



PRESS RELEASE

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) and the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD), Undertake Survey on issues dealing with Persons with Disabilities in the Electoral Process

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) in collaboration with the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) has released a survey report titled: **An Assessment on Access to the Electoral Process for Persons with Disabilities in Sierra Leone.**

The report provides detailed insight into the experiences and perceptions of Persons with Disabilities and their participation in the electoral process in Sierra Leone.

The Report also highlights the degree of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) engagements in the electoral processes and further gives recommendations for improving accessibility and participation in the electoral processes, before, during and after the March 2018 elections.

The survey report also underscores the need for partners to consider all persons and not just the most vocal or visible majority in society, but all category of persons including PWDs.

The recommendations of the survey report targets institutions like the National Electoral Commission and other Elections Management Bodies, Political Parties and civil society to ensure that they provide PWDs the opportunity to participate in the electoral process as mandated by law.

According to the NEC Disability Policy, It would be "... difficult for a country to call itself a democracy without maintaining a participatory and inclusive political environment in its policy..."

The National Electoral Commission will continue to collaborate with the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities to ensure that all eligible citizens are able to exercise their rights in the March 2018 elections and all other related activities in Sierra Leone.

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