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

**NINTH 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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and interviewed one Presidential nominee for appointment as:

**i. Special Adviser and Ambassador-At-Large**

**2. PROCEDURE**

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Inquiring questions put to the nominee pertained to his educational background, track record in pertinent work situations, declared assets, tax obligations and his visions for a successful tenure.

**3. FOUREENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
MARCH 2013**

3:1 The following nominee was interviewed:

**i. Prof: Monty Patrick Jones- Proposed adviser and Ambassador-At-Large**

Professor Monty Patrick Jones, a Sierra Leonean by nationality, is the Executive Director of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the Chairman for the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR). He was awarded the prestigious World Food Prize in 2004 in recognition of his discovery of the genetic process to create the New Rice for Africa, (NERICA) which gives higher yields, shorter growth cycles and more protein content than its Asian and African parents. He was the first African to be honoured with this highly

regarded prize. In 2010 he became the first recipient of the Niigata International Food Award.

Professor Jones has spent the past 24 years working in international agricultural research, starting as a scientist and working his way to his current top leadership position at continental and global level. His celebrated work on NERICA has made it possible for countries in West, Central and East Africa to increase rice production thereby increasing their household food security and enabling them to cut back on expensive rice imports. He has published more than 100 scientific papers and articles.

As the Executive Director of FARA he has been instrumental in mobilizing political support at the highest level for increased investment in African agriculture to improve its productivity and ultimately its impact on the 60-70% of Africans who depend on this sector for their livelihood. As the Chairman of GFAR, he is leading a global effort to reform the global agricultural research system in order to improve its effectiveness and accountability.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution towards improving food security in Africa, Professor Jones has been honoured with numerous other awards, namely the 'National Order of Merit of Cote d'Ivoire' conferred on him in 2001 by the President of that country and the insignia of the 'Grand Officer of the Order of the Rokel' conferred on him in 2004 by the President of Sierra Leone. He has also received four honorary doctorate degrees- *Philosophia Doctor (Honoris causa)* from major universities in the United Kingdom, Belgium, Sierra Leone and South Africa. Time magazine named him among the 100 most influential people in 2007 and in 2010 the University of the Free State in South Africa appointed him to serve as an Extra-ordinary Professor.

In his interview, Prof. Jones submitted that he was a true Sierra Leonean. He informed the Committee that he was the Executive Director of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa, "a body that coordinates and facilitates agricultural research for the development of the continent as a whole and, a body that also links Africa Agricultural Research for development with the international community. In most cases, I represent Africa at the international scene as far as it relates to agricultural research and development. Today I stand as the Chairperson of the Global Forum for Agriculture (GIFA). So in effect, it's not just coordinating research for Africa but coordinating global agricultural research for development.

All of these, I believe is very important not just for Africa, not just for the world, but particularly for Sierra Leone because, I and other Sierra Leoneans working with me in Ghana always ensure that Sierra Leone benefits from whatever projects we embark on."

**RECOMMENDATION**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following Presidential nominee to be suitably qualified for his proposed appointment and is recommended to the House for approval:

**1. Prof: Monty Patrick Jones- Proposed adviser and Ambassador-At-Large**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Ninth Report reflects the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Ninth 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.....

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

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE  
ROOM NO.1 PARLIAMENT BUILDING ON WEDNESDAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> 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. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai
4. Hon. Amadu Kanu
5. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams
6. Hon. Benneh Bangura
7. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
8. Hon. Alice Foyah

**2.2 The following Members of the Committee were absent:**

1. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
2. Hon. Mabinty Funna
3. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
4. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu
5. Hon. Brimah Conteh
6. Hon. P. C. V.B.S. Kebbie
7. Hon. Claude Kamanda
8. Hon. Veronica Sesay

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

**4. Consideration of Presidential nomination for Ambassadorial appointment:**

4:1The following nominee was interviewed on oath:

- i. **Prof: Monty Patrick Jones- Proposed adviser and Ambassador-At-Large**

**5. Closed Session**

5.1 The Committee unanimously accepted the nomination of the candidate

The Committee rose at 12: 40 p.m.