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....fostering human rights through accountability
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STATEMENT

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER BASED-VIOLENCE

Today, 25th November 2026, marks the commencement of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, a global campaign that calls for renewed commitment and collective action to end all forms of violence against women and girls.

Violence against women and girls is not a private matter. It is a violation of fundamental human rights, human dignity and the principles of equality and justice. Whether it occurs in homes, schools, workplaces, communities or online spaces, it must never be normalized, excused or tolerated.

The Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law, Sierra Leone (CARL-SL) calls on the Government, justice and law enforcement institutions, civil society organizations, traditional and religious leaders, media institutions, men, women and young people to take collective responsibility for preventing Gender-Based Violence.

Ending this violence requires more than awareness. It demands effective laws, responsive institutions, accessible justice, survivor-centered support, protection for those at risk and accountability for perpetrators. It also requires us to confront harmful social norms, challenge victim-blaming and reject the culture of silence that allows abuse to persist.

As we observe these 16 days, let us remember that every woman and girl has the right to live with dignity, safety and freedom from violence. No position, relationship, tradition, financial circumstance or social status should ever be used to justify abuse or shield perpetrators from accountability.

CARL-SL remains committed to promoting human rights, strengthening the rule of law and advocating for a society where justice and protection are accessible to all.

The 16 Days of Activism may last for days, but our commitment to ending Gender-Based Violence must last every day.

Stand for Dignity. Speak Against Violence. Demand Justice.