



**HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT  
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL  
FREETOWN**



**THIRD SESSION OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC  
OF SIERRA LEONE**

**ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS  
AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE ON PARLIAMENTARY VETTING  
OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, alive to its Constitutional obligations, met on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015 to interview seven Presidential nominees for appointment as follows:

- i. Board Member, Environment Protection Agency
- ii. National Minerals Agency
- iii. Member, National Commission for Privatization
- iv. Board Member, Sierra Leone State Lottery
- v. Four Members, Minerals Advisory Board

**2. PROCEDURE**

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Probing questions put to the nominees covered wide ranging issues relating to their educational background, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure.

**3. FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015**

3:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

**i Hon. Dr. Raymond Saidu Kamara - Proposed Board Member,  
Environmental Protection Agency**

Hon. Dr. Raymond Kamara is a professional Veterinarian and a former Member of Parliament. Elected in 1996 on the United National People's Party (UNPP) ticket, Hon. Dr. Raymond Kamara became Parliamentary Leader of the UNPP in 1998 by popular acclamation and as Opposition Leader of the then five opposition parties in Parliament. He also served as Chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

Hon. Dr. Raymond Kamara was acknowledged and acclaimed, across Party lines, as a celebrated senior citizen who has contributed in no small way to the development of Sierra Leone.

In his interview, Hon Dr. Raymond Kamara reminded Members about the environmental damage, currently being caused by human activities, to the peninsular hills and mountain forest which, he described as "a disaster waiting to happen." He warned that the situation had reached such an alarming proportion that "we are like sitting on a time-bomb with population growth exerting more pressure on the environment." The learned Doctor believed that it was time to change our ways of exploiting the peninsular mountain resources by embarking on sustainable development which would enable us meet our current needs without jeopardizing the future needs of generations to come.

**ii. Mr. Yahya Labay Kamara- Proposed Member, Sierra Leone State Lottery**

M . Yayah Labay Kamara is a lecturer, Department of Physics and computer science, Njala University College. Mr. Kamara had previously served as Examiner, National Council for Technical, Vocational and other Awards, (NCTVA). 2009 – 2012

Answering to questions on what would be his input to resuscitate the Sierra Leone State Lottery, Mr. Labay Kamara said, "my background is Information Technology and information technology is a strong pre-requisite for modern investment and marketing. I believe that coming with that background to the State Lottery, I would be able to encourage management to adopt modern ideas on investment and marketing that would be most attractive to customers."

**iii. Mr. Aina Vivian Solomon Bell - Proposed Member, National Commission for Privatization**

Mr. Aina Vivian Solomon Bell is an experienced and versatile Accountant with over 25 years experience in Accounting and Auditing. He served in several other capacities that included:

**2009-date**, Director, Vivian Bell and Associates Ltd., (United Kingdom)  
Chartered Certified Accountants

**1999 -2009** Managing Partner, Vivian Bell and Associates (Sierra Leone)

**1998-1999** - Audit Manager, Greaves Associates (United Kingdom) Accountants and Tax Consultants with the responsibility of Audit Planning, Testing and File Review.

Responding to the Committee's inquiries, Mr. Solomon Bell said, "with my experience in dealing with acquisitions and mergers, I believe I will bring a wealth of experience to the National Commission for Privatization. At least, this time round I will be on the other side of the fence, that is, working in the interest of the public rather than the investor." Questioned on his belief on privatization, Mr. Solomon Bell said, "I believe in privatization because privatization, in most cases, enhances efficiency. People invest to make good returns, so if management is not competent enough, out they go," he said.

**GROUP INTERVIEW**

The following nominees were interviewed together:

**iv. Alimamy Sesay Esq., - Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board**

Alimamy Sesay Esq. is a legal practitioner and Senior State Counsel, Law Officers Department. The nominee is being appointed for a second term on the Minerals Board. Alimamy Sesay Esq promised to discharge his functions to the best of his ability and to do more during his second term.

**v. Mrs. Agatha Evelyne Benjamin – Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board**

Mrs. Agatha Evelyne Benjamin is a retired Director of Geological Surveys, Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources where she had served as Geologist 1980-1986 and in 2010 as Director of Geological Surveys.

Answering to the Committee's inquiries, Mrs. Agatha Evelyne Benjamin said, "I will try to be more effective now that I am retired and have all the time I need."

**vi. Mr. Arnold Renikah Mason – Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board**

Mr. Arnold R. Mason is an Exploration Geologist and a retired Director of Geological Surveys, with over twenty-five years work experience in the Ministry of Mineral Resources and the Mining Industry in Sierra Leone.

Responding to the Committee, Mr. Arnold Renikah Mason promised "to work collaboratively with fellow Board members to ensure that mining companies adhere to the Minerals Act of 2009 and their corporate social responsibility."

**vii. Mr. Lawrence Lawson (Rev.) – Proposed Member, National Minerals Agency**

Mr. Lawrence Lawson (Rev.) is a former teacher and Chaplain of the St. Helena Secondary School. 2004-2008, he was Chairman, Education Committee, Freetown City Council and in 2007, Rev. Lawson was Deputy Mayor of the City Council.

Rev. Lawrence Lawson promised to ensure that the people of Sierra Leone benefit from their God-given endowments.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following Presidential nominees to be adequately qualified for their proposed appointments and are recommended to the House for approval:

- i. Hon. Dr. Raymond Saidu Kamara – Member, Environment Protection Agency
- ii. Mr. Yahya Labay Kamara- Board Member, Sierra Leone State Lottery
- iii. Mr. Aina Vivian Solomon Bell- Member, National Commission for Privatization
- iv. Mr. Alimamy Sesay- Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- v. Mrs. Agatha Evelyne Benjamin, Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- vi. Mr. Arnold Renikeh Mason - Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- vi. Rev. Lawrence Lawson- Member, National Minerals Agency

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Eleventh Report is the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Eleventh Report of the Third Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service be adopted by the House and that the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Hon. Ibrahim R. Bundu

Chairman

Date.....



**HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT  
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL  
FREETOWN**



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**SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND  
REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE  
ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON WEDNESDAY  
6<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015 AT 11:00 A. M.**

1. **Prayers** - Members observed a moment of silent meditation.
2. **Attendance**
  - 2.1 **The following Members of the Committee were present.**
    - i. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu - **Chairman.**
    - ii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
    - iii. Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah
    - iv. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
    - v. Hon. Ansumana Kikai
    - vi. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma
    - vii. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay
    - viii. Hon. Brimah Conteh
  - 2.2 **The following Members of the Committee were absent:**
    - ix. Hon. Bliss Osho Williams
    - x. Hon. P. C. Brima V.S. Kebbie

- xi. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- xii. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- xiii. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
- xiv. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- xv. Hon. Benneh Bangura
- xvi. Hon. Sidi Mohamed Tunis

**3. PUBLIC HEARING** - Hearing was open to the public and the press.

**4. Consideration of Presidential nominations for appointments as listed:**

5:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Hon. Dr. Raymond Saidu Kamara – Proposed Member, Environmental Protection Agency
- ii. Mr. Yahya Labay Kamara- Proposed Board Member, Sierra Leone State Lottery
- iii. Mr. Aina Vivian Solomon Bell- Proposed Member, National Commission for Privatization
- iv. Mr. Alimamy Sesay- Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- v. Mrs. Agatha Evelyne Benjamin, Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- vi. Mr. Arnold Renikeh Mason - Proposed Member, Minerals Advisory Board
- vii. Rev. Lawrence Lawson- Proposed Member, National Minerals Agency

**6. Closed Session**

6:1 The Committee unanimously accepted the nomination of all the seven candidates interviewed.

The Committee rose at 3: 50 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees