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PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT APPROVES FIVE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday 10th January 2019 debated and ratified the Twenty-Fourth Report of its Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie M. Tunis.

Speaking to the nominees after approval, the Presiding Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas commended President Bio for nominating highly qualified Sierra Leoneans to serve in high offices of State, whilst appealing to them to make the country proud by executing their duties diligently for the realization of the New Direction.

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

1. Mr. David Lansana Bockarie Kamara-Chairman, Board of Directors, Electricity Generation and Transmission Company
2. Mr. Ken Philip Sondai-Executive Director, Sierra Leone Maritime Administration
3. Mr. Hilton Olatungi Jarrett-Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Ports Authority
4. Mr. Ahmed Saybom Kanu-Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Ports Authority and
5. Mr. Edward Yarimeh Kamara-Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Ports Authority

MPs who spoke to the motion generally referred to the nominees as “fine Sierra Leoneans” and congratulated President Bio for nominating a rainbow of qualified Sierra Leoneans to serve the country. They also called on the nominees to serve diligently and in the interest of Sierra Leone.

In rounding up the debate, the Acting Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo said that the appointments of these nominees by President Bio is a well thought out idea with a view to attain the promises that are contained in the New Direction. He also called on the nominees to transform the institutions to which they had been nominated.

Concluding the debate, the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie M. Tunis commended MPs who spoke to the motion for their wonderful contributions, aimed at motivating the

nominees to do their best for the actualization of the New Direction. He also called on the House to speedily approve the nominees before they could inject new ideas for the development of these institutions.

In another development, and in line with provisions in both the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone and the Rules of Procedures in the House, the Parliament of Sierra Leone has accepted the comments of President Bio on the Bill entitled “The Finance Act, 2019” passed in Parliament last year, by expunging a section that deals with clearing and forwarding.

Both Leaders of the House, Hon. Sidie Tunis and Hon. Chernor Bah respectively acclaimed President Bio because the said amendment was “apt and non-controversial”.

The Chairman of the Legislative Committee in Parliament, Hon. Daniel B. Koroma said that “it is constitutional and procedural for the President to either assent or reject a Bill passed by Parliament”, whilst recognizing Parliament as the supreme legislative body of the country.

Department of Public Relations

Parliament of Sierra Leon