



MOTHER EARTH
FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

UPR Pre-Session

Presented by ME4CJ and NMJD, January 2026

Introduction and Context

Overview of ME4CJ and NMJD Roles

Introduction Overview

ME4CJ and NMJD's Role

ME4CJ Overview

ME4CJ (Mother Earth for Climate Justice) advocates for enhanced civic freedoms and sustainable governance in Sierra Leone, aiming to strengthen civil society's role in the UPR process.

NMJD Overview

The National Movement for Justice and Democracy (NMJD) focuses on promoting human rights and social justice in Sierra Leone, facilitating community engagement in national consultations and policy advocacy.

Statement Scope

This statement addresses three key issues: civic space protection, natural resource governance, and climate action, emphasizing the need for holistic approaches to enhance sustainable development in Sierra Leone.

Civic Space & Justice

Analysis and Recommendations for Reform

UPR Commitments

Examining Sierra Leone's Legal Framework

UPR Cycle Commitments

Sierra Leone's **commitments under the 3rd UPR cycle** focus on enhancing civic space, yet implementation remains weak, particularly regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms across various sectors.

Restrictive Legislation

The **Public Order Act 1965** and the **Cybersecurity and Crime Act 2021** impose significant constraints on freedom of expression and assembly, contributing to a chilling effect on civic engagement.

Specific Recommendations

Focused actions for legal reform

Amend Public Order Act

The **Public Order Act** needs **amendment** to guarantee the protection of civic freedoms, aligning it with constitutional rights and international obligations to enhance democratic participation.

Repeal Cybersecurity Act

It is crucial to **repeal or amend Section 44** of the Cybersecurity Act, which restricts freedom of expression and assembly, thereby creating a more open civic environment.

Human Rights Training

Implementing **mandatory human rights training** for security forces and the judiciary will promote adherence to international norms and improve the protection of civic freedoms across the nation.

Natural Resource Governance

Assessing Mining Law and Community Impacts

UPR Context

Overview of Recommendations and Issues

UPR Recommendation 143.54

This recommendation emphasizes the importance of effective implementation of the Mines and Minerals Act 2022, aiming to enhance community benefits and ensure responsible resource management.

Revenue Transparency

There is a pressing need for improved revenue transparency in the mining sector, as current practices often obscure the distribution of profits, hindering equitable community development and accountability.

Recommendations

Enhancing Mining Governance and Accountability

Oversight Mechanism

Establishing an independent oversight mechanism for mining revenues ensures transparent allocation and utilization, fostering public trust and accountability in resource management and supporting sustainable development goals.

Strengthening EPA

Enhancing the Environmental Protection Agency's capacity is crucial for effective monitoring and enforcement of environmental laws, ensuring compliance and reducing ecological degradation linked to mining activities across Sierra Leone.

Environmental Audits

Mandating regular environmental audits for mining operations is essential to assess compliance with regulations, mitigate adverse impacts, and promote responsible practices that safeguard Sierra Leone's natural resources and communities.

Climate Change Impact

Addressing Vulnerability and Promoting Resilience

Climate Vulnerability

Existing Policies and Recommendations

Climate Justice Fund

Establishing a **Climate Justice Fund** is crucial for financing adaptation projects and supporting vulnerable communities in Sierra Leone, ensuring equitable access to resources and resilience-building initiatives.

Climate Education

Integrating **climate education** into the national curriculum will empower future generations with knowledge and skills to combat climate change, fostering a culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Thank You

We appreciate your engagement and support for our mission.

Email: info@me4climatejustice.org

Website: www.me4climatejustice.org
