



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

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**FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF
SIERRA LEONE**

**FIFTEENTH 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 that is charged with the responsibility of vetting Presidential nominees met on Wednesday, 24th April and Thursday 9th May, 2024 to interview Presidential nominees for the following reappointments:

- i. Deputy Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)
- ii. Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region and;
- iii. Chairman ,Board of Directors ,Serra Leone Ports and Harbour Authority (SLPHA)

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee conducted its open hearing within the usual framework of procedures and interviewed the nominees on issues pertaining to their educational backgrounds to ensure that they had the required proven track records in pertinent work situations for reappointments in such important offices of State. Further probing questions put to them covered wide ranging issues relating to declared assets, tax obligations and visions for continued productive tenures. Issues of unsuitability or otherwise were also closely looked into.

3. Seventeenth Sitting of the Committee on Wsdnesday, 24th April, 2024

The Committee interviewed the undermentioned nominee on oath:

i. **Mr. Augustine Foday Ngobie, Proposed Deputy Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr. Augustine Foday Ngobie, is a certified Fraud examiner with several certificates to his credit. His participation in so many training programmes and seminars on corruption has brought him huge experience in corruption related matters and this has enabled him to contribute immensely to the fight against corruption since his appointment as Deputy Commissioner in 2019.

He holds a Master's degree in Human Resource Management from Njala University and has participated in many professional training programmes including High Level Leadership and Management for heads of Anti-Corruption Agencies of Commonwealth Africa –(Mauritius 2023) that encompassed the following core disciplines:

- Training in prevention and combating corruption (Egypt 2023)
- Strategic management of Anti-Corruption (Malasia 2022)
- Managing exhibits and proceeds of crime (Botswana 2016/2017)
- Maritime security and law enforcement (United States of America)
- Money laundering and financial crimes (2001)

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee reaffirms all earlier commendations bestowed on this nominee during the fifth Parliament for his exemplary leadership in promoting good governance through fighting corruption.

In his submission to the Committee bordering on extortion of money from parents through admission by School authorities, frequent outages of power from the main national electricity grids in spite of the serious injection of national and donor budgets into the power sector, neutrality and independence of the ACC; and challenges amongst others, the erudite ACC boss said "I acknowledge that there are huge challenges in fighting corruption but the successes registered under our leadership, were borne out of collective efforts and total independence of the Commission. For the electricity, we have worked in recent times with the energy sector to retrieve huge back log of debts especially from private commercial institutions. The rampant corruption at the school level is being closely monitored and so the ACC, once adduced with the relevant evidence, will work with the Ministry of Education to enforce the laws. I

therefore implore everyone to help the ACC with relevant information to spring us into action”

On the Challenges, the erudite professional said for the past 20years ACC registered tremendous successes because of its professional staff outputs and the strength of its laws. He noted that though the ACC enforcement laws were strongest, the institution had no control over the courts. “We have no control over the courts to jail, invoke custodial sentences as all these lie within the judiciary”, he concluded.

4 Eighteenth Sitting of the Committee on Thursday, 9th May,,2024

ii. Hon Manso Dumbuya ,Proposed Chairman ,Board of Directors ,Serra Leone Ports and Harbour Authority (SLPHA)

Hon Manso Dumbuya is a renowned statesman, a seasoned politician that served diligently as Member of Parliament from the Tonko Limba,Kambia District after the civil war. His humble and patriotic character to serve country first has earned him distinguished national recognitions as Member of the Order of the Rokel (OOR, 2021) and as Justice of the Peace (JP-2021)). He heads the Western Area SLPP administrative wing and has inspired a good number of youths into the political current space.

His reappointment to the Board of Directors’ Chairmanship of the Ports and Harbor Authority was hailed by Members across party line in relation to handling of past fluid labour issues with the administration.

In response to the Committee on escalating costs of consumer goods, he said the Ports Authority do not determine prices but would collaborate with colleagues Board members to help the administration in future endeavors as the Port Act requires.

iii. Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha Proposed Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region

Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha is an educationalist with proven managerial and leadership skills. He joined the National Electoral Commission in 2005 as District Electoral Officer, Tonkolili District. He rose through the ranks to the position of Director of Training and Electoral Education-(2010-2019) and then to the current level where he had served since 2019-to 9th April, 2024.

He is a seasoned media expert with high profile skills in teaching and promoting democratic process.

His response to the Committee as a long serving technocrat of the institution seeking reappointment was thwarted by a division of the Committee regarding the constitutional provision of Section 32(3) of the 1991 Constitution.

5 . **Recommendations**

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

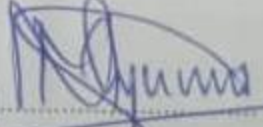
- i. Mr. Augustine Foday Ngobie ,Proposed Deputy Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission(ACC)
- ii. Hon Manso Dumbuya ,Proposed Chairman ,Board of Directors ,Serra Leone Ports Authority Ports Authority (SLPA)
- iii. Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha Proposed Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the **Fifteenth Report** reflects the **unanimous** view of the Committee on nominees I & II **except** for nominee III (Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha, Proposed Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region) who was approved by **majority** of the ruling SLPP but was opposed by the All Peoples Congress Party on alleged lack of consultation of **all** political parties as expressly stated in Section 32(3) of the 1991 Constitution that reads thus

“The members of the Electoral Commission shall be appointed by the President after consultation with the leaders of all registered political parties and subject to the approval of Parliament”

4. Conclusion

Based on the aforementioned and closed session decision as in the attached minute, I therefore move that the **Fifteenth 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. Mathew S Nyuma (JP)
Chairman and Leader of Government Business



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FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND

REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE
ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON THURSDAY
9TH MAY AT 11:00AM.

1. **Prayers** –Parliamentary Prayer was said by the Clerk.
2. **Attendance**

2:1 The following Members of the Committee were present:

- i. Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma - **Chairman** - SLPP
- ii. Hon Bashiru Silikie – **Deputy Chairman** –SLPP
- iii. Hon Ibrahim Tawa Conteh - **Deputy Speaker** SLPP
- iv. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay -SLPP
- v. Hon Aaron A. Koroma- APC
- vi. Hon. Dickson M. Rogers SLPP
- vii. Hon. Rosemarie Bangura –APC
- viii. Hon. Wuyata Bernadette Songa-SLPP
- ix. Hon. Emilia Loloh Tongi- SLPP
- x. Hon Daniel Koroma - APC
- xi. Hon Abdul Karim Kamara(Kambia) -APC

2:2 The following Members of the Committee were absent with excuse:

- Xii Hon Abdul Kargbo Leader of Opposition
- xiii Hon . P.C Foray Gondor –PCMP
- Xiv Hon.Francis Amara Kaisamba –SLPP
- xv Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina –SLPP
- xvi Hon. Catherine Zainab Tarawally -APC

3 PUBLIC HEARING - Hearing was opened to the public and media.

4 Consideration of Presidential nominations for appointments as listed:

The following nominee was interviewed on oath:

- iv. Hon Manso Dumbuya ,Proposed Chairman ,Board of Directors ,Serra Leone Ports and Harbour Authority (SLPHA)
- v. Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha Proposed Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region

5.0 Closed Session

- i. **5:1** The Committee **unanimously** accepted the nominations of Hon Manso Dumbuya ,Proposed Chairman ,Board of Directors ,Serra Leone Ports and Harbour Authority (SLPHA) and one candidate interviewed on the 24th April,2024,Mr. Augustine Foday Ngobie, Proposed Deputy Commissioner of Anti-Corruption Commission but was divided on Mr. Edmond Sylvester Alpha - Proposed Electoral Commissioner, Southern Region's approval. The four representatives of the opposition - All Peoples Congress presented their party position that section 32(3) of the 1991 Constitution bordering on consultation as explicitly quoted in the report was not fully followed and therefore could not support the approval of the nominee in question. The seven ruling SLPP members present claimed they were in receipts of some political parties' acknowledgements that allegedly reassured that section 32(3) of 1991 Constitution was carried. The APC opted to produce a **minority report** to reaffirm their claim in the plenary.

The Committee rose at 2:30 pm.

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Moriba Julius Songa

Director of Committees