



HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL

FREETOWN



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

EIGHTH 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 Wednesday 18th March 2015 and interviewed five Presidential nominees for appointment as follows:

- i. Two Members, Sierra Leone Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- ii. Commissioner, National Electoral Commission
- iii. Member, Environmental Protection Agency
- iv. Member, Sierra Leone Roads Authority(SLRA)

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee maintained strict adherence to its established procedure. Inquiring questions put to the nominees were related to their educational backgrounds, track records in pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure.

3. TENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2015

3:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

i. Mr. Alpha Abass Sesay - Proposed Member, NATCOM

Mr. Alpha Sesay is a veteran telecommunication expert. He joined the Sierra Leone Telecommunication company (SIERRATEL) in 1989 and was appointed Controller of Planning in 1995. In 2000, he was promoted Acting Managing Director and later Managing Director of SIERRATEL, a position he held until his retirement in 2012.

Reacting to inquiries on the liberalization of the 'Gate-way,' Mr. Sesay had this to say, "I am one of those who instigated the exclusivity given to SIERRATEL for the 'Gateway.' At that time it was necessary for the company to get the exclusivity to enable the company to be where it is today, otherwise there was no way we could have done it. I applaud Government for doing that and Parliament because you actually included that in the bill and passed it into law.

"In the present situation," he said, "the liberalization of the gateway poses some challenges to the country, but NATCOM" he said, is now there as a regulatory body to seek the interest of consumers. NATCOM should be seen to create a level playing field and thus attracting more investments into the industry. There is still a lot of work to be done..." Mr. Sesay promised to draw on his experience gained over the years for the success of the Commission.

ii. Mr. Ibrahim Koroma - Proposed Member, NATCOM

Mr. Ibrahim Koroma is the Vice President, Consumer Protection Agency, an institution that advocates for the protection of consumers interest. Mr. Koroma had previously worked as Public Relations Officer for the 'Association for Development and Community Health (ADCOH).'

Answering to a question on his role on the Board if he is approved, Mr. Koroma said "as an advocate for consumer's interest, I will jealously guide the interest of my clients and ensure that policies put in place by NATCOM do not unduly disadvantage consumers."

iii. Mr. Macksood Gibril Sesay - Proposed Commissioner, National Electoral Commission

Mr. Sesay is a seasoned electoral officer with a wealth of experience in election management and its legal implications. He joined the National Electoral Commission in 2007 as Public Relations and Voter Education Officer for the Western Area Urban District. He rose through the ranks to the position of Director of Legal Affairs, Research and Documentation.

Responding to pertinent questions, Mr. Macksood Sesay said, "I have been Director of Legal Affairs, Research and Documentation. I have been in the thick of things, advising and coordinating the work of the legal retainers. Having gone through that for the past several years, I don't think any storm would be too difficult for me to surmount."

Questioned on his independence, Mr. Sesay said, "As an Electoral Commissioner, I will have to be independent while working collaboratively with other members of the Commission to tap into their experience.

iv. Mrs. Josephine Estherline Ekundayo Mac-Thompson - Proposed Board Member, SLRA (Rept. Western Area)

Mrs. Josephine Mac Thompson is the proprietress of AMA Enterprises, a reputable catering service company.

Mrs. Josephine Thompson had previously worked for the Standard Chartered Bank, (1972-1998) where she rose through the ranks from a Clerical Officer to an Officer-in-charge of Fixed and Short term Deposit, with the responsibility of approving all loans including, the supervision of the daily operations of that Department.

Answering to probing questions, Mrs. Mac-Thompson said that, if given the blessings of a parliamentary approval, she would be going to the SLRA with a strong financial background. She promised to replicate experiences gained in her banking career in the work of SLRA. She further promised to ensure that policies are put in place to ensure regular maintenance of the nations network of trunk and feeder roads.

**v. Haja Fatmata Manso-Kamara - Proposed Board member,
Environmental Protection Agency**

Haja Fatmata Manso Kamara is the Head of Nutrition at the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) British Council. From 2000 to date, Mrs. Kamara has been the Chief of Kossoh Town community, off Kissy Road, Freetown.

Responding to the Committee's inquiries, Haja Fatmata Manso Kamara promised to work collaboratively with colleague Board members to put policies in place so as to forestall events of environmental disasters happening in the country. She further promised to convince fellow Board Members to embark on mass sensitization of communities in disaster-prone areas.

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. Mr. Alpha Abass Sesay - Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- ii. Mr. Ibrahim Koroma- Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- iii. Mr. Macksood Gibril Sesay- Commissioner, National Electoral Commission
- iv. Mrs. Josephine Estherline Ekundayo Mac-Thompson - Board Member, Sierra Leone Road Authority (SLRA (Rept. Western Area)
- v. Haja Fatmata Manso -Kamara – Member, Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Eighth Report is the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Eighth 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. Leonard S. Fofanah

Ag. Chairman

Date.....



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

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS
AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT
BUILDING, ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2015 AT 2:00 P. M.**

1. **Prayers** - Members observed a moment of silent meditation.
2. **Attendance**
 - 2.1 **The following Members of the Committee were present.**
 - i. Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah - **Ag. Chairman.**
 - ii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
 - iii. Hon. Ansumana Karkai
 - iv. Hon. Sidi Mohamed Tunis
 - v. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma
 - vi. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
 - vii. Hon. Mabinty Funna
 - viii. Hon. Brimah Conteh
 - ix. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay
 - x. Hon. Benneh Bangura
 - 2.2 **The following Members of the Committee were absent:**
 - xi. Hon. Bliss Osho Williams

- xii. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu
- xiii. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
- xiv. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- xv. Hon. P. C. Brima V.S. Kebbie
- xvi. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai

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

5. Consideration of Presidential nominations for appointments as listed:

5:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Mr. Alpha Abass Sesay- Proposed Member, Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- ii. Mr. Ibrahim Koroma-Proposed Member, Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- iii. Mr. Macksood Gibril Sesay- Proposed Commissioner, National Electoral Commission
- iv. M s. Josephine Estherline Ekundayo Mac-Thompson - Proposed Board Member, Sierra Leone Road Authority (SLRA (Rept. Western Area)
- v. Haja Fatmata Manso Kamara –Proposed Board Member, Environment Protection Agency

6. Closed Session

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

The Committee rose at 4: 30 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees