

# ACT

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## THE SIERRA LEONE CORRECTIONAL SERVICE ACT, 2014

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SIGNED this 17th day of September, 2014.

DR. ERNEST BAI KOROMA,  
*President.*



No. 5



2014

Sierra Leone

**The Sierra Leone Correctional Service Act, 2014.**

Short title.

**Being an Act to establish the Sierra Leone Correctional Service, to introduce provisions for the organisation and management of correctional centres and for other related matters.**

[ ] Date of commencement.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

## PART 1—PRELIMINARY

Application. **1.** (1) This Act shall apply to all correctional centres administered by the Government, all inmates lawfully held in such correctional centres and to all members of the Sierra Leone Correctional Service.

(2) Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to render unlawful the detention of inmates in chiefdom or police detention centres or lockups.

(3) The Minister may by order apply all or any of the provisions of this Act or any subsidiary legislation made under it to any correctional or detention centre or lock-up administered by the Government, any Chiefdom Council or by the Police or to any inmate or class of inmates detained in any correctional or detention centre or lock-up or to any person employed in the control or administration of any correctional or detention centre or lock-up.

(4) The Minister may by statutory instrument revoke or vary any order made under subsection (3).

(5) The Minister may in any order provide that in the application of any provision of this Act or any subsidiary legislation made under it to any correctional centre or lock-up or to any inmate or class of inmates or to any person employed in the control or administration of any correctional centre the provision shall be subject to such adaptations and modifications as he may think necessary.

Interpretation.

**2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"aggravated correctional centre offence" means an offence declared to as such under rules made under this Act;

"appellant inmate" means any convicted criminal inmate who is detained in a correctional centre as a result of a conviction which is the subject matter of an appeal notice of which has been accepted but the decision in regard to which has not been given;

"civil inmate" means any inmate other than a criminal inmate;

"convicted criminal inmate" means any criminal inmate under sentence of a court or court martial;

"correctional centre" means a correctional centre established under this Act;

"corrections officer" means any member of the Correctional Service of whatever rank;

"Council" means the Sierra Leone Correctional Service Council established by section 9;

"court" means any court or authority entitled to pass a sentence in a criminal case or to order a person to be detained in custody in any case;

"criminal inmate" means any person duly committed to custody under the writ, warrant or order of any court exercising criminal jurisdiction or by order of a court martial;

"Director" means a Director of Correctional Services.

"inmate" means any person, whether convicted or not, under detention in any correctional centre;"

"Judge" means a Judge of the High Court;

Act No. 32  
of 1965.

"junior corrections officer" means a corrections officer of a class declared by the Minister to be a junior corrections officer ;

"justice of the peace" means a justice of the peace appointed under the Courts Act, 1965;

"juvenile" means a person under the apparent age of eighteen years;

"Medical Officer" means either the District Medical Officer of the district in which the correctional centre is situated or, in his absence any registered or licensed Government medical practitioner or the medical officer appointed to a correctional centre if a medical officer has been so appointed;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for correctional services;

"minor correctional centre offence" means an offence declared to be such under rules made under this Act;

"officer-in-charge" means the corrections officer appointed by the Director to be in charge of any correctional centre and, in correctional centres where no such corrections officer has been appointed, includes an administrative officer in charge of a correctional centre;

"prohibited article" means an article the introduction or removal into or out of a correctional centre of which is prohibited by this Act,

"senior corrections officer " means a corrections officer of a class declared by the Minister to be a senior corrections officer;

"Service" means the Sierra Leone Correctional Service;

"young inmate" means an inmate who is apparently of or above the age of eighteen years and less than the age of twenty-one years.

## PART II—CONSTITUTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE SIERRALEONE CORRECTIONAL SERVICE

3. There is hereby established a body to be known as the Establishment of Sierra Leone Correctional Service.

4. (1) The Service shall have—

(a) a Director-General who shall be the head of the Service; and

(b) a Deputy Director-General.

(2) The Director-General and the Deputy Director-General shall be appointed by the President acting on the advice of the Council and subject to the approval of Parliament.

5. (1) The Director-General, as head of the Service shall have responsibility for the operational control and administration of the Service and the control and supervision of all inmates subject to the directions of the Council. Functions of Director-General.

(2) The Director-General may, subject to this Act and to the directions of the Council, from time to time make standing orders and give administrative directions for observance by all correctional centre officers in carrying out their duties under this Act.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other enactment, the Director-General shall have power to make any decision, give any directive and do any act or thing to ensure the security and good governance of any correctional centre.