

Sierra Leone Enacts Landmark Gender and Healthcare Reforms Under President Bio's Leadership

Sierra Leone enacts gender and healthcare reforms, ensuring 30% female workforce, maternity leave, and AI-powered medical advancements in 2025.

FREETOWN, WESTERN AREA URBAN DISTRICT, SIERRA LEONE, January 30, 2025

[/EINPresswire.com/](https://EINPresswire.com/) -- The Government of Sierra Leone has announced a series of groundbreaking reforms aimed at advancing gender equality and improving healthcare access across the nation. Under the leadership of President Julius Maada Bio, the country is making historic strides in ensuring women's empowerment, expanding medical infrastructure, and fostering international partnerships to enhance healthcare services.

In a major legislative milestone, President Bio has signed into law a set of gender equality reforms ensuring that women hold at least 30% of positions in both elected and appointed government roles. The new law also mandates paid maternity leave and equal financial access for women, reinforcing the government's commitment to inclusivity and workplace equity. This initiative builds on the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act, which was enacted in 2022 and has already led to increased female representation in parliament and the executive branch.

The administration has also strengthened measures against gender-based violence (GBV), including amendments to the Sexual Offenses Act, the creation of specialized courts, and the establishment of dedicated police units to investigate sexual violence cases. Additionally, one-stop support centers have been introduced to provide survivors with legal aid, medical assistance, and counseling services. A key aspect of these reforms includes a revised Child Rights Law, currently before parliament, which would ban female genital mutilation (FGM) for minors—a significant step in protecting young girls from harmful traditional practices.

Beyond social reforms, President Bio's administration is implementing transformative changes in Sierra Leone's healthcare sector. In 2025, the government will launch a strategic partnership with ILMedicare, a leading European medical provider specializing in preventive care and cardiology. The collaboration, spearheaded by Dr. Petros Agathangelou, President of the Cyprus Medical Association, aims to strengthen the nation's medical infrastructure by bringing specialized expertise and advanced medical technologies to Sierra Leone.

This partnership comes at a time when non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular conditions, are on the rise. By integrating European-standard healthcare solutions, the initiative seeks to improve early diagnosis, treatment accessibility, and patient outcomes in a country where limited medical resources have long posed challenges.

Additionally, Sierra Leone is set to establish AI-powered medical imaging facilities in 2025, featuring cutting-edge CT and MRI scanners. The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) will enhance diagnostic precision, enable early disease detection, and improve patient management. These advancements will modernize Sierra Leone's healthcare sector and align it with international medical standards.

Meanwhile, ongoing discussions surrounding the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Act—which proposes decriminalizing abortion—continue to shape national healthcare policy. President Bio has emphasized the importance of updating outdated laws to reflect modern healthcare priorities and ensure women's reproductive rights and safety. The proposed changes have sparked debate, with advocates highlighting the potential for reduced maternal mortality rates and expanded healthcare options for women.

As Sierra Leone implements these transformative policies, local and international stakeholders have expressed support for the government's initiatives. Women's rights groups, healthcare professionals, and economic analysts recognize the long-term benefits of these reforms, which are expected to enhance gender inclusivity, improve public health, and drive sustainable development.

With these ambitious legislative and healthcare initiatives, Sierra Leone is positioning itself as a leader in progressive governance in West Africa. By fostering gender equality, strengthening legal protections, and advancing medical infrastructure, President Bio's administration is laying the groundwork for a more equitable and healthier future for all citizens.

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