sector in addressing election security matters in forums like District Security Committee Meeting (DISEC), Provincial Security Committee Meeting (PROSEC) and the National Security Council Coordinating Group Meeting (NSCGG) at regular intervals.

The Sierra Leone Police (SLP) provided the requisite security at the precincts of Polling Centres during the conduct of elections.

This had enhanced the conduct of Free, Fair, Transparent and Peaceful elections.



SLP Officer taking part in the Political Party Liaison Committee Meeting

2.12: Legal Reforms

The Commission in collaboration with Stakeholders and other relevant Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs) facilitated Legal Reforms that were recommended by the EOMs. The Legal Reforms were aimed at reviewing electoral management policies, Result Management, communications and other areas including improving its approach to gender issues and its policies concerning persons with Disabilities. Some of the Reforms have been approved by the GOSL and released in a White Paper whilst others are ongoing.

Key amongst the recommendations considered for the reforms were:

- Fixed date for Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Council elections.
- Establishment of a National Sustainability and Trust (NEST) Fund.
- Reduce the Nomination Fees for candidates and Nomination Fees Formula for all public elections.
- Relationship between NCRA and ECSL on the voter registration process.

- Reduce the Resignation period of public officers and the civil servants wishing to contest public elections from 12 months to 6 months.
- Provision of Reserved Seat for Women in Parliament.
- Reduce the Boundary Delimitation Deviation Range from #25 to #20
- Provision of a permanent Fast Track Elections and Offences Court.

These reforms will improve on the integrity, accuracy and transparency and inclusiveness of elections in Sierra Leone.



Legal Reforms Conference at the New Brookfields Hotel in December 2021



Members of the Discussion Panel at the Legal Reforms Conference

2.13: Financial Management

During the period under review the government of Sierra Leone allocated the sum of Le 52,317,765,869.00 (Fifty Two Billion, Three Hundred and Seventeen Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Nine Leones) for Administrative and Operational Programs.

In fulfillment of its promise to implement the Election Observation Mission Recommendation on the creation of “National Election Sustainable Trust (NEST) Fund”. The government of Sierra Leone in 2021 established the NEST Fund. This fund will be utilized by the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone, the Political Parties Registration Commission and the Security Sector for the electoral cycle 2020-2024.

2.14: Staff Welfare Issues

The Commission in fulfillment of its obligations to seeking the welfare of staff endorsed the establishment of the Electoral Staff Association (ECSA).

The staff association established in December 2020 was officially launched in December 2021 and has been very effective in promoting issues bordering the welfare of its members.



Launching of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone Staff Association 17th December 2021 at the New Brookfields Hotel in Freetown.

2.15: National Youth Service Corps

The Commission continues to admit University students for internships and are posted to the various departments with the aim to acquire firsthand knowledge and or experience in the Commissions operations relating to their disciplines.

In a similar vein, the Commission has been complimenting Governments initiative since 2016 to admitting the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) on short assignments usually not exceeding one year.

The Sierra Leone Parliament enacted the National Youth Service (N.Y.S.) Act and gazette volume No 17 dated 17th March 2016. The National Youth Service was launched in December 2016. This is a National programme that is designed to promote youth participation in governance.

The first batch of 200 National Youth graduates corps were inaugurated by the Vice President Dr. Juldeh Jalloh on Thursday 20th September 2018 at the Peace Keeping Military Center at Rogbangba, Hastings Village in the Western Area Rural District.

Supervised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs, the National Youth Service is a national programme that promotes youth participation in governance. It is also meant to provide newly qualified graduates with opportunities' to obtain practical job experience in the public and private sector of the sierra Leonean Economy.

The Commission admitted for the period under review 15 graduates (5 females and 10 males).



Orientation of Members of the National Youth Service Corps



Director of Human Resource and Capacity Building addressing the National Youth Service Corps at the Orientation Ceremony

CHAPTER THREE

Elections Conducted in 2021

By the powers vested in it under sections 33 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 (Act No. 6 of 1991, and pursuant to the provisions of sections 39(1) of the said Constitution; sections 69(1) and 70(1) of the Public Elections Act, 2012 (Act No 4 of 2012); Sections 9 and 10(1) of the Local Government Act, 2004 (Act No 1 of 2004), the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone conducted Local Council Ward bye-elections, Constituency bye-elections and Chieftaincy elections.

BYE ELECTIONS CONDUCTED IN 2021						
Type of Election	Place of Election	Date of Nomination	Persons Nominated	Political Party/Ruling House	Date of Election	Winner
Parliamentary Bye Election	Kailahun Const. 010	1st - 2nd Feb 2021	Allieu, John	A P C	27th Feb 2021	Braima, Zainab Kama
			Hengela, Ibrahim Sylvester Jusu	INDEPENDENT		
			Braima, Zainab Kama	S L P P		
Local Council Bye Election	Kailahun Ward 012	1st - 2nd Feb 2021	Comber, Sam Momoh	A P C	27th Feb 2021	Lansana, Mamie
			Lansana, Mamie	S L P P		
Local Council Bye Election	Ward - 405 - Freetown	16th - 17th March 2021	Gbow, Prince Farmar	SLPP	17th April 2021	Kamara, Lamin
			Kamara, Lamin	APC		
Local Council Bye Election	Ward 192 - Kambia	8th - 9th Feb 2021	Kamara, Abu Saine	APC	6th March 2021	Kamara, Mohamed Turaya
			Kamara, Francis Ibrahim	NGC		
			Kamara, Mohamed Turaya	SLPP		

Local Council Bye Election	Ward 350 - Pujehun	26th - 27th May 2021	Sheriff, Lamin	APC	26th June 2021	Kamara, Mohamed Junior
			Kamara, Mohamed Junior	SLPP		
Local Council Bye Election	District Chairperson	28th - 29th August 2021	Koroma Alhaji Sheku	SLPP	2nd October 2021	Kargbo, Lawrence Teteh
			Kargbo, Lawrence Teteh	APC		
	Ward – 155		Thoronka Kalie	SLPP		Thoronka Kalie
			Koroma, Saio Mamudu	APC		
Local Council Bye Election	Ward – 069	12th - 13th October 2021	Kassoh, Anita Sarah	SLPP	13th November 2021	Kassoh, Anita Sarah
			Samu, Alex Brima	RUFPP		
			Yajoh, Hassan	APC		
	Ward – 091		Sogbeh, Tamba	APC		Mondeh, Kai Sama
			Mondeh, Kai Sama	SLPP		
			Issa, Sahr	Independent		
			Kambo, Sahr	RUFPP		
			Komba, Tamba	C4C		

The Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Department conducted paramount chieftaincy elections as outlined in the table below:

PARAMOUNT CHIEFTAINCY ELECTIONS						
	Type of Election	Place of Election	Persons Nominated		Date of Election	Winner
1	Paramount Chieftaincy	Braimaia - Kambia	Dumbuya, Amara		12th Jan 2021	Dumbuya, Foday Sulaiman
			Dumbuya, Ibrahim Sorie I			
			Dumbuya, Ibrahim Sorie II			
			Dumbuya, Osman			
			Dumbuya, Alhaji Abubakar			
			Dumbuya, Foday Sulaiman			
			Dumbuya, Ibrahim Sadu			
2	Paramount Chieftaincy	Gbinle - Kambia	Sankoh, Abubakar		23rd Feb 2021	Sankoh, Yilla Alhaji Alusine
			Sankoh, Abubakar I			
			Sankoh, Abubakar II			
			Sankoh, Yilla Alhaji Alusine			
3	Paramount Chieftaincy	Tonko Limba - Kambia	Bangura, Alhaji F. Kandeh		8th June 2021	Bangura, Momoh
			Bangura, Alhaji Lailah			
			Bangura, Augustine Abubakarr			
			Bangura, Ibrahim A.			
			Bangura, Lansana			
			Bangura, Momoh			
			Bangura, Yusuf Bombolai			
			Kamara, Abdulai Kandeh			
			Kamara Idrissa Alimamy			

4	Paramount Chieftaincy	Yele - Tonkolili	Sesay, Edward	30th May 2021	Sesay John Bashiru
			Sesay, Henry N. Y		
			Sesay, Ibrahim		
			Sesay John Bashiru		
5	Paramount Chieftaincy	Fulawusu - Tonkolili	Koroma, Yaya Daniel	6th June 2021	Koroma, Patrick
			Koroma, David Banaka		
			Koroma, Patrick		
			Koroma, Rashid Sheriff		
6	Paramount Chieftaincy	Sambaia Bendugu - Tonkolili	Jalloh, Alusine Dorkondeh	3rd June 2021	Jalloh, Musa Bamba Foray
			Jalloh, Faboi Kelfa Demba		
			Jalloh, Gibrilla Balla		
			Jalloh, Memuna Kulio Mohamed		
			Jalloh, Mobbi Kulio Kabba		
			Jalloh, Mohamed Sesay Ferah		
			Jalloh, Mohamed Saio		
			Jalloh, Musa Bamba Foray		
			Jalloh, Osman		
Jalloh Sama Kulio					
7	Paramount Chieftaincy	Fakunya - Moyamba	Bengeh, Kasineh Moses	1st June 2021	Bengeh, Samuel Hindoveh
			Bengeh, Samuel Hindoveh		
			Ngakui, Janet Mamie		
			Woodie, Francis Nathan Kpanda		

8	Paramount Chieftaincy	Tambakha Yonbangie - Karene	Kamara, Abu Bakarr	4th June 2021	Kamara, Abu Bakarr
			Kamara, Alhaji Mohamed F		
			Kamara, Ibrahim Sorie		
			Kamara, Mohamed		
			Kamara, Muctarr Sheriff		
			Kamara, Soriba		
9	Paramount Chieftaincy	Tamiso - Koinadugu	Mansaray, Alimamy Sheku Sieh	16th Jan 2021	Mansaray, Alimamy Sheku Sieh
			Mansaray, Francis Musa		
			Mansaray, John Samba		
			Mansaray, Mohamed Lamin		
10	Paramount Chieftaincy	Wara Wara Bafodia - Koinadugu	Mansaray, Akhmed Femi	28th May 2021	Mansaray, Chernor Salifu Kaday
			Mansaray, Chernor Salifu Kaday		
			Mansaray, Hamidu Paul		
			Mansaray, Joseph Salifu		
			Mansaray, Salifu Michael		
11	Paramount Chieftaincy	Kamukeh - Koinadugu	Kamara, Alpha Umaru	14th June 2021	Kamara, Alpha Umaru
			Kamara, Foday		
			Kamara, Momodu (Gallant)		
			Kamara, Jane Michael Siaka		
			Samura, Alpha Mohamed		

12	Paramount Chieftaincy	Sulima - Falaba	Samura, Bockarie M.		8th June 2021	Samura, Salito Salifu (Dr)
			Samura, Fasineh Hassan			
			Samura, Fasineh Warden			
			Samura, Ibrahim Sorie Koba			
			Samura, Salifu Hassan			
			Samura, Salifu Solima			
			Samura, Salito Salifu (Dr)			
			Samura, (Doctor) Sana			
			Samura, Sani Salifu			
			Samura, Sheku (Capt)			
			Samura, Sheku H.			
			Samura, Sorie Bombay			
			Samura, Sorie Ibrahim			
			Samura, Unisa Sowa			
13	Paramount Chieftaincy	Dembelia Musaia - Falaba	Jawara, Alhaji Sorie		10th June 2021	Jawara, Sorie F. (Konko)
			Jawara, Amadu			
			Jawara, Francis Sorie			
			Jawara, Musa Bella			
			Jawara, Sorie F. (Konko)			
			Jawara, Sorie S. (Sky)			
14	Paramount Chieftaincy	Barawa Wollay - Falaba	Marah, Lai Sheku		12th June 2021	Marah. Bockarie
			Marah, Alie Saio			
			Marah. Bockarie			
			Marah, Bollo			

			Marah, Fayimba Pimpy			
			Marah, Fendia Salieu			
			Marah, Ferenkeh			
			Marah, Foday Wollay			
			Marah Kakaba Sorie			
			Marah Sorie Lai F.			
15	Paramount Chieftaincy	Lugbu - Bo	Gbongon, Thomas Maada		28th August 2021	Nallo,Ensa Badara
			Kagbeni, Abdul S. M.			
			Margao, Abdul K.			
			Nallo, Alhaji Samuka			
			Nallo, Amidu Jusu			
			Nallo, Brima Jusu			
			Nallo,Ensa Badara			
			Nallo, Gassimu Jusu			
			Nallo, Mohamed Sallu			
			Nallo, Senesie J.			
			Nallo, Yusufumaada Jusu			
16	Paramount Chieftaincy	Kpanga - Pujehun	Bakun Mbawah Abdul Karim (Dr)		18th October 2021	Kaikai Andrew Ibrahim Jaiah
			French Edmond M.P.			
			French Peter Solomon			
			Jah Alhaji Abdulai B.M.			
			Jah Ansu			
			Jah Charles Moisoko			
			Jah Mohamed A. Cornor			
			Jah Sidie Yahyah Minkailu			

			Jah Sulaiman Mannah			
			Kaikai Alhaji Moijueh E.			
			Kaikai Andrew Ibrahim Jaiah			
			Kaikai Edison Brima			
			Kaikai John Mohamed			
			Kaikai Prince Mordie			
			Koroma Alhaji Lansana Brima			
			Koroma II Mustapha Brima			
			Sillah Bockarie Geayawolu			
			Sillah Mustapha O			
			Swaray Tanu Donald Pastor			
17	Paramount Chieftaincy	Jaiama - Bo (Second Poll)	Karteh, Foday Bassie		25th August 2021	Karteh, Foday Bassie
			Luseni Vandy Yah A. Maada K.			

Technical Assistance

The Department also provided technical assistance to other institutions as stated below:

INSTITUTION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	OUTCOME	DATE
CLEARING AND FORWARDING AGENCY	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL (CONSTITUTIONAL KNOCKOUT)	28TH NOV 2020
D J UNION	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL (UNOPPOSED)	19TH DEC 2020
TIMBER ASSOCIATION	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	24TH FEB 2021
SIERRA LEONE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (SLAFA)	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	5TH JUNE 2021
EBK STUDENT UNION - MAGBURAKA CAMPUS	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	3RD APRIL 2021
COMAS - SRC ELECTION	MATERIAL	MATERIAL ASSISTANCE	7TH APRIL 2021
KAILAHUN DISTRICT COUNCIL (Election of deputy Chair)	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	24TH MARCH 2021
STUDENT UNION - FBC	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	9TH JUNE 2021
SLPP LOWER DELEGATE ELECTIONS CONDUCTED BY PPRC	OBSERVATION	SUCCESSFUL	21 ST JUNE 2021
SIERRA LEONE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND (SLAB)	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	27TH AUGUST 2021
AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS CENTRE (ABC) - TONKOLILI	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	23RD SEPT 2021
POLICE WIFE - MAMMY QUEEN ELECTION - TONKOLILI	TECHNICAL	SUCCESSFUL	3RD JULY 2021

CHAPTER FOUR

Engagements by the Chief Electoral Commissioner and Chairman of the EC-SL.

The office of the Chief Electoral Commissioner and chairman is the nerve center of the Commission, chairing meetings, approving administrative decisions and payments, routine daily management at policy level is what a typical Chairman does for his living. At the Electoral Commission here, the Chairman is also the National Returning Officer meaning he certifies and declares the winner of every national election. CEC also has the responsibility to engage with Partners both national and international, stakeholders government and people of Sierra Leone. The current Chair assumed office in August 2020 therefore, has had quite a good taste of election experience especially with the conduct of Constituency 110 bye election.

We are currently in the 2020-2024 electoral cycle and the biggest calendar date on this cycle is 2023, when the Commission will be conducting Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Council elections. Therefore, the focus of the CEC in 2021 was centered around planning for the implementation of the Strategic Plan apart from the routine administrative functions with bye elections. With the help of fellow Commissioners, the CEC's office has had a very good relationship with our diplomatic partners. The first diplomatic engagement was on the 19th January ,2021 with the UNDP Resident Rep Pa Lamin Beyia at the office of the CEC. The discussion was particularly focused around electoral support to the Strategic Plan and Pa Lamin Beyia pledged full support to the Commission. One major outcome of this meeting necessitated discussions around the Needs Assessment Mission(NAM). On the 15th of January ,2021 the CEC joined a team of fellow Commissioners and staff at a virtual meeting with the UNDP office in New York and had a fruitful

deliberation on our needs assessment. Series of these virtual meetings were held with EMB's, Partners, CSO's and the final report has been published which management is currently working on.

On the other hand, the office of the CEC was busy engaging with the EU on the ongoing support with the legal reforms, the EOM implementation and Consultancies on policy reforms. The EU had recruited a Permanent Expert and on the 15th of March, 2021 Ambassador Tom Vens formally presented Gavin Weise as the Permanent Expert attached to the Commission to coordinate EU projects and give expert advice where and when needed.



Participants at a Legal Reform Conference in Port Loko City

The CEC has always impressed fellow Commissioners to meet our diplomatic partners for support to the Strategic Plan . A meeting was further planned with the Indian High Commission office and on the 1st of April, 2021 the Commission hosted the newly accredited High Commissioner to Sierra Leone at the Commission's conference room. At this meeting, the CEC formally requested the Indian Government through the High Commissioner for specific support to both IC&T and Data

Management and Voters Roll departments. The outcome led to a series of virtual trainings and finally culminated in a study visit of 7 staff to India.



Staff of the ECSL on study tour to Liberia

The CEC and a cross section of staff of the ECSL went on a study of the Liberia Electoral Commission from Tuesday 6th July to Friday 9th July 2021. The theme for the Tour was titled “***Strengthening Mano River Union Collaboration on Electoral Processes for Maximum Performance***”.

Lessons Learnt

1. It was realized that similar electoral materials are being used by both EMBs. Ballot boxes, voting screens and polling centre kits used by the NEC -Lib are similar to those used in EC- SL. The significant difference in materials used is the polling station kit. While EC-SL uses “Ghana-must-go” bags as polling station kits, NEC-Lib uses small card-board boxes. The card-board boxes are then placed in a “Ghana-must-go” bag which is then placed in ballot boxes for transportation. EC-SL use of the bags seems much more practicable and realistic.
2. It was learnt that NEC-Liberia has a much-organized website and they use software applications for voters to verify and identify their centers and many more features that will attract young and first-time voters.



The CEC and Chairman of the ECSL signs a MoU with the CEC of Liberia Electoral Commission

Another successful diplomatic engagement was on the 18th of November, 2021 when the CEC led a team to meet with the Ghanaian High Commissioner at his Spur road office. Fruitful discussions were held and CEC was particularly fascinated by the Ghanaian Electoral Commission's strategy of result management and procurement method. The Chief Electoral Commissioner is still committed to a study tour to Ghana.

As it were the case with all other institutions, the COVID 19 pandemic ushered in a new normal using virtual meetings in order to meet objectives. This saw the need for the CEC;s office to organize a virtual meeting on the 28th of January, 2021 with International IDEA to discuss electoral support specifically in training opportunities. A major outcome of this meeting necessitated the launching of the Elections Risk Management Tool. Currently the tool has been launched and plans have been put in place to manage the project soonest.



Virtual Meeting with International IDEA on Election Risk Management Tool

After careful planning, the CEC together with fellow Commissioners and Staff launched the Strategic Plan on the 6th of May, 2021 which officially set into motion the Electoral Cycle 2020-2024.



The CEC & Chairman of the ECSL presenting the SP 2020 to 2024 to H.E. the President Dr. Julius Maada Bio

This was followed by the presentation of the Commission's Annual Report to the President on the 8th of June, 2021 at State House.



The CEC & Chairman of the ECSL presents the ECSL Annual Report 2020 to H.E. the President Dr. Julius Maada Bio



Signing of an MoU between ECSL and NaCEED

The CEC has had engagements with various stakeholders relating to partnership and collaboration: on 28th of January, 2021 he met with the National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCEED) to discuss partnership around civic and voter education which is one of our core legal mandates. A sequel to this meeting led to the signing of an MoU on the 3rd of March, 2021.

Another positive engagement to report is the meeting of the Foreign Minister on the 18th January, 2021. At this meeting, the CEC made a passionate plea to Hon. Nabila Tunis to help the Commission retrieve two vehicles donated by the Nigerian Government to the Electoral Commission since 2018 elections. After a series of exchanges, the two vehicles have finally arrived and are in the pool at the HQ.



The CEC & Chairman meeting with Foreign Minister Nabeela Tunis

As a member of Ecowas Network of Electoral Commissioners, the CEC traveled to the Gambia on the 11th July 2021 as part of a peer review team to assess elections preparedness ahead of their general elections which were held in December 2021. This was followed up by another trip on 29th of December 2021 to observe the Gambian polls.



The CEC & Chairman of the EC-SL with the former President of Nigeria Mr. Goodluck Jonathan at an ECOWAS Observer Mission in the Gambia

Also worthy to report is the delegation led by the CEC to Accra/Ghana to attend the 7th Biennial General Assembly where our Chairman Mohamed Kenewui Konneh was unanimously elected as 2nd Vice President of ECONEC.



The CEC and Chairman on Election Observation with ECOWAS

Challenges and the Way Forward

- The Commission looks forward to the review of the legal framework and completion of the process by passing of the draft bill into law;
- Lack of permanent offices in the districts for the independence of the ECSL; and,
- Poorly equipped GIS laboratory for the ECSL.
- Lack of vehicles and motor bikes for the districts and Head Quarters for administrative and field work
- Construction of District Offices and Warehouses in 13 electoral districts

Recommendations

- Government of Sierra Leone including the House of Parliament to fast track legal reform bill.
- To amend Section 32(2) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 (Act No. 6 of 1991), to provide for the appointment of the Electoral Commissioner for the North Western Region,
- Government to ensure adequate and timely disbursement of funds
- GoSL to provide funds for the completion of the procurement process of vehicles for the Commission's activities;
- GoSL to provide funds for the completion and construction of Regional and District offices in order to uphold the independence of the Commission.

Annexes

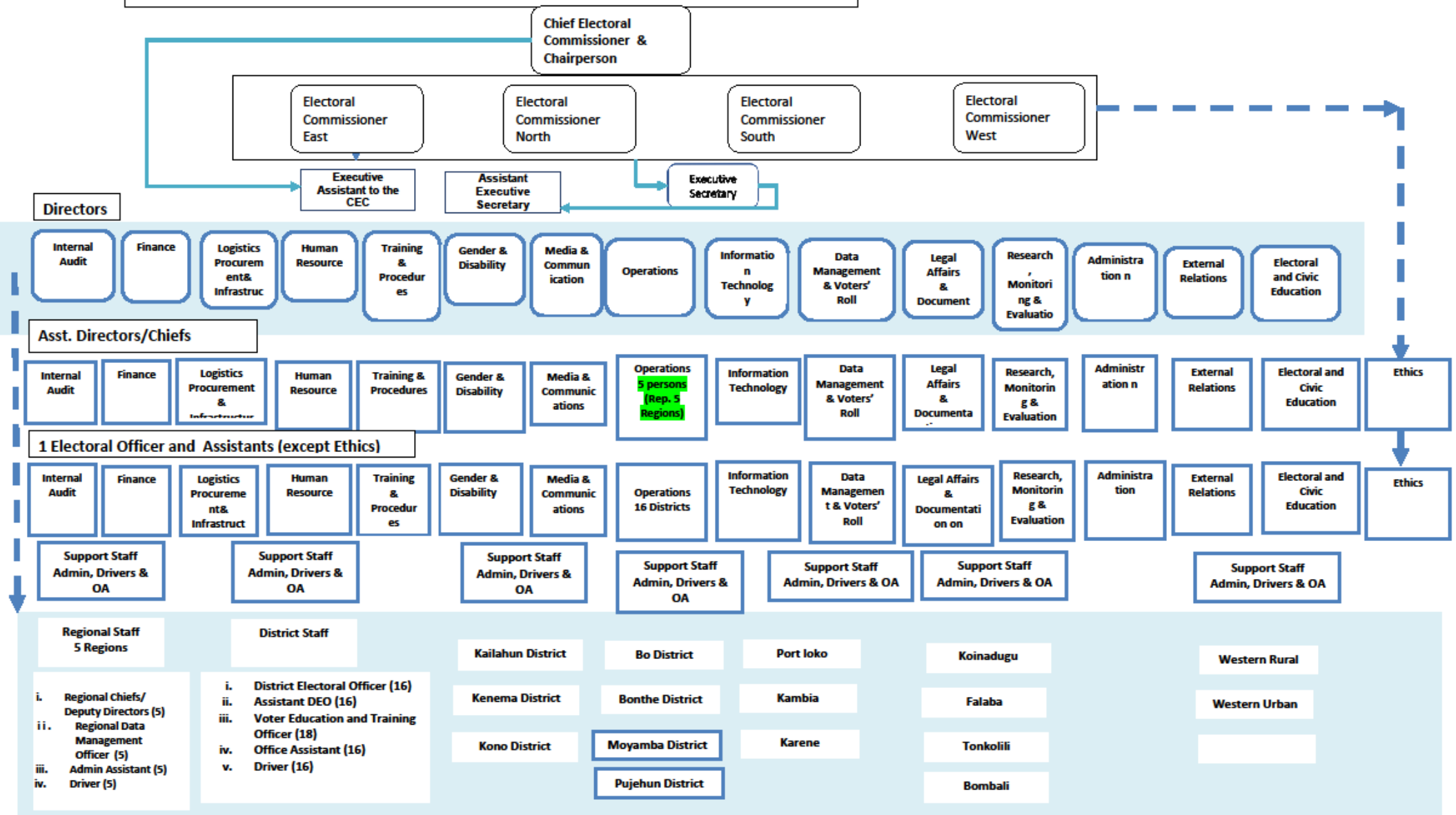
Management Team 2021

No.	NAME	Title & Location
1	William A. Davies	Executive Secretary
2	Sheku C Johnny	Assistant Executive Secretary I
3	Gladys N. John	Assistant Executive Secretary II
4	Alex Pat Labib Saffa	Executive Asst. to CEC & Chairman
5	Tamba T. Tormy	Director of Human Resource - HQ
6	Aiah E. Sam	Director of Internal Audit - HQ
7	Philip F. Kargbo	Director of Media and Communication - HQ
8	Josephine Jenneh Koroma	Director of Training & Procedures - HQ
9	Mbekay S Amara	Director of Info. Comm. & Tech. - HQ
10	Agnes Tarawally	Director of Finance
11	Albert Massaquoi	Director of External Relations, HQ
12	Raymond A. N. George	Director of Research, Monitoring & Evaluation, HQ
13	Abubakarr Koroma	Director of Admin,
14	Mohamed Turay	Director of Operations - HQ
15	Sheku Loleh	Director of Procurement and Logistics - HQ
16	Fatorma Fah-Bundeh	Director of Legal Affairs - HQ
17	Momoh M. Kanneh	Director of Electoral Education - HQ
18	Christiana O'Reilly	Director of Gender & Disability-HQ
19	Jusufu Henry Swaray Jr.	Director of Data Management and Voter Roll - HQ
20	John Paul Simbo	Asst. Director Ethics Unit

NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION				
INTERNATIONAL TRAVELS - 2021				
DATE	NAME	DESIGNATION	COUNTRY	PURPOSE
23 - 31 Dec 2020	Alex T. Paila	DEM Falaba	Niger	Election Observation
19 - 25 February	Alex T. Paila	DEM Falaba	Niger	Election Observation Run Off
7 - 14 April	John P. Simbo	Asst. Director of Ethics	Benin	Election Observation
25 - 31 July	Mohamed Turay	Director of Operations	Togo	BRIDGE - Boundary Delimitation
6 - 10 July	Mohamed K. Konneh	CEC & Chairman	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Marian Nyuma-Moijueh	Commissioner, East	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Gladys N. John	AES 2	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Mohamed Turay	Director of Operations	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Alex Saffa	EA to CEC	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Christiana O'reilly	Director of Gender & Disability	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Albert Massaquoi	Director of External Relations	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Mende Kalokoh	Driver	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Akie Cole	Driver	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 10 July	Sylvester Moseray	Driver	Liberia	Experience Sharing
6 - 8 July	Sheku Vaffy Sheriff	AEO Logistics	Liberia	To deliver voting screens
6 - 8 July	Charles Kamanda	Driver	Liberia	To deliver voting screens
11 - 17 July	Mohamed K. Konneh	CEC & Chairman	Gambia	Election Needs Assessment Mission
31 July - 8 August	Elizabeth Bureh	Asst. Director Gender & Disability	Togo	BRIDGE - Electoral Inclusion
18 - 22 August	Christiana O'reilly	Director of Electoral Inclusion	Niger	Gender & Inclusion
11 - 17 October	Mohamed K. Konneh	CEC & Chairman	Ghana	High Level Seminar
14 - 21 October	Mohamed Amara	DEM Kailahun	Cape Verde	Election Observation
14 - 21 November	Momoh Kanneh	Director of Electoral Education	Ghana	Common Wealth Election Professionals
15 - 26 November	Sheku C. Johnny	Assistant Executive Secretary 1	Venezuela	Electoral Observation
28 November - 12 December	Albert Massaquoi	DER	India	Study Tour
28 November - 12 December	Mbekay S. Amara	DIT	India	Study Tour
28 November - 12 December	Solomon Villa	Ag. Director Data Management	India	Study Tour
28 November - 12 December	Wilson Kanneh	Assistant Director Data Management	India	Study Tour
28 November - 12 December	Derica Palmer	SEO IT	India	Study Tour
28 November - 12 December	Arthur P. Harleston	SEO IT	India	Study Tour

28 November - 12 December	Vangamoh Sesay	AEO Data Management	India	Study Tour
29 Nov. - 8th December	Mohamed K. Konneh	CEC & Chairman	Gambia	Gambia Elections- ECONEC
1 - 7 December	Paul J. Bannister	Assistant Director Operations	Gambia	Election Observation - ECOWAS
11-Dec	Edmond S. Alpha	ECSR	Ghana	ECONEC Symposium
11-Dec	Christopher Jones	Assistant Director Media	Ghana	ECONEC Symposium
12-Dec	Mohamed K. Konneh	CEC & Chairman	Ghana	ECONEC Symposium
12-Dec	Alex P.L Saffa	EACEC	Ghana	ECONEC Symposium

Organizational Chart for the National Electoral Commission



Addresses of EC-SL Offices Nationwide

REGION	DISTRICT	ADDRESS
NATIONAL HEAD QUARTERS	Western Urban	O.A.U. Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown
EASTERN	Kailahun	GEL Compound, Mbelebu Section, Kailahun
	Kenema	59 Wahmann Abu Road, by SLTU Office,
	Kono	8 Gandi Fania Street, Koidu City
NORTHERN	Bombali	Azzolini Highway, Makeni City
	Falaba	Mongo Town
	Koinadugu	158A Main Makeni Road-One Mile, Kabala
	Tonkolili	15 Boys School Road, Magburaka Town
NORTH-WESTERN	Kambia	District Council Area, Kambia 2, Kambia
	Karene	Kamalo Highway, Kamakwie Town
		Port Loko Road, Gbinti (Close to the Round About)
	Port Loko	75 Lungi Road, Port Loko City
SOUTHERN	Bo	79 Tikonko Road, Bo City
	Bonthe	144 Bo Road, Mattru Jong, Bonthe Mainland
		13/13A Claffin Lane, Bonthe Island
	Moyamba	8 Kpangbavie Street, Moyamba Town
	Pujehun	8 Sesay Street, Femandopo, Pujehun Town
WESTERN	Western	Chukuma Johnson Drive, Waterloo
	Western	39, Jenner Wright Road, Cline Town,