



**KEYNOTE STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. JULIUS MAADA
BIO PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA
LEONE AT THE FORMAL LAUNCH OF SIERRA
LEONE'S BID FOR A NON-PERMANENT SEAT IN THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE
2024-2025 TERM – FRIDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. It is with great pleasure that I address you on the occasion of the formal launch of Sierra Leone's bid for a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council for the 2024-2025 term.
2. Let me thank our Distinguished Guests and well-wishers for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us at this historic moment. We are appreciative of your commitment and support to our candidacy which we do not take for granted.
3. I am heartened that Sierra Leone is running with the support of not only our sub-regional organisation, ECOWAS, but also with the support of the whole African continent as an endorsed candidate of the African Union. This in effect means that Sierra Leone is once again on the verge of ascending the primary decision-making organ on peace and security matters at the United Nations, especially as a fully endorsed African candidate.
4. A seat in the non-Permanent category of the UN Security Council would give Sierra Leone the unique opportunity to effectively share our success story as a nation of resilience, hope, and a society that successfully transitioned from war to peace working in partnership with the United Nations. A country no longer defined by its past, but a beacon of hope. A country for Human Capital Development and human security.
5. As most of you are aware, our candidacy is anchored on the theme: ***Partnership, Multilateralism and Representative Approach to Sustained Global Peace and Security***. It is our firm desire that this endeavour will significantly position Sierra Leone not only to share lessons and experiences but also develop tangible networks and alliances that will enhance the maintenance of International Peace and Security.
6. Sierra Leone's vision for a sustained global peace and security is inspired by seven (7) priorities, including prioritizing the broader role of women and youth in the pursuit of global peace and security, and also recognizing climate change as a threat to global peace and security. The seven

priorities are rooted in our firm commitment to international cooperation based on a multilateral rules-based order and a reformed Security Council that provides for equitable representation across all regions of the world.

7. Sierra Leone has maintained an evidence-based record of support for the international rules-based system, and that is why Sierra Leone is increasingly assuming global leadership roles.
8. Our intention is to utilize our experience and track record in the United Nations Security Council. It is our fervent hope that all member States present here today will partner with us in adopting a Multilateral and Representative Approach with a view to sustaining Global Peace and Security.
9. At this juncture, let Me thank my Foreign Minister, the Permanent Representative and his team for their commendable efforts.
10. I now take this opportunity to formally launch the bid of the Republic of Sierra Leone for a non-Permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council for the Term 2024-2025.
11. I wish you a pleasant evening. Thank you and we look forward to your unconditional support.

I thank you.