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**PRESS RELEASE**

**PARLIAMENT APPROVES FOUR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES**

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 unanimously approved the Thirteenth Report of its Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie M. Tunis.

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

1. Mr. Timothy Musa Kabba, Member Board of Directors, Environment Protection Agency (EPA)
2. Madam Joyce Wuyah Abu, Commissioner, National Commission for Children
3. Mr. Sahr H. Ensah, Member, National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency and
4. Ms. Rakiatu O. R. Kassim, Member, Corporate Affairs Commission

Seconding the motion, Hon. Hassan A. Sesay of APC commended President Bio for appointing the nominees using gender equilibrium having regard for their experience and wealth of knowledge. “Today for the first time, we have nominees on 50/50”; he noted and added that “the nominees bear no controversy”.

Hon. Veronica K. Sesay of SLPP who doubles as President of the Parliamentary Female Caucus said the nominees were all people of substance and described the female nominees as supportive pillars to men. She used the opportunity to ask the men to work closely with women in order to be successful.

The Deputy Opposition Whip of the APC, Hon. Catherine Zainab Tarawally who also doubles as the Chairperson for the Gender Committee in Parliament encouraged the nominees to do the needful and also assured the Commissioner for the National Commission for Children of her fervent and unflinching support.

An Independent MP, Hon. Shiaka Sama called on the nominees to work hard so as to bring change by reducing suffering on the masses. He used the opportunity to ask the entire Honourable House to call all those who have been approved by MPs to come and answer questions relating to the change they have influenced or brought to their various institutions.

Hon. Sahr Charles of C4C spoke on the challenges the nominees are going to be confronted with and encouraged them to improvise and come up with creative solutions relative to national development.

Rounding up the debate, the Leader of Opposition, Hon. Chernor M. Bah endorsed the nominees and asked colleague MPs to support and speedily ratify them to go and start work in earnest.

Concluding the debate, the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie M. Tunis called on MPs to approve the nominees for the development of the country.

Congratulating the nominees, the Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu encouraged them to work very hard in order to meet the expectations of the President and the People of Sierra Leone.

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