

JULIUS MAADA BIO MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS TEAM  
PRESS RELEASE

Date: 2nd June 2015

MAADA BIO ARRIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA AHEAD OF INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE

The **Julius Maada Bio** Media and Communications Team wish to inform the public that the Former Head of State of the Republic of Sierra Leone, **Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** has safely arrived in Pretoria on Monday 1st June 2015 ahead of an international conference on Mediation in South Africa scheduled for 2 – 4 June 2015.

The Conference will be taken place at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

The **Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** has been invited to the international conference on mediation which is being co-hosted by the Centre for Mediation in Africa, the Global South Unit on Mediation, and Swisspeace. The International Conference will focus on understanding and managing mediation complexity as it aims to deepen the understanding of the complexity of mediation and improve the relevance of mediation research.

The conference will discuss papers of scholars and practitioners from across the world. One of such scholars who have been invited is the **Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** from the University of Bradford who will be presenting a paper on “The Role of Insider/local Mediators in the Sierra Leone Civil war peace settlement”.

**The Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** has been specifically invited to share his first-hand experience with international scholars and practitioners as he was the Head of State of the Republic of Sierra Leone who facilitated the mediation and signing of the first agreement in 1996 in the Sierra Leone Civil war peace settlement.

According to the **Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** before he left London for the International Conference he said “The conference is very important as it will give me an opportunity to share my experience with an international audience on the significant role played by local mediators/actors in the Sierra Leone Civil war peace settlement process.”

**The Former Head of State is expected** to present his research paper on 4th June 2015 in a session that will be chaired by Dr. James Hentz who is the professor and Chair of the Department of International Studies and Political Science at the Virginia Military Institute.

A member of the **Julius Maada Bio Media** and Communications Team has travelled with the Former Head of State to South Africa and the Media and Communications Team will be informing the general public on the participation of **Rtd. Brig. Julius Maada Bio** at the International Conference in the days ahead.

The End.

Credit: Julius Maada Bio Media and Communications Team