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PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT RECOGNIZES NEW SLPP LEADERSHIP

Following an announcement from the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu, in light of the communication he received from the Chairman of the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP), Dr. Prince Harding, the Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Tuesday 28th April 2020 recognized and extended felicitations to the new SLPP Leadership in Parliament.

The New Leadership of the Ruling SLPP constitutes the following:

1. Hon. Sahr Mathew Nyuma-Leader of Government Business
2. Hon. Bashiru Silikie, Deputy-Leader of Government Business
3. Hon. Veronica K. Sesay-Chairperson of SLPP Parliamentary Council
4. Hon. Sidie M. Tunis-Speaker of ECOWAS Parliament and EX-Officio Member

Extending his felicitation to the new leadership, the Leader of Opposition, Hon Chernor Maju Bah said he had known the new Leader of Government Business several years ago and expressed hope that he would deliver in his appointment in light of consultation and cooperation.

Hon. Dr. Kandeh Yumkella of NGC also congratulated the new leadership of the SLPP and expressed hope that they would work in line with the Bo Declaration. "I hope that the spirit of Bo Declaration will prevail", he stated.

Hon. Aaron Koroma of APC said they were hopeful that the Leader of Government Business and his team would perform as according to him, the later has demonstrated that he would deliver based on his intuition to consult every MP. He also acknowledged the Deputy Leader of Government Business, Hon. Bashiru Silikie for his dynamic nature and resilience especially when the SLPP was in opposition, adding that "he deserves the appointment".

On behalf of the SLPP, Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh assured that they would give their support to the SLPP Leadership in Parliament. “We are fully committed to supporting you”, he reiterated.

On behalf of the people of Kenema and the Kenema Parliamentary Caucus, Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba thanked all those who extended congratulatory statements and further assured all of good leadership from the New SLPP Leadership in Parliament.

Hon. Emilia L. Tongi, an Independent MP, extended felicitation on behalf of the Parliamentary Female Caucus and also informed the House of her family relationship with the Leader of Government Business through the Kissi lineage.

The Speaker also noted the leadership recently demonstrated by the Leader of Government Business signifying that he has the acumen and alacrity to deliver. “As long as you continue to run on this path, you will succeed” , he concluded.

In light of stringent measures, the Hon. House has also carried a motion to suspend Standing Order 3 (2) indefinitely. It deals with MPs speaking from their allotted seats in Parliament for the purposes of maintaining social distance in line with the regulations of COVID-19. Political Parties are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that only 50% of their membership attends parliamentary sittings, totaling 74 of all representations including SLPP, APC, C4C, NGC, Independent and Paramount Chief Members of Parliament.

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