

*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

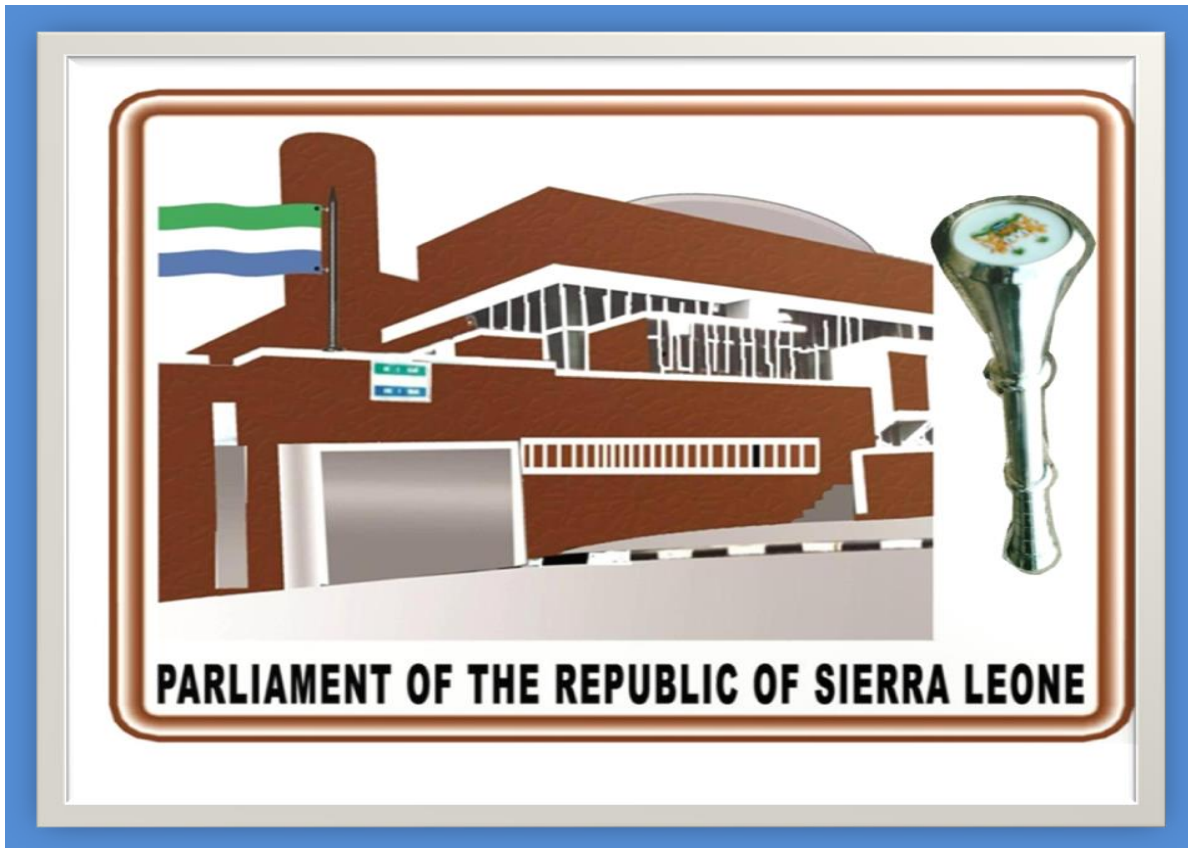
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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**SECOND SESSION - FIRST MEETING**

**THURSDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

*SESSION – 2019/2020*



*OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN*

# **PARLIAMETARY DEBATES**

**[HANSARD]**

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**OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT**

**VOLUME: I**

**NUMBER: 9**

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First Meeting of the Second Session of the Fifth Parliament  
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House  
Held Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.

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## **IV. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

PROPOSER: HON SIDIE M. TUNIS

SECONDER: HON VERONICA K. SESAY

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT THE THIRD 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

## **V. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SESSIONAL SELECT COMMITTEES**



*THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE*

## **Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House**

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### **SECOND SESSION – FIRST MEETING OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

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**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.**

#### **I. PRAYERS**

*[The Table Clerk, Mrs Bintu Weston, Read the Prayers]*

*[The House met at 10:50 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]*

*[The Speaker, Hon. Dr Abass Chernor Bundu, in the Chair]*

The House was called to Order

*Suspension of S.O 5[2]*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to amend the Order Paper as follows: On item IV, there is a paragraph that start with the word 'that.' Instead of Second Report, it should be the Third Report and item V should be deleted for today because the Honourable Minister in-charge is not available. Item VI now becomes item V. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** I do not have item VI, on my Order Paper.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, item V is now Announcement of Sessional Committees instead of Bill.

**THE SPEAKER:** That is the amended Order Paper Honourable Members. Any seconder?

**HON. ALIMAMY O. KAMARA:** I so second, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]*

*[Motion ess to amend the Order Paper has been carried]*

**II. RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019.**

**THE SPEAKER:** I can see many empty seats in the front benches of the Opposition. Is anything happening? Honourable Daniel B. Koroma, you have been elevated this morning.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, just as you have just observed, this is a pointer to where this Parliament is going under your purview. I want to use this opportunity to clearly state here that we on this side of the aisle are not satisfied with the way Parliament is currently administered *[Applause]*. Secondly, I want to use this opportunity in the interest of justice that we have filed

notice of appeal in respect the ten Members of Parliament. I want to use this opportunity to state that let these cases be assigned as soon as possible.

**THE SPEAKER:** You have brought this issue here again. This is not where you appeal, but to the judiciary. You are in the wrong arena, Honourable Member.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** No, it is not wrong, Mr Speaker. We will say so in and out of Parliament.

**THE SPEAKER:** Mercifully the Acting Leader of the Opposition is with us. I recognise his presence. Shall we proceed with today's business please?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** I hope the message has gone through and that is our position *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. As usual, we shall skip pages 1 to 4 and start with Page 5. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? If there is no amendment or correction, would somebody move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.

**HON. AMBROSE M. LEBBY:** I so move, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Any seconder?

**HON. BRIMA MANSARAY:** I so second Mr Speaker

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To*

*[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 has been adopted as presented]*

### **III. PAPERS LAID**

HON. SOLOMON SEGEPOH THOMAS, CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

**HON. SOLOMON S. THOMAS** [*Deputy Speaker of Parliament*]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, with your leave, I hereby Table in this Well of Parliament two audit reports;

[a] Performance Audit Report on the Institutional Framework for Fighting Corruption by the Anti-Corruption Commission [ACC] and the Central Medical Stores of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, April, 2019; and

[b] Performance Audit Report on the Preparedness for Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs].

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as head of the delegation to the Pan-African Parliament, I hereby table the following report:

[c] Report of the Second Ordinary Session of the Fifth Pan-African Parliament, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

#### **IV. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

PROPOSER: HON SIDIE M. TUNIS

SECONDER: HON VERONICA K. SESAY

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, let me just say in passing before you come up with your proposal that I have now learnt about the true reason for the so many empty seats around Parliament contrary to what the Honourable Daniel B. Koroma had to tell us. Now that I know the reasons, I am very satisfied with that and we can proceed with today's business.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I present to you the Third Report of the Second Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service:

##### *1. Introduction*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service that is charged with the responsibility of vetting presidential nominees to select the most fitted and qualified persons to serve in public offices met on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June,

2019 and interviewed eleven presidential nominees. One of these nominees was presented to this House in the Second Report of the Committee. The others are being presented today for the following appointments:

- i. Board Chairman, Teaching Hospitals Complex Administration;
- ii. Chairman, Board of Directors, National Minerals Agency;
- iii. Member, Sierra Leone Council for Post-graduate Colleges of Health Specialties;
- iv. Two Members, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration;
- vi. Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company;
- vi. Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration;
- vii. Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Electricity Generation and Transmission Company Board;
- viii. Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency; and
- ix. Member, Board of Directors, Produce Monitoring Board.

## *2. Procedure*

The Committee conducted its hearing within the ambit of its established criteria. Members perused the specified documents provided by the nominees, requested for public inputs into the vetting process to ascertain the suitability of the nominees for their proposed appointments and ensured that the nominees were cleared of any criminal records by the Criminal Investigation Department [CID]. Members also assured themselves that the nominees have the relevant qualifications and necessary backup experience to man such important offices of state. Probing questions put to the nominees covered wide ranging issues pertaining to their track records in other pertinent work situations, their declared assets and liabilities, fulfilment of their tax obligations to the state and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure.



### *3. Fourth Sitting of the Committee on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the following nominees were interviewed on oath:

*[i] Dr Sonia Melisa Spencer, Proposed Board Chairman, Teaching Hospitals Complex Administrative Board.*

Dr Spencer has a varied work experience in the United Nations and other national and international organisations. She has had several career changes focusing on Education, non-formal education and education in Emergencies/Disaster Risk Reduction, Youths and vulnerable girls' empowerment, child protection and HIV/AIDS. Dr Spencer is a teacher-trainer, an expert in curriculum development with a wealth of experience in project leadership skills. She is also a writer and has a list of Books and Articles to her name.

Responding to the Committee's inquiries about her knowledge of the Board of Teaching Hospitals Complex Administration, Dr Sonia Melisa Spencer remarked that: **"The Board was set up in 2016 to monitor the activities of the following: Connaught Hospital, Princess Christian Maternity Hospital [PCMH], Ola During Hospital, Laka Infectious Hospital, Jui China Hospital and the Kissy Psychiatric Hospital. The Teaching Complex Administration is mandated by an Act of Parliament to provide the enabling environment for the undergraduate and postgraduate training of health personnel and promote research in relevant health needs."** Dr Spencer promised that with her background, she will ensure that the administration achieve the goals for which it was established and will work assiduously and collectively with other members of the Board for positive changes.

*[ii] Mr Hadji Daboh, Proposed Chairman, Board of Directors, National Minerals Agency.*

Mr Hadji Daboh is a Mining Engineer of no means standing who consistently served in various strategic positions in the Sierra Leone Rutile Limited from 1979 to 2014. He is currently a professional mining consultant. In his response, Mr Hadji Daboh said: **"It is an undisputed fact that Sierra Leone is endowed with mineral resources and**

**I believe with no iota of doubt that the success of an economy like ours can be greatly enhanced by the mineral sector.”**

Responding to further questions, Mr Daboh said that if approved by this Honourable House, he would collectively work with other colleague members to ensure the implementation of the Mineral policies and strategic plans to achieve sustained growth in the mineral sector.

[iii] Miss Fatu Yumkella, Proposed Member, Sierra Leone Council for Post-graduate Colleges of Health Specialties.

Miss Fatu Yumkella has over thirty six years of combined national and international work experience in the fields of population and public health. She has a proven capacity and experience in Programme Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Programme Development, Social Science Research, Human Resources for Health, Training and Performance Improvement gained in Kenya, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. She is currently the Managing Director, Dalan Development Consultants, Sierra Leone.

Reacting to the concerns of the Committee, Miss Fatu Yumkella said: **“I am an internationally renowned researcher and teacher dealing in postgraduate courses at the Medical School. I promise to do my best to improve the health sector and help the President to achieve the goals of the New Direction.”** She informed the Committee about her keen interest in research on Infant Mortalities and the tremendous impact this has made in saving the lives of our children.

[iv] Miss Constance Sama, Proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration.

Miss Constance Sama has a wealth of Accounting work experience in several institutions in the country. She is currently the Self-Reliance Manager for Liberia and Sierra Leone in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-days Saint.

Responding to the Committee’s inquiries about what she would bring to Sierra Leone Maritime Administration [SLMA], Miss Constance said: **“SLMA requires serious attention, especially following the recent reports on varying issues. As a**

**Board Member, I promise to collectively work with colleague Board members to improve on most of the anomalies that have wrecked the institution. I will share my experience with colleagues to add value to the institution.”**

*[v] Mr Nelson Mbeimba Lahai, Proposed Member Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO]*

Mr Mbeimba Lahai is a classroom teacher and the Acting Vice Principal at Ahmadiyya Muslim Secondary School, Segbwema in Kailahun District. Mr Lahai consented that the myriad of problems surrounding the water supplies require urgent attention. He said: **“SALWACO is doing a tremendous job amidst challenges, but I promise to lend my expertise to ensure that we work with our development partners to improve the accessibility of rural water supplies in terms of bore holes or gravity driven pipe bore water. Most of the services implemented by certain Partners are in dilapidated state now because they were not properly monitored. One of my tasks would be to take stock of all such projects in communities that need urgent rehabilitations for the attention of management.”**

*[vi] Hon. Emmanuel T. Babonjo, Proposed Member, Board of Director, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration.*

Honourable Babonjo is a former Member of Parliament who served on several parliamentary Committees. Honourable Babonjo in his response to the Committee promised to add experience in solving various problems facing the Maritime Administration especially those relating to raising sustained revenue, recruitment of qualified staff and safety assurances of the boats and vessels on our territorial waters.

He promised to **“Come up with initiatives and recommendations that will help the administration achieved its goals and will ensure that every step or action we collectively take as a Board will be in line with the legal provisions of the administration.”**

[vii] Miss Rosetta Agatha Wilson, Proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Electricity Generation and Transmission Company Board.

Miss Rosetta Agatha Wilson is an accomplished Finance Professional with over fifteen years of senior management work experience. She has a wealth of experience in financial and treasury management, corporate governance, procurement, risk management, start-up and mergers. She is currently working as Commercial Director of the IDEA Group that is developing the Hilton Freetown, Cape Sierra Leone Hotel.

Miss Rosetta said that in terms of capacity and technical ability, she will be able to add value in reviewing the financial decisions and asking the right questions facing the EGTC. **"I know what is expected of Board members in terms of financial transparency and all that is required of the institution especially in meeting the demands for electricity today."**

[viii] Alfred Vandy Gborie, Proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Roads Safety Authority

Alfred Vandy Gborie is an expert Statistician with over twenty five years of post-graduate professional experience in the fields of Education, Monitoring and Evaluation, Humanitarian Assistance and Development at both national and international levels. He is currently the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

In his interview, Mr Gborie said: **"The implementation of the Roads Safety Strategic Plan of the SLRSA requires serious collaborative approach especially with the unending crashes on our roads, poor conditions of our vehicles plying the routes, etc. As a Board Member, I will work to support the Executive Director and his team to change the gloomy narratives and also ensure that the roads and commuters are disability friendly."**

[ix] Mr Abraham Sillaty Turay, Proposed Member, Board of Director, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency.

Mr Turay is a Civil Servant working at the National Tourist Board of Sierra Leone as Classification and Quality Control Manager from 2001 to date.

Mr Turay acknowledged that implementing the Local Content Policy to the fullest with the support of Government will help promote trade and employment of our youths. He said that **"I will endeavour to make meaningful contributions especially in the popularization of the Policy, the Agency and promote wide level consultations with relevant stakeholders to make the Content workable."**

*[x] Alhaji Mohamed Amara Sheriff, Proposed Member, Board of Directors Produce Monitoring Board.*

Mr Sheriff is a retired Civil Servant who served at the Ministry of Agriculture from 1971 to 2000. He retired as field Supervisor, Sierra Leone Agricultural Producing Company. Responding to the prompts of the Committee, the nominee said: **"Effective produce monitoring will enhance positive dividend not only in ensuring sustained exports of our agricultural products, but to maintain farmers interests in the benefits derived from their produce. He maintained that the ultimate aim is increased productivity and better economy for the country."** He concluded that **"I will ensure that the institution do the nation proud by achieving the aims and objectives for which it was established."**

*Excerpt of the First Report of the Committee*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the following nominee was interviewed on oath:

*Mr Francis Dennis Ganda, Proposed Member, Board of Director, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority.*

Mr Francis Ganda is a Management Specialist with several years of work experience in Advocacy and Capacity Building. He is currently serving as the Lead Consultant of the MAFAG Consultancy firm in Sierra Leone.

Questioned on the background knowledge he had on Civil Aviation, Mr Francis Ganda said: **"I was very instrumental at the formative stage of the Airport Authority from 1993 to 2003 and I played key roles in the Airport development and growth. As a resource person, I attended lots of conferences and had extensive training in Aviation from Dakar, China and France, so I think I am up to the task."**

### *5. Recommendation[s]*

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following presidential nominees to be fit and qualified for their proposed appointments and they are recommended to the House for approval:

- [i] Mr Hadji Daboh, Chairman, Board of Directors, National Mineral Agency;
- [ii] Dr Sonia Melisa Spencer, Board Chairman, Teaching Hospitals Complex Administrative Board;
- [iii] Miss Fatu Yumkella, Member, Sierra Leone Council for Post-graduate Colleges of Health Specialties;
- [iv] Miss Constance Sama, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration;
- [v] Mr Nelson Mbeimba Lahai, Member Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO];
- [vi] Hon. Emmanuel T. Babonjo, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration;
- [vii] Miss Rosetta Agatha Wilson, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Electricity Generation and Transmission Company Board;
- [viii] Alfred Vandy Gborie, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Roads Safety Authority;
- [ix] Mr Abraham Sillaty Turay, Member, Board of Director, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency;
- [x] Alhaji Mohamed Amara Sheriff, Member, Board of Directors, Produce Monitoring Board; and
- [xi] Mr Francis Dennis Ganda, Member, Board of Director, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Third Report is the unanimous decision of the Committee. I therefore move that the Third Report of the Second Session and the Excerpt of the First Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service be adopted by the House and that the recommendations contained therein be approved.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Leader of Government Business. Any seconder?

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** I so second, Mr Speaker.

*[Question Proposed]*

**HON. VERONICA K. SESAY:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand here to thank His Excellency the President for giving us these suitable and fine nominees. It is very easy to work with people who know their areas. I said here yesterday that if you put square pegs in round holes, it will be very difficult, but if you have a round peg in a round hole, it will be very easy. I am sure that is why I admire His Excellency the President for nominating people who are qualified. I was part of the Appointments Committees that interviewed these nominees. We went through their CVs and we found out that all of them are qualified because of the manner in which they answered our questions. They displayed intelligence and suitability during their interviews.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the President is always considering the women. Each time he nominates people for approval, women are always among. I become more excited because we are yearning for our **30%** quota or more because most of the farm works are being done by the women. To my ladies, the dice is cast and the choice is yours. We want you to lead, so that the men will follow because behind any successful man there is a strong woman and behind any successful Government there are women. Here are the women and I have no doubt that you will perform.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to talk about Dr Sonia Melisa Spencer, Board Chairman, Teaching Hospitals Complex Administrative Board. As you are going to take up your new assignment to build the health sector, please make us proud. Madam Yumkella, I have no doubt in you because you were very much intelligent in answering our questions. I want you to take your expertise in terms of protecting the women because you have seen the problems that women are facing. For you to be of help to them, we want you to make sure you carry your expertise to this institution. I am going to congratulate you in advance.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I do not want the men to get jealous because they are also qualified. I have no doubt in your ability to perform because I know you are capable. I will want to leave you with this because sometimes some people fail or they do not know the importance of the 1991 Constitution. Please, when you go home, try to read the Constitution, especially Section 93[3]. That section talks about Members of Parliament. Our work here is to make laws, oversee your operations and represent our people. The Constitution has given us the right or mandate to probe into your institutions. Please give us a helping hand because we want to see that the 'New Direction' succeeds. We want to ensure that we help His Excellency the President in ensuring that the 'New Direction' succeeds.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to be very partial this time because it is better to talk about somebody you have known for a very long time. I am going to talk about a man I have known for the past twenty years. His name is a household name in the history of this country and he is no less a person but Mr Hadji Daboh of the Sierra Rutile fame [*Applause*]. Nominating you to serve as Chairman in the Mineral Sector is a welcome gesture. I have no doubt in you because you have proven your mettle before. I have known you for being dedicated and hardworking. If you have met him at Sierra Rutile, you would have known that Hadji Daboh is not a difficult man. I am sure when you go to that sector, you will carry your expertise and kindness. You will make sure you work with your colleagues diligently and establish a cordial relationship because teamwork is what we want to see in this country. We should work together to make sure we succeed. I am sure you know a lot about Minerals in this country and you have served in various strategic positions at the Sierra Leone Rutile Limited. Please work for Sierra Leone and the children yet unborn. I want to say I have no doubt in you and I will vouch for you in this House to approve you. Please go and do more than what we are expecting from you.

With those few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to congratulate all the nominees in advance and to inform you that we will be visiting you once in a while on oversight to prove what you told us about yourself and your good work in the



Committee of Appointments. With that, I want to appeal to my colleagues to speedily approve these nominees for them to take up their new assignments. I thank you *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for her contribution. I now recognise Honourable Shiaka M. Sama.

**HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA:** Mr Speaker, thank you very much. I was very happy this morning when I met some of the nominees that I have known very well and I met some of them for the first time. I have a very good perception about those I know together with those I do not know because I found them in the company of those I know very well. So, I am sure all the appointments are very good one *[Applause]*.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Madam Spencer is a very nice person and her husband, Dr Spencer, was my lecturer at the Njala University. I can state here that the Spencers are very good people. I will want to talk about my Kotor and elder brother Hadji Daboh who is a gentleman. I knew him at the Old Bo Boys Association [OBBA] and he is always serious about his commitments because he is one of the people behind the success of OBBA. He is a chief and a gentleman. I admire him a lot and he has a lot of experience in and out of this country. Like my colleagues rightly said, Mr Daboh is a household name and I am very happy that he has joined the New 'Direction' team to move this country forward.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will talk about a very young man I have known very well, Mr Alfred Vandy Gborie. All the nominees are very serious people. Again, Honourable Emmanuel T. Babonjo is also amongst the nominees. We need a strong team because the President cannot do it alone. We have got experienced ministers, directors, Board Chairmen and other Sierra Leoneans and we want to see a positive change. We voted for change and we pray that this change will come to pass because as Sierra Leoneans, it is either we prosper or we perish together. I am sure when there is a change, we are all going to be beneficiaries. If you go to the market, there is no separate prices for Sierra Leone Peoples Party [SLPP] or All People's Congress [APC]. I am sure all of us are facing the same conditions. Even though some of us are

Independent Members of Parliament, our mutual interest is to push our country forward and I know the President cannot do it alone. He is not an expert in all fields and that is why he needs people with strong minds, great men or people with ready mind and ready hands to help him push this country forward. Whenever the country is not working well, there are certain social problems. I am sure all of us stand on a time-bomb and we must work towards improving this Economy, so that the living conditions of all Sierra Leoneans are improved because when things go wrong, all of us are in danger, especially those who think they are successful. When I see very good appointments, people that I really have first-hand experience with, I feel very happy.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to give a general advice to all the nominees. I want to remind them that they are not going to those offices to sit there idly. It is no longer business as usual. The improvement you are going to create or make in these offices should not only be read in speeches, but the ordinary Sierra Leoneans on the Streets should be able to feel these changes. I know the only thing that can enable somebody to maintain power is good work. Any form of manipulation will just succeed for some time and we will fail woefully in the future. So, the only thing you should do to help the President is to give him good and sincere advice, not necessarily what he wants to hear, but what is good for Sierra Leoneans. Sometimes we tend to love people who tell us what we want to hear and that is very dishonest. The President cannot go everywhere and that he depends on you to go to the field and to interact with Sierra Leoneans. As a patriot and a Sierra Leonean, for all of us who are like minds, we should put Sierra Leone first. What has destroyed our country is bad politics and if you are not in power or you are in opposition, you pray that the ruling Government fails. When we are in opposition, we say a lot about the ruling Government and when we are in power we do the same things that we criticised the former Government and this will not move this country forward. The 'New Direction' should endeavour to bring those changes that Sierra Leoneans want to see.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to wish the nominees well and I want to commend the President for these nominees. I am sure these nominees should

endeavour to transform the living conditions of Sierra Leoneans for the better. I also want to urge this House to speedily approve these nominees and urge them not to serve parties, but Sierra Leone. You should leave a legacy that will be remembered by all and sundry, a legacy that Sierra Leoneans should be proud of, and also a supportive one to the President. I am sure after four years of service, we will be preparing report cards based on your work. The present Government or the Leadership will go across the country campaigning for votes because votes are based on the changes you are going to make. I wish you well and you have my full support. I wish to appeal to this House to approve these nominees, so that they can go and serve. May God continue to guide you, protect and give you courage to take decisions that will move this country forward. Thank you, Mr Speaker *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for his contribution. While I recognise the Honourable Daniel B. Koroma, I will refer the Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella to S.O 3[2]. I call on you to take the seat that has been allocated to you, Honourable Member. We can deal with the issue afterwards.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will make my contributions this morning with grief and sometimes I am tempted to challenge the Speaker because we have known each other in less than a year and six months. I wish we have known each other or I have got that privilege like Honourable Ibrahim Ben Kargbo in your days in Parliament, but I never had that opportunity. However, I want to make it very clear that whatever we say, we must be mindful that there is life after Parliament *[Applause]*. Yesterday, I listened to the Deputy Speaker of this House, Honourable Segepoh S. Thomas from Bonthe District. He said: "**Honourable, you are still my brother.**" That statement touched me so much, but that one will be more meaningful after Parliament and that is what we should be working towards to make sure we continue to be brothers and sisters even after Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as you rightly observed this morning about the poor attendance on this side of the aisle, I knew you were not happy and then you raised a concern.

**THE SPEAKER:** Let us not go over that because I have been told and the reasons are quite contrary to what you tried to offer to this House.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Thank you very much. I will give you further reasons *[Laughter]* which may not be contrary and maybe I will be tempted to ask a rhetorical question.

**HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Honourable Gevao sit down, I have the Floor.

**HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO:** Honourable Daniel B. Koroma, when I am up never tell me to sit down. I am your senior even in our profession. You have to respect your elders and maybe I am even older than you.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Honourable Hindolo M. Gevao, you are not.

**HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Daniel B. Koroma, take your seat while I take the Point of Order.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Alright Sir.

**THE SPEAKER:** What is your Point of Order, Honourable Member?

**HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO:** Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O 36[1]. Mr Speaker, the issue is relevant. I noticed my colleague is moving away from the issue on the Floor. Mr Speaker, we are debating on the approval of presidential nominees and time is of essence. When people come to this Parliament, they are very busy and as Members of Parliament, we should know that the premise upon which we are elected is on the fact that we have to be adults and you ought not to be below the age of eighteen. When we come here, let us be conducting ourselves because the public is watching. When I respect you, you have to respect me. We are not children and some of us are not here

to waste time. Let us respect each other *[Applause]*. It brings no dignity to some of us

**THE SPEAKER:** Very well, you have made your point. Honourable Daniel B. Koroma.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Yes, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** In addition to S.O 36[1], there is also S.O 32[5]. The two provisions lay lots of emphasis on relevance. You being a lawyer, you need no reminder what that means.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Well noted, Mr Speaker. As a matter of relevance, we are here to debate the content of the report of the Appointments Committee but I said I have known the Honourable Speaker for less than a year and six months. I refer you to Page 10 on the attendance, I know sincerely it is not against the law, but you will definitely prefer better performance in respect of the attendance of a Parliament under your purview. It is not against the law. If you are sincere, you will find out that those who attended were more than the absentees. In this case, only eight people and ten absent and that is not an ideal situation and it is not against the law, but it is not ideal. Mr Speaker, I know you will not be happy based on that observation. I am even at liberty to state it again because the Honourable Leader of Government Business knows me very well.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hold on a minute. What is the quorum for either the plenary or a Committee of Parliament?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, I said earlier that it is not against the law.

**THE SPEAKER:** But why are you making it an issue?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Because there is another issue that we are debating.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, may I just make a comment please? The Honourable Member is **100%** right, but what he is not telling this Honourable House and the public is that the APC boycotted the sitting.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** That is what I was about to say [*Applause*]. Mr Speaker, just give me time. Based on my observation, I observed that five representatives from the APC side did not attend.

**THE SPEAKER:** The membership of the Appointments Committee is sixteen.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** You are correct.

**THE SPEAKER:** Which is the maximum.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** You are correct, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** We have eight Members attending this particular meeting to which you have made reference to.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Absolutely correct, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** That is **50%** and that is far above the quorum. So, what is the issue?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, if you exercise patience, as the Leader said, you will know very shortly.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, may I also add that out of the four parties in Parliament, three attended and also the Independent Member attended. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, during yesterday's debate, I made the following comments which I want to repeat again. I said walkouts do not win elections or win anything for anybody. You faced the consequences of walking out of the proceedings of Parliament. I hope is not going to be your new strategy in this Session. I was assured yesterday along with other Members of this House by no less a person than the Acting Leader of the Opposition that never again will they indulge in any walkout. What we will begin to see is that every issue will be hotly debated on the Floor of the House and we will definitely welcome that. Maybe you were not here when your Leader was making that comment.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, let me proceed.

**THE SPEAKER:** I will allow you to proceed, but I will give you just two more minutes.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Please do not do that, Mr Speaker

**THE SPEAKER:** You have spent so much time on issues that are barely irrelevant to our discussion.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, this is another point had we got the opportunity, we can even do better towards the approval process of these presidential nominees. I hope this will be improved from now onwards. We should be having these reports on time. We only got this report this morning and as a result, I can only comment on two; Mr Ibrahim Sillety Turay proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency.

**THE SPEAKER:** Frankly, you should comment on none of them since you got the report this morning. Why are you selecting two out of the nominees?

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Because I do not have time, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Well, you have to say that instead.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** That is what I am saying now, Mr Speaker. Mr Ibrahim Silaty Turay is currently working for the National Tourist Board and I believe one of your responsibilities is to make sure that this nation becomes the most suitable for tourists attraction. I want to raise this concern that the global peace index of this country has fallen by eighteen points. So, I encourage you in as much as there are maybe other qualified people who can serve in that Agency.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order. The Honourable Member has just made an accusation.

**THE SPEAKER:** Take your seat please.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** We have heard people talking about fragile states and we want to know his source of information.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** I refer the Honourable Member to Google and type global peace index, it will automatically appear and search for Sierra Leone. It is just a

concern because I think it is a very good opportunity for me to have somebody at National Tourist Board whose principal responsibility is to make sure that this country is safe for tourists. So, on behalf of my constituents and the people of Sierra Leone, please do your best to improve this situation. In as much as you are serving in that capacity, which is not against the law, but I will encourage you to work harder because I was expecting the President to have considered somebody who is equally qualified for that engagement. However, you are qualified and this is an additional responsibility and we are expecting the best from you.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Honourable Alhaji Mohamed Amara Sheriff, who is a replica of my dad. In terms of age, I can see my father in him. The current situations in those Board membership today is life full of unhealthy competition. I want to encourage you to be mindful of your current status, otherwise it will become worst. In as much as the President has confidence in you, we will support that confidence, but we will also encourage you to be mindful of your health status because it requires.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**THE SPEAKER:** Be patient, he is making his last sentence.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Are you his Medical Doctor?

**THE SPEAKER:** No, he is making his last sentence.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** I encourage you to be mindful of your health status. On that note, Mr Speaker, I want to say the APC on this side of the aisle are always mindful of cooperating with such processes in terms of approving presidential nominees. It is our desires to continue and I urge this House to make that possible and whosoever the President deems fit and capable to serve in a particular capacity, he/she should serve in that capacity. We should not be seen as stumbling blocks. So, this House should make that possible. I want to urge the Judiciary to assign those cases soonest. Thank you very much and God bless you *[Applause]*.



**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for that contribution. one thing the Honourable Member failed to mention which I am sure he wanted to say to Mr Silaty is to make his constituency a tourist destination. I thank you.

**HON. DANIEL B. KOROMA:** Mr Speaker, the Bintumani Mountains is now a national park and a tourist destination.

**THE SPEAKER:** Let me take a lady.

**HON. BERNADETTE W. SONGA:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I caught your eyes today. I am not sure whether my sitting position has anything to do with not catching your eyes. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to humbly render a service to my colleague. My background is psychology and psychiatric nursing. I am happy to provide free counselling if you need it *[Laughter]*. I want to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President for giving us these fine nominees for approval. What we normally get here are nominees and we are always ready shower praises on them. But when they go to their offices, they exhibit appalling attitudes towards Honourable Members *[Applause]*. They treat Honourable Members with levity and disrespect. I am not sure about other people, but I do not go to your offices to beg for anything because you have nothing that I need. We go to your offices to seek what our constituents are asking us about. So, please change your attitudes towards Members of Parliament and I have decided in this Well not to praise sing any nominnee again because it does not worth it. They are delivering, but their attitudes are appalling *[Applause]*. I want to remind people who are in our offices today that the only guarantee jobs in this Government is Members of Parliament. You can be reshuffled at any time and the people you walk pass when you go up the ladder you will see the same people when you come down. You will come back to this Well of Parliament for approval maybe in different capacity. We have to be treated as Honourable Members. I want to however congratulate the nominees in advance. They are all fine gentlemen and ladies and you have very powerful experiences according to your CVs.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to talk about Miss Rosetta Agatha Wilson, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Electricity Generation and

Transmission Company Board. It is three days today without electricity in my house and I will like to bring this to your attention that when you assume office, please make sure you fix it up. I have been calling 672 constantly to have our electricity problem addressed. They have been promising to come, but I have not seen any positive response. Something needs to be done about how they react to these calls; how they react to issues; and how they designate the issues to different areas depending on where you lived. I am not sure what is happening to our electricity, but I think because of the construction that is ongoing, I think it is affecting the process. A car also hit the pole and that has added salt to injury. These things can be addressed in a day. We do not have to be going through many processes. I want to encourage you to look into our concerns when you take up office and we only get this opportunity to tell nominees that we are suffering from things that can be easily addressed. Please ensure that I get electricity when you go to your office.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to start with Miss Constance Sama, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration. I cannot praise sing you here because it will not be enough. I just want to thank the President for nominating you. Miss Constance Sama is a woman of substance and I know her personally. I know what she stands for and what she is capable of doing. She is a straightforward person with lots of experience. She can deliver in the area she is going to serve. I am not praise singing, but I am saying what I know about her. The reason I am talking about her because she will deliver very well. We know that Maritime is going through difficult times, but having a woman with such qualities, I am sure that institution will improve. She is going to add value to that institution. I know your nomination to that Board will add value. Please go to your office and do more than what we expect.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the second person I want to talk about is Mr Nelson Mbeimba Lahai, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company. He hails from constituency 008. I want to thank you on behalf of my father who passed away very recently. He was your bosom friend and you did everything together. He has

served as a Councillor. He helped me to secure **1,200,000** votes out of **1,400,000** and I have no doubt that he will deliver. Uncle, as I usually call you, I want to say thank you on behalf of my dad. I know he is looking you, saying proudly that you are his brother. I want to thank you for being there for me during my elections and a father to me since my dad passed away in March. May his soul rest in perfect peace. As you are going to your area of work, the people of Shegbewema and particularly the people of Constituency 008 needs more water supply *[Applause]*. Please add value to the Ministry of Water Resource, so that our constituency will be different from all other constituencies. This is because you are representing us. As I conclude, I do not want to praise sing anybody, but to use this opportunity to thank you Uncle Nelson on my behalf and my dad. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable lady for her contribution.

*Suspension of S.O 5[2]*

**THE SPEAKER:** I now give the Floor to the Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella to speak from his allocated seat.

**HON. DR KANDEH K. YUMKELLA:** The emphasis is noted, Honourable Speaker for further negotiation. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I was part of the Appointments Committee that interviewed these nominees. I had the opportunity to talk to them and look at their credentials as well. I have two set of comments to make. The first one is on some of the institutions and to bring back what Honourable Bernadette W. Songa mentioned earlier. The executive positions as Ministers are important, but similarly important are the functions and works of the various Boards. We have approved in this House maybe seven hundred people and the Government relies on these Boards to provide strategic direction. I stand to be corrected by whatever number, but I know that it is several hundreds and the Government will rely on these individuals.

**THE SPEAKER:** The implication is not that this is a blotted administration.

**HON. DR KANDEH YUMKELLA:** Not at all, Mr Speaker *[Laughter]*. The implication here is that every administration fills those positions and of course they rely on those

individuals to give strategic direction to the relevant institutions and agencies they will lead. The ministers have their roles and they rely on these Boards to deliver. We hope that these Boards will deliver. My hope is that, we also find the mechanism where Parliament that approves these presidential nominees has a way of beginning to rate the functioning of these Boards and these agencies. Apart from our oversight function, but a report where we actually look at how they are performing in these various offices.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to congratulate Honourable Hadji Daboh and the other nominees on this list. I see three cases that I want to comment on because I talked about meritocracy last week. I can see several nominees, but I have highlighted these three because they come with the requisite skills to perform the functions they have been nominated to perform. Honourable Hadji Daboh has almost twenty five to thirty years experience in mining. In the interview, I told him that Sierra Leoneans still look to that future where we derive much benefits from our minerals and natural resources. In the Southern Africa region, they talk about beneficiation of natural resources to create jobs, invest in other sectors and good governance within the sector. I do not need to say more, but there is still a question. Liberia had Ebola, Sierra Leone had Ebola and Guinea had Ebola, but their mining sectors did not collapse at all. Why our mining sector collapsed? What was the nature of the Agreements we signed? Those sectors are still performing in those countries. Liberia Iron Ore Sector is still functional. I was in Conakry for four days last week and I was told that their mining sector is still booming, but ours has collapsed. The question is why? If the governance sector is not right, everything will collapse. We rely on you as you are going to be part of the National Minerals Agency [NMA] to make sure we benefit. I want you to make sure you desist from things that were done the last time with our minerals in several decades, including the last ten years.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have no doubt in Dr Sonia Melisa Spenser's ability to perform because she has the requisite skills. I was in N'jala as a student and many of us were scared of the sciences, but you were one of the very few in Chemistry. You were a female, but you endured with the Chemistry. We have watched your career not

only your Doctor of Philosophy [PhD], but you have worked in the United Nations [UN] several years. I have no doubt that you have the skills to make our teaching Hospitals become a solid institution. I have recently had the opportunity to visit Sierra Leoneans at Kolibu Hospital in Ghana. It is impressive to see that in Ghana, they perform brain surgery and it is also impressive to see their trauma centre. I had to sit there for four hours with a relative of mine and I also saw several others who were there from Sierra Leone. It is our hope that one of our hospitals becomes a centre of excellence where we can be able to perform advance surgery as well, which moves nicely into the role that Madam Fatu Yumkella will be performing now in the Council for Post Graduate Colleges of Health Specialties.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I listened to an interview from the valiant lady, Nimatta Majeks Walker talking about Post Graduate Education in Health. I can tell this House that she presented her first report on Infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality thirty years ago. I have just graduated from University that some of us began to understand how bad our conditions were in this country and in fact thirty years later, we are still one of the countries with the highest maternal mortality rate and highest infant mortality rate. I have no doubt in your ability to perform because you have been doing such research. I have met you on missions in Burkina Faso and Uganda, and you spent many years in Kenya as well. I have no doubt that you will perform in your duties. So, when we talk about meritocracy, it is appointments like this we want to see and not only paper qualification, but the track records of delivery and track records of professionalism also count. We will only wish all of you well in what you are going to be doing. The functioning of this country depends on the Executive and these agencies. I hope that Parliament will improve this Second Session more than the First Session.

With these few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to congratulate the nominees in advance and admonish them to ensure that this country improves. Thank you very much *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for his contribution.

**HON. QUINTIN SALIA-KONNEH:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. With your leave, permit me to recognise Kortor Daboh and my National President, the Minister of Health, Dr Alpha T. Wurrie. To be truthful with you, I am not really happy with the way things are going in this Parliament and this is one thing I described as a system of 'Lupus hypertrophicus.' I will not single out any nominee, but to give them a word of advice because this is what we need for our country. The fact that they are in this Chamber shows they are over qualified because they were nominated by His Excellency the President and they have been able to go through the Committee of Appointments. I have no doubt that they will perform in their various positions they have been nominated to serve.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, on many occasions, we have stood in this Well to talk in favour of the nominees, but I think apart from their qualifications, we need people who can perform in their respective roles. We do not need people who decorate themselves using their positions as enrichment because the President has nominated you based on the trust he has in you. I am sure if you work hard, you will be able to support his aspirations for this country. If you look at the total population of this country, we have up to seven million people, but when you look at the labour force, we have a huge number of people who are also capable to take those positions you have been nominated to serve. I think you should first of all go to those offices and investigate the problems. You have to study the problems and find possible solutions to them. As Honourable Members, we are not only politicians because some of us have expertise in different areas. You can call on us for expert advice. We can brainstorm on certain issues, so that we can find possible solutions to those problems.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, moving on to the first part which is the Teaching Hospitals Complex, you will agree with me that we have health personnel in this country and standard operating procedures, but these standard operating procedures are not followed at all. This is why when people are sick, they prefer to go to other countries like Ghana for medical treatment. I am sure with your supervision in this particular MDA, I believe if we search across the globe, we will find Sierra Leoneans

who are experts in these areas who are working to save the lives of foreigners instead of working in their own country. As a nation, we are also experiencing brain drain and we need our Sierra Leoneans experts to perform those surgeries. You have the responsibility to look around and to encourage our brothers and sisters in other parts of the globe to come home and help to save lives.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Maritime is another gateway for revenue mobilisation. I believe the proposed Board members have the right to work with their colleagues and not to contest with them. I am saying this because we have seen Board members in constant tussle with the operational staff and we may not want that to happen again. As Board members, you are going to your offices to give guidance to the staff, support and direct and advise them where possible. I have no doubt in the nominees going to the Maritime to occupy those positions. Please go there and investigate the problems they are facing and find possible solutions. I want you to organise many meetings and open your doors to new ideas.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Mr Nelson Mbeimba Lahai, proposed Member Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company. I usually call him uncle Nelson. I believe it is a very big appointment for Kailahun District and its neighbouring Chiefdoms because I come from Jawei. You being part of the team makes me very happy. If you are the father to my sister, Honourable Bernadette W. Songa, then you are my Uncle by extension. So, I want to thank you and we will also give you the utmost support, so that you will succeed.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Water Resources because water is Life, If you go to that Ministry, please make us proud. We have lots of problems regarding water across the country, especially in constituency, Constituency 007. My constituency has not got safe drinking water because of the sloppy nature of the topography. Whenever it rains, the debris and particles usually enter our drinking water. We have left with no option, but to depend on rain water for domestic purposes. This is why I feel happy for your nomination. Please do not forget us in terms of water because

water is life and we need water. We need to keep our people alive before 2023. I thank you very much [*Applause*].

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for his contribution. I really wanted to limit the debate now to one Member, but I am sure you may have very good reasons for wanting to catch my eye.

**HON. ABU KEMOKAI:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to join my colleagues to thank the President for these nominees. I am sure two nominees are going to serve on Board of SALWACO and I think the water sector is a very important sector. As a country, we have not done much with regard to accessing safe drinking water as compared to other countries like Ghana and Ivory Coast. Even though we are slightly above Sub-Sahara Africa percentage of **57.6%**, I think increase in allocation of resources would be critical in meeting the 2030 SDGs' target. The population of this country is expected to increase to eight million people by 2023. It will interest you to know that countries like Ghana and Ivory Coast, with a population of more than twenty-four million people have higher access to safe drinking water than Sierra Leone. We need more efforts in ensuring that our people get access to basic drinking water. It is good that the President has nominated people to assist in that sector.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, our work as Members of Parliament is to make laws, conduct oversight and represent the people. In doing our oversight functions, I want to believe that we will be having Members in that Board to assist in ensuring that the Ministry and that Agency do what is expected of them. As members of the Board, sitting allowance will be given to you, but Members of Parliament will not be given oversight allowances, which means your effectiveness in those respective boards will be to ensure that you meet our targets. I want to specifically draw your attention to put more efforts in the Water sector. We used to have Water Sanitation and Hygiene [WASH] conference, but we do not even have a database of our water points across the country and that is very critical. As I speak, I believe the Ministry is working on that to ensure



we have an updated database of water points, so that we can allocate water points according to the needs of a specific area.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want you to be very mindful of the fact that we start prioritising areas in order to ensure that we give people greater access to water facility. I want to thank all Honourable Members who spoke to the Motion before us and I want to thank His Excellency the President for giving us nominees who can help us in ensuring that our oversight responsibilities is effective.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank the Speaker for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Motion. Thank you very much *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member. I now give the Floor to the Honourable Francis A. Kaisamba.

**HON. FRANCIS A. KAISAMBA:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I want to definitely give concurrence to the Report as presented by the Chairman of the Committee on Appointments and Public Service that all the nominees are qualified. They are professionals in their various fields and disciplines, and there is no question with regard their competences or qualifications. Probably, the only thing I may want to add is that they are Board members and Board Chairs and it is their responsibility to formulate the required policies that will guide the vision and mission of their institutions and the overall mission and vision of the 'New Direction' Government for the overall development of this country. I wish them all well.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I may quickly want to talk about a particular nominee from Kenema District, Alhaji Mohamed Sheriff, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Produce Monitoring Board. He is one of the Elders' Council Chairmen for the Sierra Leone Peoples Party [SLPP] and we are pleased as Members of Parliament from Kenema District. I am the Kenema District Caucus Leader and it will be a disservice if we have a nominee of that calibre before us and we fail to make a statement about him. He has been able to put together the SLPP members in Kenema District as Elders' Council Chair. He has been very effective and efficient. He had worked at the Ministry

of Agriculture for a very long time, from 1971 to 2000 in Kenema. I guess he hailed from Tunkia Chiefdom and he is equally an Agriculturist. He has vast experience and knowledge which he can take to the Produce Monitoring Board to ensure that our produce in Sierra Leone are properly managed, so that we get the required benefits.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank you very much. The nominees are all qualified and I hope they will formulate the required policies for their respective institutions. Of course the various Committees will equally oversee all of these institutions you will be overseeing. I thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank the Honourable Member for his contribution and I want to take the opportunity to recognise some notable personalities in our midst. I start with my brother, Dr Alpha Wurrie, who is the Minister of Health and Sanitation [*Applause*]. I also want to recognise Ambassador Foday Yumkella, Minister of Political Affairs and Honourable Francis Kombay Bundu, former Member of Parliament [*Applause*]. We shall wind up the debate, starting with the Acting Leader of the Opposition.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** I would have been most surprised if you did not overemphasise the Opposition word in your introduction. However, I want to make it very clear that we on this side will continue to observe the tenets of democracy. I am sure this is a House that has been blessed years ago by the founders of our democracy. Therefore, those who are coming today and at any other time to benefit from its existence should not forget the earlier founders like Speaker Lightfoot Boston and of course the SLPP will never forget Sir Milton Margai. However, we have a crop of ladies and gentlemen nominated by His Excellency the President to be considered by us for various positions in his Government. We know that he has good reasons to nominate certain people to occupy important positions. Some have succeeded and some have failed. Mr Speaker, I told you in private yesterday and I am going to say it in public about two Ministers who are coincidentally here that they are in the process of succeeding in this Government. These ministers are Dr Alpha T. Wurrie and Mr Alpha Osman Timbo. There is good reason to recognise the fact that they are doing very well. Today, we have the nominees in front of us and I am not going to attempt to identify

them by names. However, unlike my friend from Kenema District, none of these nominees hails from my district. I would capitalise on the fact that at least a school mate is here and your school mate as well, Mr Francis Ganda from St Andrew's School is your nominee *[Applause]*. Those of us who are St Andrew's students are very proud of our people, especially those who continue to perform very well.

**THE SPEAKER:** That is an undertone that both the Acting Leader of the Opposition and Mr Speaker will skilfully ignore *[Laughter]*.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** He is going to the airport authority. I have been listening to the news these recent days and the airport has become extremely topical. I am not going to expand why it has become topical, but it has been topical. I will also emphasise the fact that the Airport Authority must be seen as a very important component in the development of this country; both in the areas of industrial and tourism developments. These are very important. Where the airport system is a failure, then you have problems. For instance, some years back, when I was a member of the West African Journalist Association, after a long debate to justify why Sierra Leone should not become the centre of journalism training, I won the debate in Bamako because the Ghanaians and Nigerians supported me. It was now a matter of the expert to examine the site for the new Academy. So, they came to Freetown and the expert spent two and the half days at the Lungi Airport. They went back to Accra and reported that Sierra Leone was unsuitable for such programme. I merely emphasise the importance of having a reliable airport system.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to state here that even though I see some efforts by members of this Government in trying to propagate the essence and importance of electricity, we still have some challenges. It was embarrassing a few days ago when some visitors came to my house and the light went off. We had difficulties with the generator and the visitor said, is it a persistent kind of phenomenon? I had to quickly respond being a Sierra Leonean who likes his country that this cannot be the permanent phenomenon of electricity in Sierra Leone. I said we have had good and better days of electricity.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, if the nominees were here some time ago in good days when the friendship within this House was in high spirit, they would have listened to better speeches, but you have been deprived of excellent speeches today simply because the spirit is not the same as it was. We will pray to God that we return to those days when people could stand up here and deliver excellent speeches as a result of the good spirit that exist.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to congratulate the President for these nominees. We already know that it is part of the process of the state or statutory function of the President to nominate qualified Sierra Leoneans to occupy important Government offices. We are also aware of the fact that sometimes he appoints very good nominees and sometimes not very good, but at the same time it is also important for us to recognise the fact that some people are really excellent people. There are people who are experts in medicine or in areas that are very important for the development of our country. We appreciate the fact that the President has identified them and has sent them here for approval. However, I am sure we cannot continue to approve nominees without observing the fact that a good number of these institutions or parastatals are poorly funded. We can shout here about the expertise of the nominees, but of course, if they are not properly funded, they will simply not perform their duties well. I know this because I was onetime a Minister and I also supervised some Parastatals. What I discovered was that even where some of the institutions were managed by qualified and highly educated people, their capacities to perform was undermined very seriously by the fact that they did not have the tools to perform their duties. They did not have the resources and some of them were not even paid well. So, this also undermines their capacity to perform as expected. I think the Chairman of the Finance Committee will not forget that observation. That it is not enough for us to barely nominate people to occupy important offices without the necessary tools to do their jobs. We must also be very certain that when we send them to these institutions, they have the capacities and the tools. We have to make it possible for them to perform very well. I am sure when the Chairman of the Finance

Committee talks to the Minister of Finance, he will also talk about the allocations to these institutions.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, as I conclude, we will continue to support you as Speaker and we will continue to observe the statutory functions of the state. We are also aware of the fact that when the President makes an appointments, those appointments should be recognised and this is why on behalf of this side of the aisle [please do not mind the number because we are still very firm], I want to state here that the nominees are welcome by us and we are very certain that they will be allowed to go to their offices as soon as possible to perform the duties for which they have been nominated. Mr Speaker, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** I sincerely want to thank the Acting Leader of the Opposition for his very constructive contribution. I noticed though, it is always with great deprecation that I differ from the positions that you express, but when you seem to talk about different events that has now encapsulated the Well of this House, I only hope that is not as a result of the reconfiguration we have to contend with.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to start by thanking His Excellency the President for nominating at least four women this time. This is definitely in line with our quest for affirmative action. I also want to congratulate His Excellency the President for his recent award in Ghana. I want to tell the President that we appreciate the Maritime University and we are very proud of his achievement and we should now refer to him as Dr Bio *[Applause]*. I want to also congratulate him for the bold steps he took yesterday to launch the tender process for the biggest infrastructural project, maybe the biggest in Africa, which is the launching of the Lungi Bridge *[Applause]*. I want to assure the people of this nation that Port Loko District and the Western Area will soon be joined together with the Lungi Bridge.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we have in our midst highly qualified presidential nominees for various positions. They are qualified and I have confidence that they will perform in their various offices. The women are highly qualified and they have served in

various capacities, both nationally and internationally. They have made names for themselves and I also want to encourage them to support this Government for a very successful tenure.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Hadji Daboh is an expert in the mining sector, considering his academic qualifications and the number of years he spent in that industry. I want to remind him that this Parliament is opened to him. We have the Mines and Minerals Committee he can always called on if there are issues concerning his work. I am confident enough that with his qualifications and work experience over the years, he will bring joy to the people of this country in the mining sector. The mineral sector is the bread basket of this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to welcome my colleague Honourable Member, Honourable Babanjo to this Parliament. I will not say much about him because even when he was a Member of this Parliament, he proved to be a very serious and committed person. So, I therefore believe that with his new assignment with the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration, I have no doubt that he will perform very well.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, all the nominees are qualified for the positions they have been nominated to serve. I can only assure them that this Parliament is at their service and they should not hesitate to do their jobs to the best of their abilities. I want to also advise you not to indulge in fighting one another in your various offices because we do not want any more fighting in those parastatals.

With those few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I urge you all to support and approve these nominees. I thank you very much *[Applause]*.

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]*

*[The Motion of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service has been approved]*

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, it is now my singular honour and privilege to add my own voice of congratulations and felicitations to the new nominees the House

has just approved. It is very clear from their qualifications, experiences and proven track records that they are more than eminently qualified for the positions to which they have been approved and with that approval, we have every belief that they will live up to the expectations of His Excellency the President and certainly to the expectation of this Honourable House and indeed the confidence that together the Executive and the Legislature have reposed in them. On your behalf, we wish them well. We are confident that you will not let this nation down and you will excel in your various vocations and make your own modest contributions to the advancement of this nation. We thank you and good luck in your new assignments *[Applause]*.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECTIONAL SELECT COMMITTEES**

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that membership...  
- *[Interruption]*

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order. I am sure S.Os 73 and 75 which talked about Select Committees. Mr Speaker, you promised us that this Parliament is going to be a Parliament of difference, a Parliament that will serve this country and a Parliament that will make a difference in any aspect. You also told us that this Parliament, under your leadership, will provide the enabling environment of moral and financial supports for oversight. A year has gone and this Parliament has not perform its oversight functions effectively. I am sure reports have not been presented to this Parliament as Committees and what we are seeing today is a situation wherein we are going to form other Committees without presenting Committee reports to this House. I am sure this is contrary to what you promised us. It also means we are cheating the people of Sierra Leone and we need those Committee reports before we can constitute other Select Committees in this Parliament. I always keep saying that you have worked so hard for your integrity over the years and when you discuss issues in this Parliament to our hearings as young people, we take them so seriously that we do not want you to go against them. We want us to suspend the approval of these Committees until these reports are presented. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Your point is well taken, but I will rather advise that we proceed with the matter at hand and express the urgency that those reports will be made available to this House without further delay.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, I want to respond.

**THE SPEAKER:** You may respond.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, I always keep saying you are a good example when and issues of national concern and issues for which we the young Members of Parliament wish to take seriously because of their nature, we want you to treat this matter very seriously and not out of urgency. This is because it will not help the situation in Sierra Leone. There have always being urgencies and these urgencies do not address the issues. We should not always look at the urgency of the situation, but what should be done. If you look at the roads construction that are ongoing in this country, the President has allocated funds to contractors and because we have not been doing proper oversight as Parliament, those roads are not no longer good. Mr Speaker, we are looking at our future as young Members of Parliament and we want the reports to be table here. If we are not getting money for oversight from the Ministry of Finance, let it be noted in this Parliament and let the nation be informed. We are here to perform our oversight functions, but nothing has been done in that regard for the past one year. We should not proceed out of urgency because we are not in haste. We are not in any state wherein if we do not have these Committees today, they could not be formed in the next one month. We are begging you as young Members of Parliament because it is about our future and not about urgency. We should not continue with bad precedent in this country because we are in haste to do so. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, the point that you have made is well taken and I say this in good faith. I know the point you are making is made in good faith and I wish



to reciprocate in like manner. However, bear in mind the provisions of Section 93 of the Constitution, we are late in announcing these Select Committees. So, I will continue to crave the indulgence of this House for us to proceed with the announcement of the new Sessional Select Committees on the understanding that the reports he has referred to will be made available to this House without further delay. I hope you will at least agree with me that is the reasonable position to take in the present circumstance. And if I may add, yesterday immediately after the establishment of the Committee of Selection, I announced that I was going to convene a meeting of that Committee at 3:00 p.m. We met and we had adequate representations and we proceeded to conclude our work which we are about to bring to the attention of this plenary. So, I will ask that you allow that process to proceed.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Should I start on this note that whatever I am doing now will sound very ridiculous and strange to many people.

**THE SPEAKER:** Well, do not say it if it is strange.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, let me finish. When I recount the events that happened at Kanigo while campaigning for President Julius Maada Bio, I was almost killed and today I am in Parliament to represent the people of Constituency 132.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, what S.Os did you rise up?

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** S.O. 76, Mr Speaker. I should be here to defend President Julius Maada Bio's policies and the people of Constituency 132. Mr Speaker, you said in good faith we must allow the announcement of the Committees, but I am sure this Parliament has done so many things in good faith and we are not seeing responses in good faith [*Applause*]. Mr Speaker, while I stand on S.O. 76, let me also draw your attention to Sub-Section 3 of Section 93 of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone. It says: **"It shall be the duty of any such Committee as is referred to in Sub-Section [2] to investigate or inquire into the activities or administration of such ministries or departments as may be assigned to it and such investigation or inquiry may extend to proposals for legislation."** I wonder

when a proposal will inform Legislation when we do not have a report. Mr Speaker, I was a Member of five Committees in this House and I am not sure if we have met for more than five times and for most of these Committees that we are going to form today, I am sure those who were Chairpersons for those Committees will either retain their positions or those who were Members will continue to be Members, which means we are laying a foundation that the status-quo is acceptable *[Applause]*. Mr Speaker, for the avoidance of doubt, to cement your leadership and to ensure that what you say is done or endorsed, we should not be seen as a rubber-stamp Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am sure it may not please everybody, but in this instance, let us allow the Standing Orders to take precedent. Let us respect the Standing Orders and let the various Committees present their reports to this plenary *[Applause]*. I heard the Honourable Chairman for the Water Resources spoke about the absence of strategic data on the identification of water points. I am sure if he had presented a report to this House, that would have informed the formation of the commission to ensure that they focus on mapping out strategic areas or strategic water points that would have added value to President Bio as a President and to his administration. I was a Member of the Lands Committee, but we met only once, and on three occasions we were called by Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] to meet outside Freetown. You will agree with me that the Committee on Lands has so many issues regarding lands and we do not have a report to inform the people of this country. We do not know what is happening and there are problems regarding the environment, agriculture and deforestation, but the Committee on Lands, Housing and the Environment has not presented a report at all. In good faith, we are disallowing the Committees not to meet or convene meetings because they will not present reports at the end of this Session *[Applause]*.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I do not want to move a Motion to stop the announcement, but I want to kindly prevail on you to do the needful. This Parliament is one of the pillars of a strong democracy and it is the backbone for the success of President Julius Maada Bio. He has even said it on many occasions that he wanted an

effective Parliament; a Parliament that would checkmate the Executive; a Parliament that would foster development in this country. Honourable Abdul K. Kamara said that we have roads that the President signed-off over three hundred plus billions for the completion of roads that we inherited. What have we done as Committee on Works to crosscheck those facts? I was the Deputy Chair to that Committee, but how many oversight activities have we undertaken? We went to few areas like Pujehun, Kenema etc. we were invited by Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA]. We should have complained that we do not have funds. If we honoured that invitation, we must also do due diligence to ensure that this country reap the benefits out of Members of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to kindly ask that we allow the membership of those Committees because there were Clerks assigned to them to present their reports to this Chamber, so that we can examine those reports. We want the people of this country to know that Members of Parliament are representing them and they are doing their work *[Applause]*. Mr Speaker, eight months ago, we asked for an improvement on our welfare and we do not, as Members of Parliament, have justifications to ask for improvement on our welfare. If we are not doing the job as Members of Parliament, it means we have no justifications to ask for improvement on our welfare.

On that note, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I do not want to move a Motion to suspend the announcement of these Committees, but to crave your indulgence to engage leaders, especially the Leader of Government Business to ensure that we defer the announcement of these Committees and give time to the various Chairmen and their Committees to present their reports to this House. Thank you, Mr Speaker *[Applause]*.

**THE SPEAKER:** Again, I take due note of what has been said and I know it is being said in good faith. I will underscore even more strongly the points that have been made. There is no gainsaying that there have been some derelictions and indeed the comments that have just been made by Honourable Members. I would like to see that

reflected copiously in the Votes and Proceedings of this sitting. What I want to do as a way of finding a way forward is to now impose the moratorium of four weeks within which the reports of all Select Committees of the last Session must be presented to plenary [*Applause*]. I want to see the reports presented here in not more than four weeks. I hope that will be an acceptable compromise for us to proceed. Honourable Ibrahim T. Conteh, I regret to state here that I cannot give primacy to the Standing Orders over the language of the Constitution. The Constitution is supreme and that is clearly encapsulated in Sub-Section 15 of Section 171. So, we should not allow the S.Os to override the Constitution. Section 171, Sub-Section 15 says: **“This Constitution shall be the supreme Law of Sierra Leone and any other law found to be inconsistent with any provision of this Constitution shall to the extent of the inconsistency be void and of no effect.”** You have cited S.O 76 correctly and I know you did so in good faith, but we have to find a way forward and the wayforward is to give a time limit to the Chairmen of the various Committees to make sure that by the expiration of four weeks from today, the reports of the Select Committees are tendered to the plenary. I will recognise the Acting Leader.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** I appreciate your effort to correct what was clearly an irregularity, but I think the concerns from either side of the House will require that this matter be given a second thought [*Applause*]. Our concern is even where we appoint a Chairman today, that Chairman will have no authority to give a report on what happened about two to three months ago. Mr Speaker, I have looked at the four weeks period you have suggested, but during the four weeks period, we can also come up with our own reports. I think the gentlemen on either side of the aisles have made very important points. We have to ensure that there is consistency and accountability because it is also very important to justify our stay here. I have no good reason to support people unnecessarily, but where a good point has been made, we should also recognise that something good has been said. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Acting Leader of the Opposition, I really cannot agree more. Let me just say this with all the emphases that I can command that even if the

chairmanship of a particular Select Committee changes, that will not relieve the previous Chairman of the responsibility because he remains a Member of Parliament answerable to this House and answerable for the duty of presenting a report to this House. He/She does not derogate from it in anyway whatsoever. So, I implore and encourage all of you to agree with this compromise that we proceed and I personally will monitor the submission of the reports in question to ensure that they are actually delivered. You are right and I have said that this is not a rubberstamp Parliament and I think we should be the first shining example of that.

**HON. ABDUL K. KARAMA:** Mr Speaker, I want to buttress what you have just said. The young Members of Parliament appreciate the four weeks period you have given, but for the records, I want to remind you that when we had issues of violence around the country, you established a committee in this House to investigate and report to this House. You chose Honourable Saa E. Lamina as Chairman of that committee and only God knows where that report is. Again, when the issue of attacks on Members of Parliament came to this Parliament, you summoned a meeting with your Leadership and as I stand here, nothing has been reported to this Parliament. Mr Speaker, what we want is a Parliament in which when you make pronouncement from the Chair, it is not just for issues to be carried on, but for it to have an effect on the Leadership and also the Speaker of this Parliament. I am sure having you as the Speaker is a blessing for some of us because we are hoping to learn so much from you and when you give such orders, we expect them to be executed to the fullest. Mr Speaker, the way things have been carried under the carpets of this Parliament is not good and many other things come to our minds. If you are saying we should wait for four weeks, I do not think within four weeks we can present these reports. Mr Speaker, we are kindly asking for the very first time, let us ask for something in which you will support the young Members of Parliament. This is not a partisan issue, but it is a concern with regard to what you told us in this Parliament. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** I know it is not partisan and this is why I keep imploring you. However, let me take you back to the language of the Constitution which overrides

everything else. Please read Section 93 and you will find out that we are already late in reconstituting these Select Committees. I am quite sure every Member of Parliament will want to fulfil the obligations specified in the Standing Orders you have quoted as well as the obligations specified in Section 93 of the 1991 Constitution. When I read the two provisions, this is what has led me to suggest a compromise that we proceed in this way by giving a time limit when those reports must be before us on the Table of this House, and at the same time allow the House to proceed with its work. This is because it is already too late. I can see the Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella wanting to take the Floor. I do not know whether he still want the Floor.

**HON. DR KANDEH K. YUMKELLA:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we are between a rock and a hard place. I went back and look at Section 93 [1] and it says: **“At the beginning of each Session of Parliament, but in any case not later than twenty one days thereafter, there shall be appointed from among its Members the following standing Committees.”** So, indeed we are in contravention of that already, but as a Chairman of a Committee, I feel humbled by both Honourable Members stating that indeed we have not done our reports. They are very right. I believe your compromise is also solid and I am just proposing this to combine their concerns with yours. The Committee can be appointed now, but you can formally authorise us to submit our reports to those who will take over the chairmanship of these Committees. They will be assured that indeed reports were given because they need those handing over reports. Some of us have worked very hard to revive various Committees [*Applause*]. For instance, the Committee on Foreign Affairs was almost dead. I was told it was a dead Committee, but we did our best to revive it. Indeed, we could not undertake oversight activities for very good reasons. To satisfy Honourable Abdul Karim Kamara from Mansungbala, these reports should be presented here in four weeks from now. In other words, we should be required to formally submit our reports to our successors while we also submit them to Parliament for consideration. I hope this will satisfy them that in fact this is not only to please the Chairs, but to also ensure that the reports are presented in four weeks. Though new

Committee Chairs could have been nominated for approval, but the former Chairs are responsible to prepare and submit their reports. I want to say you are very right because there should be accountability. So, our two young colleagues, you are on mark, we have to do our jobs.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella, let me buttress the point you are making and let it be understood by all Chairmen of the various Committees that failure to submit those reports will be treated as an act of contempt of Parliament. I repeat, the failure to submit those reports will be tantamount to contempt of Parliament. I think everybody knows the consequence of contempt of this House.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am sure we have been talking about precedence in this House. What we are doing today will be a precedence for the future. As Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella rightly stated and emphasised by you that we are already in breach of the Constitution, I want to state here that four weeks cannot salvage the situation. If we are in breach, let us be in breach, so that the general public will know that we are in breach because we do not want to reward Chairmen who did not perform *[Applause]*. We want the precedence on this instance.

**THE SPEAKER:** Well, we should not go to that, Honourable Member.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, in this instance, I am forced to stand on S.O. 25 to move a Motion.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, I know where you and Honourable Abdul Kargbo are coming from, I know both of you. The Chairmen have been found wanting *[Applause]*.

**HON. SOLOMON S. THOMAS:** Mr Speaker, I object to that because I have not been found wanting. I have a report before this Parliament.

**THE SPEAKER:** Okay, all but one *[Laughter]*.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, we have the reports, but we are working with the Clerk's office. Please ask the clerks because they have the reports.

**HON. NENNEH LEBBIE:** Mr Speaker, for the attention of this House, I was the Chairperson for the Committee on Fisheries and Marine Resources and I have the report.

**THE SPEAKER:** So, the reports are now coming out *[Laughter]*.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, reports did not come out by magic. The fact of the matter is that the weaknesses surrounding the non-availability of funds to make it possible for these Committees to function should not be ignored. You come across a Chairman of a Committee and he/she will tell you that he/she did not go on oversight because there were no funds. This is equally important. I can easily write a two sentence report because I did not receive funds to conduct oversight activities. I think the two gentlemen have made a very important point which has also given us an opportunity to address the issues surrounding the weakness of oversight. I listened to quite a number of people saying the reports are available. It is not a question of whether they are available now or not, they should be available at all times. Thank you very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** With the greatest respect to you, let us not trivialised this issue please. This is a very important point that has been brought to the attention of the House. This is not a partisan issue. Again, all Chairpersons are enjoined to tender the reports of their select Committees not later than four weeks from this date, failing which the sanction available under the Constitution and the Standing Orders will be applied. I want that to be clearly recorded for future reference. This is a very serious matter and we should take our work seriously. We are answerable to the public and what has been brought to our attention is a very serious oversight that we need to address without further delay. I want to commend the two Honourable Members for drawing our attention to the relevant Standing Orders.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, you are giving ultimatum for Committees to present their reports.

**THE SPEAKER:** If you have your own report, present it tomorrow.



**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, it is for the generality of the House. I do not know if the budget or the supplementary budget captures what we are talking about, but I am sure provisions were made for oversight. We do not want Parliament to be seen as a rubberstamp Parliament under your administration. I am sure you are not expecting Members of Parliament to go on oversight without funds. Sometimes Committees solicit funds from the very MDAs they are meant to oversee. Mr Speaker, I am also sure that some Committees will not present reports because they do not want to beg their MDAs to support their oversight activities. We should first of all re-examine ourselves here properly. If funds were given to us for oversight activities, you can tell Chairpersons to present reports. Mr Speaker, you cannot bite the finger that feeds you. It is unfair in the sight of God. Some of us undertook oversight because we have very good conversation with some of these MDAs and you have to be careful how you will write your reports because they supported our oversight. So, we want you to tell us if resources were allocated to us for oversight activities. If funds were allocated for that purpose, we want to know the budget line *[Applause]*.

**HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO:** Mr Speaker, this issue is extremely important, particularly when it covers parliamentary activities with financial implications. As Chairman of the Human Rights Committee, in collaboration with a non-governmental Organisation, this Committee undertook oversight activities around the country.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, Point of Order.

**THE SPEAKER:** No, you are not asked to present a report.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** You have until the 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 to tender your reports and if you fail to do so, there are sanctions. I am not going to accept any more Point of Order. This issue is closed and the Chairpersons of the various parliamentary Committees have until the 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 to submit their reports, funds or no funds. I am sure the implication here is obvious. Go to the Vote-Controllers to ensure that funds are made available.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** Mr Speaker, they told us funds are not available to do oversight.

**THE SPEAKER:** Please take your seat, Deputy Leader. If it means we have to borrow so be it *[Laughter]*. Let us try to fulfil this obligation. There is no way the Minister of Finance is going to escape or avoid this Parliament. It is quite implicating on what we are doing, so let us not be laboured the point over and over again.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, we are merely trying to correct an irregularity once and for all. It is not a matter that has to do with just a report. What is also the issue is the fact that there are no resources for us to undertake oversight activities that could have resulted in writing reports. What do we do about it? Do we ask the Finance Committee the question because it is very important for us to find out why these resources are not available? If the resources are not available and they are budgeted for and a man has to travel to Kailahun or to Kabala to perform oversight duties, then of course it is in futility. So, something has to be done far more than merely asking for a report. What happened to the resources that were budgeted for?

**THE SPEAKER:** Implicit in that request, Mr Leader.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, nobody will give money to any Member of Parliament to perform an oversight. Some people are actually going begging.

**THE SPEAKER:** Put that in your report.

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** With your leave, Mr Speaker, there is allocation in the budget and we are asking simple question. You are the head of Parliament, so please help us. We want to know if the budget line is available in the budget. Mr Speaker, you have given us an ultimatum which we are ready to respect. We cannot go against your ruling, but what we are saying is that we are asking you to tell us about oversight budget. You do not expect report from somebody that was not given money to conduct oversight. We do not want people to manufacture reports under your Leadership. We want reports that are reflective of the situation. I am sure asking MDAs to provide funds for oversight activities is bizarre. We do not need to say that here at all. What we are

asking for is that this administration should tell us about the oversight budget and what was allocated. I rest my case, Mr Speaker *[Applause]*.

**HON. KANDEH K. YUMKELLA:** I can help you, Mr Speaker.

**HON. DR KANDEH K. YUMKELLA:** Honourable Members, do not put a burden on Mr Speaker. We can summon the Director of Finance and somebody from the Clerk's office to ask how much was budgeted for oversight activities. This is because we heard that there was a budget for that purpose and that the allocation was granted. If you wanted to undertake oversight activity but you did not, put that in the form of a report. If you do not have a report because you say you did not undertake oversight activity, please give us your one page report that you did not do it. The Ministry of Finance should come and explain to us how much was budgeted and how much was released. We can then ask how the money was used.

**THE SPEAKER:** I am going to end the discussion on this matter now. Let me state here that we first of all ask for the reports and those reports are not going to gather dust on the shelves because we are going to look at report after report and if the trend is consistent that the delinquency is because of the lack of funds, we would address that issue at that particular time. With that, let us proceed please

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I rise to announce the membership to parliamentary Sectional Select Committees, 2019 to 2020. Yesterday, this Honourable House approved the Committee of Selection.

## **STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE**

Hon. Dr Abass Chernor Bundu	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Segepoh S. Thomas	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	Member
Hon. Musa Fofanah	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member

## **PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

Hon. Dr Abass Chernor Bundu	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	Member
Hon. Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	Member

## **HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Hon. Dr Abass Chernor Bundu	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. P.C Alie Badara Sheriff	Member

## **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Chernor R.M. Bah	Member
Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. P.C Alie Balansama Marah III	Member
Hon. Paran Umar Tarawalie	Secretary

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Hon. Chernor R.M. Bah	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Emmerson S. Lamina	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Hassan A Sesay	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON APPOINTEMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE**

Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Segepoh S. Thomas	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Chernor R.M. Bah	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	Member
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. Paul S. Sam	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Amadu Kanu	Member
Hon. Hassan Sesay	Member
Hon. Rosemarie Bangura	Member
Hon. P.C Alie Balansama Marah III	Member

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNT COMMITTEE [PAC]**

Hon. Segepoh S. Thomas	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Titus A. Kamara	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	Member
Hon. Boston Munda	Member
Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba	Member
Hon. Alusine Kanneh	Member
Hon. Peter M. Moigua	Member
Hon. Alhassan J. Kamara	Member
Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	Member
Hon. Abdul S. M. Conteh	Member
Hon. Ibrahim A. Bangura	Member

## **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Ajibola E. Manley-Spain	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Segepoh S. Thomas	Member
Hon. Alpha Bah	Member
Hon. Chernor R. M. Bah	Member
Hon. Daniel B. Koroma	Member

Hon. Horace E. Vincent	Member
Hon. Abdul Turay	Member
Hon. Mohamed Kanneh	Member
Hon. Christopha K. Vandy	Member
Hon. Foday M. Kamara	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Hafiju M. Kanja	Member
Hon. Musa Lahai	Member
Hon. Komba Kamanda	Member
Hon. P.C Fasalie Kulako Demba Marah III	Member

### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Moses Edwin	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Festus M. Lansana	Member
Hon. Ibrahim T. Conteh	Member
Hon. Mohamed Kanneh	Member
Hon. Momoh Bockarie	Member
Hon. Musa Lahai	Member
Hon. Alimamy O. Kamara	Member
Hon. Mustapha Sellu	Member
Hon. Rosemarie Bangura	Member
Hon. Alusine Marah	Member
Hon. Sahr E. Gbekie	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [059]	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	Member
Hon. P.C Sahr Youngai Mbriwa II	Member

### **FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPORATION**

Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Shiaka M. Sama	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Abdul T. Kamara	Member
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	Member
Hon. Simeon Fefegula	Member
Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	Member
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	Member
Hon. Lahai Marah	Member

Hon. Mohamed Kanneh	Member
Hon. Dr Unpha S. G. Koroma	Member
Hon. Ibrahim A. Bangura	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Koroma	Member
Hon. Ibrahim Kamara	Member
Hon. John T. Koroma	Member
Hon. P.C Prince Mambu Pewa	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHT**

Hon. Zainab C. Tarawally	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Momoh Bockarie	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. Mohamed Konneh	Member
Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	Member
Hon. Ishmail S. Sandy	Member
Hon. Abu Kemokai	Member
Hon. Brima Mansaray	Member
Hon. Mohamed Kabia	Member
Hon. Ibrahim Kamara [063]	Member
Hon. Emmanuel Koroma	Member
Hon. Ajibola E. Manly-Spain	Member
Hon. Alpha A. Bah	Member
Hon. Foday Lamin Kabba	Member
Hon. P.C Kandeh Finnoh III	Member

## **MINES AND MINERALS RESOURCES**

Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Amadu Kana	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Musa Fofanah	Member
Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	Member
Hon. Komba Kamanda	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member
Hon. Alex M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Moses B. Jorkie	Member
Hon. Boston Munda	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
Hon. Kussan Sesay	Member
Hon. Issac Tarawalie	Member
Hon. Tom I. Tucker	Member
Hon. P.C Sahr Youngai Kontanday Mbriwa II	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Hon. Moses Jorkie	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	Deputy Chairman
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Abu B. Fofanah	Member
Hon. Josephine Makieue	Member
Hon. Hafiju M. Kanja	Member
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Sarty J. Banya	Member
Hon. Dr Unpha S. G. Koroma	Member
Hon. Manuel A. Koroma	Member
Hon. James O. Tholley	Member
Hon. Haja M. Amara	Member
Hon. Cecilia M. Bangura	Member
Hon. Abubakarr Fofanah	Member
Hon. Daniel A. Sesay	Member
Honourable P.C. Prince Mambu Pewa	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING**

Hon. Francis S. Bhendu	<b>Chairman</b>
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Hon. Foday M. Kamara	Member
Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	Member
Hon. Ambrose M. Lebbay	Member
Hon. Abu Kemokai	Member
Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	Member
Hon. Musa P. Moigua	Member
Hon. Sahr Charles	Member
Hon. Dr Mark M. Kalokoh	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [069]	Member
Hon. Rugiatu R. Kanu	Member
Hon. Peter Y. Koroma	Member
Hon. Hajariatu F. Samura	Member
Hon. Abdul Turay	Member
Hon. P.C. Foray Cyril Gondor II	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

Hon. Alimamy O. Kamara	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Abu Kemokai	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
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Hon. Musa P. Moigua	Member
Hon. Festus M. Lansana	Member
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	Member
Hon. Aiah D. S. Kassegbama	Member
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Rugiatu R. Kanu	Member
Hon. Aaron A. Koroma	Member
Hon. Abdul S. M. Conteh	Member
Hon. Alusine O. Kamara	Member
Hon. Tennyson H. Sandy	Member
Hon. P.C. Alie Badara Sheriff	Member

## **PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Hon. Tshombe D. Y. Lavalie	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Joseph William-Lamin	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>

Hon. Christopha K. Vandy	Member
Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	Member
Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	Member
Hon. Sheku M. Turay	Member
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [059]	Member
Hon. Alusine B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Roland F. Kargbo	Member
Hon. John T. Koroma	Member
Hon. Alusine Marah	Member
Hon. Kussan Sesay	Member
Hon. Haja M. Amara	Member
Hon. P.C. Foray Cyril Gondor II	Member

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Hon. Daniel B. Koroma	Member
Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	Member
Hon. Ahmed J. Kanu	Member
Hon. Amadu Kanu	Member
Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	Member
Hon. Ishmail S. Sandy	Member
Hon. Josephine Makieue	Member
Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Sahr P. Sam	Member
Hon. Sheika M. Sama	Member
Hon. P.C. Matilda Yayu Mibah Lansana	Member

## **MARINE RESOURCES**

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Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
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Hon. Sarty J. Banyan	Member

Hon. Ambrose M. Lebbay	Member
Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Peter M. Moigua	Member
Hon. Abdul T. Kamara	Member
Hon. Ibrahim Conteh	Member
Hon. Hajaratu F. Samura	Member
Hon. Zainab C. Tarawally	Member
Hon. Peter Y. Koroma	Member
Hon. Cecilia M. Bangura	Member
Hon. Massay N. Aruna	Member
Hon. Ahmed S. Turay	Member
Hon. P.C. Fasalie Kulako Demba Marah III	Member

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Hon. Charles O. Abdulai	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Joseph A. B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Abu Bakarr Fofanah	Member
Hon. Sahr Juana	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Francis S. Bhendu	Member
Hon. Lihadi Alhadi	Member
Hon. Alpha A. Bah	Member
Hon. Tennyson H. Sandy	Member
Hon. Dr Unpha S. G. Koroma	Member
Hon. Abu Mansaray	Member
Hon. Cecilia M. Bangura	Member
Hon. Abdul M. Lansana	Member
Hon. P.C. Meama Kajue Koroma IV	Member

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Hon. Musa Lahai	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
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Hon. Edward George	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member

Hon. Saa P. Sam	Member
Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba	Member
Hon. Joseph A. B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Alusine O. Kamara	Member
Hon. Abu Mansaray	Member
Hon. Hassan Sankoh	Member
Hon. Benjamin Turay	Member
Hon. Issac Tarawalie	Member
Hon. Abdul M. Lansana	Member
Hon. P.C Kangbai Joe Makavory	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Hon. Alusine Kanneh	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Sarty J. Banya	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Charles O. Abdulai	Member
Hon. Momoh Bockarie	Member
Hon. Mustapha M. Sellu	Member
Hon. Massay N. Aruna	Member
Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	Member
Hon. Shiaka M. Sama	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Alimamy B. Kanu	Member
Hon. Emmanuel S. Conteh	Member
Hon. Lamin F. Kabba	Member
Hon. John T. Koroma	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Rugiatu R. Kanu	Member
Hon. P.C. Alie Badara Sheriff	Member

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Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
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Hon. Sahr Juana	Member
Hon. Massey N. Aruna	Member
Hon. Moses A. Edwin	Member
Hon. Foday M. B. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Saa P. Sam	Member

Hon. Ibrahim Conteh	Member
Hon. Hassan Sankoh	Member
Hon. Abdul S. M. Conteh	Member
Hon. Alhaji S. Turay	Member
Hon. Alimamy B. Kanu	Member
Hon. John C. Conteh	Member
Hon. Hajaratu F. Samura	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Farama Tass Bubu Ngbnak	Member
IV	

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

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Hon. Sheku M. Turay	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Abu B. Fofanah	Member
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Musa Lahai	Member
Hon. Alusine Kanneh	Member
Hon. Boston Munda	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
Hon. Abdul Kargbo	Member
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Abdulai P. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Benjamin Turay	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III	Member

## **TRANSPORT AND AVIATION**

Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Edward George	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Boston Munda	Member
Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member
Hon. Alex M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Timbo W. Jalloh	Member

Hon.	Horace E. Vincent	Member
Hon.	Alusine O. Kamara	Member
Hon.	Ibrahim Kamara	Member
Hon.	Ibrahim A. Kamara	Member
Hon.	Abu Mansaray	Member
Hon.	John T. Koroma	Member
Hon.	P.C. Bai Shebora Sheba Gberek III	Member

## **TOURISM AND CULTURE**

Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Rosemarie Bangura	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Alhadi Lihadi	Member
Hon. Ibrahim A. Kamara	Member
Hon. John C. Conteh	Member
Hon. Tennyson H. Sandy	Member
Hon. Samuel G. Panda	Member
Hon. Charlse O. Abdulai	Member
Hon. Aloysious B. Ansumana	Member
Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	Member
Hon. Moses A. Rogers	Member
Hon. Moses A. Edwin	Member
Hon. Brima Mansaray	Member
Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Farama Tass Bubu Ngbnak IV	Member

## **WATER RESOURCES**

Hon. Roland Kargbo	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Dr Mark M. Kalokoh	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	Member
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	Member
Hon. Musa Fofana	Member
Hon. Genewai S. Panda	Member
Hon. Sheku M. Turay	Member
Hon. Brima Mansaray	Member
Hon. Emmanuel Conteh	Member
Hon. Daniel A. Sesay	Member

Hon. Alimamy B. Kanu	Member
Hon. Abdulai P. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Issac Tarawalie	Member
Hon. James O. Tholley	Member
Hon. Hassan Sankoh	Member
Hon. P.C Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka	Member

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## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Hon. Musa Fofanah	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Sahr P. Sam	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Alusine K. Alu-Conteh	Member
Hon. Lihadi Alhadi	Member
Hon. Rev. Horace E. Vincent	Member
Hon. Zainab C. Tarawally	Member
Hon. Haja M. Amara	Member
Hon. Brima Mansaray	Member
Hon. Ahmed J. Kanu	Member
Hon. Sarty J. Banya	Member
Hon. Simeon Fefegula	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Titus A. Kamara	Member
Hon. Sahr Charles	Member
Hon. P.C. Kandeh Finoh III	Member

## **LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Alpha A. Bah	Member
Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member
Hon. Timbo W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Alusine B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Abdul M. Lansana	Member
Hon. Saidu B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Mustapha M. Sellu	Member
Hon. Moses A. Edwin	Member

Hon. Ibrahim A. Kamara	Member
Hon. Foray M. B. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	Member
Hon. Musa Fofanah	Member
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Farma Tass Bubu Ngbnak IV	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON LANDS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Sahr Juana	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Sahr E. Gbekie	Member
Hon. Timbo W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Abu B. Fofanah	Member
Hon. Alhaji S. Turay	Member
Hon. Abdul Kargbo	Member
Hon. Alpha A. Bah	Member
Hon. Ibrahim T. Conteh	Member
Hon. Alex M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Edward George	Member
Hon. Joseph A.B. Kamara	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Farma Tass Bubu Ngbnak IV	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Hon. Festus M. Lansana	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Ambrose M. Lebyy	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Sahr E. Juana	Member
Hon. Edward George	Member
Hon. Massay N. Aruna	Member
Hon. Foray M.B. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Saidu B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Sahr E. Gbekie	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member



Hon. Samba P. Conteh	Member
Hon. Daniel B. Koroma	Member
Hon. Ahmed S. Turay	Member
Hon. Aaron A. Koroma	Member
Hon. Dr Unpha S. G. Koroma	Member
Hon. P.C Kangbai Joe Makavory	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL WELFARE, GENDER & CHILDREN'S AFFAIRS**

Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Alhassan J. Kamara	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Haja M. Amara	Member
Hon. Cecilia M. Bangura	Member
Hon. Sahr E. Gbekie	Member
Hon. Mohamed Kabia	Member
Hon. Benjamin Turay	Member
Hon. Simeon Fefegula	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	Member
Hon. Joseph William-Lamin	Member
Hon. Ambrose M. Lebby	Member
Hon. Osman W. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Titus A. Kamara	Member
Hon. Saa P. Sam	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Shebora Sheba Gberek	Member

III

## **COMMITTEE ON WORKS AND PUBLIC ASSETS**

Hon. Bashiru Silikie	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Ibrahim T. Conteh	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Foray B. M. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Sheku M. Turay	Member
Hon. Alimamy O. Kamara	Member
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Simeon Fefegula	Member
Hon. Hondolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. Ahmed J. Kanu	Member

Hon. Samba P. Conteh	Member
Hon. Saidu B.Kamara	Member
Hon. Lahai Marah	Member
Hon. Amadu Kanu	Member
Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	Member
Hon. Ibrahim A. Kamara	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Shebora Sheba Gberek III	Member

## **COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AFFAIRS**

Hon. Abdul Kargbo	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [059]	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Tennyson H. Sandy	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member
Hon. Alusine B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Rosemarie Bangura	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Tshombe D. J. Lavalie	Member
Hon. Samuel Panda	Member
Hon. Aloysious B. Ansumana	Member
Hon. Saa P. Sam	Member
Hon. Francis S. Bhendu	Member
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	Member
Hon. Sheku M. Turay	Member
Hon. P.C Alie Balansama Marrah III	Member

## **SPORTS**

Hon. Alusine K. Alu-Conteh	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. John T. Koroma	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Samba P. Conteh	Member
Hon. Abu B. Fofanah	Member
Hon. Mohamed Kabba	Member
Hon. Alpha A. Bah	Member
Hon. Alusine Kanneh	Member
Hon. Ibrahim T. Conteh	Member
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Samuel G. Panda	Member

Hon. Abu Kemokai	Member
Hon. Ambrose M. Lebyy	Member
Hon. Sahr Charles	Member
Hon. Bai S. Kamara	Member
Hon. Alie Balansama Marah III	Member

## **NaCSA/NGOs**

Hon. Mustapha M. Sellu	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Abubakarr Fofanah	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [059]	Member
Hon. Abdul K. Kamara [069]	Member
Hon. Abdulia P. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Peter Y. Koroma	Member
Hon. Charles Abdulia	Member
Hon. Ishmail S. Sandy	Member
Hon. Joseph A. B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Komba Kamanda	Member
Hon. Tshombe D. J. Lavalie	Member
Hon. Lahai Marah	Member
Hon. Josephine Makieu	Member
Hon. Aloysius B. Ansumana	Member
Hon. P.C Matilda Yayu Minah Lansana	Member

## **PRIVILEGES & ETHICS**

Hon. Solomon S. Thomas	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	Member
Hon. Alusine Kanneh	Member
Hon. Christopha K. Vandy	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Titus A. Kamara	Member
Hon. Ajibola E. Manly-Spain	Member
Hon. Rosemarie Bangura	Member

Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Alusine B. Kamara	Member
Hon. P.C. Alie Balansama Marah III	Member
Hon. P.C. Meama Kajue Fatmata	Member
Haja Bintu Koroma	
Mr Kamoh Conteh	Clerk

## **PUBLIC AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS**

Hon. Saidu B. Kamara	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Lahai Marah	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Ibrahim B. Kargbo	Member
Hon. Rugiatu R. Kanu	Member
Hon. Solomon S. Thomas	Member
Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin	Member
Hon. Alusine Kanneh	Member
Hon. Sahr Charles	Member
Hon. Josephine Makieue	Member
Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. P.C. Prince Mambu Pewa	Member

## **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS**

### **COMMON WEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION [CPA]**

Hon. Dr Abass Chernor Bundu	<b>Leader of Delegation</b>
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	<b>Desk Officer</b>
Hon. Chernor M. R. Bah	<b>Desk Officer</b>
Hon. Mohamed B. Shaw	Member
Hon. Massay N. Aruna	Member
Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Musa Fofanah	Member
Hon. P.C. Meama Kajue Fatmata	Member
Haja Bintu Koroma	
Honourable Paran Umarr Tarawalie	Secretary

### **INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNION [IPU]**

Hon. Bernadette W. Songa	<b>Head of Delegation</b>
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Hon. Alusine Kanneh	<b>Deputy Head of Delegation</b>
Hon. Sahr Juana	Member
Hon. Josephine Makieou	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Daniel Koroma	Member
Hon. Hajaratu F. Samura	Member
Hon. Moses B. Jorkie	Member
Hon. Abdul Kamara	Member
Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	Member
Hon. Emilia L. Tongi	Member
Hon. Joseph William-Lamin	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Shebora Sheba Gberek III	Member
Hon. P.C. Bai Farma Tass Bubu Ngbnak IV	Member
Hon. Maada H. Kanja	Member
Hon. Mustapha M. Sellu	Member

## **PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON SDG's**

Hon. Yusuf Mackery	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Alusine Bash Kamara	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	Member
Hon. Chernor M. R. Bah	Member
Hon. Emerson S. Lamina	Member
Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. Alice J. Kumabeh	Member
Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member
Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member
Hon. Bernadette W .Songa	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. Tshombe D. J. Lavalie	Member
Hon. Abu Kemokai	Member
Hon. Alimamy O. Kamara	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
Hon. Saidu B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Issac T. Tucker	Member
Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	Member

Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Francis S. Bhendu	Member
Hon. Christopha K. Vandy	Member

## **SIERRA LEONE PARLIAMENTARY ACTION GROUP ON POPULATION & DEVELOPMENT [SLPAGPD]**

Hon. Festus M. Lansana	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Dr Roland F. Kargbo	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Haja M. Amara	Member
Hon. Mohamed S. Rahman-Coker	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Foday B. M. Jalloh	Member
Hon. Sarty J. Banya	Member
Hon. Genewai S. Panda	Member
Hon. P.C Matilda Yayu Minah Lansana	Member
Hon. P.C Kangbai Joe Makavoray	Member
Hon. P.C Bai Kurr Kanagbaro III	Member
Hon. Sheku M. Turay	Member
Hon. Alusine B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Abdul L. Sesay	Member
Hon. Ibrahim A. Bangura	Member`
Hon. Abdul Koroma	Member
Hon. Alex M. Rogers	Member

## **APPEAL**

Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	<b>Chairman</b>
Hon. Musa P. Moigua	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Alimamy B. Kanu	Member
Hon. Cecilia M. Bangura	Member
Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella	Member
Hon. Ishmael S. Sandy	Member
Hon. P.C Kandeh Finnoh III	Member
Hon. Ibrahim Kamara	Member
Hon. Abu Mansaray	Member
Hon. Ahmed S. Turay	Member

## **ALLIANCE ON FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION [SL] PARLIAMENT**

Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay	<b>Chairman</b>
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Hon. Boston Munda	<b>Deputy Chairman</b>
Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member
Hon. Aaron A. Koroma	Member
Hon. Hassan A. Sesay	Member
Hon. David A.S Kassegbama	Member
Hon. Rebecca Y. Kamara	Member
Hon. Saidu B. Kamara	Member
Hon. Yusuf Mackery	Member
Hon. Abdul Kargbo	Member
Hon. Jonathan George	Member
Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma	Member
Hon. Ibrahim T. Conteh	Member
Hon. Zainab C. Tarawally	Member
Hon. Moses B. Jorkie	Member
Hon. Hindolo M. Gevao	Member
Hon. P.C. Meama Kajue Fatmata	Member
Haja Bintu Koroma	

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move that the Committee list, as announced by my very self, be adopted by this House. Thank you very much Honourable Members.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O, 83[A] to seek clarifications. I want to know the minimum number of parliamentary Committees for a Member of Parliament.

**HON. SORIEBA TURAY:** Some Honourable Members are in ten Committees, but my name appeared only in two Committees *[Laughter]*?

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, let me answer this question. This is not new in this Parliament. You announce Committees and then you will find out that there are Members who probably are in only one Committee and there are others on five or more Committees. For example, in the case of the Honourable Member who is in two Committees, please see me immediately after this sitting and I will ensure that you are on an International Committee. Thank You.

**HON. SORIEBA TURAY:** God bless you sir *[Laughter]*.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** The Leader of Government Business has done a tremendous job, but he has not answered my question.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** The Minimum is three.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** I want to say there are Members who are in ten Committees.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** I am talking about minimum which is three, excluding International Committees. We are talking about Select Committees. If you are lucky to be in ten Select Committees, you can only be active in four or five Committees.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** I am sure that will be a disservice to other Members. In the instance a Member of Parliament is in ten Committees, but he or she could not have the expertise to perform in all of those Committees and even if he or she wants to become a spider, he or she could not be in all these Committees at the same time.

**THE SPEAKER:** Then you withdraw.

**HON. IBRAHIM T. CONTEH:** Mr Speaker, we are going to approve these Committees and the names presented to the plenary will be approved by this House. This means that whether you withdraw or not, you have occupied a space that a Member who is on one or two Committee[s] could have occupied.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, I agree with the Honourable Member. This list is presented to this House and the Speaker can make alterations. For example, like in the case of Honourable Sorieba Turay, he is only in two Committees, but other Members are in several other Committees. If the Speaker takes note of that immediately, he has the right to reduce those numbers and reassign those Committees.

**THE SPEAKER:** Let me make one thing clear that you are free to withdraw if you think you are in too many Committees. Second, if you want to be a Member of a Committee that does not bear your name presently, please feel at liberty to come and see me or the Leader. We are extremely flexible about this and membership of a Committee is not meant to penalise anybody or to favour anybody.



**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** Mr Speaker, on that note, I am Honourable Abdul Karim Kamara of constituency 59. I find myself in the NGO Committee and Development. I want to back out in both of them to give space to other Honourable Members.

**THE SPEAKER:** No Problem, come and see us about that.

**HON. ABDUL K. KAMARA:** I will do that, Mr Speaker.

**HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS:** Mr Speaker, as a Member of Parliament, it is by law that Committee work is part of parliamentary work. Therefore, you can never opt out of a Committee. You can opt out of a particular Committee to serve in another Committee, but you cannot opt out of Committee work. That means you want to resign from Parliament because Committees are microcosms of this plenary.

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, I stand on Standing Order 72 [1].

**THE SPEAKER:** Where were you all this time?

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, they are making reference to Section 93 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone and it is boldly written there that the strength of Political Parties, Independent Members and Paramount Chiefs. I want to underline the phrase 'Strength of political parties.'

**THE SPEAKER:** Are you referring to the Constitution?

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** I was referring to Standing Orders 72 [1.] I want you to underline those words. Of course we are not au-fait with the list that they have just read and that is not the normal procedure. The normal procedure is you ask the political parties to fill certain vacancies based on a particular quota. The political parties will then select their Members and Chairpersons for those Cmmittees. I am sure that was not done and we are not privy to the list that was just read. It used to be posted first for Members to know and check their names in various Committees. I want to know why the haste. Why are we in a hurry?

**THE SPEAKER:** I am sorry, I will not entertain those questions because we have gone through those questions before.

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, I am not late. What about the Standing Orders?

**THE SPEAKER:** We have gone through them, Honourable Member.

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, the APC Party did not receive our own quota of the Committees. The Leader of Government Business should not select for us. He does not have that mandate at all.

**THE SPEAKER:** I have a motion on the Floor. Any seconder?

**HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA:** I so second Mr Speaker

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, I have a counter Motion!

*[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]*

*[Motion for the approval of the Sessional Select Committees as announced by the Leader of Government Business has been adopted]*

**HON. LAHAI MARAH:** Mr Speaker, what you are doing is not correct. The people are watching you. Since yesterday to date, you have been doing things out of order and this is something we will not accept. We on this side of the aisle will not accept it.

**THE SPEAKER:** For the benefit of the ordinary members, you approved the Committee on Selection yesterday in this House. I convened a meeting of that Committee at 3: 00 p.m. yesterday and we went through the entire list of the Committees and their membership that has just been presented. What you have just been presented by the Leader of Government Business represents exactly what was approved by the meeting of the Committee on Selection yesterday *[Applause]*.

**HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO:** Mr Speaker, there were few things yesterday to be clarified. You are aware that the substantive Leader on this side is out of town and I was invited yesterday. Of course, the proceeding had already been completed by the time we got there and I know that the responsibility of preparing the list of Committees was actually undertaken by the Leader of Government Business. So, we came back today and he read the list, but let us make it very clear that we on this side of the aisle

will wait until our Leader comes back to this country because it is very important that we do so. Also, I did not take part in the discussion you just mentioned. I was asked to represent the substantive Leader of the Opposition and Mr Speaker can testify to that. He said **“in the absence of the Leader of the Opposition Mr Deputy Leader come with us and sit down.”**

**THE SPEAKER:** I can confirm the report that the Acting Leader of the Opposition has just made. I invited him yesterday to sit in our meeting in the absence of the substantive Leader and at that meeting, we went through the list of every Committee.

### ***ADJOURNMENT***

*[The House rose at 1:20 p.m. and was adjourned to Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.]*