



HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT
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FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND

REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

THE ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE ON PARLIAMENTARY VETTING OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS -2023

1. INTRODUCTION

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, cognizant of its constitutional responsibility of vetting and approving of qualified candidates for important offices of state, met on Monday, 18th December, 2023 and interviewed **ten** Presidential nominees for the following positions: i) Deputy Finance Minister 1, Ministry of Finance ; ii) Commissioner General , National Revenue Authority(NRA), iii) Chairman, Wages and Compensation Commission; iv) Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Wages and Compensation Commission, v) Deputy Commissioner General ,National Lands Commission; vi) Member, Board of Directors ,National Mineral Agency (NMA) , vii) Member, National Drug Laws Enforcement Agency, viii) the Ombudsman ix) Deputy Bank Governor, Monetary Stability, Bank of Sierra Leone and x) Executive Director, National Protected Area Authority(NPAA)

1. PROCEDURE

The Committee conducted as usual the hearing within its set framework of procedures and the Presidential nominees were interviewed on issues pertaining to their educational backgrounds to ensure that they have the relevant education and necessary backup experience to effectively perform in the various positions appointed. Further probing questions put to the nominees covered wide ranging issues relating to a litmus transparency probe on their track records in the Public service and other pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a nationally productive tenure. Issues of unsuitability or otherwise were also closely looked into.

2. **THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 2023**

The following Presidential nominees were interviewed on oath:

i. **Mrs Kadiatu Allie, Proposed Deputy Minister 1, Ministry of Finance**

Mrs Kadiatu Allie is an accomplished international finance and Accounting professional with a more than two decade expertise streamlining accounting efficiency in Oil, Telecommunications, services and manufacturing industries.

Her adept skills of internal controls management, Audit controls, budgeting and forecasting and project management acquired from the long years sojourn with the private sector, would in no doubt equip her assist the Minister on revenue generating strategy, contractual agreements, Gender equality financing and many others.

Mrs Kadiatu Allie is a certified Public Accountant from the Illinois State, United States of America, and holds a double Masters in Finance and Entrepreneurial Accounting (M.Sc. Babson College-2000) and Masters in Business Administration, University of Illinois (1997) respectively. She is an alumnus of Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone.

Answering to questions on her role on mitigating strategies on fiscal consolidation in 2024 and her collaboration with colleagues at the Ministry, the soft spoken Accountant said "My role is to support the Minister and execute his directives in carrying out the fiscal management of the state. On personal advices, I would wait to get on the ground, learn from the professionals, and build value judgments before carefully proffering suggestions to the Minister".

She concluded that as a politician, she would promote women's agenda as one of government's priorities and promised to be always available for the women as far as her duties could.

ii. **Mrs. Jeneba J Bangura, Proposed Commissioner General, National Revenue Authority(NRA)**

Mrs. Jeneba Bangura is a certified Public Accountant with over twenty-five years of executive and financial management leadership experiences working with reputable institutions in New York State including the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the New York State Controller's Office. She had worked for over five years at the National Revenue Authority as Deputy Commissioner General, under the erstwhile Commissioner General, Dr Samuel S. Jibao and was part of the team that initiated unchallenging and astonishing

sweeping electronic reforms that has resonated a positive revenue growth trajectory at the NRA.. Amongst those reforms were the ASYCUDA World at Customs Services Department, Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS), Electronic Cash Register (ECR), Compliance Enhancement Projects-Block Management System(BSM) & Domestic Tax automotive schemes to name but a few.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, until recently the nominee was approved by this Sixth Parliament to serve as Deputy Minister of Finance 1 ,in the Ministry of Finance. The Committee has no scintilla of doubt on her performance and therefore reaffirms that she would strengthen and progresses with the visions of the NRA. If approved, she will now serve as the Sixth Commissioner General and second Woman Commissioner General of NRA after Haja Kallah Kamara under the previous administration.

In her response on varying issues bordering on revenue growth, as a no stranger to NRA, the nominee assured the Committee that the institution would continue on a full automated tax system trajectory, expedites the withholding tax payments, invigorate tax payers' education system to increase rental and other taxes and promotes deliveries based on actions and goals orientations.

She was advised by the Committee to pay attention to charitable and diplomatic goods reportedly going on demurrage after due procedures.

iii. Mr. Alpha Osman Timbo Esq, Proposed Chairman, Wages and Compensation Commission.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Timbos of Rokulan in the Sanda Tendaren Chiefdom of the then Bombali District is a household name in the political and socio-economic history of this country. The nominee in questioned, a descendant of this great family has a plethora of both national and global credible work experience and character that have been severally reported on during his appointment approvals as a Minister of Labour, Social Security and Industrial Relations (2007 during late President Kabbah), Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (2018-2019) and Minister of Labour and Social Security (2019-2023) ; to all which the Committee re-affirms as worthy productive national assignments.

His long years at the local and international Labour Congress Corridors especially entering from the perennially and spirally wage negotiating angle of

Teachers Union (SLTU) as Secretary General to the political echelon as a policy reformer for more than a decade service as a Labour Minister that ensued the enforcement of national labour laws, promoted human and trade union rights and facilitated national social justice in work places leading to the establishment of the first ever Industrial courts. Prominent amongst all the achievements is the National Social Security and Insurance Trust (NASSIT) that invariably connects all workers to 'compensations as we approach retirements from active work life.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the object of the Wages and Compensation Commission Act, 2023 **"provides for the establishment of the Wage and Compensation Commission to be responsible in determining wages and compensation for public sector employees, harmonizing the public sector payment system to reflect equity and merit and for other related Matters"**; to which this appointment seeks to satisfy as in Section 4a of the aforesaid Act. The Committee observed that the nominee's exemplary leadership manifested over the years in trade unionism and his background as a lawyer would help bridge the erroneous public sector payment differentials that have created so much deprivation, demotivation and acrimony for majority of Sierra Leoneans.

In his reaction to the vision of the Commission, the experienced trade unionist said he had been opportune to be always assigned by his Excellency the President to conceptualize and create new institutions but the implementation of the wages and Compensation Commission Act is different unlike the NASSIT Act. "The Wages and Compensation Commission Act, 2023 is clear with 'mandatory clauses **"shall"** that applies to everybody. I am optimistic that the level of compositions of calibers on the commission would make work easier once given the corporate tasks to deliver. The difficulty envisaged is when I am mandated to review the salaries of my superiors!" he concluded.

He concluded that as a trade unionist, the exercise would requires bargaining, and utilization of relevant labour Congress and Parliamentary supports whilst facing the laws, but assured the public of success from the Bio's Government.

iv. **Mr. David Wayland Sinford Banya, Proposed Chief Executive Officer(CEO), Wages and Compensation Commission**

Mr. David W.S Banya is a seasoned Career Civil Servants with over 30years spanning experience that has sojourned through the executive ministerial

profile as Senior Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry(2022-2023) and Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School Education (MBSSE)-2020-2022;Permanent Secretary ,Ministry of Social Welfare ,Gender and Children's Affairs-(2019-2020) and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (2015-2019) and all assignments, he distinguished himself as a dedicated ,hardworking and no nonsense administrator that delivered with admirable records.

Mr Speaker Honourable Members, notable amongst his achievement was his Directorship at the Human Resource Management Office on Performance appraisal document developed for Civil Servants in 2011-2014 that now expedites promotions to different cadre in the service.

The nominee is a prolific writer and has several academic qualifications to his credit; and until this appointment he was an active Permanent Secretary with much enthusiasm to deliver further.

Responding to the enormous tasks ahead, the dynamic civil servant mentioned "I know the task is herculean but I am prepared to work with the chairman in determining salaries, allowances, emoluments and pensions as the Act permits ;and I am always prepared to deliver with the utmost seriousness', he concluded.

v. Ms Susan Mamatomah Rogers, Proposed Deputy Commissioner General ,National Land Commission

Ms Susan Rogers is trained accountant and administrator with over twenty years' experience working for public institutions. Her team work spirit and flexibility to always learn has helped her break new grounds in life.Her career profile is brief but consistent with ambitions:

- 2019-2021- Administrative Officer, National Lands Policy Implementation Project, Ministry of Lands and Country Planning where she supported the project with credible administrative skills ensuring the project was public interest driven.
- 2018-2023 at the Sierra Leone Roads Authority(SLRA), a government engineering institution under the Ministry of Works, she served as senior Accounting Officer and assisted the Finance Director in the discharge of financial duties in various regions.

In submission to the Committee, she enthused that her knowledge on the Ministry's national land policies in relation to the very intent for which the Land Commission exists, would help her assist the Commissioner General on Land Commission to deliver on the expected mandate as set by the Land Commission Act.

vi. Ms Matyna Nyagua Foday, Proposed Director ,Board of Directors, National Mineral Agency(NMA)

Matyna Nyagua Foday is a scientist, educationist and administrator for over twenty years spanning in various fields of educational institutions. She served the West African Examination Council for several Years as Chief Examiner of Mathematics and a Lecturer of Mathematics at the then Freetown Teachers College from 1993-2002.

She is currently the Registrar at the Freetown Polytechnic, the position she has held since 2018. A humble and result oriented woman whose astute scientific knowledge in the physical and spatial disciplines will in no doubt help the NMA Board in delivering its statutory duties.

In her response on how she would be working at the NMA, the nominee said she trusted team work as her hall mark and promised to work collaboratively with other Directors to provide the required policy guidelines that would move the National Mineral Agency on the right path.

vii. Mr. Mohamed Lamin Janneh, Proposed Member, National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency

Mr Lamin Janneh is a grass root politician and business man with wealth of experience in dealing with Social issues bordering on Community development in the Kailahun District. His passion for youths' development over the years has in no doubt necessitated the urge for him to join the national drive for drug abuse prevalent amongst the young people. He is a graduate and unassuming individual that always believes in providing results through hard work.

He assured the Committee of his long knowledge acquired in the United States as a social scientist, and promised to work in close collaboration with other Members to achieve the desired result of the government.

viii. DrJoseph Ansu Tucker, Proposed Deputy Bank Governor for Monetary Stability ,Bank of Sierra Leone

Dr.Joseph Ansu Tucker is an internationally acclaimed economists with a nearly a decade spanning experience working with the International Monetary Fund as an advisor and economist at the IMF Washington Office and the Sierra Leone Resident Representative Freetown Office respectively . Prior to his aforementioned sojourn at the IMF, from 2001 to 2007, he served the Central Bank of Sierra Leone in various capacities ranging from Banking Officer (2001) through the ranks to Senior Manager, Monetary Analysis Section of the Research Department. He won a Bank Governor's Award for his exemplary and meritorious services to the Central Bank for the years 2004 to 2005, the recognition which the Bank still holds in esteem. He is no stranger to the Bankers' Bank.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the nominee after the high school education at the Bo Government Secondary School ,studied Economics at the Fourah Bay College(1990/91-1994/95 and then later proceeded to the University of Leeds, United Kingdom where he earned his Masters and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in Economics.

He has published several research Papers on a wide ranging issues; from analysis of monetary policy transmission mechanisms in Sierra Leone to Financial Liberalization and the responsiveness of savings to changes in the real interest rates to the Stability of Money Demand in the West African Monetary Zones (WAMZ) and its implications for the implementations of the single monetary policy to name just few.

His appointment was acknowledged across party line as crucial at the period the Bank is struggling with monetary stability after the redenomination.

Responding to what his returns would add to the current monetary situation, the erudite economist said he was going to meet team of colleagues' technocrats in the person of the Governor and other Deputy. He remarked that inflation was indeed soaring and required urgent monetary stability solutions, but promised the Committee that as a member of the Monetary

Policy Committee, he would work with colleagues to enforce a tighter restrictive monetary policy that will resultantly leads to lowering inflation.

ix. Mr Tejan Ahmed Isreal Jah Esq, Proposed Ombudsman

Mr Tejan Amed Isreal Jah is a renowned legal practitioner of repute. Until his appointment, he served as legal adviser and Company Secretary for the Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority (EDSA) where he performed litigations relating to compliances and regulatory functions of the Authority. He advised the Board of Directors, management and Departments on variety of legal issues relating to their transactions e.g. contracts, relationship with shareholders and others. He is a modest character but firm in decision making.

Responding on his role as the state Ombudsman, he said he was aware of the increasing levels of maladministration especially in government offices (his designated office not been an exception). He promised if approved, that his office would be an arbiter to resolve issues amicably instead of a court of litigation.

The Committee admonished the nominee to mediate most of the injustices in the MDAs once reported to his office so that the public trust and expectations of the office would be revived once more.

x. Mr. Thomas Fayia Kamara, Proposed Executive Director, National Protected Area Authority (NPAA)

Mr Thomas F Kamara is an educationist, an environmentalist and a researcher of high repute. Until this appointment, he served as University tutor in ecology and other environmental sciences at both graduate and advanced levels. His wide scope environmental concepts on the current increasing rates of land degradation and witnessing effects of the global climate change would equip him to mitigate local challenges on our protected ecological zones.

Responding to the fast encroachments and disappearances of the country's legislated protected areas, the nominee accepted this as an enormous challenge and promised to take the challenge head on through relevant stakeholders of state - eg Ministry Land and Country Planning, so that a thorough report would be prepared for actions with the help of Parliament.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Mrs Kadiatu Allie, Proposed Deputy Minister 1, Ministry of Finance
2. Mrs. Jeneba J Bangura, Proposed Commissioner General, National Revenue Authority(NRA)
3. Mr. Alpha Osman Timbo Esq, Proposed Chairman, Wages and Compensation Commission.
4. Mr. David Wayland Sinford Banya, Proposed Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Wages and Compensation Commission
5. Ms Susan Mamatamah Rogers, Proposed Deputy Commissioner General ,National Land Commission
6. Ms Matyna Nyagua Foday, Proposed Director ,Board of Directors, National Mineral Agency(NMA)
7. Mr. Mohamed Lamin Janneh, Proposed Member, National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency
8. Dr. Joseph Ansu Tucker, Proposed Deputy Bank Governor for Monetary Stability ,Bank of Sierra Leone
9. Mr Tejan Ahmed Isreal Jah Esq, Proposed Ombudsman
10. Mr. Thomas Fayia Kamara, Proposed Executive Director, National Protected Area Authority(NPAA)

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, this **Eleventh Report** is the unanimous decision of the Committee. I therefore move that the **Eleventh 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.

Signed.....

Hon. Chief Mathew Sahr. Nyuma (JP)

Chairman & Leader of Government Business

