

The 2nd JMB Leadership Colloquium & African Young Leaders Convergence ends with Calls for New Era of African Leadership

President Julius Maada Bio continues to consolidate on his Leadership Vision and Legacies

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE, May 19, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The 2nd [Julius Maada Bio Leadership Colloquium](#) 2026 and the [African Young Leaders Convergence](#) 2026 successfully concluded after two impactful days of transformative dialogue, visionary engagement, youth-driven innovation, and continental collaboration focused on redefining Africa's leadership trajectory in a rapidly evolving world.



President Bio delivering His Keynote Address at the Colloquium

Held under the powerful theme, “Reimagining African Leadership: Courage, Accountability, and Innovation in an Era of Global Uncertainty,” the Colloquium convened over 1000 distinguished African leaders, policymakers, diplomats, governance experts, private sector executives,

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President Julius Maada Bio

development partners, academics, creatives, and emerging young leaders from across the continent and the diaspora.

As part of efforts to sustain His Excellency [Julius Maada Bio's](#) leadership legacy and vision, the gathering reinforced the President's role as a leading voice and promoter of democratic governance, youth empowerment, civic innovation, peacebuilding, and sustainable development in Africa.

The event featured keynote addresses, high-level panel discussions, intergenerational dialogues, innovation

showcases, networking sessions, cultural exhibitions, and strategic engagements focused on strengthening ethical leadership and advancing inclusive governance systems that can respond to the realities of the 21st century.

Delivering the keynote address at the Colloquium, President Julius Maada Bio challenged African leaders and institutions to embrace courageous reforms, transparent governance, and people-centered policies capable of unlocking the continent's enormous potential.

"Africa does not lack talent, resources, or ambition. What we must continue to build is courageous leadership that places citizens at the center of governance, inspires innovation, protects democratic values, and prepares the next generation to lead with integrity and purpose," President Bio stated.

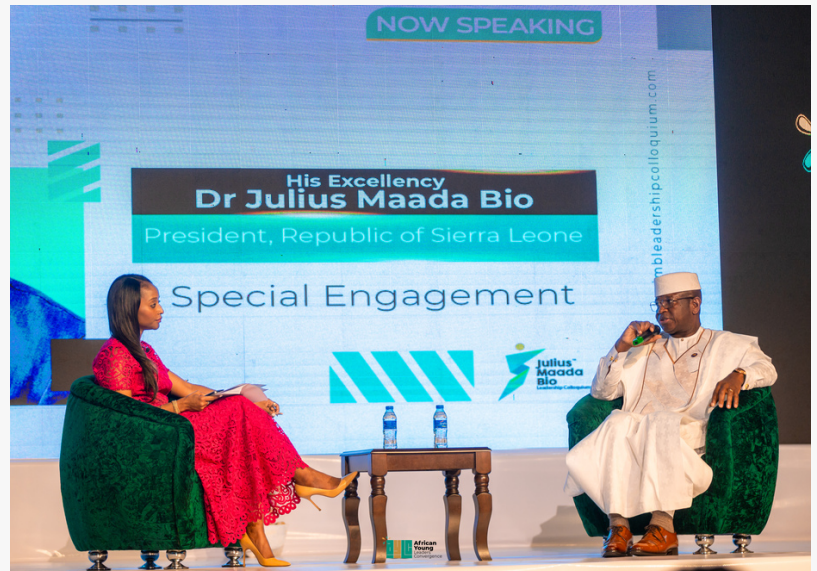
The President further emphasized the importance of investing in young people as co-creators of Africa's future rather than passive beneficiaries of policy decisions. He reiterated Sierra Leone's commitment to education, youth empowerment, gender inclusion, democratic accountability, and regional cooperation as pillars for sustainable national and continental transformation.

One of the defining highlights of the convergence was the active participation of young leaders from diverse African countries who engaged in dynamic conversations around entrepreneurship, digital innovation, civic participation, creative industries, and leadership accountability. Delegates shared practical ideas and collaborative solutions to accelerate Africa's socio-economic transformation through youth-led initiatives.

The African Young Leaders Convergence underscored the urgency of bridging generational divides and creating institutional pathways for young Africans to actively participate in



President Bio at the African Young Leaders Convergence 2026



President Bio in a Fireside Chat at the African Young Leaders Convergence 2026

governance, policymaking, innovation ecosystems, and nation-building.

Participants commended President Julius Maada Bio for successfully hosting a world-class leadership platform that fostered meaningful engagement, continental solidarity, and practical action-oriented dialogue.

The Colloquium also celebrated African excellence through cultural performances, creative showcases, and a closing musical experience that highlighted the richness of African heritage, creativity, and unity.

At the conclusion of the event, delegates adopted a collective call to action urging: Greater investment in youth leadership development; Stronger democratic institutions and accountability systems; Increased intra-African collaboration and innovation partnerships; Expanded access to education and digital opportunities; Enhanced participation of women and young people in governance; and Renewed commitment to peace, social justice, and sustainable development across the continent.

Organizers described the 2026 edition as a landmark success that has further positioned the Julius Maada Bio Leadership Colloquium as one of Africa's emerging platforms for leadership thought, policy engagement, and youth-driven continental dialogue.

At the closing ceremony, some participants thanked His Excellency Dr. Julius Maada Bio, development partners, sponsors, speakers, delegates, volunteers, media partners, security agencies, and all stakeholders for their support in hosting the event.

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