



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

PARLIAMENT BUILDING
O.A.U DRIVE, TOWER HILL
FREETOWN

Website: www.parliament.gov.sl



05th February, 2015

PARLIAMENT APPROVES CHIEF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER NEC & SEVEN OTHERS

The Parliament of Sierra Leone on the 05th February, 2015 ratified the recommendations contained in the Fifth report of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service by approving nominees of His Excellency, the President Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma to serve in various high offices of the State.

These presidential nominees were approved by Parliament through a collection of voices:

- I. Mr. Mohamed N'fah Alie Conteh – Chief Electoral Commissioner & Chairman, NEC;
- II. Mr. Momoh Kemoh Konte – Board Chairman, NATCOM;
- III. Hon. Justice Abdulai Sheik Fofanah – Justice of the Court of Appeal;
- IV. Mr. Kekura Bangura – Justice of the High Court;
- V. Mr. Modupe Taylor Pearce – Board Member, SLIEPA;
- VI. Dr. Victor Massaquoi – Member, Board of Trustees, SLBC;
- VII. Ing. Dr. Patrick Tarawally – Member, Board of Trustees, SLBC; and
- VIII. Ing. Crispin David Bamijoko Gray – Board Member, SALWACO



Some of the nominees approved by Parliament



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In her contribution prior to ratifying the presidential nominees, Minority Leader of Parliament, Hon. Dr. Bernadette Lahai said that she was happy to contribute to the debate, and described the nominees as competent Sierra Leoneans who would contribute to our democracy and development aspirations. “On the part of the justice system, she said that the judiciary had the responsibility to reward and punish lawbreakers; and praised the recent development in that sector such as gender based courts which sit on Saturdays, free legal aide, fast-track-commercial courts, and the filling of vacant positions in the judiciary recently. She also spoke about NATCOM, SALWACO and the Chief Electoral Commissioner and Chairman, NEC whose political lineage she said was very difficult to be discerned, and described him as a man who had professionally and independently carried himself”.

In his submission, the Majority Leader of Parliament, Hon. Ibrahim Bundu said that “he was not going to praise the nominees but rather challenge them to succeed in the various offices to which they had been nominated for national development as failure would not be entertained”; and furthered that failure was not an option for the new NEC as his predecessor had done well”. “He also challenged the judiciary to visibly look into unresolved and undocumented land disputes in the country that had resulted into the deaths of Sierra Leoneans”. He rounded by “imploing the nominees to succeed and not betray the confidence of the President by failing in those offices”.

According to the necessary provisions in the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone, nominees duly approved by Parliament would subscribe to an oath by the President before they could enter their official duties.