

OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

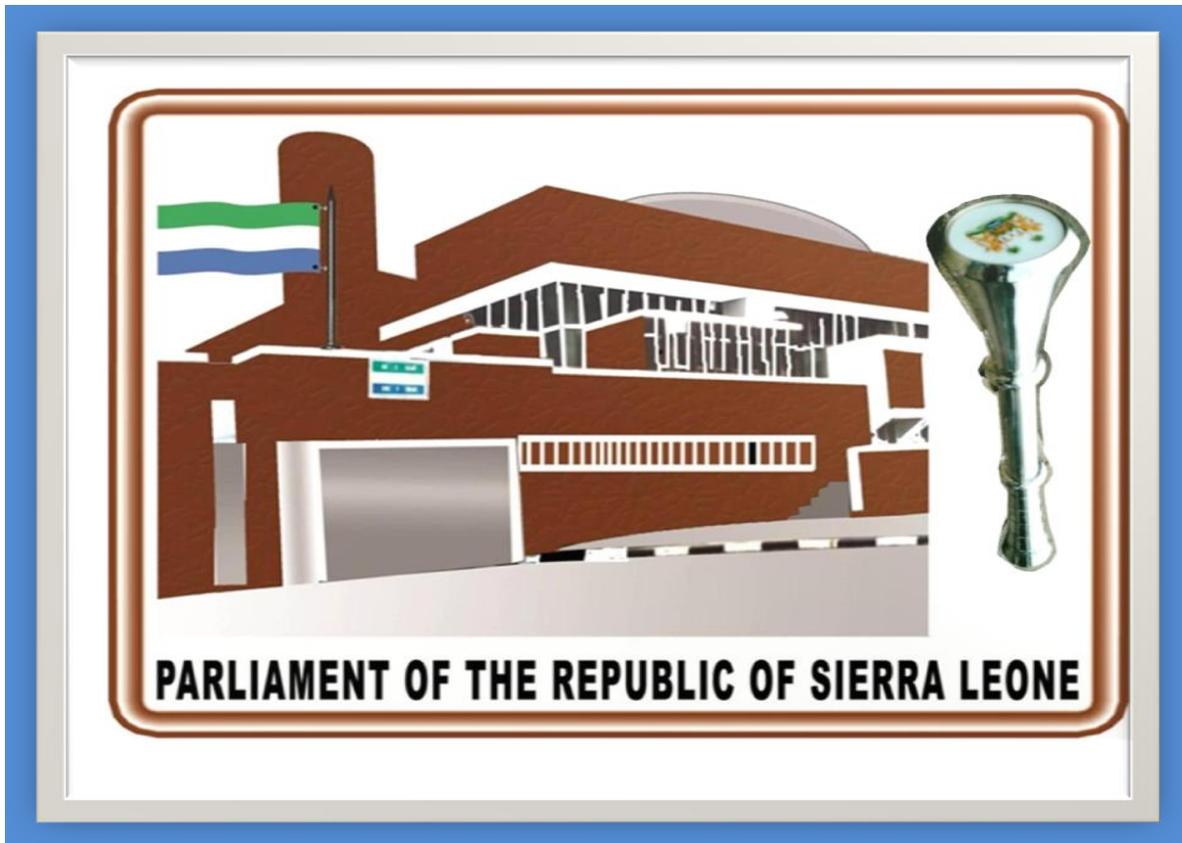
[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

FIRST SESSION - FIRST MEETING

THURSDAY, 3rd MAY, 2018

SESSION – 2018/2019



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMETARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held Thursday, 3rd May, 2018.

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THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

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

Thursday, 3rd May, 2018.

I. PRAYERS

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

[The House met at 10:05 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

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

The House was called to Order

II. RECORD OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITTING, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH AND THURSDAY, 26TH APRIL, 2018

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, before we proceed with this particular item on the Order Paper, I want to draw your attention to the fact that I have read through the records of Votes and Proceedings of the two sittings; i.e., 25th and 26th April, 2018. There is a mistake on the Order Paper which I want to draw your attention. The Order Paper is dated 2017, taking us a year back. I think that is a typographical error on the Order Paper. It should read 25th and 26th April, 2018, instead of 2017. That is not the only error, Honourable members. I noticed quite a number of errors in the records of Votes and Proceedings. I would like to invite Honourable Members to crosscheck the correctness of your names. I am saying this because this is the first record of the Session since the publication of your names in the official Gazette. Please crosscheck the spellings of your names for the guidance of officials of the House. If you wish, we can proceed with the records or we can differ that item to the next sitting, in order to ensure that the proper corrections are made.

However, Honourable Members, if it is your wish to do the corrections here in the Well of the House, then we shall proceed. But I would prefer in future, for the officials who prepare records of Votes and Proceedings of this House to ensure that they are properly and correctly prepared and presented to the House. As I said, I have been through the records this morning and I noticed a number of mistakes in them. I hope in future such mistakes would not be repeated.

Honourable Members, we follow the practice this House has been following, but I hope we would depart from that practice in future. As I said earlier, I would like Honourable Members to pay attention to the spellings of their names. If I see no contrary comment we shall so proceed. We go through the records page by page. Page 1? Any corrections or observations on Page 1?

HON P.C BAI FARAMA TASS BUBU NGBNAK IV [Kambia District]: Mr Speaker, I am Paramount Chief, Bai Farama Tass Bubu Ngbnak IV of Magbema Chiefdom, Kambia District. My name is not correctly spelt under No. 6. The 'Bai' is omitted. It should be 'Bai Farama Tass...' The Bai is very important for us the Temne people, which means 'Paramount Chief or the King.'

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honourable Paramount Chief. Any other correction on that page?

HON. KAMANDA M. KOMBA: Mr Speaker, my name is Kamanda Mansamayao Komba. The spelling is 'M-a-n-s-a-m-a-y-a-o.' Thank you. Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I want to concentrate on the Paramount Chiefs if you do not mind.

HON. P.C. BAI SHEBORA SHEBA GBEREH III [Port Loko District]: Mr Speaker, my name is P.C Bai Shebora Sehba Gberek III of Kafu Bullom Chiefdom, Port Loko District. The 'Sheba,' should not be 'S-e-h-b-a.'

HON. P.C. KANDEH WUSU SESAY II [Karene District]: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my name is P.C Kandeh Wusu Sesay II and not III. Please, I am not the third Paramount Chief in the Sanda Chiefdom, Karene District. Thank you.

HON P.C. KANDEH FINOH III [Bombali District]: My surname is not properly spelt. It should be spelt as 'F-i-n-o-h.' It should be single 'n' and not double 'n.' Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, any more on Page 1? Honourable Members, if you rise to make correction on your name, please sight the number on the page bearing your name, so that the clerks will take note appropriately.

HON. ABDUL T. KAMARA: Mr Speaker, my name is Abdul Titus Kamara. The middle name, Titus, is omitted.

HON. QUINTIN SALIA-KONNEH: Mr Speaker, Page 1, No.33. My names are Quintin Salia-Konneh. The 'Salia-Konneh' is a compound surname.

THE SPEAKER: I am sure the clerk has taken note of that. Any further corrections to be made on Page 1?

HON. MAADA H. KANJA: Mr Speaker, Page 1, No.28. My name should be Maada Hafiju Kanja.

THE SPEAKER: Any more corrections on Page 1?

HON. CHARLES O. ABDULAI: Mr Speaker, Page 1, No. 7. The spellings are correct, but the sequence in which the names appeared is not correct. It should be 'Abdulai Osman Charles,' instead of 'Charles Osman Abdulai.'

THE SPEAKER: So, your first name is what?

HON. OSMAN C. ABDULAI: Charles is the first name, Osman is the middle name and Abdulai is the surname.

THE SEPAKER: Thank you very much. Is that the last correction to be made on Page 1? Shall we then proceed to Page 2? Honourable Members, Page 2?

HON. DOMINIC J. LAVALIE-TSHOMBE: Mr Speaker, Page 2, No. 72. 'Lavalie-Tshombe' is a compound surname. Therefore name is Dominic Jaybeh Lavalie-Tshombe.

HON. CHRISTOPHA K. VANDY: Mr Speaker, Page 2, No. 75. My name is Honourable Vandy Keikura Christopha. Christopha is misspelt because the letters, 'p-h-a' were omitted.

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAM-LAMIN: Mr Speaker, my name is William-Lamin Joseph.

THE SPEAKER: What number, Honourable Member?

HON. JOSEPH WILLIAMS-LAMIN: Mr Speaker, No. 37. It should be Honourable Williams-Lamin Joseph. It is a compound surname.

HON. BOSTON MUNDA: Mr Speaker, Page 2 No. 53. My name is Boston Munda. Munda is spelt 'M-u-n-d-a.' The 'a' is omitted.

HON. AMBROSE M. LEBBY: Mr Speaker, Page 2, No. 41. My name is Ambrose Maada Lebby. The 'Maada' is omitted.

HON. BERNADETTE W. SONGA: Mr Speaker, Page 2, No. 69. My names should be 'Songa Bernadette Wuyata' not 'Wuyata Bernadette.'

HON. MOSES A. EDWIN: Mr Speaker, if the sequence of names on this list is surname first, then Page 2 line 52 it should read 'Edwin Moses Andrew.'

HON. HINDOLO M. NGEVAO: Mr Speaker, I am concerned about the arrangement of my names. My names should be written as 'Ngevao Hindolo Moiwo.'

HON. SAHR P. SAM: Mr Speaker, my name should be Sam Sahr Paul instead of Paul Sam Sahr.

HON. MACKERY YUSUF: Mr Speaker, Page 2, No 43. My name should be Honourable Mackery Yusuf.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, No. 61. My surname should be 'Sama.'

HON. EMELIA LOLLOH TONGA: My name is Emelia Lulloh Tonga. The 'l' is omitted.

THE SPEAKER: What number, Honourable Member?

HON. EMELIA LOLLOH TONGA: Mr Speaker, No. 71.

THE SPEAKER: Are we through with that page? Shall we move on then? Page 3?

HON. BASHIRU SILIKIE: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the heading on Page 3 reads, 'the following Honourable Members of Parliament designate are present.' They were absent, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Member that is a very important observation and correction.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Point of Order, Mr Speaker. The word designate was used by the Clerk of Parliament. They did not take oath on that day, but they were here as strangers and that was why the Clerk used the word 'designate.'

HON. OSMAN W. JALLOH: Mr Speaker, Page 3, No. 18. My middle name is 'Wurie' and it is being omitted. The full name is Osman Wurie Jalloh, instead of Osman Jalloh. In fact, there are two Osman Jallohs in this Parliament, one from the APC and another from the SLPP. One is Wuroh Jalloh and I am Wurie Jalloh. Thank you very much.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Point of Order. We are yet to have Osman Wurror Jalloh in this House. Presently, the person we have is Osman Jalloh. They have not taken oath; therefore, I do not subscribe to that. I want the Honourable Member to rephrase his statement. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Any more on Page 3? Page 4? Page 5?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, your name is being spelt as 'B-e-d-u.' It should be 'B-u-n-d-u.'

THE SPEAKER: I thank the Honourable Member for that correction? Page 6?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, Page 6. My name is mentioned twice. I am raising the point on the second mentioning of my name. It is stated here that 'Honourable Shiaka Musa Sama insisted and asked for a review on the composition of the Committee. I think it is incomplete, Mr Speaker. I did not insist. I want my statement to be reported as 'Honourable Shiaka Musa Sama further appealed that a review of the composition of the Committee be made to include the Leadership of the Independence Members of Parliament. That was exactly what I said. The use of the word 'insisted' is not appropriate. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Point of order, Mr Speaker. I do not know if the document you have is the same with what we have here. We have two documents and we are looking at the 26th where you have the names Mrs Kadie Kallon [nee Davies]. That is what we have.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, there are two documents before us and we are looking at one document and not two documents.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, the document we are looking at presently is the one dated 25th April, 2018. Page 6? Page 7?

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Page 7. The last name is supposed to be Honourable Mathew Sahr Nyuma.

THE SPEAKER: Anymore corrections on Page 7?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, my first name is given as 'S-h-a.' I am 'S-h-i-a-k-a.'

THE SPEAKER: Anymore? Page 8? Page 9?

HON. EMERSON S. LAMINA: Mr Speaker, my name is misspelt on Page 9. It should 'S-a-a,' which is the native spelling; and not 'S-a-h-r,' which is the British spelling.

HON. BERNADETTE W. SONGA: Mr Speaker, Wuyata is spelt 'W-u-y-a-t-a.' No double 't.'

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, are you referring to Page 10?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, on Page 9. Thank you very much. Mr Clerk, please take note.

THE SPEAKER: Anymore corrections?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, I have a comment to make. I have observed that certain statements were made, but the details are being left out. I want to suggest that a summary of details be given. For example, if you look on Page 9, it is stated that the following Honourable Members contributed to the debates and nothing is included on what they said. To me, this is very dangerous, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, if there are no further amendments or corrections, could somebody move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Wednesday, 25th April, 2018 as amended?

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: I so move, Mr Speaker

HON. MOSES B. JORKIE: I so second, Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Wednesday, 25th April, 2018 has been adopted as amended]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 26th April, 2018. We need not repeat the corrections to the names. I am sure the Clerk has taken note of those corrections being made. Therefore, we would skip the first four pages, taking into account the corrections being made would be reflected in this document. If there is no objection to that, we move to Page 5. Any more corrections?

Honourable Members, I want to thank Honourable Shiaka M. Sama for drawing our attention to the wrong spelling of my surname. The same mistake was repeated on Page 5 of this document. I hope the Clerk will take note of that. We move to Page 6.

HON SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, like I said earlier, I am being quoted that I insisted on something, the grounds on which I was insisting was not stated. I want to be reported as, 'Honourable Shiaka Musa Sama further appealed that a review of the composition of the Committee be made to include the Leadership of Independent Members of Parliament.' That was what I said.

HON. SAA P. SAM: Mr Speaker, I think if it is recorded as he has suggested, the whole context in which he said that statement will be changed. To recall what he said on that day, he wanted his own name to be included as Leader of the Independent Members of Parliament, instead of Honourable Quintin Salia-Konneh. This is what he was trying to say on that day. There was no question as to whether a Member of the Independent Candidate's name was included or not. The Honourable Konneh's name was already on the list, he was contesting that.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, I am sure the Honourable Member was not listening. We have passed that stage. I am saying that the Leadership of the Independent should be included and I did not insist on my name to be included. I just

said that the Leadership of the Independent candidates should be included. Honourable Dickson Rogers said there is no Leadership of Independent in our Standing Orders. You are not the Honourable Member from Kailahun.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, I would like you to refer me to the relevant S.O. that deals with that particular matter in terms of recognising the Leadership of Independent Members.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, you are a Lawyer and when laws are made, there are intents. In this House, we have different groupings like the Paramount Chiefs representing different districts. For ease of access, they have got a Leadership and political parties leaders as well. I am sure you will agree with me that probably you were in this Parliament over fifty years ago; and those documents were put together less than fifty years ago, nothing was mentioned about Independent Candidates, not even in the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone. So, we sat as Independent Members representing over forty thousand Sierra Leoneans who voted for us to represent them.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Point of Order. I stand on S. O. 34[1]. This is a House of legality and not illegality. Mr Speaker asked you to refer us to the relevant provision in the Standing Orders or in the Constitution, so that you can educate this Honourable House. You are making hypothetical case. You have not referred us the provisions in the Constitution or the Standing Orders. That is what Mr Speaker has asked for and we are looking forward to that Sir.

HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS: Mr Speaker, I rise on S.O. 34[1]. Mr Speaker, it is very unfortunate for the Honourable Member to compare himself to the Paramount Chiefs. This is unfortunate and the Honourable Member should withdraw that statement. I am saying this because the Paramount Chiefs are constitutionally seated in this Well. Thank you.

HON SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, you are a Lawyer and my intention is justifiable. I have no intention to delay this sitting. I was appealing that our group should be recognised since the three of us have written a letter to your office, asking for

recognition. My intention is in good faith. I have no problem with the appointment of my colleague to serve in that Committee.

HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS: Mr Speaker, can you please tell the Honourable Member to answer your question.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Honourable Member, how can I answer the Speaker when you are interrupting me? You are not giving me chance to answer the Speaker's question? This is not a competition, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, there is no difficulty whatsoever with regard to the correction of your name on the record, but I wanted to be guided by yourself by referring me to the relevant provision in the Standing Orders or the Constitution that recognises, not your presence as Independent Member of Parliament, but as a grouping, such as we recognise under the law, Members of Parliament representing Political Parties or Honourable Paramount Chiefs.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, before I make any comment, I want to state here that there is no competition. We are here in good faith and I was just making a suggestion that will make it easier for this Parliament to function with regards to access to different groups. The Speaker has told me that there is a book that is bigger than the Standing Orders; i.e., the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone. The Constitution recognises the existence of Independent Members of Parliament; otherwise we would not have been here. We are here as a group. I was appealing to the Speaker for our recognition.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to state here that we are dealing with two main books; i.e., the Standing Orders and the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone. The Constitution recognises the existence of Independent Members of Parliament and that is the reason we are here. I was merely saying that since we are three in number and we have unanimously agreed to have a leadership, I want to appeal that our leadership be recognised. If there are meetings to be attended, we are called as a group. I am appealing and not competing. The intention is good and whenever the intention is

good, you have the moral obligation and give us the right to associate in that regard. What I am saying is to ensure that we express our Constitutional rights to associate. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, a little while ago, you made a correction to the record when the word insisted was used against your name and your contribution. You said you were not insisting, but appealing. You seem to be reversing that now. You seem to be insisting now. Are you not insisting now?

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, I said that the used of the word, 'insisted' without stating the reason sounds absurd. I Suggested the word 'appeal' be used. As I speak, I am appealing and not insisting. To appeal is different from insisting. I prefer to be recorded as appealing to your office to allow us to associate as it is stated in the Constitution. It is our constitutional right and you are a Lawyer. Thank you.

HON. SIDIE M. TUNIS: Mr Speaker, Honourable members, I want to assure my Honourable colleague that Independent Candidates are recognised in this House. The problem I have as Leader of Government Business is that they are three in number and all of them are leaders already. One of them is the Leader, the other is the Deputy Leader and the third is the Whip. Therefore, three of them are leaders. Mr Speaker, when we were constituting the Committee on Selection, we ensured that we had a Member from Independent Members of Parliament. This means that they are included and recognised. The other person whose name is here is also a member of your leadership. I need clarification. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, while you try to answer that question, maybe you will enlighten this House as to the common picture that exist between the three Independent Members of Parliament that will qualify you for recognition, either as a group or a caucus.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. We are not elected on partisan basis. We were elected by virtue of our merits as individuals.

THE SPEAKER: I think every Member of Parliament was elected in that regard. There is nothing unique about that, Honourable Member.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: We knew we have the Constitutional right to associate based on good association. We have had three meetings and we agreed to come here as a group. There are so many advantages. If you want to have a meeting with us or refer to us, you can do so through the Leadership, like all other parliamentary groups. We have held several meetings and we have agreed on certain principles. Those principles bind us together.

Finally, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we wrote a letter to you, informing your office that we are coming as a group and will work together for the national good. I want to also state here that our intention is very good. We are not forming a group or a Leadership to obstruct the operations of this House. We want our group to be recognised like all other groups, so that we can have a leadership that will be helpful to this Parliament. It is not a competition, but an appeal. I want you to look at the intention, Mr Speaker. In fact, before we resumed sittings few days ago, Members of Parliament who wanted to meet with us invited us as a group. I am really surprised now that the same people who invited us as a group are now against our union. This is a shock to me, Mr Speaker. I thank you very much.

HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS: Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O. 32[3]. It reads, **“When Mr Speaker is addressing the House or the Chair is addressing the Committee thereof, any Member then standing shall immediately resume his seat.”** The Honourable Member was still standing when the Speaker was addressing the House. I want him to take note of S.O. 32[3]. I want him to know that whenever the Speaker is talking, any Member standing should resume his/her seat. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Mr Speaker, I want to remind my colleague that taking your seat is a process. I cannot just stand and sit down. I have to lower my height gradually before I finally take my seat. In fact, I was on my seat when the Speaker was speaking.

HON. VERONICA K. SESAY: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Point of Order. Mr Speaker, I think we have wasted so much time on this issue. I think the Honourable Member wants to make this issue controversial. I do not want the Honourable Member to give a new definition of the word Independent. Laterally speaking, Independent means 'you.' As you have heard from the Leader of Government Business, he has said that every Independent candidate is a Leader. This means that the three Independent candidates are leaders. So, I do not think we have to belabour on this issue. We have many things to discuss. I want to move that we lay this matter to rest. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, I would want us to recognise the existence of Independent Members of Parliament in this House. There are three of them, but I cannot see any common thread that will qualify them to be recognised beyond their recognition as individual Independent Members of Parliament. I am afraid, the 'appeal' the Honourable Member made will remain as an 'appeal' and it is under consideration. Thank you. Shall we then proceed to the next page? Page 7.

HON. HINDOLO M. NGEVAO: Mr Speaker, I am seeing 'Question Put and Agreed to.' I think it should read 'Question Put and Agreed on.'

HON. FODAY M. KAMARA: Mr Speaker, Point of Order. The Honourable Member passed a motion for that issue to be closed. I did hear any Seconder to that Motion. It is just a point of observation, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, let us leave that issue. He did not insist on that and I think the Honourable Independent Member of Parliament do not fully recognise the point I made. I want that issue to remain at that without further discussion. It is under active consideration. I hope, in due course as your numbers increase, if at all, consideration will be given to the issue that you raised. For now, let us proceed without further interruption.

HON. SHIAKA M. SAMA: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Page 8. If there are no further corrections or amendments, would somebody move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 26th April, 2018 be adopted as amended?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so move, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. MOSES B. JORKIE: Mr Speaker, I so second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting, held on Thursday, 26th April, 2018 has been adopted as amended]

III. SWEARING IN OF ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, THIRD SCHEDULE OF THE 1991 CONSTITUTION OF SIERRA LEONE.

THE SPEAKER: Any Members designate that wish to subscribe to the oath of office today?

HON. P.C. BAI KURR KANAGBARO SANKA III: Yes, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Please come forward.

The following Member subscribed to the oath:

Hon. P.C. Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III

MR UMAR PARAN TARAWALLY [Clerk of Parliament]: Having subscribed to the Oath of office as duly elected Paramount Chief Member of Parliament, I hereby hand over this package to you. This pack contains the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, the Standing Orders of Parliament and the parliamentary prayers. Thank you very much. Mr Speaker would wish to say a word of congratulations.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Paramount Chief, on behalf of this Honourable House, I heartily welcome you back. You are no stranger to this House because you have been here on many previous occasions. I must state here that I am particularly heartened to see you take the oath of office and join the House as indeed you were duly elected. I sincerely hope that those who are yet to follow your example in due time, not too long

from now, will see wisdom in following your brilliant steps of moving into the House and take the oath of office and be properly seated as Members of Parliament. I thank you very much and welcome *[Applause]*.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE

HON. DICKSON M. ROGERS: Mr Speaker, before the announcement of the Select Committee, I want to move a Motion. I stand on S.O. 82 to move that wherever in this Standing Orders the words 'Majority Leader' and 'Minority Leader' appear, be substituted with the words 'Leader of Government Business' and 'Leader of the Opposition' respectively.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder to that Motion?

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

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

[The Motion to substitute the words, 'Majority Leader' and 'Minority Leader' with the words 'Leader of Government Business' and 'Leader of the Opposition' in the Standing Orders respectively, has been carried]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I think that was an Amendment to the Standing Orders. Previously, 'Majority Leader' and 'Minority Leader' used to be nomenclature that everyone has become accustomed to. Circumstances have now led us to introduce new nomenclatures; i.e., 'Leader of Government Business' and 'Leader of the Opposition.' So it shall be from now henceforth. I thank you Honourable Member for making that amendment to the Standing Orders.

HON. DIXON M. ROGERS: Mr Speaker, in fulfilment of Section 93[1&2] of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, in tandem with S. O. 70, I read the following Committees and their Members:

[A] Committee on Selection

1. Hon. Honourable Speaker, Chairman;
2. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Deputy Chairman;
3. Opposition Leader of the APC;

4. Hon. Saa E. Lamina, Member;
5. Hon. Dr Kande K. Yumkella, Member;
6. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay, Member;
7. Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh, Member; and
8. Mr Umar Paran Tarawally [Clerk of Parliament], Secretary to the Committee.

[B] Standing Orders Committee

1. Hon. Speaker, Chairman;
2. Hon. Solomon S. Thomas [Deputy Speaker], Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Mathew M. Nyuma, Member;
4. Opposition Leader of the APC, Member;
5. Hon. Dixon M. Rogers, Member;
6. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Member;
7. Hon. Musa Fofanah, Member; and
8. One APC Member.

[C] Public Petition Committee

1. Hon. Speaker, Chairman;
2. Opposition Leader of the APC, Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Member;
4. Hon. Dr Kande K. Yumkella, Member;
5. Hon. Saa E. Lamina, Member; and
6. Hon. Neneh Lebbie, Member.

[D] House Committee

1. Hon. Speaker, Chairman;
2. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Deputy Chairman;
3. Opposition Leader of the APC, Member;
4. Hon. Mathew M. Nyuma, Member;
5. Hon. Dixon M. Rogers, Member; and
6. Hon. PC Alie Badara Sheriff.

[E] Business Committee

1. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Chairman;
2. Opposition Leader of the APC, Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Saa E. Lamina, Member;
4. Hon. Dixon M. Rogers, Member;
5. Hon. Mathew M. Nyuma, Member; and
6. Hon. P.C. Alie Balansama Marah III, Member.

[F] Committee on Appointments and the Public Service

1. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis, Chairman;
2. Hon. Mathew M. Nyuma, Deputy Chairman;
3. Hon. Solomon S. Thomas, Member;
4. Hon. Dixon M. Rogers, Member;
5. Opposition Leader of the APC, Member;
6. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay, Member;
7. Hon. Basiru Silikie, Member;
8. Hon. Loloh E. Tongi;
9. Hon. Saa E. Lamina, Member;
10. Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella, Member;
11. Hon. P.C. Balansama Marah III, Member;
12. Hon. Paul S. Sam; and
13. Four other members from the APC.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I present the Committees and the names, as read out, for the approval of this Honourable House. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Any Seconder to that Motion?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so second, Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed to]

THE SPEAKER: Any announcement?

HON. DIXON ROGERS: Mr Speaker, I want members of Parliament to know that Committee Room One is a very busy room therefore whenever they want to have meetings there let them consult the Clerk, because now, by the announcement, we have almost two meetings there immediately after sitting and thereafter the Appointment Committee is going to meet there. So let them be consulting the Clerk to tell them which room is vacant.

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I stand on S.O 23. Mr Speaker, we all know that members present have taken their oath and up to today we have not received our MPs plates and the public possibly may want to see their MPs plying the roads again. So I advise whosoever is in charge should do those MPs plate asap.

THE SPEAKER: Any more on S.O 23? S.O 23 gives new members an opportunity to bring to the House any matters that they may consider important. This is an opportunity for you to do so now!

HON. ABU KEMOKAI: Mr Speaker, I stand on S. O. 23. I am Honourable Abu Kemokai from Constituency 103, Pujehun District. I want to inform the leadership of this House about the condition of the microphones. I am saying this because all microphones in this row are not working. We are not able to use them because they are not functioning at all. I would like to bring to the notice of the leadership of this Honourable House. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

HON. JOSEPH A. BASH-KAMARA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, some of us only came today and we only received updates this morning. Therefore, we do not have enough time to get certain information. So, I want to appeal to all of us to be checking our pigeonholes so that we can collect relevant documents to read before we come to this Well.

MR UMAR PARAN TARAWALLY: Honourable Members, I want to announce, especially for the new Members of Parliament, that whatever borders on the welfare of

Members of Parliament should communicate to the Office of the Clerk for immediate action. I thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, it appears as if the list of Honourable Members wishing to take the floor under S.O 23 has been exhausted so quickly.

ADJOURNMENT

[The House rose at 11:20 a.m. and was adjourned to Friday, 4th May, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.]