

Drafters:

50/50 Group
Center for Coordination of Youth Activities (CCYA)
Disability Awareness Action Group (DAAG)
Political Party Registration Commission (PPRC)
Sierra Leone Union of Disabled Individuals (SLUDI)

All Political Party Youth Association (APPYA)
Democracy Sierra Leone (DSL)
Grassroots Empowerment Movement (GEMS)
Women's Strategy and Support Group (WSSG)

Signatories:

All People's Congress (APC)
National Democratic Alliance (NDA)
People's Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC)
Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP)

Citizens Democratic Party (CDP)
Peace and Liberation party (PLP)
Revolutionary United Front Party (RUFPP)
United Democratic Movement (UDM)

Sierra Leone Open and Safe Elections Pledge

We, the leaders of the political parties listed below, are committed to a 2012 election that includes and involves all Sierra Leone citizens.

We recognize that in the past, many obstacles have prevented the full participation of women, youth, and the disabled. As a political party, we acknowledge our important role in creating a political environment that is safe, open, and accessible to all.

To achieve this end, we make the following commitments:

In order to create an environment in which all women are free to participate in the election process, we pledge to ensure the safety and security of women voters, election workers, and candidates by strictly opposing all forms of violence and intimidation;

In order to achieve the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendation of 30% representation for women and 10% representation for youth, and to expand political representation for the large number of Sierra Leone citizens with disabilities, we pledge to increase the number of symbols we award to women, youth, and disabled candidates in winnable seats for both Parliament and Local Council elections.

In order to give marginalized groups the support necessary to compete fairly in our political system, we pledge to empower our party's women, youth, and disabled candidates for Parliament and Local Council with campaign, transportation, and financial assistance;

In order to promote respectful and productive dialogue, we pledge to organize the party's campaigning around constituency and national issues that affect the future of Sierra Leone citizens, rather than on regional and personal attacks, and to discipline party members and candidates who engage in personal attacks;

In order to enhance the participation of youth in the election process, we pledge to promote the leadership of our party's youth as candidates, election workers, poll watchers, members, and voters;

In order to promote the full participation of people with disabilities, we pledge to pass a disability policy within the year, and to provide assistance, including transportation, to disabled party members so they can better access polling locations;

In order to promote a peaceful election environment in which every citizen can participate freely and support the party of their choice, we pledge to use only nonviolent and legal means to resolve all disputes.

To achieve these ends, we commit ourselves to section 35.1 of the 1991 constitution, which provides that political parties should shape the political will of the electorate, the Code of Conduct for Political Parties, and the electoral laws of Sierra Leone.