



One Country
One People

SIERRA LEONE PEOPLE'S PARTY

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Our Ref:.....

Your Ref:.....

National Chairman
Alhaji U.N.S. Jah

National Secretary-General
Mr Jacob Jusu Saffa
(076-610641)

Administrative Secretary
Mr Brima E. Koroma
(076-603326)

May 12, 2008

The Chairperson,
Independent Media Commission
Freetown

Dear Mrs Bernadette Cole,

SHUT-DOWN of UNITY RADIO – FM 94.9

I wish to submit to your office a formal complaint about the instruction by the Minister of Information and Communication to illegally shut-down the Unity Radio FM 94.9.

According to the Press Release from the Ministry of Information and Communication " ***That the SLPP Radio did not go through the right procedures in terms of regulations. The Ministry of Information was not legally informed with regards the operations of the radio*** " As you can attest, Unity radio was registered in August 2007 by the Unity Communications Limited owned by the Sierra Leone People's Party and allocated frequency 94.9. When we acquired a new transmitter, we notified your office as required by law. We have complied with all the rules and regulations required by the legal institutions (IMC and the National Telecommunications Commission (NATCOM) to broadcast on the allocated frequency.

The Press Release also claims that "***the SLPP radio went ahead to install an antenna across other antennas at Leceister Peak using private engineers without knowledge of the Ministry of Information and Communication***". We find this absurd as we requested in writing to the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Service (SLBS) for the use of the antenna. We were granted permission and the reply to our request was copied to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Information who has the responsibility to brief his Minister. We paid the rental fee for a quarter as agreed with SLBS. I would also like to emphasize the second paragraph in reply to our letter from SLBS dated April 9, 2008 "Setting up and cabling will be your company's responsibility under the strict supervision of SLBS Engineers" This was accordingly complied with and the space was allocated by the SLBS.