



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN INFORMATION KEY DOCUMENTS

# SIERRA LEONE

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4 APRIL 2008

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## Preface

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- i This Country of Origin Information Key Documents (COI Key Documents) on Sierra Leone has been produced by COI Service, UK Border Agency, for use by officials involved in the asylum/human rights determination process. It provides general background information about the issues most commonly raised in asylum/human rights claims made in the United Kingdom. The COI Key Documents includes information available up to 11 March 2008.
- ii The COI Key Documents is an indexed list of key reports, papers and articles produced by a wide range of recognised external information sources. It does not contain any UK Border Agency opinion or policy.
- iii For UK Border Agency users, the COI Key Documents provides direct electronic access to each source referred to in the document, via a link on the source numbers in the index and list of sources. For the benefit of external users, the relevant web link has also been included, together with the date that the link was accessed.
- iv As noted above, the documents identified concentrate mainly on human rights issues. By way of introduction, brief background information on Sierra Leone is also provided. Please note, this background material is not intended to provide a summary of the material contained in the documents listed.
- v This COI Key Documents and the documents listed are publicly disclosable.
- vi Any comments regarding this COI Key Documents or suggestions for additional source material are very welcome and should be submitted to COI Service as below.

Country of Origin Information Service  
UK Border Agency  
Apollo House  
36 Wellesley Road  
Croydon CR9 3RR  
United Kingdom

**Email:** [cois@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cois@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

**Website:** [http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/country\\_reports.html](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/country_reports.html)

## ADVISORY PANEL ON COUNTRY INFORMATION

- vii The independent Advisory Panel on Country Information (APCI) was established in 2003 to make recommendations to the Home Secretary about the content of the UK Border Agency's country of origin information material. The APCI welcomes all feedback on the UK Border Agency's Key Documents, COI Reports and other country of origin information material. Information about the Panel's work can be found on its website at [www.apci.org.uk](http://www.apci.org.uk)
- viii In the course of its work, the APCI reviews the content of selected UK Border Agency COI documents and makes recommendations specific to those documents and of a more general nature. The APCI may or may not have reviewed this particular document. At the following link is a list of the COI Key Documents, COI Reports and other documents which have, to date, been reviewed by the APCI: [www.apci.org.uk/reviewed-documents.html](http://www.apci.org.uk/reviewed-documents.html)
- ix Please note: It is not the function of the APCI to endorse any UK Border Agency material or procedures. Some of the material examined by the Panel relates to countries designated or proposed for designation for the Non-Suspensive Appeals (NSA) list. In such cases, the Panel's work should not be taken to imply any endorsement of the decision or proposal to designate a particular country for NSA, nor of the NSA process itself.

### **Advisory Panel on Country Information:**

**Email:** [apci@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:apci@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.apci.org.uk](http://www.apci.org.uk)

## Background information on Sierra Leone

**Full Country Name:** The Republic of Sierra Leone. [2c]

**Area:** Total area 71,740 sq. km. [2c]

**Population:** (2007 estimate) 6,144,562. [2c]

**Capital City:** Freetown. [2c]

**People:** Temne 30%, Mende 30%, Krio 1%, 15 other ethnic groups and a small Lebanese community. [2c]

**Languages:** English, Krio, Temne, Mende, and 15 other indigenous languages. [2c]

**Religions:** (estimate) Muslim 60%, Christian 30%, animist 10%. [2c]

**Major Political Parties:** Sierra Leone's People's Party, All People's Congress, Peace and Liberation Party, People's Movement for Democratic Change. [2c]

**Government:** Republic with a democratically elected president and unicameral parliament. [2c]

(The US State Dept Background Note on Sierra Leone - February 2008 version). [2c]

**Head of State:** President Ernest Bai Koroma. [4]

**Currency:** Leone (L). 1 Leone = 100 cents. [4]

**Membership of International Groupings/Organisations:** United Nations, African Union, Organisation of Islamic Conference, Commonwealth, Economic Community of West African states (ECOWAS), African Development Bank, Mano River Union. [4]  
(The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Country Profile on Angola - December 2007 version). [4]

### GEOGRAPHY

The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Country Profile on Sierra Leone (December 2007) version states that:

“Sierra Leone is situated on the west coast of Africa and shares borders with Guinea and Liberia. Its 400 km coastline overlooks the North Atlantic Ocean. The country can broadly be divided into three areas: mangrove swamps and beaches along the coast; a belt of low-lying wooded land in the immediate interior; and a mountain plateau rising to 2,000 metres further inland. The climate is tropical, with a hot, humid, rainy season from May to December and a winter dry season from December to April.” [4]



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## RECENT HISTORY

The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (December 2007 version) Country Profile on Sierra Leone states that:

“Sierra Leone was founded by returned slaves from Britain and North America in 1787. The colony of Sierra Leone (roughly the current day Western Province around Freetown) was administered by the British. In 1896 the hinterland came under British control as a protectorate. Following the Second World War, the indigenous populations of the protectorate gained greater political voice, culminating in the election of Dr (later Sir) Milton Margai of the SLPP (Sierra Leone’s People’s Party) as Chief Minister in 1953 and later Prime Minister in 1958. He led the country to full independence on April 27<sup>th</sup> 1961.”

“The SLPP ruled until 1967 when the electoral victory of the opposition APC (All People’s Congress) was cut short by the country’s first military coup. But the military eventually handed [power] over to the APC and its leader Siaka Stevens in 1968. He turned the country into a one-party estate in 1978. He finally retired in 1985, handing over [power] to his deputy, General Momoh. Under popular pressure, one party rule was ended in 1991, and a new constitution providing for a return to multi-party politics was approved in August of that year. Elections were scheduled for 1992. But, by this stage, Sierra Leone’s institutions had collapsed, mismanagement and corruption had ruined the economy and rising youth unemployment was a serious problem.” [4]

The US State Dept Background Note on Sierra Leone, published in February 2008, states that:

“Under Momoh, APC rule was increasingly marked by abuses of power. Earlier in 1991, in March, a small band of men who called themselves the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) under the leadership of a former-corporal, Foday Sankjoh, began to attack villages in eastern Sierra Leone on the Liberian border. Fighting continued in the ensuing months, with the RUF gaining control of the diamond mines in the Kono district and pushing the Sierra Leone army back towards Freetown. On April 29, 1992, a group of young military officers, led by Capt. Valentine Strasser, launched a military coup, which sent Momoh into exile in Guinea and established the National Provisional Ruling Council (NPRC) as the ruling authority in Sierra Leone.” [2c]

The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (December 2007 version) Country Profile on Sierra Leone states that:

“Strasser was deposed in January 1996 by his fellow junta leaders. His replacement, Major Maada Bio, under international pressure, agreed to organise elections in February 1996. The RUF refused to take part and continued the conflict. The elections were won by Tejah Kabbah and the SLPP. The new government signed a peace agreement with the RUF in Abidjan [in] 1996 but it failed to stop the rebellion. Kabbah’s government was subsequently overthrown in a further coup in 1997 and took refuge in neighbouring Guinea. The military junta, headed by Major Johnny Paul Koroma, invited the RUF to join [in] government. But the Junta was complicit in looting and violence, often in association with the RUF, and was unable to consolidate its position. It was eventually overthrown and the Kabbah government was re-instated in 1998 with the help of troops from ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African states).” [4]

“The destructive force of the rebellion reached Freetown for the first time when the RUF, combined with renegade elements of the army, invaded the capital in January 1999, committing appalling acts of violence against the civilian population in the process. They were repulsed by the Nigerian troops of ECOMOG (Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group), but at great human cost. A second peace agreement, the Lomé Accord of 1999, to be supervised by a UN peacekeeping force (UNAMSIL), brought the RUF officially into government. But this collapsed in 2000 when the RUF attacked UN peacekeepers upcountry and threatened to invade Freetown again. Some UN peacekeepers were killed and others detained by the rebels. Security was restored with the intervention of British troops in May 2000 and RUF ministers, including its leader Foday Sankoh, were arrested. The signing of the Abuja peace agreement in November 2000, together with the deployment of UNAMSIL across the country, allowed the gradual restoration of government authority throughout the territory. The war was officially declared over in February 2002.” [4]

“In May 2002 President Kabbah was re-elected to a five-year term along with the SLPP, which also won a landslide victory. The RUF political wing, the RUFPP, failed to win a single seat in parliament. The elections were marked by irregularities and allegations of fraud, but not to a degree to significantly affect the outcome.” [4]

“...in the summer of 2002, Sierra Leone’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) began operations. The Lomé Accord had called for the establishment of a TRC to provide a forum for both victims and perpetrators of human rights violations during the conflict to tell their stories and to facilitate genuine reconciliation. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its Final Report to the government in October 2004. In June 2005, the Government of Sierra Leone issued a White Paper on the Commission’s final report which accepted some but not all of the Commission’s recommendations.” [4]

“The Special Court was established by an agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone pursuant to Security Council resolution 1315 (2000) of 14 August 2000. The Court’s mandate is to try those who ‘...bear the greatest responsibility for the commission of crimes against humanity, war crimes and serious violations of international humanitarian law, as well as crimes under relevant Sierra Leonean law within the territory of Sierra Leone since November 30, 1996.’” [4]

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## RECENT EVENTS AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Presidential and parliamentary elections were held in August 2007. More than 500 candidates vied with each other for over 100 parliamentary seats and seven presidential candidates vied with each other to replace Ahmad Kabbah as President. Election observers stated that the elections were free, fair and credible. (BBC News Online "S Leone elections 'free and fair' ", 13 August 2007) [6e]. In the parliamentary elections, opposition politicians took overall control. In the presidential election, Ernest Koroma, of the opposition All People's Congress Party, won 44 per cent of the votes cast and Solomon Berewa won 38 per cent of the votes cast. The percentage of votes won by Koroma were insufficient for him to win the election outright because a candidate must win at least 55 per cent of the votes cast. As a result, a second round of the presidential election was organised. (allafrica.com news report "Opposition Wins Parliamentary Elections", 24 August 2007) [24]. The second round of the presidential election was held on 8 September 2007. Koroma won this election by winning 54.6 per cent of the votes cast, while his rival, Solomon Berewa won 45.4 per cent of the votes cast. (Reuters news report "Koroma wins Sierra Leone presidential poll – official", 17 September 2007) [23].

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## BASIC ECONOMIC FACTS

**GDP:** (2006 estimate) \$1.233 billion. [2c]

**GDP growth rate:** (2006 estimate) 6.8%. [2c]

**Average annual inflation rate:** (2005 IMF estimate) 8.5% [2c]

**Industries:** diamonds, bauxite, and rutile mining, forestry, fishing, beverages, cigarettes, flour, cement and other construction goods, plastics, tourism. [2c]

**Major trading partners:** Belgium, Germany, United States, India. [2c]

(The US State Dept Background Note on Angola - February 2008 version) [2c]

The US State Dept Background Note on Sierra Leone, published in February 2008, states that:

"Rich in minerals, Sierra Leone has relied on the mining sector in general and diamonds in particular, for its economic base. In the 1970s and early 1980s, [the] economic growth rate slowed because of a decline in the mining sector and increasing corruption among government officials. By the 1990s economic activity was declining and economic infrastructure had become seriously degraded. Over the next decade much of Sierra Leone's formal economy was destroyed in the country's civil war. Since the cessation of hostilities in January 2002, massive infusions of outside assistance have helped Sierra Leone begin to recover. Full recovery to pre-war economic levels will require hundreds of millions of additional dollars and many more years of serious effort by the Government of Sierra Leone and donor governments." [2c]

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## HUMAN RIGHTS

The USSD 2007 Human Rights Report on Sierra Leone, published in March 2008, states that:

“The government generally respected the human rights of its citizens [in 2007]. However, there were serious problems in a number of areas, including: security force abuse, including rape, and use of excessive force with detainees, including juveniles; police theft and extortion; poor conditions in prisons and jails; official impunity; arbitrary arrest and detention; prolonged detention, excessive bail, and insufficient legal representation; restrictions on freedom of speech and [the] press, although fewer than in the previous year; government and chiefdom detention and harassment of journalists; forcible dispersion of demonstrators; harassment of opposition party supporters by ruling party members; widespread official corruption; societal discrimination and violence against women, female genital mutilation (FGM); child abuse; trafficking in persons, including children; forced labor, including by children; and child labor.” [2a]

The Human Rights Watch 2008 Report on Sierra Leone, published in February 2008, states that:

“Pre- and post-election violence between rival parties – including house burnings and street clashes – left at least one person dead and dozens injured. However, both domestic and international observers agreed that the polls themselves were generally free, fair, genuinely contested, and well organized. The National Electoral Commission was deemed competent, neutral, and independent. The police and army – once seen as organs of the ruling party – acted professionally to quell violence generated by all sides.”

“The government has taken various steps to improve legal protection. During 2007, for example, four important bills were passed by parliament aimed at ensuring greater legal protection for women and children. The National Child Rights Bill, passed in June [2007], prohibits early marriage, military conscription of children, and child trafficking. Three other bills – the Registration of Customary Marriages and Divorce Act, the Domestic Violence Act, and the Devolution of Estates Act – create a legal framework criminalizing domestic violence, ensuring women’s property rights, setting the minimum age for customary marriage at 18, requiring such marriages have the consent of both parties, and recognizing rights to inheritance without interference from [the] extended family.”

“...the Sierra Leone police continued to engage in unprofessional and often illegal conduct, despite a Commonwealth-run training program from 1998 to 2005, and current efforts by the British government and the United Nations. This has included widespread extortion from civilians, requiring victims of crimes to pay the police to file reports or conduct investigations, and, in a few cases, sexual abuse of female detainees.” [5]

The USSD 2007 International Religious Freedom Report on Sierra Leone, published in September 2007, states that:

“The Constitution provides for freedom of religion, and the Government generally respected this right in practice.”

“There was no change in the status of respect for religious freedom by the Government during the period covered by this report, and government policy continued to contribute to the generally free practice of religion.”

“There were no reports societal abuses or discrimination based on religious belief or practice, and prominent societal leaders took positive step to promote religious freedom.”

“The Inter-Religious (IRC) estimated that 60% of the population is Muslim, 20 to 30 percent Christian, and 5 to 10 percent indigenous and other religious beliefs. There are small numbers of Baha'is, Hindus, and Jews.” [2b]

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## Index to key source documents

<p><b>KEY FACTS AND GEOGRAPHY</b></p>	<p>[1] Europa World Online – Sierra Leone section <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a></p> <p>[2a] United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a></p> <p>[2c] United States Department of State Background Note on Sierra Leone (February 2008 version) <a href="http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5475.htm">www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5475.htm</a></p> <p>[4] Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK) Sierra Leone Country Profile (13 December 2007 version) <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317">http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317</a></p> <p>[6a] BBC Sierra Leone Country Profile, 18 September 2007 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1061561.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1061561.stm</a></p> <p>[7] Central Intelligence Agency (United States), The World Factbook – Sierra Leone section (24 January 2008 version) <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html</a></p>
<p><b>MAP</b></p>	<p>[25] Infoplease.com Map of Sierra Leone <a href="http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/sierraleone.html">http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/sierraleone.html</a></p>
<p><b>HISTORY</b></p>	<p>[1] Europa World Online – Sierra Leone section <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a></p> <p>[4] Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK) Sierra Leone Country Profile (13 December 2007 version) <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317">http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317</a></p> <p>[6b] BBC News Online: Sierra Leone Timeline, 18 September 2007 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1065898.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1065898.stm</a></p> <p>[3] United Nations IRIN Sierra Leone Humanitarian Country Profile (February 2007 version) <a href="http://irinnews.org/country.aspx?CountryCode=SL&amp;RegionCode=WA">http://irinnews.org/country.aspx?CountryCode=SL&amp;RegionCode=WA</a></p>

<p><b>POLITICS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS</b></p>	<p>[1] Europa World Online – Sierra Leone section <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a></p> <p>[2a] United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a></p> <p>[2c] United States Department of State Background Note on Sierra Leone (February 2008 version) <a href="http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5475.htm">www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5475.htm</a></p> <p>[4] Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK) Sierra Leone Country Profile (13 December 2007 version) <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317">http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317</a></p> <p>[5] Sierra Leone section of the Human Rights Watch World Report 2008 <a href="http://hrw.org/englishwr2k8/docs/2008/01/31/sierra17935.htm">http://hrw.org/englishwr2k8/docs/2008/01/31/sierra17935.htm</a></p>
<p><b>HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL:</b></p>	<p>[2a] United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a></p> <p>[8a] Amnesty International Sierra Leone section of the Annual Human Rights Report 2007 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/region/africa/west-africa/sierra-leone">http://www.amnesty.org/en/region/africa/west-africa/sierra-leone</a></p> <p>[4] Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK) Sierra Leone Country Profile (13 December 2007 version) <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317">http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&amp;c=Page&amp;cid=1007029394365&amp;a=KCountryProfile&amp;aid=1019744991317</a></p> <p>[5] Human Rights Watch (HRW) Sierra Leone section of the World Report 2008 <a href="http://hrw.org/englishwr2k8/docs/2008/01/31/sierra17935.htm">http://hrw.org/englishwr2k8/docs/2008/01/31/sierra17935.htm</a></p> <p>[16] Sierra Leone section of the Freedom in the World 2007 Report <a href="http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;country=7268&amp;year=2007">http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;country=7268&amp;year=2007</a></p>

<b>HUMAN RIGHTS – SPECIFIC ISSUES:</b>		
<b>(IN ADDITION TO GENERAL REPORTS ABOVE, INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IS PROVIDED IN THE DOCUMENTS LISTED BELOW)</b>		
<b>ABUSES BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ARMED FORCES</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
<b>ARREST AND DETENTION – LEGAL RIGHTS</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
<b>CHILDREN</b>	<b>[1]</b>	Europa World Online – Sierra Leone section <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a>
	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
	<b>[2d]</b>	United States Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, 12 June 2007 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82805.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82805.htm</a>
	<b>[10]</b>	The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Sierra Leone section <a href="http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/sierraleone.html">http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/sierraleone.html</a>
	<b>[3]</b>	United Nations IRIN Sierra Leone Humanitarian Country Profile (February 2007 version) <a href="http://irinnews.org/country.aspx?CountryCode=SL&amp;RegionCode=WA">http://irinnews.org/country.aspx?CountryCode=SL&amp;RegionCode=WA</a>
<b>CITIZENSHIP AND NATIONALITY</b>	<b>[26]</b>	Sierra Leone Citizenship Act 1973 <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=search&amp;docid=3ae6b50610&amp;skip=&amp;query=Sierra%20Leone%20Citizenship%20Act%201973">http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=search&amp;docid=3ae6b50610&amp;skip=&amp;query=Sierra%20Leone%20Citizenship%20Act%201973</a>
<b>CORRUPTION</b>	<b>[12]</b>	Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2007 <a href="http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi/2007">http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi/2007</a>
<b>DEATH PENALTY</b>	<b>[8b]</b>	Amnesty International, Abolitionist and Retentionist countries, (19 September 2007 version) <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty/abolitionist-and-retentionist-countries">http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty/abolitionist-and-retentionist-countries</a>
<b>DISABILITY</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
<b>EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>

<b>ETHNIC GROUPS</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
<b>FOREIGN REFUGEES</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	United States Department of State, Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Sierra Leone, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100503.htm</a>
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