



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

SIXTEENTH 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 for the Sixteenth sitting of the Committee on Monday 21st July 2014 and interviewed two Presidential nominees for appointment as:

- i. Deputy Governor, Bank of Sierra Leone
- ii. Deputy Minister of Energy I, Distribution and Supply

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee strictly adhered to its established procedures. The nominees were interviewed on their educational background, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and their vision for a successful and nationally productive tenure of office. Allegations of malpractices in public office and unsuitability in terms of character, were very closely scrutinized.

3. SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY 21ST JULY 2014

The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

i. Dr. Ibrahim Stevens - Proposed Deputy Governor, Bank of Sierra Leone

Dr. Ibrahim Stevens is an experienced central banker, research economist, senior policy analyst and an expert in capacity building with over 15 years senior level experience. He is currently the Country Programme Director, International Growth Centre, London School of Economics. He has previously served as Macroeconomic Adviser to the Government of Rwanda, a Senior Economist and Senior Adviser at the Bank of England. He was also seconded to the Central Bank of Sierra Leone as Senior Policy Adviser and Director of Research. He has served as



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External Examiner to the Department of Economics and the Department of Accounting, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone.

Responding to pertinent concerns raised by the Committee, Dr. Stevens said that he had decided to return home because he really wanted to come back home. Giving a rationale for his decision to return home, he deposed that for the best part of the last 13 years of his career, he has been going round the world helping other countries and other Central Banks particularly in Africa and Latin America where he was always confronted with the gnawing question of 'where are you from?' "I may sound British but I am a Sierra Leonean. I was born in this country and my parents are in this country. I jumped at the opportunity in 2008 to 2009 to come and serve and thankfully, I was here to bury my father when he passed away. My commitment to Sierra Leone is therefore unflinching and unshakable. So when I got the call from His Excellency, the President, that he would like me to come and serve, I was very humbled and I didn't think twice. The opportunity cost in economic terms is of course huge; it's enormous, but life is not just about cost. There are things beyond cost. I chose to come and I am prepared to serve to the best of my ability."

On a follow-up question, he said, "I am a Central Banker and an academic economist. That is all I do and that's what I know. If I was given a job in an area that is completely out of my domain, I would not be here for this interview. I chose to come because I think I have the skills, the ability and I am prepared to come and serve in an area where I am an expert."

ii. Major Ismael S. Koroma- Proposed Deputy Minister of Energy¹, Distribution and Supply

Major Ismael S. Koroma is a United States Academy Military trained Army Officer with fourteen years of service to his credit. Since 1998 to date, he has been a United States Army Reservist, (O-4) as a Direct Commissioned Officer

Responding to questions on his role as a Deputy Minister, if approved by Parliament, he said that the one great thing that one is taught in the army is leadership. And I believe, His Excellency, the President, who is so keen on attaining his set of objectives for this country, require leadership role players to assist him. "Since I have acquired lots of leadership skills in the army, I assure you that I am going to use it to ensure adequate supply of electricity in the country."



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4. 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. Dr. Ibrahim Stevens – Deputy Governor, Bank of Sierra Leone
- ii. Mr. Ismael S. Koroma – Deputy Minister of Energy I. Distribution and Supply

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Sixteenth Report is the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Sixteenth 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 SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE
ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON MONDAY
21ST JULY 2014 AT 2:00 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
- ii. Hon. L. S. Fofanah
- iii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
- iv. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- v. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
- vi. Hon. Claude D. M. Kamanda
- vii. Hon. Brimah Conteh
- viii. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai

2.2 The following Members of the Committee were absent:

- ix. Hon. Sidi Mohamed Tunis
- x. Hon. Benneh Bangura
- xi. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay
- xii. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- xiii. Hon. Komba E. Koedoyoma
- xiv. Hon. P. C. Brima V.S. Kebbie
- xv. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- xvi. Hon. Bliss Osho Williams

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

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



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4:1 The following nominees were interviewed on oath:

- i. Dr. Ibrahim Stevens – Proposed Deputy Governor, Bank of Sierra Leone
- ii. Mr. Ismael S. Koroma – Proposed Deputy Minister of Energy I. Distribution and Supply

5. Closed Session

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

The Committee rose at 3: 30 p.m.

Peter J. Kulagbanda

Director of Committees