



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

Website: www.parliament.gov.sl



**SECOND 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 28th May, 2014 and interviewed six Presidential nominees for appointment as:

- i. Chairman, National Protected Area & Conservation Trust Fund
- ii. Board Members, Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL)
- iii. Board Member, National Revenue Authority
- iv. Board Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Probing questions put to the nominees covered wide ranging issues relating to their educational background, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure.

**NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 28TH MAY
2014**

The following nominees were interviewed:

- i. **Hon. P. C. Mohamed Dhaffie Benya v - Proposed Board Member,
Bank of Sierra Leone**

Hon. P. C. Mohamed Dhaffie Benya v was elected Paramount Chief of Small Bo Chiefdom, Kenema district in 2002. 2007-2012, he was elected Paramount Chief Member of Parliament to represent the Kenema district. 1974 - 2001, the Hon Paramount Chief had lived and worked in the United States of America where he served at management levels in both the private and public sectors.



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Hon Paramount Chief Mohamed Dhaffie Benya viewed his nomination by His Excellency, the President, "as an irresistible call to national duty for which I am prepared and ready. I will do my best," he said.

**ii. Dr. George John Komba-Kono - Proposed Member, National
Telecommunication Commission
(NATCOM)**

Dr. Komba Kono joined the Ministry of Health in 1976 after successfully completing his internship and subsequent registration to practice medicine in Sierra Leone. He rose through the ranks to the position of Chief Medical Officer. (1991 – 1993)

In 1994, Dr. Komba Kono was recruited by the World Health Organization (WHO) as Expatriate Staff in charge of Health Systems in various parts of the world. He retired from WHO in 2006 with a special award in appreciation of his contribution to the work of WHO in the South East Asia Region. In 2009, Dr. Komba Kono was appointed Minister of State in the office of the Vice President.

Responding to inquiring questions, Dr. Komba Kono opined that no country would be making progress without the use of telecommunication particularly in these days of the computer and telecommunication advancements. "I have seen it all in hospitals. I have seen the inadequacies of the telephone companies. I believe a lot has been done but I am prepared to first learn from what is on the ground. Secondly, I will ensure that I bring to bear my own experience from the medical arena."

Questioned on what experience he was going to bring to Sierra Leone, he said, "we advanced the use of tele-medicine while I was in the World Health Organisation. What that means is that you do not need to have doctors everywhere. If you have competent nurses you can actually use telecommunication for the nurses to tell you what the situation of a particular patient is and to give your expert advice accordingly. That is one experience I will bring to bear here."

**iii. Mr. Shadrack Ezekiel Williams - Proposed Board Member, Bank of
Sierra Leone**

Mr. Williams is a retired worker of the oil industry. He joined the Mobil Oil Sierra Leone Limited in 1960, rose through the ranks to the position of 'Supply and Distribution Coordinator.' In 1973, he resigned and set up a private business, 'MOPEH's General Services,' a service provider to 'Mobile Oil Sierra Leone Limited.'



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Answering to questions as to what he would be taking to the Bank of Sierra Leone, he said, "the type of discipline that I acquired while I was in the oil industry i. e we had laid down rules and regulations to follow. The Bank of Sierra Leone as a regulatory body also has laid down rules and regulations that are backed by the Constitution. We will ensure that we work according to the laid down rules and regulations and even improve on them.

**iv. Madam Rosaline Yenkin Fadika nee Turay_ Proposed Board Member
Bank of Sierra Leone**

Madam Rosaline Fadika nee Turay is a retired worker of the 'Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board ' (SLPMB) where she served as 'Executive Secretary to the Board' and 'Personal Assistant to the Managing Director.'

Madam Rosaline Fadika nee Turay viewed her nomination as a Presidential invitation to the women of this country to play an active role in the development of the country. She promised not to betray the confidence reposed in her by His Excellency, the President and the women folk of this country. "I promise to give of my best so as to create the opportunity for more women to be appointed to such high positions."

**v. Mr. Radcliffe Akiwande Dougan Jones -Proposed Board Member
National Revenue Authority (NRA)**

Mr. Jones is a Legal Practitioner who has practised law for seven years and is currently attached to the Firm of BMT Law Chambers of 35 Liverpool Street, Freetown. This is a private Law Firm that renders general legal and Advisory Services on a wide range of issues.

Reacting to the Committee's inquiries about his preparedness to serve, Mr. Jones said, "I am well prepared. I know that the National Revenue Authority is one of the most important institutions in Sierra Leone today. I also know that the Government and the people of this country expect the NRA to generate revenue for the development of this country. I believe that I know the challenges that lie ahead and I am prepared to put my shoulder to the wheel for the success of NRA."

**vi. Mr. Africanus Sorie Sesay – Proposed Chairman, National Protected
Area and Conservation Trust Fund**

Mr. Sesay has been, from 2003 to date, a legal practitioner and Managing Partner of Tanner Legal Advisory of 65 Siaka Stevens Street, Freetown. Mr. Africanus Sorie Sesay has a keen



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interest in promoting justice and human rights. He has worked as a Consultant with the Ministry of Agriculture in the area of the Futa Jallon Islands as well as on biodiversity within the Mano River Union.

Mr. Sesay recently attended the Mano River Union (MRU) sub regional workshop on the "Harmonization of Biodiversity policies and laws of Ivory Coast, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone on the 26th – 27th March, 2014 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast."

In his response to probing questions, Mr. Sesay said that he was well aware of the fact that the issue of "national protected areas" and deforestation were directly linked to the Ministries of Land, Agriculture and Tourism. Human activities, he said, was depleting the nation of its forest cover. "The Sierra Leone economy needs to be diversified. There is, for instance, ecotourism which we need to tap into to enhance the aviation and hospitality industries so as to provide more jobs for the people of the country."

Mr. Sesay informed the Committee that it has been predicted that if we do not address our deforestation problem by 2025, Sierra Leone would become the third disaster prone country in the world. "In fact very recently, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Bangladesh were ranked as the most vulnerable states prone to natural disasters." Mr. Sesay assured the Committee that "it is not impossible to reverse that situation. It would take resources and planning to regenerate the environment."

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- i. Hon. P. C. Mohamed Dhaffie Benya v - Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- ii. Dr. George John Komba-Kono -Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- iii. Mr. Shadrack Ezekiel. Williams - Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- iv. Madam Rosaline Yenkin Fadika nee Turay -Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- v. Mr. Africanus Sorie Sesay - Chairman, National Protected Area Authority & Conservation Trust Fund



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- vi. Mr. Radcliffe Akiwande Dougan Jones - Board Member, National Revenue Authority (NRA)

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Ninth Report reflects the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Ninth 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 NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON WEDNESDAY 28TH MAY 2014 AT 11:00 P.M

1. **Prayers** - Members prayed silently and individually.

2. **Attendance**

2.1 The following Members of the Committee were present.

- i. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu
- ii. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
- iii. Hon. Benneh Bangura
- iv. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- v. Hon. Bliss Osho Williams
- vi. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay
- vii. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma
- viii. Hon. Mohamed Sidi Tunis

2.2 The following Members of the Committee were absent:

- ix. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- x. Hon. L. S. Fofanah
- xi. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai



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- xii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
- xiii. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
- xiv. Hon. Brimah Conteh
- xv. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- xvi. Hon. P. C. Brima V.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. Hon. P. C. Mohamed Dhaffie Benya v - Proposed Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- ii. Dr. George John Komba-Kono - Proposed Member, National Telecommunication Commission (NATCOM)
- iii. Mr. Shadrack Ezekiel. Williams - Proposed Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- iv. Madam Rosaline Yenkin Fadika nee Turay - Proposed Board Member, Bank of Sierra Leone
- v. Mr. Radcliffe Akiwande Dougan Jones - Proposed Board Member, National Revenue Authority (NRA)
- vi. Mr. Africanus Sorie Sesay - Proposed Chairman, National Protected Area Authority & Conservation Trust Fund

5. Closed Session

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

The Committee rose at 2: 15 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees