



# PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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## PRESS RELEASE



### PARLIAMENT APPROVES TWENTY-FIVE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Tuesday, 01/08/2023 debated and approved with unanimity the Third Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, chaired by the Majority Leader and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma.

The following Presidential Nominees were approved by Parliament:

1. Ambassador Amara Sheikh Mohammad Sowa - Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations
2. Mr. Alfred Moi Jamiru - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Government & Community Affairs
3. Ms. Phylis Kapu - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Lands and Country, Housing and Planning
4. Ing Dr. Eldred Tunde Taylor - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy
5. Mrs. Emily K. Gogra - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Basic & Senior Secondary School Education
6. Mrs. Christiana Queen Fofanah - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Works & Public Assets
7. Mr. Ibrahim Sannoh - Deputy Minister of Communications, Technology, and Innovation
8. Mr. Kai Lawrence Mbayo - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Sports
9. Mr. Hindowa Buakai Bindi - Deputy Minister of Gender & Children's Affairs
10. Col. (Rtd) Muana Brima Massaquoi - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Defence
11. Dr. Theresa Tenneh Dick - Deputy Minister 1, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

12. Mr. Sahr B. Hemoore, Deputy Minister 2, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
13. Rev.Dr.Jonathan Titus Williams - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
14. Dr. Charles Senesie - Deputy Minister 1, Ministry of Health
15. Mr. Mohamed Lansana Dumbuya - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Employment, Labour & Social Security
16. Dr. Ramatulai Wurie (Haja) - Minister of Technical & Higher Education
17. Mrs. Haja Isata Abdulai - Kamara - Deputy Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resources
18. Mrs. Mamusu Massaquoi - Deputy Minister 2, Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School Education
19. Mrs. Nabeela Farida Tunis - Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
20. Dr. Kadijatu Grace A. Kamara - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
21. Dr. Alfred G. O. Dickson, Chairman Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute Council
22. Dr. Henry Musa Kpaka - Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
23. Mr. Rex Bonapha - Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transport and Aviation
24. Madam Manty Tarawally- Minister of State, Office of the Vice President and
25. Dr. David Moinina Sengeh - Chief Minister

Presenting the Report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, Hon. Nyuma told the House that all nominees were interviewed on strict consistency and procedures based on educational backgrounds, assets declaration, tax obligations, and vision for the designated offices.

Seconding the nomination, the Deputy Leader 1 of Government Business, Hon. Bashiru Silikie from Bo District thanked President Bio for presenting the nominees and informed that, the latter were chosen among many compatriots. He strongly asked the nominees to deliver without any excuses, as according to him, their jobs determine the MPs re-election and the Presidency. He said the people have the perception that MPs are responsible for taking development to their communities. "Members of Parliament have three core functions, lawmaking, representation and oversight" and said if the appointees failed they as MPs would not get the support of the people.

He advised the nominees to work hard and support President Bio's vision to develop Sierra Leone. The MP zoomed in on the Chief Minister and described him as the youngest ever and asked him to deliver for other young people to gain confidence from President Bio. "He is the most senior minister below the age of 40" he stated and appealed to all to support young people and also used the opportunity to ask other nominees to deliver, in light of national developments. He wished all the nominees well and encouraged them to open their doors to the people.

Hon. Sia Mahawa Habiyama Tommy from Kono District expressed appreciation to President Bio for empowering youth and women and at the same time appointing them to be at the helm of affairs.

Women appointed to positions of trust, she said are fit for purposes and ready to serve. She underscored the strengths of some nominees, in light of nation-building and development. She eloquently heaped praises on all the nominees including Mr. Mbayo, Mr. Bonapha, Dr. Sengeh, Dr. Wurie amongst others.

Hon. Rugiatu T. Mustapha from Kenema District said President did not make a mistake in appointing 30% of women in the Cabinet and underscored the readiness of women to service delivery. She used the opportunity to appeal to the Minister-designate to Agriculture to support her people who have transformed their activities from mining to agriculture. The MP advised the female nominees to deliver and make all women very proud

Hon. Emilan Lolloh Tongi from Kailahun District said the nominees are extremely qualified. She recalled the performances of the nominees during the committee interview and admonished the female appointees to work hard to reaffirm the confidence bestowed on them by President Bio and also transform the country. She calculated and elucidated the successes of the nominees.

Hon. Alice Kumabeh from Bonthe District acknowledged the President for appointing qualified people and used the opportunity to commend some of the nominees for their human relationships and result-oriented performance. She admonished the nominees to improve on food self-sufficiency.

Hon. Fatmata Sarah Soukenah from Western Area Urban appraised the nominees and reminded them all of the Big 5, especially on agriculture. She spoke well of all the nominees including Mr. Bonapha, Dr. Sengeh and Madam Phylis and others. She used the opportunity to assume Presidency for a woman in a not-too-distant future.

Hon. P. C. Lansana Prince Bio representing Bonthe District congratulated the nominees and underscored the young appointees as well as women. He admonished them to deliver for the people. "Do your work and continue to work" he maintained. The MP encouraged the nominees to be result oriented, in light of development.

Hon. P. C. Foday Stephen Faba Kpakra from Kenema District said the re-election of the Speaker served as a milestone. "I admired you and you are a man of courage" he stated. He cautioned the nominees to be careful and work to the expectation of President Bio. "We are looking up to you to transform Sierra Leone" he concluded.

Hon. Billoh Shaw congratulated the nominees and trend consciously on their success and human relationships especially the Minister of State, Madam Tarawally, Dr. Eldred Taylor, and Mr. Bonapha amongst others and also encouraged them to work with the developmental trajectories of the President.

Hon. Charles Abdulai from Bo District congratulated the former ministers that are re-appointed and also the young people. He heaped praises on some of the nominees for their hard work and recalled his relationship with some of the nominees, in light of gender promotion.

Hon. Sulaiman Marry-Conteh from Western Area Urban praised the President for carefully selecting the nominees and admonished them to work with his high expectation. He urged the nominees to work in a team and also described the Chief Minister as an inspirational person. He advised the nominees to work between policy and politics. He commended the nominees, especially Madam Manty Tarawally for championing the passage of the Gender Bill.

Hon. Mariama Ella Goba from Kenema District described the appointments of the nominees as a sacred assignment entrusted by the President and encouraged them to deliver on behalf of the people. " Kindly serve us well" she noted.

Hon. Hawa Kallon from Pujehun thanked all the nominees and heaped praises on some including the Deputy Minister for Local Government and Community Affairs, the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, the Chief Minister, and others. She used the opportunity to advise the female nominees to do well for others to emulate.

Hon. Amara Kargbo from Western Rural lauded the effort of one nominee, Eldred Taylor for his effort in the rural electrification and re-election of President Bio. The MP encouraged all the nominees to work in tandem with challenges faced by communities including the Tombo fishing community and also urged them to address communications challenges.

Hon. Aliematu Fotorma Juliana from Kenema District thanked President Bio for appointing the nominees. She used the opportunity to ask the nominees to support her Malegohun Chiefdom with a good road for farmers to take their agricultural wares to the market. She underscored the hard work of the youth and related it to the nominees. She commended all of the nominees and pointed out some challenges that need to be addressed.

The Chief Whip of Parliament, Hon. Dickson Rogers said the appointment of these set of qualified nominees is an advantage to winning the 2028 General Elections. He spoke well of all the nominees, especially for their dynamic youthfulness and gender balance. He advised the nominees to prioritize the Big 5 and do justice to the developmental trajectories. He asked them to make President Bio and Parliament proud.

Deputy Leader 2. Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina commended the President for choosing the nominees and used the opportunity to positively recall from the country's political archaic and make reference to the Chief Minister. He assured the House that playing a robust oversight role would help the nominees to deliver. He strongly urged the nominees to perform especially to promote agriculture and feed the people. He acknowledged the efforts of the Chief Minister, in light of national transformation. He singled out Mr. Mbaya and predicated on his integrity. The Leader cataloged praises for the Minister of Technical and Higher Education on her family legacy on education and asked her to perform. He also admired the Chief Minister and the Minister of Tourism for their dynamic efforts.

Hon. Quinton Sallia-Konneh from Kailahun District admonished the nominees to work hard and related the situation to previous ministers who were not reappointed. He admonished them not to marginalize their deputy ministers. The MP described Madam Manty as an asset to Sierra Leone, associated Mamasu Massaquoi with progressive Sengeh and asked MDAs to work collaboratively to achieve the dream of the President.

Acting Opposition Leader, Hon. Mohamed Bangura admonished the nominees to be conscious that they were not appointed on political party affiliation and were selected among seven million people. He urged them to serve well and refrain from corruption. He reiterated that President Bio predicated his agenda on a corrupt freed society. The MP asked the Deputy Minister of Defense to clean the military from land grabbing. He used the opportunity to advise the Government to fast-track the investigation of the Auditor General of Sierra Leone relative to transparency. Further the MP asked the Chief Minister to predicate on performance track and introduce the digitization of the public and civil services. He noted that, it was timely for MPs and ministers to own farms and feed the people. "This is an area where we have not done much" and went on to ask the

Minister of Agriculture to help the farmers. He used the opportunity to ask his APC comrades, elect to go to the Well of Parliament and subscribe the oath of office. He appealed to them to put behind election matters and come and serve the people. "Let us take the 54 seats and move on" he stated. He also asked the Chief Minister to work with the Peace Commission to call the APC MPs elect. He saluted the Deputy Minister of Lands for her work in the Office of the First Lady.

Concluding the Leader of Government Business Hon. Mathew Sahr Nyuma said the nominees are good and up to the task. He expressed hope that the nominees are going to support the President to achieve his aspirations. The Leader used the opportunity to relate the Chief Minister to an inventor, lauded the Minister of Higher Education as square peg into square hole. The Leader trend on collaborative working relationship with the nominees for positive services and recalled and underscored the statement of Chief Minister with regard good working relationship between the ministers and their deputies.

Responding to the Acting Opposition Leader, the Leader spoke well of Hon. P.Cs role in light of mediation and peace between APC MPs who are yet to come to Parliament. He underscored the necessity for conducting questioning time for ministers.

In his felicitations, the Speaker of Parliament Rtd. Hon. Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu said the nominees earned the trust of the President and Parliament and advised the nominees to try as best as possible to gain their confidence. He said the nominees were leaving the Chamber with very high expectations of the people and hope and pray that they will not let the President down. He asked all the nominees to work with the expectation of the great Big 5 pillars. He promised the House that they would start their Constitutional mandate with Question Time to ensure service delivery. He wished all nominees well in their new offices

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