

Public Sector Reform Unit



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PSRU to undertake a Comprehensive Review to Reform Higher Education Sector,



Tuesday 5th May 2026, New England Ville Freetown: The Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU) has been mandated to conduct a comprehensive Management and Functional Review (MFR) of the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education and its affiliated institutions, including public universities and regulatory bodies with the view to enhance efficiency, accountability, service delivery, and institutional performance within the education sector.

The objective of the review is to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, and relevance of the Ministry and its institutions in delivering on their mandates, specifically to evaluate their mandates, roles, and legal frameworks, assess their organizational structures and reporting lines, review human resource capacity and deployment and examine financial management and resource utilization.

The review will also analyse policy implementation and service delivery outcomes, identify duplications, overlaps, and gaps and recommend reforms for improved performance and governance.



Speaking at an inception meeting with key stakeholders in the education sector on Tuesday 5th May, 2026, the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Tertiary and higher Education, Mr. Sajor Aziz Kamara expressed satisfaction that the Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU) was not operating in isolation but was supported by ministerial representation and a full review team, demonstrating a coordinated and collective approach to the reform process.

strengthening institutions within the technical and higher education sector through

performance assessments, identification of gaps, and the adoption of best practices to improve efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness to national priorities.

The Deputy Minister also welcomed the presence of Vice Chancellors, Principals, Registrars, and other institutional leaders, noting that their participation reflects a shared responsibility and seriousness toward achieving meaningful and lasting reform.

Emphasizing the importance of ownership, he urged participants to actively engage in the process and treat it as a collective national responsibility.

The Minister of Public Administration and Political Affairs, Mr. Amara Kallon, highlighted deep-rooted structural challenges within Sierra Leone's public sector, pointing to a persistent bureaucracy that continues to operate largely unchanged despite changes in the political leadership.

Minister Kallon stressed that tackling these longstanding inefficiencies requires a comprehensive and unified reform agenda rather than fragmented interventions.

He revealed that, under the directive of H.E. President Julius Maada Bio, the government has initiated wide-ranging management and functional reviews across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).



According to him, these efforts have already led to significant institutional reforms, including the establishment of a National Investment Board and the transformation of the Pharmacy Board into a more autonomous authority. He added that over 35 institutions have undergone restructuring to improve service delivery.

He further emphasized the urgency of aligning governance systems with modern realities, particularly in the areas of education and technology.

In his remarks, the Director of the Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU), Mr. Sulaiman Phoray-Musa, highlighted the critical role of an effective public service in national development, noting that a country's progress is often reflected in the strength of its institutions.

He stated that the exercise has been mandated by the Ministry and approved by Cabinet, underscoring its national importance, pointing out that the inception meeting serves as an entry point into the overall review process as it provides an opportunity for engagement with stakeholders ahead of the formal commencement of the review.

Mr. Phoray-Musa also delivered a detailed power point presentation outlining the strategic focus, objectives, scope, methodology, expected outcomes, and approved processes of the exercise.

The Management and Functional Review is expected to significantly enhance efficiency, accountability, and overall institutional performance across the education sector.

About the PSRU

The Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU) provides leadership, coordination, and technical backstopping in the strategic design, development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of all public sector reform initiatives. Its mission is to facilitate the creation of a lean, performance-oriented, highly motivated, modern, and efficient Public Service that delivers high-quality services to the people of Sierra Leone in a timely and cost-effective manner.



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