



Parliament of Sierra Leone  
Parliament Building  
O.A.U Drive, Tower Hill  
Freetown



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

**FOURTH 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, always alive to its Constitutional responsibilities, met on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 and interviewed five Presidential nominees for appointment as:

- i. Chairman, Legal Aid Board of Directors;
- ii. Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Emirates;
- iii. Chairman, National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA);
- iv. Members, Monument and Relics Commission.

**2. PROCEDURE**

The Committee strictly adhered to its established procedures throughout the deliberation. The nominees were interviewed on their educational background, track records in pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and their vision for a successful and nationally productive tenure of office.

**3. FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 2014**

3:1 The following nominees were interviewed:

- i. **Justice Adeliza Iyemide Showers - Proposed Board Chairman, Legal Aid Board of Directors**  
Justice Adeliza Showers is a retired Justice of the Court of Appeal. She has served the judiciary from 1973 to date and was decorated "Grand Commander of the Order of the Rokel" (GCOR) in April, 2013.

Reacting to Members' questioning, Mrs. Showers informed the Committee that "the purpose and primary function of the legal Aid Board is to provide legal representation in court for accused persons, in criminal and civil cases, who do not have money to hire the services of a lawyer." The solicitors, she said, would be paid a fee by the Board for their professional services.

Justice. Showers assured the Committee that the operations of the Board would be partly financed from the Consolidated Fund and partly by donor agencies that have manifested interest



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in legal aid. "There are NGOs that have already demonstrated interest in legal aid and these would be taken on board when the Board is properly organized."

**ii. Mr. Siray Alpha Timbo - Proposed Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Emirates**

Mr. Siray Alpha Timbo is a professional Architect of no mean standing who has held the following diplomatic and Business positions among others:

- 2008 – date Special Envoy of His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Arab Emirates and the Middle East
- 1992 – date – Director/Founder: IDEAS LIMITED (Architects, Engineers and Development Consultants)
- 2008 – 2013 – Chairman/Commissioner: National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- 2005 to date Executive Chairman – M.J. Motels

Mr. Siray Timbo assured the Committee that he would be going to the United Arab Emirates to serve the best interests of his nation and its people. "If given the required blessing of approval by Parliament," he said, "I promise to work with devotion and dedication, as I have always done, to actualize the foreign policy objectives of this nation."

**iii. Prof. Cecil Magbaily Fyle - Proposed Member, Monument and Relics Commission**

Professor Magbaily Fyle is a retired professor in the African-American and African studies Department of Ohio State University from 1991 – 2008. Prior to that, he was Professor of History at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. He also held the position of Dean of the Faculty of Arts 1986 – 1988). Professor Magbaily Fyle is an accomplished scholar and has a long list of publications to his name.

Members of the Committee, across party lines, held Professor Cecil Magbaily Fyle in high esteem. A Member commented that "...to ask Professor Cecil Magbaily Fyle, a great historian, to be a Member of the Monument and Relics Commission is like sending a whale back into the ocean where it readily belongs."

The Committee was generally interested in having somebody as a member of the Monument and Relic Commission who has a passion for historical monuments, is an authority in Sierra Leone history and, would without doubt, give initiative and drive to the Commission to identify, preserve and manage those historical relics that form the cultural heritage of Sierra Leone. The



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Committee sited a few examples like the old Fourah Bay College building, Bonthe Island, Bunce Island, the locomotive train and other historical sites scattered all over the country.

**iv. Hon. Legacy R Sankoh - Proposed Chairman, National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA)**

Hon. Legacy Sankoh started life with the noble profession of a classroom teacher. In 2007, he was elected Member of Parliament for Constituency 69, Bo and was appointed Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the National Commission for Social Action or NaCSA

Answering to probing questions, Hon. Legacy Sankoh said that his service as Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on NaCSA had given him an insight into the operations of NaCSA. "For the same former Member of Parliament, who was the chairman of the parliamentary Committee on NaCSA, to be appointed Chairman of NaCSA," he said, " is a blessing for Parliament because NaCSA is the development arm of Government. My colleague Members of Parliament come from constituencies, where Development programmes are supposed to be channeled. If given the blessing of approval by Parliament, it would be my duty to spread out NaCSA development programmes to ensure that all Sierra Leoneans benefit from it."

**v. Mr. Sahr M. S. Gbenda - Proposed Member, Monument & Relics Commission**

Mr. Gbenda is the sitting Mayor (2008 – date) of the Koidu New Sembehun City Council.

Responding to probing questions, Mr. Gbenda promised to work to the best of his ability for the realization of those objectives for which the Monument and Relics Commission was established. "God being my helper," he said.

**5. 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. Justice Adeliza Iyemide Showers -Board Chairman, Legal Aid Board of Directors
- ii. Mr. Siray Alpha Timbo - Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Emirates
- iii. Prof. Cecil Magbaily Fyle - Member, Monument and Relics Commission



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- iv. Hon. Legacy R Sankoh - Chairman, National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA)
- v. Mr. Sahr M. Sessie Gbenda - Member, Monument & Relics Commission

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Fourth Report portrays the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Fourth Report of the Second 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 Bundu  
Chairman.

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

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING,  
ON TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014 AT 1:30 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. Ibrahim Bundu - **Chairman**
- ii. Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah
- iii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
- iv. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- v. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
- vi. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai
- vii. Hon. Mohamed Sidi Tunis
- viii. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- ix. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams
- x. Hon. Veronica Sesay
- xi. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- xii. Hon. Benneh Bangura



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- xiii. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
- xiv. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
- xv. Hon. Brimah Conteh

**2.2 The following Member of the Committee was absent:**

- i. Hon. P. C. V.B.S. Kebbie

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

**4. Consideration of Presidential nominations for appointments listed against their names:**

4:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Justice Adeliza Iyemide Showers - Proposed Board Chairman, Legal Aid Board of Directors
- ii. Mr. Siray Alpha Timbo - Proposed Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Emirates
- iii. Prof. Cecil Magbaily Fyle - Proposed Member, Monument and Relics Commission
- iv. Hon. Legacy R. Sankoh - Proposed Chairman, National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA)
- v. Mr. Sahr M. S. Gbenda - Proposed Member, Monument & Relics Commission

**5. Closed Session**

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

The Committee rose at 4: 00 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda  
Director of Committees