



Honorary Consuls and Consuls-General representing Sierra Leone in Bavaria, Stuttgart, Hamburg (Germany) and Vienna (Austria), Naples and Milan in Italy which the Sierra Leone mission in Germany also oversees, on Tuesday November 20 2018 presented their report for the year under review of their consular activities, political agenda and investment programmes at an

interactive discussion session hosted at the embassy in Berlin.

Ambassador H.E Dr. M'baimba Lamin Baryoh in his welcome address extends greetings to his guests from President Maada Bio and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and extolled the good job they have been doing and continue to do making it known that the success of the work at the embassy depends on them as lieutenants more so when they look after the indigenes and maintain bilateral relations insisting that the latter is the most important. In addition to promoting and enhancing the vision of the President, on one hand, and the country on the other.

Systematically, Ambassador Baryoh gave a graphic narrative of the health, agriculture, marine resources, tourism and education situation in the country emphasising that education is the government flagship programme with 21% of budgetary allocation going towards the free quality education for primary, secondary pupils and some university students. He made reference to the Global Hunger index which ranked Sierra Leone as the 3rd hungriest country. But on the other hand, the country is ranked as the 3rd most peaceful country in sub-Sahara Africa. He appealed for support in the health sector faced with challenges of maternal and infant mortality, investment in mechanise agriculture especially food crop and protection of our territorial waters to reduce illegal fishing, and ways to boost the tourism industry to attract tourist through holding of workshops and advertisement of the country's touristic potentials. An improved standard of living, he furthered, will lead to drop in both maternal and child mortality rates.

Dr. Dietmar Scheiter, Pro. Eberhard Miller, Dr. Wolfgang Breithenthaler, Willi Drechsler, Dott Elio Pacifico all took turn to explain their programmes and activities centered around the interest of Sierra Leone and Sierra Leoneans. Dr. Alessandro Rosso in Milan was represented by a Sierra Leonean Maj. Koroma who spoke about the establishment of the Sierra Leone - Italian Promotion

Import and Export Development (SIPID) and the possibility of investing in sea transportation, an initiative put on hold because the 2018 elections were approaching.

Deputy Ambassador H.E Jonathan Leigh in his contribution expressed happiness that the embassy was able to hold in their first one month in office a gathering of the Consuls which was impossible to organise in the past describing it as a breakthrough and a plus thanking the Head of Chancery Mr. David Madar Gbenjen and the Confidential Secretary to the Ambassador for their time and efforts. He reminded the Consuls that the bigger picture is the embassy so they cannot work in isolation of the embassy. He re-echoed the fact that whatever investment plans they have must be channelled through the embassy as the Ambassador earlier brought to their attention. He looked forward to a fruitful working relationship with them.

The welcome address was delivered by the Head of Chancery and the event was climaxed with the presentation of letters of appointments by Ambassador Baryoh to the respective Consuls from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Freetown.