



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



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

**SEVENTH 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 met on Tuesday, 12th April 2016 and interviewed six Presidential nominees for appointments as follows:-

- i. Special Adviser to the President and Ambassador-At-Large
- ii. Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- iii. Resident Minister, East.
- iv. Deputy Minister of Finance & Economic Development
- v. Member, Income Tax Board of Appellate Commissioners
- vi. Member, Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (MCCU)

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Inquiring questions put to the nominees were related to their educational backgrounds, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a nationally productive tenure. Issues of unsuitability and unconstitutionality or otherwise were closely looked into.

3. EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2016

3:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. **Hon. Alhaji, Dr. Alpha B. S. Kanu- Proposed Special Adviser to the President and Ambassador -At- Large**

Hon. Alhaji, Dr. Alpha B. S. Kanu is a professional Mining Engineer who has held the following positions in Government:

- i. Member of Parliament, 2002 - 2007
- ii. Minister of Presidential and Public Affairs, 2007 - 2009
- iii. Minister of Mineral Resources & Political Affairs, 2009 -2010
- iv. Minister of Political and Public Affairs, 2010-2013
- v. Minister of Information and Communication, 2013 -2016

Reacting to the Committee's request to share the envisaged challenges to his new office, Hon. Alhaji, Dr. Alpha Kanu said that the new assignment was very familiar. "My first appointment in government was as a Minister of Presidential and Public Affairs. I am inclined to believe that, the President in his wisdom has appointed me to where I would be of the greatest service to him."

Questioned on his role as an adviser to the President, Hon. Alhaji, Dr. Alpha Kanu said, "I don't know what the role of the adviser will entail. I think I will wait to be called upon by His Excellency to advise on specified matters. What I however know for certain is that I am ready, able, willing and determined to serve his Excellency as an adviser and Ambassador-At-Large," he said.

ii. Mr. Winstanley Bankole Johnson-Proposed Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone.

Mr. Bankole Johnson is a career banker who has spent the better part of his working life (27 years) with the 'Standard Chartered Bank, Sierra Leone.' He has attended or participated in numerous international senior training and seminars on corporate governance and administration.

Answering to the Committee's inquiries, Mr. Johnson said, "I am just coming from the banking system and I am still familiar with the banking environment in Sierra Leone. The role of the Bank of Sierra Leone is to supervise the Commercial Banks and to act as a banker to the Government. I am aware of the constraints of the commercial banks. I am also au fait with the challenges of the Bank of Sierra Leone as was recently pronounced by the Bank Governor in a speech. As a veteran banker, I follow with keen interest on what is happening in the banking environment in Sierra Leone," he said.

Responding to further questions, Mr. Bankole Johnson assured the Committee that "once I get into the Boardroom I will add value to the transformative agenda they are trying to implement to propel this country forward. I assure you that it would not take me more than a week to adapt myself. That is my field and I grew up in it," he said.

iii. Mr. Karamoh Kabba-Proposed Resident Minister, East

Mr. Karamoh Kabba is the Deputy Minister of Political and Public Affairs. He joined the Sierra Leone Government in 2008 as National Coordinator of open Government Initiative.(OGI)

Responding to inquiries on his role in the new assignment, Mr. Karamoh Kabba said, "I am expected to serve in the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone as a trustworthy surrogate of His Excellency, the President, Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma. I would also be expected to work dedicatedly and diligently to improve the Kenema, Kailahun and Kono Districts and to put the national interest above all other considerations."

Reacting to further questions, Mr. Karamoh Kabba promised to demonstrate political tolerance and to work with all across political party lines for the good of the country. "I have always driven through Kenema on my way to Kono because I wanted to be in touch with my people in the East. I am very passionate about the East because I hail from that part of the country and I will endeavour to make the bad township roads. The Kenema - Tongo - Kono road is horrible and I have plans to engage the big corporations operating in those areas to make the roads."

Answering to another pertinent question, Mr. Karamoh Kabba promised to keep reminding Government about the Bunumbu College until it is upgraded to a University for the Eastern Province.

iv. Mr.Momoh Vandi -Proposed Deputy Minister of Finance and Economic Development

Soon after leaving Fourah Bay College, Mr. Momoh Vandi had travelled abroad and had lived and worked in the USA from 2002 to 2016. He is currently a Consultant/Financial Manager, Unique Home Health Care, Inc, Beltsville, M.D, USA (2014-2016)

Answering to questions on the strategies he would put in place to make the Leone gain strength against the dollar, Mr. Momoh Vandi said that "the crisis this country is facing is inflation. A country facing inflation will find it difficult to develop. I will recommend that the banks implement a monetary contraction policy. The objective of this policy would be actually to reduce money supply in the economy. The banks should increase interest rates to make borrowing very expensive. I must however hasten to say that the policy should be a temporary measure to get the economy back on track."

Mr. Momoh Vandi promised to work assiduously with colleague Ministers and the technical staff of the Ministry of Finance & Economic Development to put the economy of Sierra Leone back on track.

v. Ms. Mariatu Kemoh-Sesay-Proposed Member, Income Tax Board of Appellate Commissioners

Ms. Mariatu Kemoh-Sesay is currently a lecturer at the Department of Sociology and Social Work, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone (2013 -2016)

Explaining her expected role on the Board, Ms. Mariatu Kemoh Sesay assured the Committee that if she is given the blessings of approval by Parliament, she would adhere to and work according to the dictates of the Income Tax Board of Appellate Commission Act.

Questioned on her knowledge of the mandate of the Commission, the nominee said, "I have read the National Revenue Authority Act and the Goods and Services Tax Act to broadened my horizons on the functions of the Commission. I think I will be there to participate in the Board proceedings and to listen to issues of tax appeals and complaints before the Board."

vi. Mr.Abu Bakarr Kamara - Proposed Board, Member Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (MCCU)

Mr. Abu Bakarr Kamara is a Civil Society activist and Coordinator, Budget Advocacy Network, Sierra Leone. (2011 - 2016) He had previously served as Program Officer, National Accountability Group Sierra Leone (now Transparency International Sierra Leone 2006 – 2011.)

In his interview, Mr. Abu Bakarr Kamara promise to collaborate and cooperate with fellow Board members to achieve the goals for which the Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (MCCU) was established.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- i. Hon. Alhaji, Dr. Alpha B. S. Kanu - Special Adviser to the President and Ambassador-At-Large
- ii. Mr. Winstanley Bankole Johnson – Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- iii. Mr. Karamoh Kabba – Resident Minister, East.
- iv. Mr. Momoh Vandi- Deputy Minister of Finance & Economic Development

- v. Ms. Mariatu Kemoh-Sesay- Member, Income Tax Board of Appellate Commissioners
- vi. Mr. Abu Bakarr Kamara – Board Member, Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (MCCU)

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Seventh Report portrays the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Seventh Report of the Fourth 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**



E-mail: sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com

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

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE
ROOM NO. 1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON TUESDAY
12TH APRIL 2016 AT 3:00 P. M.**

1. **Prayers** – Prayers were said by the Clerk.
2. **Attendance**
 - 2.1 **The following Members of the Committee were present.**
 - i. Hon. Ibrahim R. Bundu – Chairman
 - ii. Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah
 - iii. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
 - iv. Hon. Amadu Kanu
 - v. Hon Abie Kaloko
 - vi. Hon Patrick L M Kargbo
 - vii. Hon. Benneh Bangura
 - viii. Hon. Veronica Sesay
 - ix. Hon Habib Mundu
 - x. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
 - xi. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
 - xii. Hon Jusufu Barry Mansaray
 - 2.2 **The following Members of the Committee were absent:**
 - i. Hon PC Joseph Alie Kavura Kongomoh II
 - ii. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai

- iii. Hon Mabinty H Bangura
- iv. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah

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

4. Consideration of Presidential nominations for appointments as listed:

4:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Hon. Alhaji Dr. Alpha B. S. Kanu- Proposed Special Adviser to the President and Ambassador-At-Large
- ii. Winstanley Bankole Johnson –Proposed Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- iii. Mr. Karamoh Kabba – Proposed Resident Minister, East.
- iv. Mr. Momoh Vandi- Proposed Deputy Minister of Finance & Eco. Development
- v. Ms. Mariatu Kemoh-Sesay-Proposed Member, Income Tax Board of Appellate Commissioners
- vi. Mr. Abu Bakarr Kamara –Proposed Board Member, Millennium Challenge Corporation Unit (MCCU)

5. Closed Session

5:1 The Committee unanimously accepted the nomination of all the six candidates interviewed.

The Committee rose at 5: 30 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees