

## AFRICA: SIERRA LEONE

### New York Echo Editor Raps Unity Staff

The Managing Editor of New York Echo, Dr Susanna Dodgson, who is on a visit to find out why Sierra Leone has the world's highest death rate of mothers giving birth, has paid a courtesy call on members of staff of the Unity Newspaper at their 15 Wallace Johnson Street headquarters.

In an interview with the Unity Press, Dr Dodgson was impressed with the peaceful atmosphere in which people live in Sierra Leone after many years of civil strife that destroyed lives and property worth millions of leones. She told party members that her main area of interest is the issue of high maternal and child mortality rate in African countries, especially Sierra Leone. Dr Dodgson raised concerns about women who die after childbirth, stating that a similar problem is experienced in many countries including Nigeria and other parts of Africa. She, however, expressed dissatisfaction about those vulnerable women in society and maintained that women's issues need to be adequately addressed.

Dr Dodgson had the opportunity to chat with 2 of the women who fell victim during the rape by hooli-



gans of the ruling All People Congress Party (APC). She observed that Sierra Leone is blessed with rich natural resources with a fertile soil to enhance farming activities.

The female journalist was here as a guest of Mrs Zainab Wai-Lansana, who had expressed grave concerns about women and children issues in her country of Sierra Leone.

Meanwhile Dr Dodgson was fortunate to fully participate in the formal reopening of the renovated SLPP headquarters, an event she described as very impressive and historic.

*By Amadu Vandy*



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