

Newspaper article: Ernest Koroma Vows to Support FOI

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By Abdul Karim Koroma

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All Peoples Congress (APC) leader, Hon. Ernest Koroma Friday pledged his party's support for a Freedom Of Information Act in the country, a press release from Freedom of Information Coalition states. Hon. Koroma who doubles as Minority Leader in Parliament said the Access to Information Act is a nomenclature that would make it more obligatory for members of the public to access information from public servants on demand. "You are conversing my support the converted already. A lot of what government is doing and public officials do are shrouded in secrecy; and because of this secrecy, too many people in government are getting away with day light robbery, and hardly anyone is lifting a finger," Hon. Koroma said and added that the coalition is complementing the role of the Anti-Corruption Commission and when the law is enacted it would help to serve as a deterrent to the fight against corruption in the country. He beseeched civil society groups to go beyond issuing press releases and be indefatigable in their follow-ups on issues even its take them decades. "There is complete absence of the ability to follow up on issues in the country. People would start something, and too often would drop it .," Koroma stated and adds that this habit is very bad. He encouraged the coalition to also lobby the Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) Parliamentarians, as they in the majority in Parliament.