



Femmes Africa Solidarité

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INFORMATION NOTE

Opposition leader Ernest Koroma wins Sierra Leone presidential elections

The leader of the opposition Ernest Koroma won the second round of the presidential elections in Sierra Leone with 54% of the vote. Christiana Thorpe, President of the National Election Commission confirmed the results during a press conference. The voting passed without disruption; the second round voter turn-out was 68.09%.

International observers monitored the elections, including Hélène Cissé, a representative of Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) and who has also worked with the Mano River Women Peace Network (MARWOPNET) during the elections.

Fifty-three years old and part of the Temne ethnic group – Sierra Leone's second-largest – Ernest Koroma lead a solid campaign as candidate for the All Peoples Congress (APC). During the second round of voting on 8 September, the party won 950, 407 votes while his opponent, out-going vice-president Solomon Berewa of the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP).

Spokesman for APC, Alpha Kanu, said that former president Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, and Berewa called Koroma to congratulate him on his success. More than 2.6 million people had called for elections, since Kabbah had been in power for more than 10 years and was not allowed run after two consecutive terms.

During the first round, Koroma garnered 44.3% of the vote, Berewa 38.3% and Charles Margai of the People's Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC) 13.9%.

Source AFP



Ernest Koroma on campaign in Freetown, Sierra Leone. (Photo: AFP)

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