The Political Parties Registration Commission is reminding all registered Political Parties of their obligation as enshrined in the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No 6, the Political Parties Act of 2002 and the Statutory Instrument No: 3 of 2008.

One of the requirements is that the political parties should report on the finances of their candidates standing in the 2012 elections.

The provisions also provides that Political Parties also report to the commission after contesting elections that include “… all assets, liabilities, income and expenditure incurred either by the party or a candidate put up or supported by the political party” (Statutory Instrument 3 of 2008 Art 2.1.b).

As we are expecting a large number of Parliamentary candidates, the commission after discussion with the political parties decided to provide all candidates with financial reporting forms for the 2012 during the nomination process. This is done to assist the political parties get the forms to their candidates and help in collecting and submitting accurate information about the finances of their candidates.

As you know, it is voluntary for the political parties and the candidates to use the forms that will be provided to the candidates during the candidate nomination. However, it is compulsory for the political parties to report to the PPRC about the finances of their candidates.

The PPRC will gather and analyse the submitted forms. In the interest of full transparency, the PPRC will make the provided information public. Information from the reports will be published in the Sierra Leone Gazette, and all reports will be available to the public at the PPRC National Headquarters in Freetown during normal office hours. The reports may also be publicised through other channels.

The Commission continues to enforce the political party finance reporting requirements contained in the Constitution of Sierra Leone, the Political Parties Act and the Statutory Instrument No 3 of 2008.

In lieu of this, political parties are urged to comply with the provisions of the law.