



The Integrity Management Committee (IMC) of Statistics Sierra Leone (Stats SL) since its inception on the 19th October, 2018.

BACKGROUND

As Statistics Sierra Leone (Stats SL) is relied on for the decisions of governments, businesses, households, and other organizations for the flow of objective and credible statistics, it is the initiative of the Statistician General who assumed office in April 2018 to form an Integrity Management Committee (IMC) to commence its operations officially on the 19th October 2019. The membership of the 11-man committee was carefully drawn from all Divisions and Departments through consultation with management and the entire Stats SL staff.

OBJECTIVES OF THE IMC

The SG has targets for setting up the IMC which are:

1. Set the stage for Stats SL to ensure data integrity thereby easily achieving his WINNER vision.
2. To give Stats SL high recognition nationally and internationally.
3. Serve as a liaison between Stats SL and the Anti-Corruption Commission in ensuring that Stats SL staff is well informed about the danger of corrupt practices.
4. The **IMC** to serve as good example and be an ambassador in the propagation of the values of integrity.

5. Assist to detect corruption practices that have high tendency of negatively impacting the WINNER Vision of Stats SL.

ACTIVITIES OF THE IMC SINCE IT INCEPTION

- The committee had its first meeting on the 19th October 2018 during which presentation on the concept of integrity was made to its membership by the chairman of the committee. Nominations for the vice Chairperson and the Focal person were made and filled during this meeting entirely done by the committee.
- Invitation of senior personnel from the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) to formally inaugurate the committee on the 15th November, 2018. This first encounter of the IMC with the ACC was very interactive and educative as the ethics and principles under which IMCs for MDAs should operate were highlighted and reading materials made available.
- With the outstanding will from the SG, the IMC received a budgetary support of Fifteen Million Leones (Le 15,000.00) which formed the stage for the committee to embark on a four days sensitization on Stats SL IMC mission and vision in all five (5) the regional offices starting from the 27th November, 2018. The sensitization trip to the regions aroused keen interest on the aspirations of IMC to an extent that staff in those regions feels that their offices should be represented in the IMC. This sensitization mission is yet to be completed in the other district offices.
- The second meeting of the committee was held on the 6th February, 2019 during which a wide range of issues like the creation of an **Action Plan** for the 2019. This plan will be incorporated to the National Action Plan of the ACC. The committee was able to set its sensitization targets for the 2019.

IMPACT OF THE IMC TO STATS SL

Stats SL Council Chairman and members, though the phenomenon of IMC in Stats SL is entirely new, today its principles and practices are closely linked to statistical Policy Directives and other standards all geared towards ensuring data integrity for which all of us are employed in this institution. The IMC is given the capacity by the SG to perform the specific additional functions listed below which has impacted positively our statistical work:

- The IMC has the mandate by the SG to report straight to the council chairman and will always be on standby for service to the council chairman.
- IMC chair is a member of the Procurement committee.
- The IMC chair will be called on purpose to management meetings.
- The IMC will help in the development and implementation Anti-Corruption policies.
- IMC will monitor selection of staff for surveys.
- IMC will facilitate training in integrity-related topics as relates to governance.

CONCLUSION

Management and staff of Statistics Sierra Leone wish to thank the Statistician General for a wonderful initiative and plead on Stats SL council for their anticipated relentless support to the committee as it reaffirms its commitment to maintaining the highest level of integrity in producing official statistics.