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# **PRESS RELEASE**

# PDSL PLEASED TO ANNOUCE BID ROUND EXTENSION UNTIL 12:00 GMT FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

## FREETOWN, 13 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Government of Sierra Leone (GOSL), through the Petroleum Directorate of Sierra Leone (PDSL), is pleased to announce an extension of the timeframe for the Republic of Sierra Leone's 5<sup>th</sup> Offshore License Round to accommodate the increased interest from International and National Oil Companies and provide them with the time needed to complete their G&G analysis.

PDSL has announced an extension of the deadline for the submission of a formal bid from <u>Friday September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022</u>, until <u>Friday January 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 12:00GMT</u>, to allow interested companies to become pre-qualified and to complete their technical evaluation.

This extension is a result of the increased interest in the upstream petroleum sector in West Africa due to the sustained increase in the price of crude oil which has created exploration funding for most companies that were unable to raise the needed capital for frontier exploration.

The new timeline will allow interested parties the opportunity to carefully review the existing 29,000 line-km 2D and 11,000 Km<sup>2</sup> 3D multi-client seismic data and to get the necessary exploration budget approved to submit a bid for acreage offshore Sierra Leone.

Thereafter, PDSL will issue notice of awards to companies whose applications have been accepted and negotiation completed with the government to formalize a petroleum license agreement.

For further inquiry, please contact PDSL at <a href="mailto:foday.mansaray@pd.gov.sl">foday.mansaray@pd.gov.sl</a> or TGS at <a href="mailto:jason.robinson@tgs.com">jason.robinson@tgs.com</a> or alternatively our marketing partner AEP at <a href="mailto:sierraleone@africaenergypartners.co.uk">sierraleone@africaenergypartners.co.uk</a>