



## **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja**

### **Press Release**

**No: MFA/PR/2026/050**

### **NIGERIA CONGRATULATES SIERRA LEONE ON ITS INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY**

The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria extends warm felicitations to the Government and people of Sierra Leone on the occasion of their Independence Day, commemorated annually on 27 April. This historic occasion marks Sierra Leone's attainment of independence in 1961 and reflects the enduring resilience, unity, and aspirations of its people. It also stands as a testament to the country's journey through periods of challenge toward sustained peace, democratic consolidation, and national renewal.

Nigeria acknowledges Sierra Leone's important role within the West African sub-region and commends its continued commitment to democratic governance, peacebuilding, and sustainable development. Sierra Leone's progress remains a source of collective pride within the region and underscores the value of regional solidarity and cooperation.

Nigeria and Sierra Leone share a deep, historically grounded relationship, strengthened by their shared membership in the Economic Community of West African States and reinforced by collective efforts to promote peace and stability in the sub-region. This bond was most notably demonstrated during Sierra Leone's civil conflict, when the ECOWAS Monitoring Group played a pivotal role in restoring peace and constitutional order. Nigeria's leadership and contributions within ECOMOG reflected its enduring commitment to regional security, collective responsibility, and the protection of democratic institutions.

The shared experience of conflict resolution and peacebuilding has since evolved into a forward-looking partnership anchored on mutual respect, diplomatic engagement, and cooperation across key sectors, including trade, education, capacity building, and institutional strengthening. Nigeria continues to value Sierra Leone as a strategic partner in advancing regional integration, security cooperation, and inclusive development within West Africa.

**Nigeria further recognises the importance of strengthening people-to-people ties between both countries, which continue to reinforce cultural affinity, shared heritage, and the collective aspirations of the peoples of West Africa.**

**On this important occasion, Nigeria reaffirms its commitment to deepening bilateral relations with Sierra Leone and to sustaining collaborative efforts within the ECOWAS framework to promote peace, stability, and economic integration across the region. The Government and people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria extend their best wishes to the Government and people of Sierra Leone for continued peace, progress, and national prosperity.**

**Signed:**

**Kimiebi Imomotimi Ebiefa, anipr  
Spokesperson,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja.  
Monday, 27 April 2026**