

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (NCPD)



ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT REPORT

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ADA	–	African Disability Alliance
CID	–	Criminal Investigation Department
CRPD	–	Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
FCC	–	Freetown City Council
GLRA	–	German Leprosy & TB Relief Association
HE	–	His Excellency
HI	–	Handicap International
IDA	–	International Disability Alliance
ISO	–	International Organisation for Standardizations
NCPD	–	National Commission for Persons with Disability
NTAAC	–	National Technical Accessibility Audit Committee
PWDs	–	Persons with Disabilities
SLP	–	Sierra Leone Police
TB	–	Tuberculosis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

An accessibility audit of this nature wouldn't been possible without the generous contributions and dogged commitment of several people and partners. We are deeply grateful to the Government of Sierra Leone, Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Finance for providing the financial support for this project without which it would have been extremely difficult to carry out the exercise. We register our profound thanks to all our partners for their support. GLRA provided technical support to ensure that this work is done.

Special thanks to Honourable Madam Baindu Dassama Kamara (Minister of Social Welfare) for her instrumental supervisory role in ensuring this accessibility audit was realized. We want to acknowledge all the members of the Accessibility Audit Committee for their dedication to the accessibility audit implementation.

Our sincere thanks to all staff of the institutions that were audited by the Accessibility Committee. We salute the President HE Rtd. Brigadier Julius Maada Bio, Chief Minister, Permanent Secretaries and the staff of State House for their cooperation to audit the entire State House edifice, Her Worship the Mayor and staff of FCC for their cooperation during the Accessibility Audit exercise, the Speaker, Clerk, MPs and Staff of the Parliament of Sierra Leone for their collaboration in making the accessibility audit very fruitful.

We would also like to thank the Minister, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Works, The Master and Registrar General of the Registrar General's Office, the Inspector General and the Director of CID of the SLP for granting us access to their facilities.

Bravo to the NCPD staff for their team spirit, devotion and professionalism that they exhibited in this work.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Commission for Persons with Disability (NCPD), and its partners embarked on accessibility auditing on some key government establishments in Freetown i.e. the State House, the Sierra Leone House of Parliament, Law Court head office (Siaka Steven Street, Pademba and the Fast Track Court at Government Wharf), the Youyi Building, the Ministry of Works and Public Assets, the Connaught Hospital, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and the Police Headquarters.

The Persons with Disability Act 2011 that established the Commission provided for free barriers to all persons with disabilities (PWDs) in their communities in Sierra Leone. Hence, the accessibility audit was done purposefully to gauge the willingness of state institutions to make their facilities accessible to People with Disabilities. The aim of this report is to ensure that the Institutions captured herein should comply and implement the recommendations of the accessibility audit committee. That notwithstanding, this report could be utilize by other institutions to inform their decisions about accessibility for persons with disabilities that will contribute a barrier free environment for all citizens with disabilities and older people in our society. Here are the recommendations for the adaptation of the state institutions that were audited in 2019.

General Recommendation.

- Support National Technical Accessibility Audit Committee NTAAC.
- Pay serious attention to physical accessibility in all government and public buildings.
- Building certifiers, building developers and building managers should make public buildings accessible, as such requirement is provided for in the Persons with Disability Act 2011.
- Policy makers, builders, building developers and engineers should make recourse to the Technical Accessibility Audit Team at the Commission as and when necessary.
- Public and private owners and builders must take cognizance of the Accessibility Requirement established by the Technical Accessibility Audit Team.
- Amplify the awareness on issues of accessibility and inclusion within the community.
- Inhibit the construction of future accessibility barriers through referring to NTAAC and PWDs in the plan process.

1. Recommendations for Freetown City Council (FCC):

Short term:

The ramp leading to the Mayor's Parlour should be given two rails on both sides.

Since the toilets are not accessible we hereby recommend that accessible toilets with all facilities must be constructed.

The Social Services Unit Department which handles disability issues should be empowered to support people with special needs to have easy access in and around the office environment.

Mid-term:

The access road leading to the entrance needs to be properly rehabilitated to enhance accessibility. Consider elevators or customizing the second floor to enhance accessibility.

Long term:

Even though the FCC will be relocating by 2020, it is recommended that the entire current building be refurbished with all of the facilities been made accessible for future users.

2. Recommendations for Magistrate Court, Pademba Road:

Generally, the magistrate court is a modern building with recent design that is accessible to persons with disabilities. The ramps in the building need rails for it to be more accessible to wheelchair users and disabled kids. A ramp is needed at the entrance to the toilet to make it accessible to wheelchairs users. The doors need to be changed to a better one that can allow a wheel chair user to have an easy access in the toilet. Provision needs to be made for the wheel chair at the parking lot.

3. Recommendations for Fast Track Court, Government:

The entrance to the building needs to be paved for an easy access to the structure. The building needs a ramp at the entrance to make it accessible for a wheelchair users. Ramp needs to be built at the inside of the building to give an easy access to the upstairs of the building. Works need to be done on the doors of the toilet and also the fixing of pretension bars to make it more accessible for persons with disability.

4. Recommendations for Criminal Investigation Department Headquarters:

The following are some recommendations made in regards the improvement of the structure. The entrance is somehow encouraging in terms of accessibility by a person with disability but it also needs some improvement in the standard for a wheel chair user to have an easy access around the building.

From the engineering findings, ramps and rails need to be constructed to have clear access into the back entrance and also the entrance to the cells too.

For a wheel chair user to access the upper floors of the building, the construction of elevator is highly recommended.

5. Recommendations for Sierra Leone Police Headquarters:

The ground floor of the building should have a ramp and a rail at the entrance to make it accessible for persons with disability and more especially those that are using wheel chair.

Provision of special parking lot for those that are using wheel chair and indicator of plaque to show where the structure offices are. The toilet needs to be renovated to a decent and hygienic standard also in a disable friendly manner. The back entrance which is more accessible compared to the front, need to have a ramp for persons using a wheel chair. From a technical point of view, an elevator is needed for an easy access to the top floors of the building that is the only possible way a person with a wheel chair can access the top floors of the building.

6. Recommendation for Connaught Hospital:

As the main public hospital in the country, modern standards are needed to improve the entrances and also to make it completely disabled friendly. The stairs leading to the top floor where the wards are needs a ramp that will run through for an easy access for persons with disabilities and more especially those with wheel chair. There are very important departments in the hospital building like the Dental, TB, X-RAY and Eye clinic, are totally not accessible by people with disabilities. It is of a very strong recommendation to repair the elevator for it is the only possible way for a person with disability and wheel chair users to access the top floors of the building where the wards are located.

7. Recommendation for Ministry of Works and Public Assets:

The construction of ramps and rails is strongly recommended in the two main entrances of the building for a possible access for persons using a wheel chair to access the ground floor of the

building.

The suspension bridge needs to be expanded for a wheel chair user to have an easy access from one wing of the building to the other. A toilet is needed at the ground floor of the building for an easy access for persons with disability. The doors leading to the offices in the building needs to be expanded to give access to wheel chair user. Finally, an elevator is needed in both flanks of the building in order for a disabled person can easily access the top floors of the building.

8. Recommendation for Youyi Building, Miatta Conference Hall:

The following are some possible recommendations for the short-term improvement of the building. A ramp is needed at the entrance of the building, a ramp also at the steps leading to the toilet. The stairs leading to the main conference hall needs a ramp to make it accessible for persons with wheel chair. The main stage in the conference hall needs a ramp for a wheel chair user to enable him or her to access the platform easily.

9. Recommendations for the Youyi Building Ministerial Building:

The main entrance to the building needs a ramp to allow persons using a wheel chair to have an access into the building. An urgent repair of the other two elevators in the building to create an easy access to the top floor and reduce congestion or overcrowding in the only functional one. Brail system is also needed to be installed in the elevation system for persons who are blind to access it even if they are alone in it. The toilet system needs to be improved to make it accessible for persons using the wheel chair. The doors need to be changed to a more standard one that allows a wheel chair person to have an easy access.

Structuring is recommended in order to fix up all the building; to be disabled friendly as it is one of the most important building in the governance of Sierra Leone. It will be necessary if the other elevator in the building is repair or replaced with a new one to reduce the work load on the functioning one.

10. Recommendations for State House:

The entrance door to the structure needs to be changed to a modernized and standard one that will allow persons with crutches and wheel chairs to have an easy access to the building. A ramp is needed at the main entrance of the building that can give access to wheel chairs users to enter the building with ease. Ramps are needed at the entrances to the toilets to allow the wheel chair to have a easy access. The doors are too small for a wheel chair to enter; standard doors are needed for the easy access of wheelchair users.

Technically, most of the doors in the building are too small enough for a wheel chair to access; so expansion of the office doors is strongly recommended.

11. Recommendations for Sierra Leone House of Parliament

There is an urgent need of the construction of ramps at the main entrance of the building and also at all the roads leading to the toilets.

Another ramp should be built at the back of the building for persons using wheelchairs to have access into the wells of parliament. A ramp also at the road leading to the administrative building and also its entrance.

Improvement of all the toilet doors and other necessary disabled facilities to enable the structure to be disabled friendly.

Ensure that there is reserved parking space for persons with disabilities.

SAA LAMIN RAYMOND KORTEQUEE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

OVERVIEW

The National Commission for Persons with Disability (NCPD) in partnership with the German Leprosy TB Relief Agency (GLRA) organized a Technical Accessibility Audit Exercise on the premises of key government institutions; the State House, the Sierra Leone House of Parliament, Law Court (Siaka Steven Street, Pademba and the Fast Track Court at Government Wharf), the Youyi Building, the Ministry of Works and Public Assets, the Connaught Hospital, Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and the Police Headquarters.

The authority to conduct an accessibility audit, serve accessibility notice and order are directly derived from Sections 24, 26 and 27 of the Persons with Disability Act 2011. As provided for in Subsection (24) (1), persons with disabilities are entitled to barrier free environment and subsection 24(2) states that the Commission shall recommend suitable adaptation in an appropriate manner. Section 26 gives the Commission the powers to issue adjustment orders after serving notice of accessibility and Section 27 makes it compulsory for public premises to be accessible for persons with disabilities.

For the effective execution of the functions refer to above, the Commission established a National Technical Accessibility Audit Committee (NTAAC) with the primary functions of assessing buildings used by the public and proffer suitable recommendation for adaptation where necessary. The power to establish such committees is provided for in Section 7(2) (d) which gives the Commission the powers to establish committees consisting of members and non-members of the Commission. Section 7(2) (e) delegate powers to those committees.

Therefore, the NTAAC is composed of the following institutions; NCPD as Chair, National Rehabilitation Centre, Ministry of Works and Public Asset, Freetown City Council, German Leprosy Relief Agency, Ministry of Social Welfare, Sierra Leone Union on Disability Issues and Humanity Inclusion (HI).

METHODOLOGY

The method used in the 2019 Accessibility Audit was both qualitative and quantitative assessment of the buildings, its facilities, entrances, elevators and most importantly number of persons with disabilities working in the various premises audited. The process of the audit was also heavily informed by the ADA Standard for Physical Environment and ISO Guideline 71 which collective focus is whether the person with disability can independently enter, circulate within, and use the facilities.

In other to comply with research laws and standards, the Commission sent a letter of Notice to the respective institutions for the proposed accessibility audit. In addition, the administrators, proprietors and head of the institutions signed the consent forms and provided a conductor of the audit in and around the various facilities.

In assessing the level of accessibility of institutions, reasonable accommodation measures and the number of staffs with disabilities, the audit was intended to enquire the organizational evaluation of staff category, those with disabilities and those without disabilities. The infrastructural evaluation was qualitatively done to assess the access roads, entrances, toilets, meeting and HR rooms. It also took cognisance of access to facilities upstairs, steps, elevators and the availability of aides or support staff to persons with disabilities. To assess the reception, attitude towards persons with disabilities, a wheelchair user was with the team to deductively assess reception of persons with disabilities.

Finally, the audit was in line with the legal provision provided for in section 24(2) of the persons with disabilities Act of 2011 and the contemplation in Article 9 of the UNCRPD. The audit was informed by the law as it provides that the Commission shall specify the manner of adaptation and further makes it obligatory for all proprietors of public buildings to comply with the Commission's Accessibility Specification.



1. FREETOWN CITY COUNCIL (FCC)

The team arrived at the Freetown City Council (FCC) at around 11:30 a.m. and we were welcomed by the city engineer, Engineer Sowa accompanied by a team member who is also working for the Freetown city council and a member of the Team Engineer James Jusu. The Team started with a meeting with the Deputy Chief Administrator of the Freetown City Council, Mr. Bangalie Foday Marrah, who clearly explained to the Team the status of the structures. He informed the Team that the current FCC was built more than two hundred years

ago for housing slaves. However, they will be moving to the new structure by mid- 2020.

Physical Assessment of the Facilities.

Findings on the FCC

1.1 Access roads:

- The roads leading to the structures are accessible
- No plaques/road signs.

1.2 Entrance:

- There is a ramp leading to the Mayor's Parlour which does not meet the required accessibility standards.
- No parking lot reserved for wheelchair users.
- No partway between the parking lot and the office.
- The reception is inaccessible.
- No floor marking at the entrance.
- There is only one ramp which is too sloppy and without hand rails on both sides.

1.3 Toilet

- The doors are not large enough for a wheel chair user.
- None of the doors open inside, no pretensions bars in the toilet.
- There is not enough space in the toilets for a wheelchair to circulate.

1.4 Meeting rooms:

- There is an accessible entrance to the meeting room which needs improvement. The way needs to be improved on.
- No braille indicators.

2. THE HIGH COURT/ MAGISTRATE COURT AND FAST TRACK COURT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE FAST TRACK COURT



On the 13th November, 2019, the exercise continued with the team targeting the judiciary of Sierra Leone with the High Court, Pademba Road Magistrate Court and The Fast Track Court at Government Wharf. The three courts are located in different areas in the city of Freetown and so the assessment was done separately in a systematic order.

The High Court: The High Court is situated at Siaka Stevens Street in the City Centre of Freetown and the structure

was opened on the 15th December, 1910 with the main aim to uphold the constitution and rule of law, adjudication of civil and criminal matters in order to promote national peace, security and development. Mrs. Kabia who is one of the staff in the Registrar's Office, welcomed the Team in and gave a background of the building and she then conducted the Team in and around the main Law Court Building.

ENTRANCE:

- The access road leading to the structure is accessible but needs to be improved for wheelchair users to have access to the entire structure.
- The main entrance has no ramp but it is accessible for wheel chair users but needs to be repaired properly for easy entrance.
- The structure has no parking lot or marked area for persons using a wheelchair.
- There are no signs describing the location of the reception.
- The post at the gate by observation, are working in the capacity of the reception.
- In order to access the top floors of the High Court, it is recommended that an elevator be installed.

TOILET:

- There are no accessible toilets in the entire High Court Building making the whole building unfriendly to persons with disabilities.
Courts Rooms.
- Unlike top floors but some court rooms (down floor) are accessible.

3. THE MAGISTRATE COURT PADEMBA ROAD, FREETOWN.



The entrance to the structure is well paved and it is usable by persons with wheelchair. The parking lot has no floor markings. The main entrance to the building has ramps and other areas around the building which makes it accessible. The court rooms and the doors are standard. Wheelchair users can enter and move around easily. The doors leading to the toilets are not disabled friendly. There is no ramp leading to the toilet which makes it impossible for a wheelchair user to access the facility.

4. THE FAST TRACK COURT:

The Fast Track Court at the Government Wharf is a building with challenges for persons with disabilities. The entrance to the building is not accessible for persons with disabilities because there is no ramp or elevators and there are flights of stairs. No parking plot, no markings on the floor. The toilet is not accessible to persons with disabilities. The reception desk and the court rooms are accessible.

5. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT (CID) AT PADEMBA ROAD



**MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT**

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) located at Pademba Road was audited on the 14th of November by the team. It started with a meeting with the deputy head of CID Mr. Tommy Bangahun Zaiza who welcomed and explained to the team about the structure and its key role which he said is to investigate and prosecute crimes in Sierra Leone. He conducted the Team round the building. The following are the findings.

The road leading to the main entrance is accessible. The toilets are not accessible and there is no elevator or lift to access the offices upstairs. The stairs leading to the female cell do not have a ramp and it is not accessible.

6. SIERRA LEONE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

The Team continued with the exercise to the Sierra Leone Police Headquarters. Superintendent James Koroma took the Team through the history and purpose of the building, and signed the consent form and led the team around the building.

The entrance to the structure is accessible because it is closer to the main street. The main entrance to the building has flights of high stairs. It has no ramp, no rails and no signs directing the location of the reception desk. There are no accessible toilets in the main building.

The meeting room is not accessible as there are no ramps leading to the facility.

7. CONNAUGHT HOSPITAL (THE MAIN ENTRANCE CONNAUGHT HOSPITAL)



The Connaught Hospital is the main referral hospital in Sierra Leone. The Team met with the Medical Director and the Hospital Manager at the Administrative Building. In a hospitable manner, he welcomed the team and extended his profound gratitude for the remarkable job being undertaken by the Commission. He continued by explaining to the team about some challenges they faced in the hospital more especially people who are destitute.

Access Road.

The access road to the structure is accessible. There are also other entrances to the structure that needs to be adapted to make it more accessible. There are plaques around to indicate where the offices are within the building. There are ramps and rails on the main entrance of the building however, two other entrances are not accessible. Provision for parking space is available but needs to have plots marks to indicate the disabled parking space. There are no signs indicating the reception location. The access ramps have a slope less than 5% and also have hand rails on both sides.

TOILETS: Accessible toilets are available but required technical improvement in order to meet the disabled accessibility standards. The doors are not of standard measurement to accommodate wheelchair users so easily.

8. MINISTRY OF WORKS AND PUBLIC ASSETS.



On the 15th of November, the Committee proceeded to audit the Ministry of Works and Public Assets at their New England Ville Office. It started with a meeting held with the Assistant Chief Engineer, Mr. Samuel John and other senior personnel at the Ministry. The consent form was signed and the team was officially permitted to audit the building using the check list.

Access Road: The access roads leading to the structure are all accessible. There are also plaques in the building to indicate where the different offices are located.

Entrance: The main entrances to the building has no ramps nor rails, so it is not easy to access. There is no parking lot reserved for people using a wheelchair. There are no signs to describe the reception desk in the office. There is no elevator to access the main Administrative Building. The structure has two wings, the Technical Wing and the

Administrative Wing and there is a suspension bridge that connects the two. The entrance door to the HR office just like all other offices within the building are not standard.

Toilets: There are toilets in the building but they are not accessible.

Meeting Rooms: There are two meeting/conference rooms in the building. The doors of the offices are bit smaller but the conference though upstairs but are accessible.

9. YOUYI BUILDING-MIATTA CONFERENCE HALL

THE MAIN ENTRANCE YOUYI BUILDING



Miata Conference Hall: At the Maita conference Hall, the access roads leading to the structure are accessible. There are no plaques to indicate where the offices of the structure are located. There are no ramps no elevators leading to the main halls used for public events. The toilets are inaccessible.

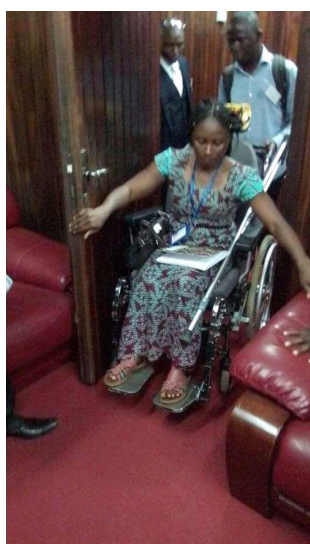
The exercise continued as the team proceeded to the main Youyi Building

housing several ministries, departments and agencies of governments.

The main entrance to the building is not accessible. The toilet are also not accessible. There are no ramps in the entire building however there are single rails on the main stairs leading up the different wings. There are functional elevators in the building though they cannot be accessed by a wheel users from the position they are located. There are reception desks on every floor of the building but they are higher than a required height for accessible reception desk. Note that the challenges with the first Floor of the building cuts across the entire Youyi Building therefore, the Committee only physically audited up to the first floor.

10 . STATE HOUSE

THE ENTRANCE TO THE ROOT OF THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT



On the 20th November 2019, the team continued to one of the most important buildings in the governance of Sierra Leone, the State House situated at State Avenue. The team was welcomed by one of the permanent secretaries in the Office of the President (Kinnie Lamin) who represented the Secretary to the President. He started by signing the consent form which formally approved the auditing of the State House of the Republic of Sierra Leone

The Entrance:

The entrance to State House is divided into three; one gate for vehicles another for human entrance and the one for the President. The gate for human entrance is not accessible to persons using crutches, visually impaired and wheelchair wheels cannot independently pass through the main gate though. There is a reception desk but no plaques, no reserve parking plot and the doors leading to the ground floor offices are not accessible. The counter is too high at the reception desk. The corridor leading to the toilets on the ground floor is not accessible. There is a functional elevator in the building.

The offices at the third floor are too small for a wheel chair to have an access. The toilets there also are not accessible for a wheel chair user to enter, circulate and use.

On the second floor, at the administrative flank of the building, there are no plaques at the doors of the offices for easy identification around the building. The dining lounge is accessible and it is very spacious for a wheel chair user. The conference room is in good shape and it is accessible. Since the conference room is where the swearing ceremonies and presentation of diplomatic credentials from diplomats is done, it has modern equipment's but nothing like brails or tactile indicators. The entrance to the Cabinet room is accessible. It has enough space for the wheel chair to have an easy access and move freely.

11. THE SIERRA LEONE HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE HOUSE PARLIAMENT



The 21st November 2019 was the final day of the first phase of the National Accessibility Audit and it was held at the House of Parliament. The exercise was a remarkable one and the team was hospitably received by the Clerk of Parliament Hon. Umar Paran Tarawally. He welcomed the team and encouraged the team to keep up the good job. He signed the Consent Form and pledged himself as a disability patron. He further handed to the Committee the proposed structural plan for the planned rehabilitation of the House of Parliament and encouraged for inputs from the Team. He then

assigned the Assistant Facility Supervisor; Mr. Francis Koroma and a Sergeant at hand Mr. Michael Mansaray to conduct the team around the facilities in the House.

The access road leading to the main entrance is accessible, however for a few bumps that can be quickly adapted. The main entrance to the building is not accessible for a wheelchair user because it has a flight of stairs and no ramps. There is no parking lot preserved for persons with disabilities. There are two reception desks; the internal and external and they are accessible for persons using a wheel chair. There are no signs indicating the locations of the offices within the House.

The toilet is separated on the opposite wings of the building; one for women and other for men. Toilets are not accessible but can be easily adapted.

The road leading to the Well of Parliament, the library and some of the committee rooms have no ramps and not accessible. There is no provision made for persons with disabilities in the wells because the seats are all fixed and impassable for wheelchair user.

The Administrative Building:

The road leading to the administrative is not accessible. There are flights stairs of with no ramps. The Conference Room is accessible; its entrance is standard but there is no way a person using a wheel chair can access the stage. The toilet in the Administrative Building is accessible. Finally, the Speaker's seat in the Well is not access.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ADAPTATION OF THE BUILDINGS AUDITED IN 2019.

12.1 General Recommendation.

- Support National Technical Accessibility Audit Committee NTAAC
- Pay serious attention to physical accessibility in all government and public buildings
- Building certifiers, building developers and building managers should make public buildings accessible, as such requirement is provided for in the Persons with Disability Act 2011.
- Policy makers, builders, building developers and engineers should make recourse to the Technical Accessibility Audit Team at the Commission as and when necessary.
- Public and private owners and builders must take cognizance of the Accessibility Requirement established by the Technical Accessibility Audit Team.
- Amplify the awareness on issues of accessibility and inclusion within the community.
- Inhibit the construction of future accessibility barriers through referring to NTAAC and PWDs in the plan process.
- That all future building plans should accommodate ramp and meet the accessibility requirements before approval of building permits.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FCC ADAPTATION:

Short term:

The ramp leading to the Mayor's Parlour should be given two rails on both sides.

Since the toilets are not accessible we hereby recommend that accessible toilets with all facilities must be constructed.

The Social Services Unit Department which handles disability issues should be empowered to support people with special needs to have easy access in and around the office.

Mid-term:

The access road leading to the entrance needs to be properly rehabilitated to enhance accessibility. Consider elevators or customizing the second floor to enhance accessibility.

Long term:

Even though the FCC will be relocating by 2020, it is recommended that the entire current building be refurbished with all of the facilities been made accessible for future users.

12.2 Recommendations for Magistrate Court, Pademba Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Generally, the magistrate court is a modern building with recent design that is accessible to persons with disabilities. The ramps in the building need rails for it to be more accessible to wheelchair users and disabled kids. A ramp is needed at the entrance to the toilet to make it accessible to wheelchairs users. The doors need to be changed to a better one that can allow a wheelchair user to have an easy access in the toilet. Provision needs to be made for the wheelchair users at the parking lot.

12.3 Recommendations: Fast Track Court, Government.

The entrance to the building needs to be paved for an easy access to the structure. The building needs a ramp at the entrance to make it accessible for a wheel chair user. Ramp needs to be built at the inside of the building to give an easy access to the upstairs of the building. Works need to be done on the doors of the toilet and also the fixing of pretension bars to make it more accessible for persons with disability.

12.4 Recommendations: Criminal Investigation Department Headquarters

The following are some recommendations made in regards the improvement of the structure. The entrance is somehow encouraging in terms of accessibility by a person with disability but it also needs some improvement in the standard for a wheel chair user to have an easy access around the building.

From the engineering findings, ramps and rails need to be constructed to have clear access into the back entrance and also the entrance to the cells too.

For a wheelchair user to access the upper floors of the building, the construction of elevator is highly recommended.

12.5 Recommendations: Sierra Leone Police Headquarters

The ground floor of the building should have a ramp and a rail at the entrance to make it accessible for persons with disability and more especially those that are using wheelchair.

Provision of special parking lot for those that are using wheel chair and indicator of plaque to show where the structure offices are. The toilet needs to be renovated to a decent and hygienic standard also in a disable friendly manner. The back entrance which is more accessible compared to the front, need to have a ramp for persons using a wheel chair. From a technical point of view, an elevator is needed for an easy access to the top floors of the building because that is the only possible way a person with a wheel chair can access the top floors of the building.

12.6 Recommendation: Connaught Hospital

As the main public hospital in the country, modern standards are needed to improve the entrances and also to make it completely disabled friendly. The stairs leading to the top floor where the wards are in needs a ramp that will run through for an easy access for persons with disabilities and more especially those with wheelchair. There are very important departments in the hospital building like the Dental, TB, X-RAY and Eye clinic, are totally not accessible by people with disabilities. It is of a very strong recommendation to repair the elevator for it is the only possible way for a person with disability and wheelchair users to access the top floors of the building where the wards are located.

12.7 Recommendation: Ministry of Works and Public Assets:

The construction of ramps and rails is strongly recommended in the two main entrances of the building for a possible access for persons using a wheel chair to access the ground floor of the building.

The suspension bridge needs to be expanded for a wheel chair user to have an easy access from one wing of the building to the other. A toilet is needed at the ground floor of the building for an easy access for persons with disability. The doors leading to the offices in the building needs to be expanded to give access to wheelchair user. Finally, an elevator is needed in both flanks of the building in order for a disabled person it easily access the top floors of the building.

12.8 Recommendation for Youyi Building, Miatta Conference Hall

The following are some possible recommendations for the short-term improvement of the building. A ramp is needed at the entrance of the building, a ramp also at the steps leading to the toilet. The stairs leading to the main conference hall needs a ramp to make it accessible for persons with wheel chair. The main stage in the conference hall needs a ramp for a wheel chair user to enable him or her to access the platform easily.

12.9. Recommendations for the Youyi Building Ministerial Building:

The main entrance to the building needs a ramp to allow persons using a wheel chair to have an access into the building. An urgent repair of the other two elevators in the building to create an easy access to the top floor and reduce congestion or overcrowding in the only functional one. Brail system is also needed to be installed in the elevation system for persons who are blind to access it even if they are alone in it. The toilet system needs to be improved to make it accessible for persons using the wheelchair. The doors need to be changed to a more standard one that allows a wheel

chair person to have an easy access.

Structuring is recommended in order to fix up all the building; to be disabled friendly as it is one of the most important building in the governance of Sierra Leone.

It will be necessary if the other elevator in the building is repair or replaced with a new one to reduce the work load on the functioning one.

12.10 Recommendations for State House:

The entrance door to the structure needs to be changed to a modernized and standard one that will allow persons with crutches and wheel chairs to have an easy access to the building. A ramp is needed at the main entrance of the building that can give access to wheelchairs users to enter the building with ease. Ramps are needed at the entrances to the toilets to allow the wheelchair to have a simple access. The doors are too small for a wheel chair to enter; standard doors are needed for the easy access of wheelchair users.

Technically, most of the doors in the building are too small enough for a wheelchair to access; so expansion of the office doors are strongly recommended.

12.11 Sierra Leone House of Parliament

There is an urgent need of the construction of ramps at the main entrance of the building and also at all the roads leading to the toilets.

Another ramp should be built at the back of the building for persons using wheelchairs to have access into the wells of parliament. A ramp also is needed at the road leading to the administrative building and also its entrance.

Improvement of all the toilet doors and other necessary disabled facilities to enable the structure to be disabled friendly.

Ensure that there is reserved parking space for persons with disabilities.



**THE TEAM POSES FOR A PICTURE OUTSIDE STATE
HOUSE ON COMPLETION
OF THE ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT**

ANNEX: CHECK LIST

Name of the structure:

Date of creation:

Main mission of structure:

Organisational Evaluation:

Staff

Category/sex	Person without disabilities		Person with Disabilities		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Permanent					
Contract Workers					
Volunteers					
Auxiliaries					
Others					
Total					

Evaluation of the infrastructures

Access road

1. Are the access roads to the structure accessible? Yes ☐ No ☐
2. Is there a plaque clearly indicating that this is where the structures offices are located? Yes ☐ No ☐

Entrance

3. Do the main entrance have access ramps? Yes ☐ No ☐
4. Is there a parking lot reserved for people with disabilities? Yes ☐ No ☐
5. Does it have a pathway between the parking lot and the office? Yes ☐ No ☐
6. Is there a sign describing where the reception is located? Yes ☐ No ☐
7. Do the entrances have floor marking? Yes ☐ No ☐
8. Do the access ramps have a slope of less than 5%? Yes ☐ No ☐
9. Do the ramps have handrails? Yes ☐ No ☐
10. Do the ramps include a guide device? Yes ☐ No ☐

Toilets

11. Is there accessible toilets? Yes ☐ No ☐
12. The accessibility toilet are they clearly marked? Yes ☐ No ☐
13. Are the door enough larger to accommodate the wheelchair users to access (90cm)? Yes ☐ No ☐
14. Are the doors opening from inside? Yes ☐ No ☐
15. Are the doors of the toilet have prehension bars? Yes ☐ No ☐
16. Is the lavatory of the toilet placed in such way that a wheelchair user could access? Yes ☐ No ☐
17. Is there enough space in the toilets allow wheelchair user to move and used all the installation?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Meeting Room:

18. Is the entrance door large enough for the wheelchair user to access?
Yes ☐ No ☐
19. Does the meeting room have enough space to accommodate people with disabilities, especially those using wheelchairs? Yes ☐ No ☐
20. There are braille writings on electrical outlets, fan rheostats?
Yes ☐ No ☐
21. The entrance doors to the reception and HR Management Office are large enough to accommodate wheelchair users? Yes ☐ No ☐
22. Is the height of the reception desk at a height that allows the short person or person using wheelchair to address the receptionist? Yes ☐ No ☐
23. Does the security guards and receptionist have necessary attitudes to welcome people with disabilities?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Develop key recommendations:

Short terms

Mid-terms:

Long terms

ANNEX 2

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

No	Name	Organization	Designation
1	James Tawio Cullen	NCPD	Chairman
2	Saa Lamin Kortequeue	NCPD	Executive Secretary
3	Jonathan Conteh	NCPD	Chairman Accessibility Committee
4	Tamba S. P. Mondeh	NCPD	Secretary
5	Sheka Sinneh Sesay	MWPA	Member
6	Foday Kamara	NCPD	Member
7	Gbengay Kanu	MSWGCA	Member
8	Ramatu P. Kanu	SLUDI	Member
9	Brima Kpeh	GLRA	Member
10	Patrick U. Koroma	NCPD	Member
11	Finda U. Tommy	GLRA	Member
12	James A. John	FCC	Member
13	Cyril Joshua	GLRA	Member
14	Mawusie P. I. Dumbuya	NCPD	Member
15	Aminata Blessing Kelly	NCPD	Member
16	Harry Keteka	NCPD	Member

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