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

**TENTH 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 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 and interviewed one Presidential nominee for appointment as:

**i. Minister of Sports**

**2. PROCEDURE**

The Committee maintained strict consistency to its established procedure. Probing questions put to the nominee pertained to his educational background, track records in public office, declared assets, tax obligations and his visions for a successful tenure of office. Allegations of malpractices in public office and unsuitability in terms of character to hold a Ministerial position were all very closely scrutinized.

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

3:1 The following nominee was interviewed:

**i. Mr. Paul Mohamed Kamara – Proposed Minister of Sports**

Paul Kamara is a professional journalist, human rights activist and until recently, the Proprietor and Managing Director of "For Di People Newspaper". Mr. Kamara is also a sportsman and has contributed in no small way to the development of football in Sierra Leone. His effort has seen the emergence of professional players like Mohamed Kallon to stardom. In 2010, Paul Kamara was appointed Minister of Youth- Employment and Sports, a position he held until his nomination.

Responding to questions on an alleged public pronouncement he had made that "fowl dear pass woman now na salone," translated to mean, "the women of Sierra Leone are now cheaper than fowls," Mr. Paul Kamara vehemently denied making the statement. Priding himself as a great respecter of women, he said, "I happen to be the number one man that has worked with all the women groups in this country to bring about human rights and democracy. That is why they call me Mama Salone. I coined the word, Mama Salone, years ago during the struggle"

Mr. Kamara continued that he could recall addressing a number of young women as Minister of Youths, and trying to conscientize them to move away from those vices that had brought down respect for women. He had, he said, made references to all the ills and injustices that had been meted out to women by the male folks, citing the "sweet sixteens of the 80s' and the invasion of secondary schools by men, to the bleaching culture of the NPRC days, the "war situation in which women fared the worst, to the peace-keeping period when the moral respect for women was completely destroyed. "It was an apocalyptic situation," he said. "When the peace-keepers came and got to know about what had happened to the women of this country, the peace-keepers were saying that "na Salone no moor wey fowl dear pass woman." I was not saying it directly. Rather I was quoting the peacekeepers of that time."

Reacting to another allegation of racist remark he had made against Mr. Rodney Michael, Mr. Kamara prided himself as a major stakeholder in the development of football in Sierra Leone. He submitted that on taking office as Minister of Sports, he had tried to create a new, unitary and strong football system. His strategy, he said, was to get the deadwood out of football and to usher in a new body that could become the new SLFA. "That was why I went on radio and said that "this is the right time for a white Sierra Leonean and a black Sierra Leonean to come together." These were my exact words that had aroused the anger of my detractors who are going about shouting that I have made a racist remark. But Rodney Michael is very close to me. We are friends. When I go to Bo, I put up at Rodney Michael's and have my food there."

### **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. Mr. Paul Mohamed Kamara – Minister of Sports**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Tenth Report reflects the unanimous view of the Committee. I therefore move that the Tenth 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 FIFTEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE IN COMMITTEE  
ROOM NO.1 PARLIAMENT BUILDING ON FRIDAY  
22<sup>ND</sup> March 2013 AT 1:00 p. M.**

1. **Prayers** - Members prayed in silence

2. **Attendance**

**2.1 The following Members of the Committee were present.**

- i. Hon. S. B. B. Dumbuya
- ii. Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah
- iii. Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai
- iv. Hon. Alhaji Ansumana Jaia Kaikai
- v. Hon. Amadu Kanu
- vi. Hon. Bliss Osho-Williams
- vii. Hon. Veronica Sesay
- viii. Hon. Claude Kamanda
- ix. Hon. Benneh Bangura
- x. Hon. Augustine B. Torto
- xi. Hon. Ibrahim Bundu
- xii. Hon. E. K. Koedoyoma
- xiii. Hon. Alice Foyah
- xiv. Hon. Brimah Conteh

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

- i. Hon. Mabinty Funna
- ii. Hon. P. C. V.B.S. Kebbie

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

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

4:1 The following nominee was interviewed on oath:

- i. **Mr. Paul Mohamed Kamara – Proposed Minister of Sports**

**5. Closed Session**

5.1 The Committee unanimously accepted the nomination of the candidate

The Committee rose at 12: 30 p.m.