

SIERRA LEONE
JOINT ECOWAS - COUNCIL OF EUROPE REGIONAL CONFERENCE,
ABUJA, NIGERIA, 11-13 SEPTEMBER 2017 ON CYBERCRIME AND
ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE

Sierra Leone is not a party to the Budapest Convention and also we have no comprehensive law on the combating of the global threat of cybercrime.

Presently, though without any comprehensive law on cybercrime, we have established a unit in the Sierra Leone Police Force (SLP) called Cybercrime Unit with the mandate to investigate and prosecute cyber related offences using our 1965 Public Order Act.

The Anti-corruption Act of 2008, though it has created no offence against cybercrime makes provision for the use of electronic evidence. The conduct of prosecution in modern times without a clear law criminalizing cybercrime, creates a nightmare

The Ministry of Information and Communication in collaboration with international partners, has submitted a paper on cybercrime and data protection for the approval of Cabinet.

Cybercrime and data protection, has to be combated with robust laws and enforcements mechanisms to tackle its devastating effects on investments, financial institutions and sovereignty etc. of a nation.

Our expectation during this meeting is to get a full understanding of the convention, the principles, and implementing mechanisms of cybercrime. We look forward and are ready to learn from other nations who are party and have domesticated said convention.

In that connection therefore, Sierra Leone is represented by a member of the Prosecution Division and the Legislative Drafting Division of the Attorney General's office.

We hope to learn about the convention to be able to get our Government to sign and ratify the convention and thereafter incorporate the provision of the convention into or domesticate the convention. Also we hope to develop the requisite mechanisms to develop and enforce these laws.

THANK YOU.

Submitted by:

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