



14 October 2021

The Information Commissioner
The Right to Access Information Commission
56 Kroo Town Road
Freetown

Dear Sir,

Orders in respect of the failure of the Ministry of Fisheries and Ministry of Lands to provide information in respect of a proposed fish harbour at Black Johnson Beach, Western Area

We write on behalf of the Institute for Legal Research and Advocacy for Justice (ILRAJ) and Namati Sierra Leone on the above subject. ILRAJ and Namati are non-governmental organisations working on public policy research, land rights and environmental justice, among others.

We write to inform the Commission that to date we have not received responses from the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) and Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning (MLHCP) to our requests for information dated 11th and 14th May 2021, respectively, about the proposed fish harbour at Black Johnson. The said Ministries have failed to respond to these requests made pursuant to section 2 of the Right to Access Information Act 2013 (RAIA), even after receiving the Commission's letter dated 25th June 2021 urging compliance with their obligations under the RAIA.

Pursuant to our application under section 43(b) of the RAIA dated 7th June 2021, failure of the Ministries to respond to the alleged violations within the seven (7) days given by the Commission, and expiration of the statutory fifteen (15) days for the Commission to make an order in respect of our application, we request the Commission to now order the said Ministries under section 45(1) of the RAIA to comply with their obligations under the Act to provide the information we have requested. We also invite the Commission to make any further orders as it deems fit and just under the Act.

We trust that the Commission will carry out its obligations under the RAIA by acting on this communication and making its orders in respect of our application in a timely manner.

The Commission may serve any correspondence and notice on us at Namati, 17B Murray Town Road, Freetown or via email to sierraleone@namati.org.

Yours sincerely,

Basita Michael

Basita Michael (ILRAJ)

Sonkita Conteh

Sonkita Conteh (Namati)

CC: Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources
Minister of Lands, Housing and Country Planning