



**STATE HOUSE MEDIA AND
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SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT BIO TOURS BUNCE ISLAND, LEICESTER PEAK AND TACUGAMA, POSITIONING SIERRA LEONE AS A PREMIER HERITAGE AND ECO-TOURISM DESTINATION



State House, Freetown, 11 June, 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio undertook a comprehensive inspection tour of key heritage, tourism, and environmental sites across Sierra Leone, reaffirming his Government's commitment to preserving the nation's history, promoting sustainable tourism, and safeguarding its natural environment for future generations. President Bio's historic visit to Bunce Island, the first ever by a sitting President in four decades, demonstrates his administration's commitment to preserving national heritage, promoting tourism, and strengthening connections with descendants of the African diaspora worldwide.

President Bio emphasized the importance of preserving such historic sites as part of the country's broader development agenda, noting that they serve as powerful tools for education, historical reflection, and economic growth through tourism.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO HOSTS FAREWELL LUNCH FOR SIERRA LEONEAN CREW MEMBERS ON GLOBAL MERCY SHIP, COMMITS TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MERCY SHIPS AND GOVERNMENT

State House, Freetown, 4 June 2026 – His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio hosted a farewell lunch for the Sierra Leonean crew members of the Global Mercy Ship and reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening partnership between Mercy Ships and the Government of Sierra Leone. Representing the Sierra Leonean volunteers, Mr. Albert Sam and Mr. Edward Carew shared moving testimonies of lives transformed through Mercy Ships' interventions. They described the organization as a beacon of hope that has restored dignity, confidence, and renewed opportunities for thousands of Sierra Leoneans.

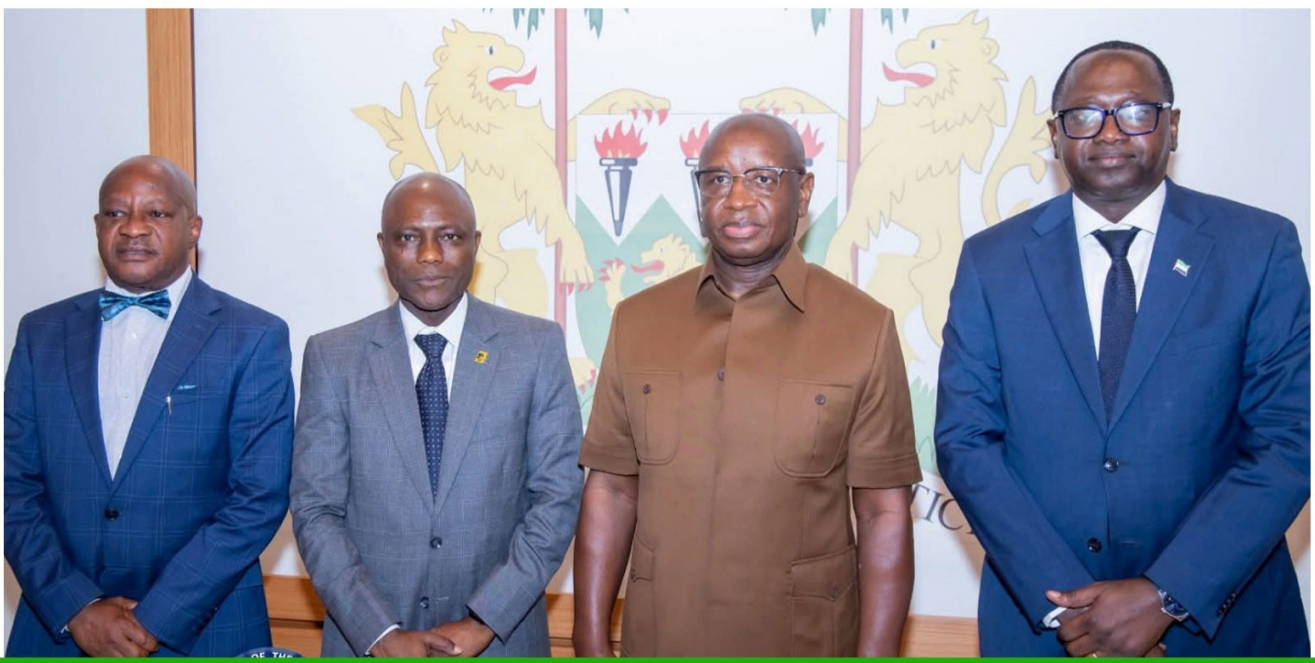
In his response, President Bio expressed profound appreciation to Mercy Ships for its invaluable contribution to healthcare delivery and human development in Sierra Leone. "I want to thank you for your outstanding service and for providing life-changing and life-saving opportunities to many Sierra Leoneans. Your confidence in our country and your commitment to partnership have made a lasting impact. The achievements of the past three years have been remarkable, and the benefits will continue to be felt for generations to come," the President said.



SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO MEETS FIRST BANK GROUP CEO TO ADVANCE INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

State House, Freetown, 2 June 2026 - His Excellency President Julius Maada Bio received a high-level delegation from First Bank Group at State House in Freetown for discussions focused on mobilising large-scale financing for Sierra Leone's infrastructure and industrial development priorities. The delegation was led by the Group Chief Executive Officer of First Bank, Mr. Olusegun Alebiosu, and included senior engineering executives and international directors of the bank. They were received alongside Sierra Leone's First Bank Country CEO, Board Chair and the Minister of Finance, Hon. Sheku Ahmed Fantamadi Bangura. First Bank Group CEO Olusegun Alebiosu highlighted the bank's long-standing experience in infrastructure financing across Africa, stressing that strategic investment in roads, electricity, water systems, and industrial facilities is essential for stimulating economic growth and expanding national productivity.

President Julius Maada Bio welcomed the discussions and linked the proposed financing frameworks directly to his Government's "Big Five" development priorities: agriculture, fisheries, mining, tourism, and manufacturing. The President underscored that inadequate infrastructure remains one of the greatest constraints to economic growth and private sector expansion in Sierra Leone.





SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO ADDRESSES WCO CONFERENCE, CALLS FOR STRONGER ECOWAS TRADE AND BORDER INTEGRATION

Freetown International Conference Centre, Freetown, Thursday 7 May 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio addressed the 32nd Conference of Directors General of Customs of the World Customs Organization and the West and Central Africa Region, where he called for the effective use of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff to strengthen regional integration, protect local industries, and facilitate lawful trade across West Africa. Delivering his keynote address on the theme, "A Customs Service that Protects Society through Its Vigilance and Commitment," President Bio described vigilance in customs administration as a national obligation that must be institutionalized to safeguard security, economic stability, and public trust.

He emphasized that customs services remain one of the most important yet often overlooked institutions of the modern state, serving as the frontline of national protection and economic governance.

"Customs is not simply a checkpoint at the edge of the state; it is the frontline of the state itself," President Bio stated.



SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO RELAUNCHES SIERRATEL, COMMITS TO STRONGER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN TELECOMS SECTOR

Miatta Conference Centre, Brookfields, Freetown, Tuesday 5 May 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio officially relaunched Sierratel as a Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO) through a strategic partnership with Africell, marking the return of the state-owned telecom provider to Sierra Leone's communications market.

The initiative is expected to expand access to telecommunications services, improve reliability, enhance competition, and create employment opportunities, particularly for young people in the country's growing digital economy.

In his keynote address, President Bio described the relaunch as a deliberate and forward-looking decision to reposition Sierra Leone's telecommunications sector for the demands of the 21st century. "Today, we are choosing to connect differently and to compete seriously. This launch marks a decisive step in strengthening how we communicate as a nation, how we do business, and how we position Sierra Leone for the future," he stated.



SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO COMMISSIONS HISTORIC 40MW SOLAR POWER PROJECTS, DECLARES NEW CHAPTER IN SIERRA LEONE'S ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

Newton Village, Western Area Rural, Wednesday, 10 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio commissioned a 30-megawatt solar power plant with a 15-megawatt-hour Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Newton and a 10-megawatt solar power plant with a 6-megawatt-hour Battery Energy Storage System in Lungi. The facilities were developed under the Regional Emergency Solar Power Intervention (RESPITE) Project, supported by the World Bank.

The President described the initiative as "the largest single addition to renewable energy generation capacity in Sierra Leone's history" and affirmed that the Newton and Lungi Solar Power Projects represent another decisive step in the country's journey towards energy security, economic transformation, and sustainable development.

Describing the occasion as a defining moment in the nation's development journey, President Bio said the commissioning reflects not only where Sierra Leone stands today but also where it is determined to go. The President expressed profound appreciation to the World Bank Group for its unwavering support, technical expertise, and partnership in bringing the RESPITE Project.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO CELEBRATES MERCY SHIPS PARTNERSHIP, COMMENDS TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT ON SIERRA LEONE'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



Queen Elizabeth 11 Quay, Freetown, 5 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio attended the Mercy Ships Partners' Thank You Event, held to celebrate the successful conclusion of the humanitarian organization's three-year mission in Sierra Leone and to reaffirm the Government's commitment to strengthening the nation's healthcare system. In his welcome remarks, Mercy Ships Managing Director, Matt Murray, expressed appreciation to President Bio for his visionary leadership and steadfast support throughout the organization's operations in Sierra Leone. He commended the Government's commitment to improving healthcare delivery and creating an enabling environment for impactful partnerships.

Delivering the keynote address, President Bio expressed profound gratitude to the Mercy Ships team, healthcare professionals, volunteers, development partners, and all Sierra Leoneans who contributed to the success of the mission. The President emphasized that healthcare remains a central pillar of his Government's Human Capital Development Agenda, underscoring the importance of investing in the health and wellbeing of citizens as a foundation for sustainable national development and economic prosperity.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO INSPECTS LANDMARK CONFERENCE CENTRE AHEAD OF HISTORIC REGIONAL SUMMIT

Lungi International Airport, Port Loko District, 5 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio conducted an inspection tour of the ongoing construction of the Conference Centre and Presidential Villas at Lungi, reaffirming his Government's unwavering commitment to infrastructure development and national transformation ahead of the forthcoming 69th Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government, scheduled for next month. The multi-purpose complex comprises Presidential Villas, a Presidential Conference Hall, a banquet hall, a dedicated media and press facility, a 1,500-seat auditorium, a five-star hotel, a recreational plaza, and other modern amenities designed to position Sierra Leone as a premier destination for regional and international conferences.

Welcoming the President, Chairman of the Office of Presidential Infrastructure Initiatives (OPII), Dr. Eldred Taylor, thanked him for the visit and commended his vision and leadership in advancing major infrastructure projects across the country. Speaking after the inspection, President Bio expressed satisfaction with the progress of work and commended the Turkish construction firm, FB Group, for its dedication and commitment to meeting project timelines ahead of the ECOWAS Summit. The President noted that the development represents more than a conference venue, describing it as a strategic national investment that will strengthen Sierra Leone's profile as a destination for diplomacy, business, tourism, and international engagement.





SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO PRESIDES OVER THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF NEW DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES, ASSURES THE MINISTRY OF FULL SUPPORT

State House, Freetown, Tuesday, 9 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio today presided over the oath-taking ceremony of the newly appointed Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Mr. Ahmed Saybom Kanu, assuring both the Minister and her Deputy of his unwavering support in achieving the ministry's goals. In his remarks, Deputy Minister Ahmed Saybom Kanu expressed gratitude to President Bio for the confidence reposed in him and for granting him another opportunity to serve in government.

"It is not easy to be given a second chance to serve. I am deeply honoured by this appointment and committed to working diligently to justify the confidence the President has placed in me," he said. Congratulating the newly sworn-in Deputy Minister, President Julius Maada Bio thanked Members of Parliament for their diligence in reviewing and approving the appointment. He reminded Mr. Kanu that he was no stranger to public service and governance and therefore understood the responsibilities that come with the office.

President Bio further assured the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of his full support and expressed confidence that the Minister and her Deputy would work together effectively to deliver results that meet the aspirations and needs of the people of Sierra Leone.



HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT DR. JULIUS MAADA BIO PRESIDED OVER THE OATH-TAKING CEREMONY OF MR. OSMAN I. KANU, ESQ., FOLLOWING HIS APPOINTMENT AS SOLICITOR-GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE.

In his acceptance remarks, Mr. Kanu expressed profound gratitude to President Bio for the confidence and trust reposed in him, describing the appointment as both an honour and a sacred responsibility. He reflected on the significance of the occasion, noting that his appointment coincided with the Day of Arafah and that he was taking the oath on the Day of Ashura, which he described as a powerful reminder of faith, service, and accountability.

In his remarks, President Bio congratulated the newly appointed Solicitor-General and encouraged him to remain steadfast in upholding the rule of law and the principle of justice.

The President noted that the office carries significant responsibilities and expressed confidence in Mr. Kanu's ability to provide effective leadership and contribute to the continued strengthening of Sierra Leone's legal institutions.

APC LEADERSHIP AND FAMILY OF LATE HON. MINKAILU MANSARAY EXPRESS GRATITUDE TO PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO FOR SUPPORT AFTER HIS PASSING



State House, Freetown, Thursday, 18 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio today received a delegation comprising senior executives of the All People's Congress (APC) and family members of the late Hon. Alhaji Minkailu Mansaray at State House, where they conveyed their heartfelt appreciation for the President's swift intervention and support following the statesman's passing. The late Hon. Alhaji Minkailu Mansaray passed away on Tuesday, 16 June 2026, in Dakar, Senegal.

Speaking on behalf of the APC and the bereaved family, Acting APC Chairman Hon. Osman Foday Yansaneh thanked President Bio for his compassionate response upon learning of Hon. Mansaray's death. He noted that the President had maintained concern for the late politician throughout his illness and had promptly directed Government support for the repatriation of his remains.

Responding, President Bio expressed his deepest sympathies to the bereaved family and the APC leadership, describing the late Hon. Mansaray as a distinguished statesman whose service and contributions transcended political affiliations.

"On behalf of the Government, the Sierra Leone People's Party, and the people of Sierra Leone, I wish to formally extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and the APC. We have lost a great man whose contributions to national development and democratic governance will be remembered for generations. His passing is not only a loss to his family but also to the APC and the nation as a whole," the President said.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO TURNS SOD FOR SLPP EASTERN REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS, DEDICATES PROJECT TO GRASSROOTS SUPPORTERS



Kenema City, Eastern Region, Saturday 9 May 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio turned the sod for the construction of the Eastern Regional Headquarters of the Sierra Leone People's Party in Kenema City, dedicating the project to the party's grassroots supporters across the region.

While formally receiving the architectural design and construction plan from the technical team, President Bio thanked the party's national executive for their commitment and dedication to strengthening the SLPP and ensuring its continued growth and relevance.

He emphasized that the SLPP has played a significant role in Sierra Leone's national development since its formation and urged party members to remain united and focused on service to the people.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO INAUGURATES KONO DISTRICT SLPP OFFICE, RALLIES SUPPORTERS AROUND UNITY AND GRASSROOTS STRENGTH

Koidu City, Kono District, Thursday 14 May 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio, alongside First Lady Dr. Fatima Maada Bio, officially commissioned the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) office in Kono District, named the Amina Maada Bio Hall, describing it as a powerful symbol of unity, loyalty, and the growing political strength of the ruling party in the district. Addressing supporters, President Bio emphasized that unity, discipline, and loyalty remain the backbone of the SLPP's continued success, urging members to place the interests of the party and national development above personal ambitions and divisions. He noted that the SLPP's strength has always been rooted in its connection with ordinary people and its commitment to delivering development across the country.

The President described the newly inaugurated office as more than just a building, stating that it represents the consolidation of the SLPP's presence in Kono and its readiness to strengthen political engagement ahead of future national contests. He said the facility would serve as a strategic centre for party coordination, mobilisation, and community engagement in the district. He particularly commended the First Lady for spearheading the building of the party office.





SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO AND FIRST LADY FATIMA MAADA BIO JOIN MUSLIMS WORLDWIDE TO OBSERVE EID UL-ADHA

Presidential Lodge, Freetown – Wednesday, 27 May 2026 – His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio and the First Lady, Madam Fatima Maada Bio, joined Muslims across Sierra Leone and around the world to observe Eid Ul-Adha prayers at the Presidential Lodge in Freetown. In his remarks, President Julius Maada Bio expressed gratitude to the Muslim community for joining the Eid Ul-Adha prayers at the Presidential Lodge. "May Almighty Allah accept our prayers. Today, God has granted us the grace of life, and we are here to praise Him and give thanks. I also pray for our brothers and sisters who are on pilgrimage for Hajj, the fifth pillar of Islam. May Allah protect them and bring them safely back home," he said.

Responding to the Imam's sermon, the President reaffirmed his commitment to the people of Sierra Leone, describing the Khutbah as a message of commitment, dedication, and trust in Allah.

SIERRA LEONE'S PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO JOINS RETURNING HAJJ PILGRIMS FOR SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

State House, Freetown, 12 June, 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio joined returning Sierra Leonean Hajj pilgrims for a special congregational prayer following the successful completion of the 2026 Hajj pilgrimage in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Providing an overview of this year's pilgrimage, Chairman of the Presidential Hajj Taskforce, Alhaji Murtada Sesay, disclosed that a total of 2,626 Sierra Leonean pilgrims, including members of the diaspora community, participated in the 2026 Hajj exercise. He noted that 826 pilgrims travelled directly from Sierra Leone and expressed gratitude that all pilgrims successfully completed the holy rites and returned home safely.

In his remarks, President Bio warmly welcomed the pilgrims home and congratulated them on the successful completion of one of Islam's most significant acts of worship. He praised the Presidential Hajj Taskforce for its diligence, efficiency, and responsiveness in ensuring that the pilgrimage process was seamless and well-coordinated. The President emphasized the importance of collective responsibility in nation-building and encouraged institutions, development partners, and citizens to continue supporting Government's efforts to improve public service delivery and create opportunities that enhance the well-being of all Sierra Leoneans.



PRESIDENT JULIUS MAADA BIO PAYS FINAL RESPECT TO JUSTICE NYAWO FINDA MATTURI-JONES, HONOURS HER LEGACY OF SERVICE



United Methodist Church, Jaiama Nimikoro, Kono District, Sunday, 28 June 2026 - His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio joined the bereaved family, members of the Judiciary, government officials, traditional leaders, and mourners at the funeral service of the late Honourable Justice Nyawo Finda Matturi-Jones in Jaiama Nimikoro Chiefdom, Kono District, where mourners paid tribute to her distinguished life of service and immense contribution to Sierra Leone's justice sector.

The solemn ceremony celebrated the remarkable legacy of the retired Supreme Court Judge, whose decades of dedicated service were marked by integrity, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to the rule of law. Justice Matturi-Jones was widely recognized as Kono District's first female lawyer and first female judge, paving the way for generations of women to pursue careers in law, leadership, and public service.

During the funeral service, members of the bereaved family expressed profound appreciation to President Bio for the compassion, support, and solidarity he extended to them throughout their period of mourning. They thanked him for standing with the family during their time of grief and for honouring the memory of their beloved matriarch.

Sierra Leone's President Julius Maada Bio Hosts Farewell Lunch for Sierra Leonean Crew Members on Global Mercy Ship, Commits to Strengthen Partnership between Mercy Ships and Government

PHOTO GALLERY



President Bio makes historic Bunce Island visit, honouring enslaved Africans and reaffirming heritage, tourism, and diaspora ties



President Bio attends Mercy Ships Partners' Thank You Event, celebrating three year humanitarian mission in Sierra Leone



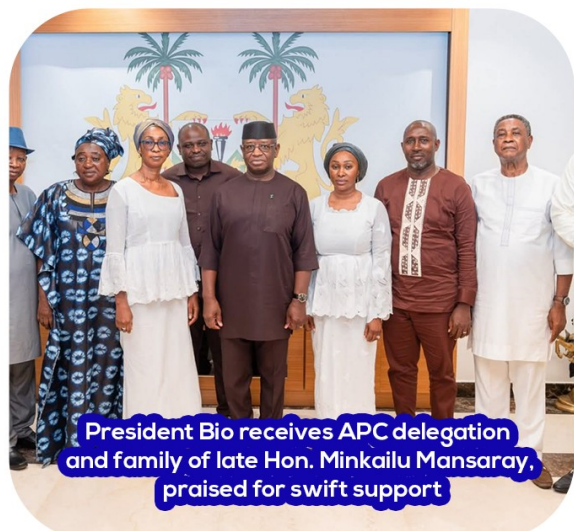
President Bio hosts farewell lunch for Sierra Leonean Global Mercy Ship crew, reaffirming healthcare partnership



President Bio relaunches Sierratel as MVNO in partnership with Africell, marking state telecom's return to market



President Julius Maada Bio commissions 30W Newton and 10MW Lungi solar plants to power Sierra Leone's energy future



President Bio receives APC delegation and family of late Hon. Minkailu Mansaray, praised for swift support

KEY QUOTATIONS



STATE HOUSE MEDIA AND
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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"I want to start by saying that we are living in an extremely difficult world today, we need a governance system that is agile and can move with the people."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
Chairman of ECOWAS Authority



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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"I am very transparent about what I do in this country."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
Chairman of ECOWAS Authority



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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"I want to appeal to you to know that Census is a very important process. Those who are saying census is not important are not good citizens."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
Chairman of ECOWAS Authority



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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"I want you to know that the census will take place this December. It is a civic responsibility, and I assure you it will be conducted in a transparent manner. We have established larger committees and engaged international partners, all working together to guarantee transparency and credibility."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"I have demonstrated it to you that I am a President for everyone in Sierra Leone...its us the politicians that magnify the difference between us."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
Chairman of ECOWAS Authority



STATE HOUSE MEDIA AND
COMMUNICATIONS UNIT
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**PRESIDENTIAL
TOWNHALL 2026
MAKENI EDITION**

"we are the most religious tolerant country in the world."

H.E JULIUS MAADA BIO
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and
Chairman of ECOWAS Authority