



## WANEP REOPENS ELECTION SITUATION ROOM FOR PEACEFUL PRESIDENTIAL RUN-OFF ELECTION IN SIERRA LEONE

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Freetown:

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) reopens its Election Situation Room (ESR) and urges millions of Sierra Leoneans to have a peaceful Presidential run-off election on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.



Leading up to the campaigns and eventually the elections, WANEP and its partners set up a well-coordinated ESR at Radisson Blu Hotel in Freetown and a Satellite ESR in Kono District to observe potential threats to the peaceful conduct of the electioneering process in Sierra Leone. The ESR, supported by the United States Agency for International Development in West Africa (USAID/WA), is part of a broader programme designed to mitigate election violence in West Africa through National Early Warning Systems (NEWS).

500 local observers have been deployed in prioritized medium and high-risk areas across the 16 political districts of the country. The observers/data gatherers report real-time data on incidents to the situation room on regular basis. A team of expert analysts review and convey their analysis to the eminent persons to facilitate prompt responses through diplomacy, shuttle mediation, advocacy and strategic meetings with stakeholders including the National Electoral Commission (NEC), Sierra Leone Police (SLP), political parties and communities to prevent or mitigate election related violence.

The ESR will be opened from March 30<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018 from 7:00am to 12:00pm each day.

## God/Allah Bless us all!

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