



**TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL  
SIERRA LEONE**

**20 Dundas Street, Freetown.**

**MONTHLY BULLETIN**

*October Edition 2011*



*Corruption is a source  
of violation of Human  
Rights and generates  
poverty and under  
development.*

**HEADLINES  
MAKING THE  
BULLETIN**

Insight on the AMM Conference attended by TISL Executive Director and chair of the Advisory Board

**INSIDE STORIES:**

NED Focus Group Meeting with stakeholders at Kambia and Koinadugu Districts Councils.

About the just concluded policy hearing and budget discussions organized by MOFED.

TISL participate in a two day meeting on Local Council Reform organized by CCG

Quote of the month.

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## TI's Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) in Berlin, Germany

The Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) was attended by Transparency International Sierra Leone's Executive Director, Mrs. Lavina Banduah and Chair of the Advisory Board, Mr. Emile Carr in Berlin, Germany. The meeting started on the 11th October and lasted till the 16th October 2011.

Issues discussed in the meeting were:

- Reflecting on 2011, the global context and TI which included the Financial Crisis, Arab Spring, and Repatriation of stolen assets among others.
- Citizen's engagement including issues of social accountability for participatory governance and service delivery
- TI's Governance: Accreditation process, risk management and compliance
- Corruption in Aid
- Business Ethics including Update on Private Sector Tools
- Transparency, Citizen's participation and accountability in delivery of public sector programmes including Food Security
- Corruption as a crime against Humanity was chaired by TI Vice- Chair Akere Muna

*More on the AMM meeting will come up in the Annual Newsletter in early December 2011*

*By Ambrose Boani*

## NED Focus Group Meetings with Stakeholders at the Kambia and Koinadugu Districts Council

**The project aimed at providing training for Local Council Officials in Basic Record Keeping and Financial Management systems in Kambia and Koinadugu Districts.**

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) is a funded program undertaken and managed by Transparency International Sierra Leone (TISL). The program focuses on providing training for Local Councils Officials in basic record keeping and financial Management control systems. On the 5th and 7th October 2011, TISL undertook a one day Focus Group Meeting and a Stakeholders' Dialogue Forum in each of the districts of Kambia and Koinadugu respectively.

The activity was in pursuance of a project funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) in its' numerous efforts to promoting democracy by enhancing transparency and accountability in governance structures. This activity is a replication of other districts that are direct beneficiaries of the NED project. The project aimed at providing

training for Local Council Officials in Basic Record Keeping and Financial Management systems in Kambia and Koinadugu Districts.

The meeting attracted district Council Chairmen, Accountants, Councilors, Development Planning Officers, M & E Officers, Ward Committee Members, Members of Civil Society and National Electoral Commissions' representatives in each of the districts.

*By Abdulai Taylor Kamara*

## Policy Hearing and Budget discussions organized by MOFED

The budget policy hearing and discussions which just concluded at the Miatta Conference Centre attracted a host of MDAs, DBOCs, Non state Actors (NSAs), NGOs, Budget Advocacy Network members (BAN), the Print and Electronic Media etc. to hear and widely discuss and critique budgets presented by different MDAs before subsequent adoption by the general participants. The discussions were very much packed full and overwhelming, though interesting as well.

Even though the event was geared towards national interest and development in a bid to reducing poverty, yet a good number of MDAs did not treat it with the seriousness it deserved. Some woefully failed in meeting the set out standard requirements of the budget call circular given to them by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) for the purpose of the budget discussion.

But however, a greater proportion of the MDAs did outstandingly well in their budget allocations and presentations; having in mind poverty alleviation i.e. PRSP II/Agenda for change.

*To be continued in the quarterly Newsletters in December, 2011.*

*By Charles Keif-Kobai*

**Some woefully failed in meeting the set out standard requirements of the budget call circular given to them by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) for the purpose of the budget discussion.**

## CGG Dialogue Forum Meeting on Local Council Reform

A two day National Dialogue meeting on the theme: **Local Council Reform Needed: Discussions from Evidences in the Field** was organised by **Campaign for Good Governance (CGG)** in partnership with **Action Aid** and **Leh We Tok Programme**, supported by **Overseas Development Institute (ODI)**, which is part of a five year action-research intervention taking place in Seven African Countries titled **Mwananchi: strengthening citizen engagement**. The two day dialogue took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2011; at the Atlantic Hall, National Stadium. **Transparency International Sierra Leone (TISL)**, a civil society organisation was invited together with other civil society organisations to participate in the two day dialogue; which also hosted councillors from different constituencies

and their ward committee members around the country, the Deputy Mayor of Freetown City Council, a representative from the Ministry of Local Government and a representative from the Parliamentary Committee on Local Government among others attended the meeting.

The purpose of the dialogue was to present to the councillors, parliamentarians and the ministry of Local Government among others; evidences in the field to strike a starting point of discussion on why the local council needs reform.

*To be continued in the Annual Newsletter in December, 2011*

*By Ambrase Boani*

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**REPORT  
CORRUPTION  
NOW!**

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**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:**

'If indeed the world goes round, then friends too must go round one another, but when friends fail to go round one another, then the world ceases to go round.... for we are the world'

By Charles Keif-Kobai

**INTERPRETATION OF THE ABOVE QUOTE**

Corruption is endemic and a crisis in itself for any nation grappling with it, and it is very much systemic of every citizen in Sierra Leone. Hence, we should all be seeing conjointly, in a genuine manner fighting to grossly reducing corruption as a people and a nation or else, Sierra Leone as a country will stop revolving among her pairs. For as a people, we are Sierra Leone and Sierra Leone is us...let us together make her.

**DESIGNED AND EDITED BY CHARLES  
KEIF-KOB AI AND AMBROSE BOANI**