

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMETARY DEBATES

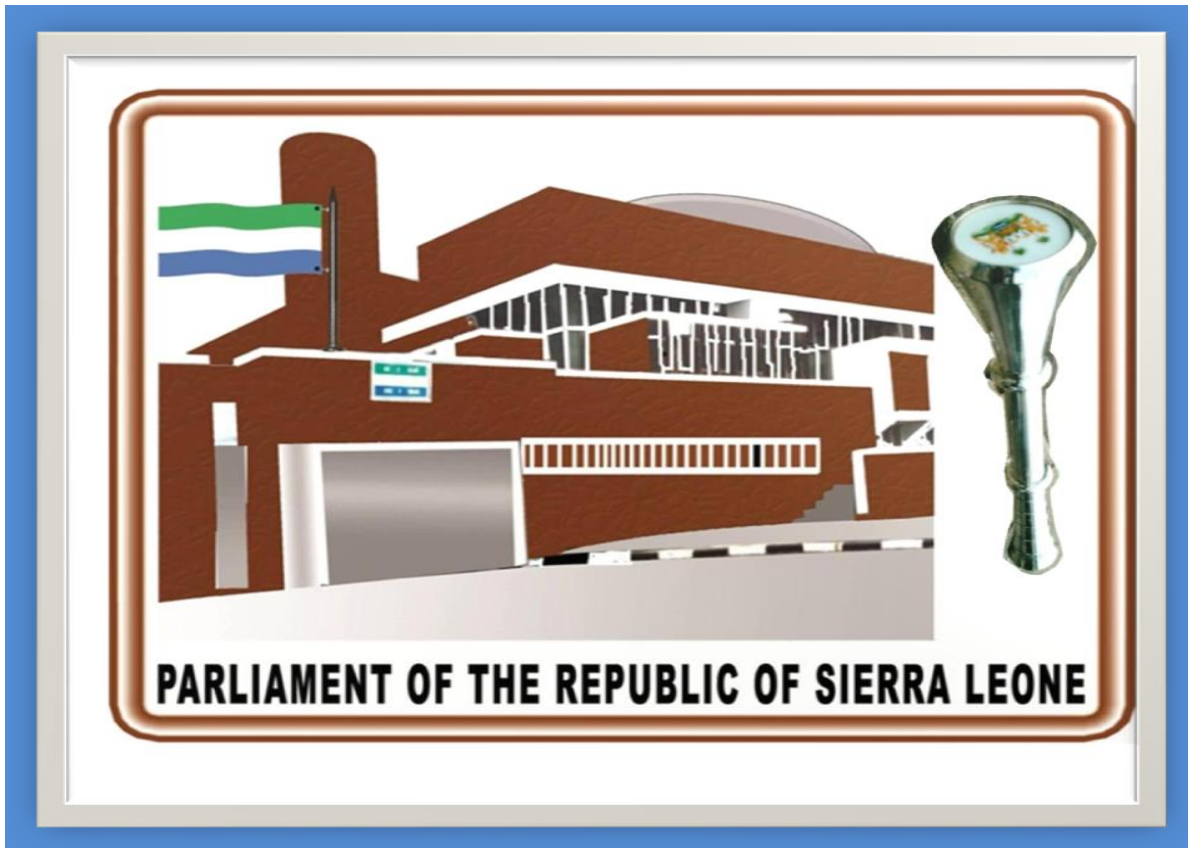
(HANSARD)

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

SECOND SESSION-SECOND MEETING

TUESDAY, 20TH MAY, 2014

SESSION – 2013/2014



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Second Meeting of the Second Session of the Fourth Parliament
Of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held on Tuesday, 20th May, 2014.

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Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

**SECOND SESSION-SECOND MEETING
OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

Thursday, 20th May, 2014.

The House met at 10:00 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown.

I. PRAYERS

[The Clerk of Parliament, Hon. Ibrahim Sulaiman Sesay, Read the Prayers].

[The Speaker, Hon. Sheku B. B. Dumbuya, in the Chair].

The House was called to Order

II. RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON THURSDAY, 15TH MAY, 2014.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I take it that everybody has a copy of the record of Votes and Proceedings for Thursday, 15th May, 2014. As usual, we go through it page by page. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Mr Clerk, take note of Page 4, item IV. I would rather have it this way: 'the motion for the adoption of the records,' instead of the motion to adopt. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Could somebody move for the adoption of the Votes and Proceedings for Thursday, 15th May, 2014 as presented?

HON. ALHAJI S. DUMBUYA: Mr Speaker, I so move.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. ALHASSAN JERO KAMARA: I so second Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: It has been moved and seconded.

(Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to)

III. LAYING OF PAPERS

(a) THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE

SIERRA LEONE PETROLEUM LICENCE AGREEMENT BLOCK 9A–10 AND BLOCK 9B–10.

MR FRANK KARGBO: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table the following Agreement:

Sierra Leone Petroleum License Agreement, Block 9a – 10 and Block 9b – 10

(b) THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES, DATED 15TH JULY, 2013.

MR ALIEU PAT-SOWE (*Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources*): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in the field of fisheries, dated 15th July, 2013. I thank you very much (*Applause*).

(c) THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME AND THE PROTOCOLS THERETO

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, before the Minister lays his Paper, I would like all of us to welcome Commander Dr Samura Kamara (*Applause*).

DR SAMURA KAMARA (*Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperations*): Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I beg to lay on the Table a Paper entitled: the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the Protocols thereto (*Applause*).

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we shall have had a substantive issue this morning, incorporated in the Order Paper for today, i.e., the Sierra Leone Petroleum License Agreement, but when the Order Paper was presented to me yesterday, I overruled on that because certain conditions had not been met. Chief among which is that the paper is to be laid today and it shall have been presented to the House today. It is not unusual, as all of us know, we had done that but for this particular Paper, I've always said that circumstances alter cases and every situation has its own peculiarities. Therefore, we cannot transact the business relating to this particular document. We may have it on Thursday. Thank you very much.

HON. IBRAHIM BUNDU (*Majority Leader of the House and Leader of Government Business*): And to add to what the Speaker has just said, I want Honourable Members to read these two Agreements thoroughly. We may discuss them

on Thursday. Also, the meeting with Members of Parliament and the Ministry of Lands will take place tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. I want Honourable Members to attend, as land issues pertinent to us and our constituents will be discussed. The Ministry of Lands will be there tomorrow to lead us in the new land policy. Members of the Appointment Committee will be meeting at 2:00p.m. to interview some presidential nominees in Room No. 1. Thank you very much.

HON. BASHIRU SIDIKI: Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I'm standing on S.O. 23. Mr Speaker, sometimes last year, we ratified a loan agreement to the tune of 2 Million Euro. The loan was to capacitate Parliament and Parliamentarians. There was a Committee formed to monitor the use of that fund and this is almost one year since we ratified that agreement. Nobody has updated us about that fund. I have decided to raise it up as a Member of Parliament. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Mr Leader, any reaction to that?

HON. IBRAHIM BUNDU: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I wonder if the Honourable Member has contacted the Administration to be updated. But since he has raised it up, it's going to be a subject of administrative discussion. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have in my possession a letter written to all Chairpersons of Committees, particularly those Committees that did undertake Oversight functions few months ago sometime last year. That letter is very important. Please, make sure you act on it accordingly; and whoever fails to do so, would have him or herself to blame. Let me repeat it again. The letter written to all Chairpersons of Committees by the Clerk of Parliament, regarding Oversight duties undertaken by them sometime last year should be respected. I will not go into the details of the letter because we are in the Chambers. But I want you to know that it is incumbent on you to do what the Clerk has stated in that letter. He is doing so in response to an audit queries. Please, make sure you act accordingly.

HON. IBRAHIM R. BUNDU: Mr Speaker, we have just laid on the Table the Sierra Leone Petroleum License Agreement Block 9a – 10 And Block 9b – 10; and the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Fisheries. These two Agreements might appear on Thursday. Make sure you read these Agreements thoroughly. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the Leader of the House has pleaded with you to read these Agreements. Please, endeavour to read them. I want to say that before Honourable Members come to the Chamber, if there is any business to be transacted, make sure you do everything relating to that particular document. This means that you have to read before you come to the Chambers. That was what we used to do here; and that is what you should do as Members of Parliament.

ADJOURNMENT

(The House rose at 10.23 a.m. and was adjourned until Thursday, 22nd May, 2014, at 10.00 a.m.)