

MALEN AFFECTED LAND OWNERS AND USERS
ASSOCIATION
(MALOA)
MALEN CHIEFDOM
PUJEHUN DISTRICT

22nd February, 2022.

President Dr. Julius Maada Bio
President of Sierra Leone
State House
Freetown
Dear His Excellency,

**FAILURE OF THE MALEN CHIEFDOM LAND CRISIS MEDIATION LED BY
VICE PRESIDENT DR. MOHAMED JULDEH JALLOH**

We want to thank you again for appointing Vice President Dr. Mohamed Juldeh to mediate the land dispute in Malen Chiefdom which you promised to solve if we voted for you. We voted for you massively and we were very happy when the Vice President visited our chiefdom on November 18, 2018 to hold a mediation meeting with all stakeholders. Before the visit of the Vice President, the appointment of our Member of Parliament Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama to the ECOWAS Parliament was the first move by your government that gave us hope. The visit of the Vice President therefore came as no surprise. Unfortunately, things started going really bad after the visit of the Vice President. We suffered a lot but the rest is now history.

The Vice President formed a Technical Committee to investigate the land crisis in Malen Chiefdom. The Committee completed the task and presented a report to the Vice President. We have not seen or heard from the Vice President since November 18, 2018 and the report of the Technical Committee has never been published. We have enough evidence to show that the Vice President is against us and is supporting SOCFIN Agriculture Company and our Paramount Chief. His utterances and failure to publish the technical report have clearly exposed his position against poor aggrieved land owners. God, the Almighty, will judge between us.

We still look forward to your intervention though we are losing hope very fast. Our situation has become worse. Land owners and chiefs who speak

against the bad operations of the company or do not support the human rights abuses of our Paramount Chief and the Company are arrested by the Police or removed as chiefs. Several town chiefs and section speakers have been removed by our Paramount Chief. Though we have made several reports no action has been taken by government. Armed security men raid homes and villages and loot properties of peaceful citizens. The security men claim to be searching for stolen fruits and palm oil belonging to SOCFIN Agriculture Company. The truth is that both private security men and government police are stealing from poor citizens in Malen Chieftdom. When we make reports of such attacks on villages and violent attacks on our members, no action is taken by the Police. Our organisation is not allowed to hold meetings but another organisation called Hopanda, which was formed by the Paramount Chief and the company, are sponsored to hold regular meetings during which we are insulted and lies told about us to destroy our good image. Any report from our opponents to the Police can lead to our arrest. We are suffering quietly and we have reliable information that the company pays monthly allowances to some authorities.

We are also appealing for a meeting with you as you promised when you visited Malen Chieftdom on February 19, 2021. During the visit you again assured aggrieved land owners and the people of Malen Chieftdom that you are grateful to the people of Malen Chieftdom and will make sure that the problem in Malen Chieftdom is solved. You saw how we applauded and danced. We trust in your commitment to solve the Malen land crisis and we strongly believe that you will not let us down, by the grace of God.

We thank you in advance as we look forward to a meeting with you as soon as possible. God bless you.

Yours faithfully,

Bockarie M. Koroma
(Chairman)
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Copy:

Vice President
Secretary to the Vice President
Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
Resident Minister, Southern Province
Chairman, Pujehun District Council
Hon. PC Brima V.S. Kebbie III
District Officer, Pujehun District

District Chairman, Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP)
National Chairman, Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP)
Speaker of Parliament
Leader of House of Parliament
Country Director, SOCFIN Agriculture Company
Local Unit Commander, Pujehun Police Division
Civil Society Organisations and NGOs operating in Malen Chiefdom
Pujehun District Descendants Association (PDDA)
Lawyer Abdulai Bangura, Chairman Technical Committee