

COMMUNIQUE

The Sierra Leone Institute of International Law with the support from Commonwealth Secretariat at the conclusion of its three day workshop on the topic: Promoting the Implementation of the 1998 Rome Statute of the International Criminal court and the Kampala Amendments on the Crime of Aggression, held at 57 John Street, Freetown from the 12 to 14 July 2012 with stake holders made the following recommendations for the considerations and action of Government, Civil Society, Media and the Sierra Leone Bar Association.

1. That Sierra Leone supports the amendments made to Crime of Aggression (Article 8) of the Rome Statute.
2. That Sierra Leone supports and accepts the definition of the Crime of Aggression and the conditions for the exercise of the Jurisdiction of the court as adopted during the Review Conference in Kampala 2010.
3. That any instruments implementing the Rome Statute include the amendments made in the Review Conference in Kampala 2010.
4. That Government through the Office of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice and that of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation embark without delay the completion of the process of incorporating the Rome Statute and amendments thereto into our national laws.
5. That the workshop appeals to Government, especially as Sierra Leone was one of the first states to sign and ratify the Rome Statute to implement as a matter of priority, the Rome Statute and the Amendments on the Crime of Aggression.
6. That Airtime on Radio and TV be bought to discuss matters discussed during the workshop.
7. Participants call on the Ministry of Education and Educational Institutions in Sierra Leone to collaborate with the Institute in the promotion, development and advancement of International Law in Sierra Leone.
8. Civil Society Organisations and other relevant, Stakeholders embark on a massive campaign for the domestication and implementation of the Rome Statute and the Kampala Amendments on the Crime of Aggression.

9. Civil Society Organisations, the Media and other relevant Stakeholders to solicit funds for the sensitization of the Sierra Leonean population on the need to implement the 1998 Rome Statute and the Kampala Amendments.
10. The Office of Attorney General and Minister of Justice and the Judicial Authorities seriously consider the creation of a division of the High Court for the purpose of litigating on issues relating to the crimes within the Rome Statute.
11. Call on all Political Parties in Sierra Leone to make a commitment in their manifestoes for the domestication and implementation of the Kampala Amendments on the Crime of Aggression and the Rome Statute immediately after the 2012 Elections.
12. That the Sierra Leone Institute of International Law replicate the workshop in the Provincial Headquarters of Sierra Leone.

Issued this Saturday 14 day of July 2012 at 57 John Street, Freetown, in the Western Area of the Republic of Sierra Leone by the Sierra Leone Institute of International Law with Stakeholders, especially Civil Society Organisations, the Media, Students and the Legal Community with support from the Commonwealth Secretariat.