

13th February, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

MRCG Joins Radio Stations to Commemorate the World Radio Day.

(*Freetown: 13th February, 2024*). The Media Reform Coordinating Group (MRCG) joins radio stations and the Independent Radio Network (IRN) to observe the 'World Radio Day' today, Tuesday 13th February 2024, on the theme: *Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating.*

The objective of World Radio Day, proclaimed on 13 February 2011, by Member States and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2013 as an International event, is to raise greater awareness among the public and media regarding the importance of radio. The day also aims at encouraging radio stations to provide access to information through their medium and enhance networking and international cooperation among broadcasters.

Given the importance of radio in informing Sierra Leoneans and the world at large, the MRCG has over the years joined one of its constituent member organizations, the Independent Radio Network, (IRN) in celebrating World Radio Day. This year's theme is generally believed that the first radio transmission was made in 1895 and radio came into existence commercially in the early 1920s, for which we are celebrating a **century of trusted source of information across the world**.

Studies across the world, including the MRCG's study on Information Pollution Mapping, have confirmed that radio is and remains the most trusted source of information on all subjects, including political discourse, citizens' welfare, health, education, government's policy development and international happenings.

The MRCG has over the years conducted several forms of capacity building trainings for journalists, especially radio journalists across the country, in which the most recent was the training of over 200 journalists on professional elections reporting in 2023. As a reform group, the MRCG will continue doing same in other to attain professionalism.

For further information: <u>mrcgonline@gmail.com</u> or <u>fsowa2007@yahoo.com</u> and on +23276224684 or +23276866519.