



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

SECOND 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 Monday, 17th February, 2014 and interviewed five Presidential nominees for appointment as:

- i. **Members of Council, Statistics Sierra Leone Council**

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee adhered strictly to its established procedure. 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. SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2014

- 3:1 The following nominees were interviewed for appointment as Members of Council, Statistics Sierra Leone Council

- i. **Prof. Abdullah Mansaray - Representing . Njala University College**

Professor Abdullah Mansaray is a scholar of eminence with over 30 years of university teaching experience and, is the current Dean, School of Post-Graduate Studies, Njala University College. Professor Mansaray has a long list of publications to his name.

Reacting to inquiring questions, Professor Mansaray said that the long time he had spent in the academic field has made him to have tremendous respect for credible statistics. "I have not only been a consumer of statistics but I have also been a producer of statistics," he said.

Professor Mansaray proffered that his Ph.D course at Ibadan University was more statistical in nature and he had cause to use the appropriate statistics to explain his findings. "I do not have a statistical background. I have a background in Modern History, but I overcame the fear of statistics because I had to use it as a tool. And to efficiently use statistics as a tool, I had to



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understand it. Before I left Nigeria to come back home in 2002, my last assignment was to teach Advanced Statistical Methods and Research Design to M.Phil and Ph.D students. I consider that to be a great achievement for somebody who did a B.A. Honours in History at Fourah Bay College”

Concluding, Professor Mansaray said that he viewed his appointment “as a tremendous responsibility to contribute to fulfilling the sacred responsibilities of the Council i.e. to provide strategic guidance to the Statistician-General and to give advice to the Minister on matters relating to statistical policies of the country,” he said.

“As a representative of the University,” he went on, “I think I would be expected to lend my expertise to the work of the Council particularly at this critical time of the census. With my background in Statistics, I would be coming into the Council not as a layman but as someone who has had sufficient familiarity with the basic principles of statistics to be able to give appropriate advice and to verify that what is being done meets international standards.”

ii. Alhaji Olu Alghali - Representing the Western Area

Alhaji Olu Alghali is a development oriented officer who has a wealth of experience and expertise in project management and appraisal and 1974 – 1976 - He was Project Officer at the National Development Bank (NDB)

- i. 1976 – 1992 - He was Project Coordinator at the National Authorizing Office - ACP/EEC Cooperation Freetown

Members of the Committee across party-lines commended the nominee for his good works and efficiency in pertinent work situations.

Reacting to probing questions, the nominee deposed that he was privileged, last year, to be appointed by His Excellency, the President as a Member of a Committee to look into the operations of ‘Statistic Sierra Leone.’ The Committee, he said, had written a report that was available. “I will draw on my experience in the area of vision for the success of the Council,” he promised.

Mr. Alghali expressed profound respect and commendation for the workers who had stayed with Statistics Sierra Leone for the last 15 – 20 years. “I believe that with some assistance, the experience they have accumulated before and during the last census would help them succeed.”



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iii. Ahmed Adarkwa Koroma - Representing the Northern Region

Mr. Koroma is the current Vice Principal and Director of Studies, Port Loko Teachers College. Mr. Koroma has a wealth of work experience and professional expertise in Agriculture, Human Resource Managements at all facets of Tertiary Institutions, designing and implementing development programmes, planning and developing curricula for teachers etc.

Responding to questions, Mr. Koroma promised to draw on his diverse educational and professional experience to supervise the Statistics Sierra Leone personnel to ensure that they live up to international standards so as to produce credible and trusted data that would help legislators and policy makers to make informed decisions.

iv. Mr. Sahr Kobio Foyoh - Representing the Southern Province

Mr. Foyoh started life with the noble profession of a classroom teacher. In 1989, he joined the Bo-Pujehun Rural Development Project (GTZ) where he held various executive positions that enabled him to travel the length and breathe of the Southern Province of Sierra Leone. In 1999, he was appointed General Manager of the Bo-Pujehun Development Associates (B/PDA), a position he has held to date. From 2008 – 2011, he served as Chairman, Board of Directors, Mining and General Services.

Responding to pertinent questions, Mr. Foyoh boasted that he had lived and worked long enough in the Southern Province to know every part of that region. "Besides, I have an institution, the Bo-Pujehun Development Associate, which I have managed for 19 years. I have been responsible for the social and infrastructural development of the entire Southern Province. Moreover," he said, "I studied Statistics. The current Chairman of that institution taught me Statistics, Development and Demography in Fourah Bay College.

v. Mr. Samuel Bomo Conteh- Representing Journalists

Mr. Conteh is a veteran journalist who had served with excellence on a number of papers on this country that included:

- 1984 – 1989 -Journalist/Reporter – The New National Newspaper, Freetown.
- 1989 – 2006 - News Editor – New Citizens Press, Freetown
- 2006 – 2013 - Managing Editor – New Citizen Publications
- 2013 - Member of Interim Committee, Statistics Sierra Leone



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Answering to Members questions, Mr. Conteh promised to draw on his experience gained in pertinent work situation to make a meaningful contribution for the success of Statistic Sierra Leone.

On the question of information management, he said "the junior journalists require assistance in getting the information they want. If I receive the blessing of approval from Parliament, I will endeavor to get accurate information that I could pass on to them to enable them report correctly on the institution."

4. EXCERPT OF THE FIRST REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH FEBUARY 2014

i. Dr. Lansana Nyalley - Proposed Member of Council, Statistics Sierra Leone. (Rept. Eastern Region)

Dr. Nyalley is a former Deputy Minister of Education, Science & Technology, a position he held from 2007-2012.

Questioned on his preparedness for the upcoming census, Dr. Nyalley said that he was well aware of the importance of reliable statistical data for planning and the challenges entailed. "I am fully prepared and ready to make my own contribution to ensure that Statistics Sierra Leone presents credible and reliable figures for the 2014 Census that would earn the respect and admiration of all," he said.

Dr. Nyalley said among other things that "...there is some confusion between data produced by Statistics Sierra Leone, the Bank of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Finance. We want to harmonize these by relying on a single methodology.... And rather than having Statistics Sierra Leone alone, we want to establish a statistics system in which international best practices and the fundamental principles of the United Nations are well embedded. We believe that this upcoming census, and any in the future, would have to inform and educate the masses. The people must know the importance of statistics, why they are to be counted and why they have to be honest in giving the figures. The schooling would have to be done so adequately that people would feel compelled to be counted and to be honest about it."

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 as Members of Council, Statistics Sierra Leone Council:

- i. Prof. Abdullah Mansaray - Members of Council - representing Njala University College



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- ii. Alhaji. Olu Alghali - Members of Council, representing the Western Area
- iii. Dr. Lansana Nyalley - Member of Council, representing the Eastern Region
- iv. Ahmed Adarkwa Koroma - Members of Council, representing the Northern Region
- v. Mr. Sahr Kobio Foyoh - Members of Council, representing the Southern Province
- vi. Mr. Samuel Bomo Conteh- Members of Council representing Journalists

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Second Report portrays the unanimous decision of the Committee. I therefore move that the Second Report and the Excerpt of the First 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

Date.....



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MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND
THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING,
ON MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2014 AT 11:00 A. 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. Chernor R. M. Bah
- iii. Hon. Leonard S. Fofanah
- iv. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- v. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai
- vi. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams
- vii. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- viii. Hon. Veronica Sesay
- ix. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
- x. Hon. Benneh Bangura
- xi. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
- xii. Hon. Mohamed Sidi Tunis

2.2 The following Members of the Committee were absent:

- i. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- ii. Hon. Claude Kamanda
- iii. Hon. Brimah Conteh
- iv. Hon. P. C. V.B.S. Kebbie

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



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**4. Consideration of Presidential nominations appointment as Members of Council,
Statistics Sierra Leone Council:**

4:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Prof. Abdullah Mansaray - Proposed_Members of Council, representing. Njala University College
- ii. Alhaji Olu Alghali - Proposed_Members of Council, representing the Western Area
- iii. Ahmed Adarkwa Koroma - Proposed Members of Council, representing the Northern Region
- iv. Mr. Sahr Kobio Foyoh - Proposed_Members of Council, representing the Southern Province
- v. Mr. Samuel Bomo Conteh- Proposed Members of Council, representing Journalists

5. Closed Session

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

The Committee rose at 2: 00 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees