



**PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
PARLIAMENT BUILDING
O.A.U DRIVE, TOWER HILL
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**FIRST 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 Thursday 7th March 2013 and interviewed six Presidential nominees for appointment to the following positions:

- i. Ministers**
- ii. Minister of State**
- iii. Deputy Ministers**

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Inquiring questions put to the nominees pertained to their educational backgrounds, track records in pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a successful tenure. Allegations of malpractices in public office and or unsuitability in terms of character to hold such high offices of State were very closely looked into.

**3. THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON THURSDAY 7TH
MARCH 2013**

3:1 The following nominees were interviewed:

**i.Hon. Mathew M. Teambo – Proposed Minister of Labour and Social
Security**

Hon. Mathew M. Teambo has previously worked in the United States of America. He was a lecturer and Professor of International Business and International Finance (Graduate and undergraduate students) Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California, USA. The nominee was also an

international banking specialist and has a wealth of management work experience.

Reacting to questions as to why he was leaving “the certainty of a parliamentary seat for the volatility and uncertainty of a ministerial position,” Hon. Teambo said that “life is a risk and there are risks in everything we do.” The work of Members of Parliament in their constituencies, he said, only go to complement the work of the executive and “I think we are collaboratively heading for the development of the country.”

Responding to further questions, he said that “in terms of my interaction with my constituents and other political parties within my constituency, I see myself as a peaceful person, a person who sees the world as one; a person who has spent so many years oversea and has always been told, because of my skin, that ‘you are an African.’ I finally came back home with the spirit and understanding that I only know a Sierra Leonean. I do not know tribes and I would always do the things that would bring the different groups together in harmony. I could spend all my life doing that and I have done it in my constituency.”

ii. Mr. Augustine NyumahKortu –Proposed Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security

Mr. Kortu has executive managerial work experience (in Sierra Leone and Liberia) in a number of private and public institutions.

Mr. Kortu expressed his determination to work collaboratively with the Minister to strengthen the structures and systems within the Ministry so that there would be effective coordination of activities.

iii. Mr. KaramohKabba – Proposed Deputy Minister of Political and Public Affairs

KaramohKabba - is a writer, novelist, researcher, social commentator and political analyst who has a number of publications to his name. He is currently the Director of Political and Public Affairs in charge of directing the key mandate of the Ministry i. e. to develop policies and programmes geared towards promoting democracy and good governance in Sierra Leone.

Reacting to outstanding allegations of misappropriation of funds of the 'Open Government Initiative' (OGI), Mr. Kabba submitted that he had left OGI on his own volition. Explaining the circumstances under which he lost OGI funds, he said, he had departed Freetown with five other persons, on board his Pathfinder jeep, to implement OGI activities in Kono. Before leaving Freetown, Le.38 million out of the targeted Le.58 million had been spent on overnight allowances, fuel, transportation and other things. "I had the Le.20, 000,000 left in my bag."

A few miles after Magburaka, he said, they had an accident. The vehicle somersaulted. This attracted about 40-50 villagers to our rescue. The rear window of the vehicle was shattered. "In the process of lifting the vehicle, my bag that had the Le20, 000,000 disappeared. The President was by then in Makeni and we were meant to go ahead to receive him in Kono. Calls were made and the Mayor of Makeni came to our rescue and sent us one vehicle. We were all brought to Magburaka and treated for minor injuries. The matter was reported to the police and statements were obtained accordingly. When the accident occurred, I was more concerned about the lives of those traveling with me. I called each one by name and gave advice and help to vacate the vehicle as quickly as possible for fear of an explosion. The thought about the money did not really cross my mind at that point in time.

"When news broke out about the accident in Freetown, it was reported that Le58 million was lost in the accident. The press even went further to say that I faked the accident to get away with the Le58 million. But is it really worthwhile to sacrifice a Le60 million jeep and five lives for Le58 Million? I telephoned Paramount Chief Saquee in Kono to lend me Le20 million to implement the OGI programme. We successfully implemented it as if nothing had happened. I later repaid Chief Saquee. I explained my story in an interview that was published in the AWARENESS TIMES newspaper."

iv. Mr. Alimamy Kamara – proposed Minister of Youth Affairs

Mr. Alimamy Kamara is a youth activist of eminence. In 2007, he was elected Member of Parliament for Constituency 029, Bombali District. He was re-elected to Parliament in the November 2012 elections.

In his interview Mr. Kamara submitted that he had contested the 2012 election to be a second-term Member of Parliament. He did not see anything precarious in becoming a Minister because he viewed his nomination as a call to national duty. "As someone who believes in serving humanity, I don't normally pay attention to titles. If it pleases His Excellency, the President to appoint me as Minister, I believe it is God's will and I accept it wholeheartedly."

Questioned on how he was planning to handle the high expectations of the youths of this country, he said “I believe I have a pragmatic character. I have always been truthful, honest and sincere with the youths, those in the ghettos, the universities, those at the business level, you name them. I have been working with them and I have known their needs, their expectations and their aspirations across regional and political lines even before now. As I speak to you, I am the Chairman of the “All Political Parties Youth Association.” I believe I know the concerns of the youths and they know we cannot meet all their expectations. With sincerity, objectivity and fairness, the youths would understand that which we would be able to do and that which we would not be able to do.”

iv. Ms. Kadija O. Seisay – Proposed Deputy Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs

Ms. KadijaSeisay is a certified Medical Assistant with a wealth of hospital work experience in London and the United States of America. In 2007, she was appointed Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

The nominee promised to work assiduously to be the best of her ability for the success of the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs.

vi. Mrs. Harriett Turay - Proposed Minister of State, Office of Vice President

Mrs. Harriett Turay of the 50/50 Group fame is an ‘Iron Lady’ who has stood her ground for the empowerment and equality of women to men in all spheres of life. Mrs. Turay also has a wealth of work experience in the Airline Industry spanning 1967-1986

Giving an opinion on the status of women’s demand for the 30% quota representation in governance and how her appointment could help, Mrs. Turay said that “the 30% quota was delayed because the issue was not effected before the 2012 general elections, when it was most needed by the women.” Mrs. Turay promised to use her new position as Minister of State in the Office of the Vice President, to work with the various Ministries, particularly the Ministry of Social Welfare, “to see how we could work together to fast-track the issue of 30% quota for women. I know that inspite of the work that some women have done, particularly the female Members of Parliament and other women’s organizations, there has been a bottle-neck in the promotion of the 30% quota and that is going to be one of my priorities.”

Responding to further questions, she said that the 30% quota women were demanding was not a question of civil liberty but one of right. “There have

been more male leaders than women and we want to catch up so that there could be a balance in representation. It is our desire, as an organization, for women to work alongside the men in the development of our country.”

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- i. Hon. Matthew M. Teambo – Minister of Labour & Social Security
- ii. Hon. Alimamy A. Kamara - Minister of Youth Affairs
- iii. Mrs. Harriette Turay – Minister of State, V.P. Office
- iv. Ms. Kadija O Seisay – Deputy Minister of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
- v. Mr. Augustine Nyuma Kortu – Deputy Minister of Labour & Social Security
- vi. Mr. Karamoh Kabba – Deputy Minister of Political and Public Affairs

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

Hon. S. B. B. Dumbuya
Chairman

Date.....



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**FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC
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**MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
 APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE
 ROOM NO.1 PARLIAMENT BUILDING ON THURSDAY
 7TH March 2013 AT 11:00 A. M.**

1. **Prayers** - Members prayed in silence

2. **Attendance**

2.1 The following Members of the Committee were present.

1. Hon. S. B. B. Dumbuya
2. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
3. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu
4. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaiakakai
5. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
6. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams
7. Hon. Benneh Bangura
8. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
9. Hon. Alice Foyah
10. Hon. Brimah Conteh
11. Hon. P. C. V.B.S. Kebbie

In attendance were:

1. Hon. Alimamy Kamara
2. Hon. Dr. Matthew Teambo

2.2 The following Members of the Committee were absent:

1. Hon. Amadu Kanu

2. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
3. Hon. MabintyFunna

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

4. Consideration of Presidential nomination for ministerial appointment as listed:

- i. Hon. Matthew M. Teambo – Proposed Minister of Labour & Social Security
- ii. Hon. Alimamy A. Kamara - Minister of Youth Affairs
- iii. Mrs. Harriette Turay – Proposed Minister of State, V.P. Office
- iv. Ms. Kadija O Seisay – Proposed Deputy Minister of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
- v. Mr. Augustine NyumaKortu - Proposed Deputy Minister of Labour & Social Security
- vi. Mr. Karamoh Kabba – Proposed Deputy Minister of Political and Public Affairs

4:1 The following nominee were interviewed on oath:

5. Closed Session

5.1 The Committee unanimously accepted the nomination of all the five candidates interviewed.

The Committee rose at 2: 40 p.m.