



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



VP: Vol. 02
[Ref: OP/6/01/02]

TUESDAY, 18TH JULY 2023

The House Met at 10:00 a.m.
The Rt. Hon. Speaker, Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu, Presided.

I. ATTENDANCE:

THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE PRESENT:			
NO	NAME	PARTY	DISTRICT
1.	Hon. Abdulai Charles Osman	SLPP	BO
2.	Hon. Aruna Massay Ngahiteh	SLPP	Bo
3.	Hon. Bangura Abdul Karim	SLPP	Karene
4.	Hon. Bangura Adama	SLPP	Kambia
5.	Hon. Bangura Mohamed	APC	Karene
6.	Hon. Banya Sarty	SLPP	Kailahun
7.	Hon. Bayoh Alie	SLPP	Kenema
8.	Hon. Bockarie Bintu Fatmata	SLPP	Bonthe
9.	Hon. Bockarie Momoh	SLPP	Kailahun
10.	Hon. Boima Sylvester Arnold Maxwell (Rtd. Capt.)	SLPP	Moyamba
11.	Hon. Bundor Racheal Christiana	SLPP	Port Loko
12.	Hon. Conteh Ibrahim Tawa	SLPP	Western Urban
13.	Hon. Dauda Idrissa Moiwai	SLPP	Bonthe
14.	Hon. Daramy – Nabbie Princess Kadie	SLPP	Western Urban
15.	Hon. Fabbah Hbib Keifa	SLPP	Bo
16.	Hon. Fatorma Juliana Aliematu	SLPP	Kenema
17.	Hon. Fofanah Mohamed Tawallie	SLPP	Kambia
18.	Hon. Fofanah Musa	SLPP	Kono
19.	Hon. Gberek III P.C Bai Shebora Sheba	P.C.	Port Loko
20.	Hon. Gevao Hindolo Moiwo	SLPP	Kailahun
21.	Hon. George Edward	SLPP	Moyamba
22.	Hon. Goba Mariama Ella	SLPP	Kenema
23.	Hon. Gondor II P.C. Foray Cyril	P. C.	Kailahun
24.	Hon. Jabbie Alpha Fodie Madie	SLPP	Falaba
25.	Hon. Jalloh Osman Wurie	SLPP	Western Rural
26.	Hon. Johnny Tamba Simeon	SLPP	Kono
27.	Hon. Johnson Margaret Feimata	SLPP	Kailahun
28.	Hon. Kabba Ibrahim	SLPP	Western Rural
29.	Hon. Kaisamba Francis Amara	SLPP	Kenema
30.	Hon. Kallon Hawa	SLPP	Pujehun



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



31.	Hon. Kamara Idriss Sahid	SLPP	Western Urban
32.	Hon. Kamara Joseph Abdul Bash	SLPP	Bo
33.	Hon. Kamara Rebecca Yei	SLPP	Kono
34.	Hon. Kanamanka III P.C Alhaji Masakama	P.C.	Tonkolili
35.	Hon. Kanneh Mohamed	SLPP	Kailahun
36.	Hon. Kanu Abdulai Karim	SLPP	Port Loko
37.	Hon. Kanu Ahmed Joseph	SLPP	Western Rural
38.	Hon. Kanbgai Beatrice Maaya	SLPP	Bo
39.	Hon. Kanu Amara Momoh	SLPP	Western Rural
40.	Hon. Kargbo Sheikh Santigie Ibrahim	SLPP	Port Loko
41.	Hon. Kargobai P.C Desmond Mahayei	P.C.	Bo
42.	Hon. Kawaleh II P.C Kandeh Paria	P.C.	Karene
43.	Hon. Kebbie III P.C Brima Victor Sidi	P.C.	Pujehun
44.	Hon. Kemokai Abu	SLPP	Pujehun
45.	Hon. Keiha III P.C Kandeh Baba	P.C.	Bombali
46.	Hon. Koroma Ibrahim	SLPP	Kenema
47.	Hon. Koroma Meama Kajue P.C Haja Fatmata Bintu	P.C.	Moyamba
48.	Hon. mKpakra – Faba P.C Foday Stephen	P. C.	Kenema
49.	Hon. Kumabeh Alice Jebbeh	SLPP	Bonthe
50.	Hon. Lahai Musa	SLPP	Kailahun
51.	Hon. Lamina Saa Emerson	SLPP	Kono
52.	Hon. Langley Beatrice Iyamide	SLPP	Western Rural
53.	Hon. Lansana P.C Bio Prince	P.C.	Bonthe
54.	Hon. Lebbie Nenneh	SLPP	Bo
55.	Hon. Lebyy Ambrose Maada	SLPP	Bo
56.	Hon. Mackery Yusuf	SLPP	Bo
57.	Hon. Mansaray Brima	SLPP	Kenema
58.	Hon. Marrah III P.C Alie Balan Sama	P.C.	Koinadugu
59.	Hon. Marrah III P.C Thor Thor Sheka Tink Fonkola	P.C.	Falaba
60.	Hon. Marray – Conteh Abdul Sulaiman	SLPP	Western Urban
61.	Hon. Moigua Musa Peter	SLPP	Kenema
62.	Hon. Momodu Sahr Koutu	SLPP	Kono
63.	Hon. Moriba Amie Nyava	SLPP	Bo
64.	Hon. Munda Boston	SLPP	Kenem
65.	Hon. Ngbak IV P.C Bai Farama Tass Bubu	P.C.	Kambia
66.	Hon. Nyuma Mathew Sahr	SLPP	Kenema
67.	Hon. Pyne Umu	SLPP	Moyamba
68.	Hon. Rahman – Coker Mohamed Sheriff	SLPP	Western Urban
69.	Hon. Rogers Alex Mattia	SLPP	Pujehun
70.	Hon. Rogers Dickson Momoh	SLPP	Pujehun



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



71.	Hon. Salia – Konneh Quintin	SLPP	Kailahun
72.	Hon. Sama Shiaka Musa	SLPP	Pujehun
73.	Hon. Sandy Alice Kornya	SLPP	Kenema
74.	Hon. Sankoh – Yillah Ishmael	SLPP	Port Loko
75.	Hon. Saquee IV P.C Paul Ngaba	P. C.	Kono
76.	Hon. Sellu Mustapha Musa	SLPP	Moyamba
77.	Hon. Sesay Veronica Kadie	SLPP	Moyamba
78.	Hon. Shaw Mohamed Billoh	SLPP	Falaba
79.	Hon. Siafa Rosaline	SLPP	Kailahun
80.	Hon. Silikie Bashiru	SLPP	Bo
81.	Hon. Songa Wuyatta Bernadette	SLPP	Kailahun
82.	Hon. Soukenah Fatmata Sarah	SLPP	Western Urban
83.	Hon. Surmoijueh Jibrila	SLPP	Bonthe
84.	Hon. Tarawalli Mussaffa	SLPP	Kenema
85.	Hon. Taylor – Bangura Mabinty Alice	SLPP	Kambia
86.	Hon. Tengbeh Fallah Kenawah	SLPP	Kailahun
87.	Hon. Tholley Foyoh	SLPP	Tonkolili
88.	Hon. Thomas Segepoh Solomon	SLPP	Bonthe
89.	Hon. Thompson Alfred Ayodela	SLPP	Western Urban
90.	Hon. Tommy Sia Mahawa Habiamama	SLPP	Kono
91.	Hon. Tongi Emilia Lolloh	SLPP	Kailahun
92.	Hon. Tunis Sidie Mohamed	SLPP	Pujehun
93.	Hon. Turay Benjamin	SLPP	Western Urban
94.	Hon. Vandy Christopha Kekura	SLPP	Bo
95.	Hon. Williams – Lamin Joseph	SLPP	Bo
96.	Hon. Zombo Mariama Munia	SLPP	Pujehun
THE FOLLOWING HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE ABSENT:			
1.	Hon. Amara Haja Miatta	APC	Western Rural
2.	Hon. Bah Alpha Amadu	APC	Western Urban
3.	Hon. Bangura Cecilia Mabinty	APC	Karene
4.	Hon. Bangura Daniel Amadu	APC	Tonkolili
5.	Hon. Bangura Ibrahim Aziz	APC	Port Loko
6.	Hon. Bangura Mariama	APC	Western Urban
7.	Hon. Bangura Mohamed	APC	Bombali
8.	Hon. Bangura Rose - Marie	APC	Tonkolili
9.	Hon. Barrie Ibrahim	APC	Bombali
10.	Hon. Conteh Adama	APC	Western Urban
11.	Hon. Conteh Hawa	APC	Koinadugu
12.	Hon. Conteh John Charles	APC	Bombali
13.	Hon. Conteh Kemokoh	APC	Western Rural



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



14.	Hon. Conteh Mohamed	APC	Bombali
15.	Hon. Conteh Paul Samba	APC	Bombali
16.	Hon. Fofanah Abu Bakarr	APC	Western Rural
17.	Hon. Fornah Daniel	APC	Tonkolili
18.	Hon. Forna Mabinty	APC	Tonkolili
19.	Hon. Jalloh Mohamed Alpha	APC	Bombali
20.	Hon. Kamara Abdulai	APC	Western Urban
21.	Hon. Kamara Abdul Karim	APC	Kambia
22.	Hon. Kamara Abdul Karim	APC	Port Loko
23.	Hon. Kamara Alusine Bash	APC	Karene
24.	Hon. Kamara Mahmoud	APC	Western Urban
25.	Hon. Kamara Marie	APC	Bombali
26.	Hon. Kamara Mohamed Sheridan	APC	Kambia
27.	Hon. Kamara Rugiatu	APC	Tonkolili
28.	Hon. Kanu Rugiatu Rosy	APC	Western Urban
29.	Hon. Kargbo Abdul	APC	Port Loko
30.	Hon. Kargbo John Sartty	APC	Western Rural
31.	Hon. Kargbo Mohamed Sheriff	APC	Karene
32.	Hon. Kellie Lucinda Finda	APC	Kono
33.	Hon. Kellie Tamba	APC	Kono
34.	Hon. Koroma Aaron Aruna	APC	Tonkolili
35.	Hon. Koroma Daniel Brima	APC	Koinadugu
36.	Hon. Koroma Ernest	APC	Kambia
37.	Hon. Koroma Peter Yamba	APC	Bombali
38.	Hon. Koroma Unpha Sorie Gbessay	APC	Western Urban
39.	Hon. Larkoh Aruna Papay	APC	Tonkolili
40.	Hon. Mansaray Hamidu Holla	APC	Koinadugu
41.	Hon. Mansaray Alpha Ben	APC	Moyamba
42.	Hon. Sesay Abdul Latiff	APC	Port Loko
43.	Hon. Sesay Aminata	APC	Port Loko
44.	Hon. Sesay Jawah	APC	Tonkolili
45.	Hon. Sesay Sallieu Osman	APC	Bombali
46.	Hon. Tarawally Cathrine Zainab	APC	Bombali
47.	Hon. Taylor-Bangura Mabinty Alice	APC	Kambia
48.	Hon. Thompson Alfred Ayodele	APC	Western Urban
49.	Hon. Timbo Osman Abdal	APC	Western Urban
50.	Hon. Timbo Zinab	APC	Western Rural
51.	Hon. Tucker Tom Issic	APC	Kono
52.	Hon. Turay Alhaji Sorieba	APC	Tonkolili
53.	Hon. Turay Memunatu	APC	Port Loko



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



1. Prayers were read by Mrs. Fatmata Bintu Weston (Senior Table Clerk).

2. Standing Order 3 (Allocation of Seats):

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, allocated seats to Hon. Members and further stated that Hon. Members who were not comfortable with the seats allocated to them should meet him after adjournment.

3. Mr. Speaker's Announcement:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, made the following announcements as follows:

- (i) He informed and urged all presidential nominees that were subjected to parliamentary approval to expedite the submission of all information required of them to the Clerk of Parliament in order to facilitate the work of the Appointments Committee. He stated that it was the first time in living memory that the House would deal with all presidential nominees at once. He informed Hon. Members that the House would approve the Appointments Committee on that day's sitting so that it would start interviewing presidential nominees.
- (ii) He informed the House about the appointment of Hon. Members to the Standing and Sessional Select Committees of the House. He stated that there would be over thirty committees constituted. He said that the House would align its work with the five pillars that carried the priorities of the President so that oversight work could be done efficiently and effectively. He stated that meritocracy would be the overarching principle for constituting those committees, and that was the reason Hon. Members had been requested to submit their curriculum vitae to the Office of the Clerk. He further informed Hon. Members that the House would announce the

Membership of the following committees for approval before adjournment: Committee of Selection; Supervisory Committee; Business Committee; Committee on Appointments and the Public Service Committee and the Parliamentary Service Commission.

The Leader of Government Business, **Hon. Mathew S. Nyuma, of Kenema District** rose on a point of order and informed the House about the challenges of having the Votes and Proceedings as well as other parliamentary documents in soft and hard copies. He appealed to the House for the new Members of Parliament to be given more induction trainings. He further appealed to the House for trainings to be conducted for all MPs to be able to use their electronic devices. He apologized to the House for the inconveniences of having their parliamentary documents for that sitting.



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



Mr. Speaker's Response:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, agreed with the salient point made by the Leader of Government Business. He said that the House was going through a transition period of working from paper to paperless. He noted that the drive towards E-Parliament was inevitable and that Hon. Members should be determined to use the E-Parliament infrastructure. He assured the House that there would be much better improvement moving forward.

Continued Announcement:

(iii) Mr. Speaker informed the House that it would take some time for Hon. Members to know one another, and that since the onus was upon him for Members to recognize one another, he, thereby, asked that all Hon. Members especially the new MPs should introduce themselves when given the floor to make submission.

4. Mr. Speaker's Acceptance Speech:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, made the following acceptance speech as quoted:

"Hon. Members of Parliament, Hon. Clerk of Parliament, By your collective vote last Thursday, 13th July, and in consonance with the provisions of Section 79 of the Constitution (Act No. 6 of 1991) you, Members of Parliament, made a momentous decision. You agreed overwhelmingly to renew my mandate and repose your trust and confidence in me by electing me as Speaker of this Sixth Parliament of the Second Republic. For this singular honour you have bestowed on me to continue to serve my beloved country, Sierra Leone, I want to thank all of you, old and new Members alike, and I do so most profoundly.

2. By the oath of office I have sworn, I have pledged faithfully and conscientiously to discharge my duties as Speaker of this Sixth Parliament and to do right to all manner of people in accordance with the sacred and supreme law of the Constitution of Sierra Leone and to uphold the laws and customs of Parliament without fear or favour, affection or ill-will. This is a most solemn undertaking. As an ordinary mortal I can't do without invoking the intervention of Allah Almighty to guide and direct and protect me and to grant me the wisdom, strength and fortitude to live up to this solemn pledge and to deliver service once again to this country to the satisfaction of all its citizenry.

Hon. Members,

3. I don't know how many of you have a true understanding of the meaning and significance of the solemn oath of office that you all swore as Members of Parliament last Thursday. It is my



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



fervent hope that all of you do, but In case there is anyone with a doubt about its import, let me take just a little time to explain and elucidate.

4. All of us in this chamber seated as Members of Parliament owe one of the greatest responsibilities that anyone can undertake for this country. Together, we alone are the chosen people exclusively vested with the power to make laws for this country and, more particularly, to make laws for the peace, security, order and good government of Sierra Leone. That power is inalienable and is given to us by the Constitution of Sierra Leone, which is the supreme law of the land, (the Grund norm as the Germans would call it). I am sure every Member has been given a copy of this most important document together with a copy of the Standing Orders of Parliament. By the principle of separation of powers, Members are now enjoined to stoutly defend and protect this power zealously.
5. To underline just how onerous this power of Parliament is, it is enshrined in Section 73 of the Constitution. Precisely because it is so enshrined, it cannot be taken away from us. Because when we exercise this power to legislate we are doing so on behalf of the entire citizenry who have voted us to Parliament mainly for that purpose as well as to make their voices heard on matters that touch and concern the interests of our country. The awesomeness of this power is further emphasized by subsection (8) of Section 108 of the Constitution which makes it abundantly clear that any attempt by any Bill to take it away from Parliament or to alter it in any shape or form, can only be done if at least two-thirds of all the Members of Parliament approve and this approval goes for every stage of the legislative process. Equally importantly, even after two-thirds of the Members of Parliament shall have approved, the Bill must also be subjected to a referendum of the people. Because of all these stringent essential preconditions, Section 73 is generally referred to as an entrenched provision of the Constitution.

It is alongside many other provisions that belong to this unique class all of which are listed under Section 108 of the Constitution.

6. That's not all. Even more prohibitive is the penalty of treason that awaits anyone who attempts to suspend, alter or repeal either Section 73 or any other provision of the Constitution by means other than under the express authority of Parliament. And treason is a capital offence punishable by death until it was changed recently to life imprisonment by the Fifth Parliament. Whether the penalty is death or life imprisonment, it is a manifestation of the severity of the offence that is involved and which I wish to highlight.



SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING



Hon. Members,

7. So far, I have highlighted the awesomeness of the power given to Parliament and its Members by the Constitution. But power is something that does not stand alone; it's always in need of a companion. And that companion is called responsibility. It is appropriate, therefore, that we also consider the important responsibilities borne by every Member of Parliament.
8. Like the powers given to the Members of Parliament, their responsibilities are similarly enshrined in the Constitution. For present purposes, Section 97 will suffice as the most relevant. That Section enjoins every Member of Parliament to maintain at all times the dignity and image of Parliament in all their activities both in and out of Parliament. In this regard, Members of Parliament are not only representatives of the people, they are obligated to cease and desist from any conduct by which they seek improperly to enrich or alienate themselves from the people.
9. This heavy responsibility is really what the oath sworn by Members seeks to encapsulate. Again, it is important that we identify its essential elements. First, Members have sworn that they will bear true faith and allegiance to the Republic of Sierra Leone as by law established; second, that they will **uphold and defend** the Constitution of Sierra Leone; and third, that they will faithfully and conscientiously discharge their duties as Members of Parliament. No responsibility can be higher and stronger than to **uphold and defend** the Constitution of our country. In other words, Parliament is the gatekeeper of the country's great principles, values and virtues, including, for example, upholding and defending the Constitution and its supremacy and also respecting and maintaining the supremacy of the Rule of Law. As such no sooner a Member has taken the oath and taken his seat in this House, he is qualified to carry the high title of Honourable; he also becomes the alter ego of the House. To maintain that coveted title the Member must always demonstrate that he can be relied upon to defend the Constitution of our country. This means he must himself not be an offender of the Constitution. To do so is to run the serious risk of expulsion from Parliament. In other words, a Member cannot put himself in a situation where he is perceived to approbate on the one hand and to reprobate on the other. He must always stand above board and always stand on the right side of the law of the Constitution. Accordingly, he must conduct himself as a role model for others to emulate and he must therefore not make himself a violator of the Constitution in any way. So if there is any Member who thinks wittingly or unwittingly he may have done something that is in violation of the Constitution, he is best advised to consult with the Clerk of Parliament to establish whether there has been an infraction and how it could be remedied quietly and discreetly.



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



Hon. Members,

10. This advice is meant not to frighten or intimidate; rather it is apposite that Members should know right from wrong from the very beginning, and to make themselves fully compliant with the demands and dictates of the Constitution. However, if you fail to take action and you are discovered later to have fallen foul of the Constitution, the consequences could be very serious and lasting.
11. That said, let me now turn to the next important responsibility of Members of Parliament. We are responsible for translating into law the policy directives brought to us in this House by the Executive arm of Government. For the Fifth Parliament, over the past five years terminating on 25th April 2023, we were able to score extraordinary achievements, notwithstanding the vicissitudes ordinarily associated with Hung Parliaments in which no political party has a clear majority. Despite the Fifth Parliament being a Hung Parliament, in total, we held no fewer than 301 plenary sittings; passed 84 Bills into law and some as extraordinary in nature as they were ground-breaking; approved 64 Constitutional and Statutory Instruments; approved 208 Agreements of Loans and Grants; ratified 51 Treaties, Conventions and Protocols; and tabled 121 Reports from Committees and Delegations. Altogether there were a total of 829 instruments. That was a record without precedent in the history of the Parliament of Sierra Leone.
12. Among the ground-breaking laws passed by the Fifth Parliament was the repeal of some draconian portions of the Public Order Act, 1965, to give more freedom to journalists to practise their profession; the abolition of the death penalty; the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act (GEWE Act) and Section 58 of the Public Elections Act, both of 2022. The combined operation of these last two laws has enabled this nation to move towards the path of justice for women in this country and away from the status quo and the traditional stereotype.

It should therefore surprise no one when global accolades begin to pour into the country for President Bio's decision to appoint up to 33% women into his Government. Within our ranks here in Parliament women lawmakers today account for 30.4% of the elected seats, compared to 14.5% in the Fifth Parliament. What a quantum leap this is! We must pay homage to President Maada Bio who signed into law the GEWE Act just a few months ago, which sets a 30% quota of women in Parliament, the cabinet and other public institutions. For the first time in the history of Parliament, women won 41 out of the 135 seats from the General Election. When we add the one Woman Paramount Chief Member re-elected to the House out of the 14 PCs Members of Parliament, we still have 28.2% seats for women out of a total of 149 seats.



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



Hon. Members,

13. Great achievements like these do portend greater things ahead for this country. It also highlights clearly the tremendous work and achievements of the first term of President Julius Maada Bio. The question we must now face is whether this Sixth Parliament is capable of meeting the challenge left behind by the Fifth Parliament and, more importantly, of surpassing it? Only time will tell. Obviously it will require more hard work but it is certainly not impossible. It all depends on how prepared and determined we are in this Sixth Parliament to work hard and deliver the public goods that will continue to transform our country. I am confident that this Sixth Parliament will not only match, it will more than match the record of the Fifth Parliament.
14. For this Sixth Parliament, all the evidence points to our priority agenda having already been crafted for us and it promises exciting times ahead. We shall be passing Bills and approving other legislative instruments specifically to give effect to the policies elaborated in the Five Game changers enunciated in the Manifesto of this Second Administration of the President. Of the utmost priority is the consolidation of the gains of his First Administration, and the acceleration of economic growth and the building of resilience. They are:

First, Feed Salone: An initiative to boost agricultural productivity to ensure food security and inclusive economic growth. If Sierra Leone becomes self-sufficient in food it would save between US\$300 and US\$400 million a year in our import bill alone, to say nothing about the other significant benefits to the country.

Second, Continue with Human Capital Development in order to nurture skills fit for the 21st Century through the development of technical and vocational skills to grow the economy.

Third, Youth Employment aimed at creating 500,000 new jobs over the next five years for the employment of our youth population which has been growing in exponential proportions.

Fourth, Revamping the Public Service Architecture to achieve service delivery, efficiency and professionalism by application of meritocracy, and not chronic cronyism and nepotism.



SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING



And Fifth, Technology and Infrastructure to create new pathways for sustained and sustainable economic growth by investing in infrastructure, technology and digitisation especially in energy generation and transmission, construction of roads and bridges to facilitate movement and linkages between production centres and markets.

Hon. Members,

15. Throughout my statement I have laid great emphasis on **hard work**. This is because, as your Speaker, I want all of us to embrace a new work ethic as the only viable option to attaining success. That has been the secret of my entire life. Whatever I have done or achieved in life, hard work has been at the centre. I was not born with a silver spoon in my mouth. I come from a very humble background, born of parents who were completely unlettered and from a town, Gbinti, that is especially famous for being perhaps the first citadel of Islam in the North. Thanks to the Roman Catholic Mission who built a school in Gbinti, I might never have completed my primary education. By sheer dint of hard work I went through the Common Entrance Examination, as it was then called, with flying colours and won a Government scholarship that lasted with me throughout my schooling. I am not and have never been a lucky person and that is why I don't gamble. Throughout my secondary schooling from St. Andrew's Secondary School in Bo to the Methodist Boys' High School at Kissy Mess Mess and to St. Edwards Secondary School at Kingtom in Freetown, I was always at the top of my class. At St. Edwards I completed my GCE A Levels in one year and earned an Australian Government scholarship to read law at the Australian National University and later got called to the Bar in 1970. I benefitted from a policy of the Australian Federal Government that recruited the best of the best into their Service where I spent one year as a Legal Officer in the Office of the Federal Attorney-General before proceeding to the United Kingdom where I successfully read for my Masters and Doctorate Degrees in Constitutional and International Law at the University of Cambridge.
16. From Cambridge I joined the Commonwealth Secretariat in London and again by dint of hard work I quickly rose to the rank of a Director at a very tender age. During my time there, I acted as Legal Adviser to the then Freedom Fighters of Zimbabwe, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, for their Peace Talks in Geneva as well as for their Constitutional Conference at Lancaster House in London. I did the same for Premier Price of Belize and for the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. My last official external assignment before leaving the Commonwealth Secretariat to return home to Sierra Leone in 1982 was as Secretary to the Commonwealth Observer Group for the Ugandan Elections of 1980.



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



17. My sojourn as the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (now re-designated President of the Commission) is already well known in West Africa. Apart from being the brainchild of ECOMOG which liberated Liberia from the throes of its own civil war in the 1990s, I left at least two enduring legacies which to this day stand as a testament of my stewardship in ECOWAS. First, I raised the profile of ECOWAS to a level never before attained both within the West African region and in the wider international community and, second, I pioneered the revision and modernization of the original ECOWAS Treaty of 1975 which was succeeded and replaced by the Revised Treaty of ECOWAS of 1993. So impressed were the ECOWAS Heads of State with my stewardship that the then Nigerian Head of State, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, asked me to stay on for another term of office even though it wasn't the turn of Sierra Leone. However, I gently declined because by 1993 when I looked at myself in the mirror I could barely recognise myself. From a sweet innocent looking youth of 40 years with jet black hair when I assumed office as Executive Secretary in 1988, the rigours and pressures of office had quickly turned my hair silver and the blackness of my hair has never ever returned.

Hon. Members,

18. I narrate all of this not out of arrogance or pomposity but merely to demonstrate that I am a man of humble pedigree who is driven solely by an ambition to deliver service and to leave a legacy behind for others to emulate. I am not a lover of the glamour of high office nor am I mesmerised by it. When I serve in any office, high or low, my foremost driving principle has been to give it my all, backed by superior intellect, experience, consistency and steadfastness, honesty and results. That drive has again been laid bare for all to see since I assumed the role of Speaker of the Fifth Parliament in 2018, and my achievements speak eloquently for themselves.

Hon. Members,

19. Let me conclude with a personal confession. Throughout my professional working life the only man I have admired and adored as a mentor is the late Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kwan Yew. I was privileged to meet with him and see him in conversation with his peers at Commonwealth Summit Meetings during my time at the Commonwealth Secretariat.

20. He was a man who inherited from the British colonialists in the early 1960s, the same time that Sierra Leone gained her own independence, a vastly impoverished island of 214 square miles at low tide. At that time Singapore possessed literally nothing in terms of natural resources except its untrained and unskilled human capital consisting of mainly Chinese and Malays and other



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



ethnic groups. In barely 40 years Mr. Lee was able to provide leadership for Singapore and to transform her from a Third World to a First World country. Compared with Singapore, Sierra Leone is richly endowed with all the natural resources you can imagine including similarly unskilled human capital. So, with the right leadership, focus and determination, not just in the Executive arm but also in this Legislative arm of Government, we too can seize the opportunity to transform our country into the new Singapore of West Africa and I believe it is still possible to achieve this in our own life time.

21. But to get there we must be united, resolute and unrelenting in our march to transformation and prosperity. We must all try to understand and appreciate the fact that in the midst of all the global economic and health crises, we owe a duty to our people to deliver. If Mr. Lee could deliver for his people in Singapore in 40 years, I believe we too can.
22. But big things can grow out of little things. From this Parliament we can establish little values that others can follow. For example, we can start by cultivating a culture of respect for time. When our Standing Orders require us to start the work of Parliament at 10 o'clock prompt and to end at 3:00 pm or beyond, let us all agree to obey. Let this Sixth Parliament therefore agree to set an example for the rest of mankind in this country to follow so that together we can establish a new work ethic for this nation.
23. I thank you all once again for your kind attention and for re-electing me as the Speaker of this Sixth Parliament. May Allah bless us all and bless our country Sierra Leone.

5. Felicitations to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker:

The following Hon. Members contributed to the felicitations of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker for their re-elections to their respective positions:

No	Names of Honourable Members	Party	District
1.	Hon. Dickson M. Rogers	SLPP	Pujehun
2.	Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	SLPP	Moyamba
3.	Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	SLPP	Bo
4.	Hon. Shiaka Musa Sama	SLPP	Pujehun



SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING



6. Suspension of Standing Order 5(2) at 12 noon:

The motion for the suspension of S.O. 5(2) at 12 noon was moved by **Hon. Veronica K. Sesay** of **Moyamba District** for the proceedings to continue during lunch. The motion was seconded by **Hon. Nenneh Lebbie of Bo District** and approved by the House.

Proceedings Continued:

5.	Hon. Hindolo Moiwo Gevao	SLPP	Kailahun
6.	Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina	SLPP	Kono
7.	Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	SLPP	Kailahun
8.	Hon. Emilia Lolloh Tongi	SLPP	Kailahun
9.	Hon. P.C. Haja Fatmata Bintu Koroma Meama Kajue	.....	Moyamba
10.	Hon. P.C. Foray Cyril Gondor II	.....	Kailahun
11.	Hon. Margaret Feimata Johnson	SLPP	Kailahun
12.	Hon. Jibrila Surmoijueh	SLPP	Bonthe
13.	Hon. Abdul Karim Bangura	SLPP	Karene
14.	Hon. Bernadette Wuyatta Songa	SLPP	Kenema
15.	Hon. Rebecca Yei Kamara	SLPP	Kono
16.	Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin	SLPP	Bo
17.	Hon. Christopha K. Vandy	SLPP	Bo
18.	Hon. Mariama Munia Zombo	SLPP	Pujehun
19.	Hon. Alice Kornya Sandy	SLPP	Kenema
20.	Hon. P.C. Victor Sidi Brima Kebbie III	.....	Pujehun
21.	Hon. Nyava Moriba	SLPP	Bo
22.	Hon. Rugiatu Tarawalli-Mussaffa	SLPP	Kenema
23.	Hon. Beatrice Maaya Kangbai	SLPP	Bo



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



**Mr. Speaker adjourned the House for lunch at 2:00 p.m.
The House resumed at 3:20 p.m.**

7. Suspension of Standing Order 5(2) at 3 pm:

The motion for the suspension of S.O. 5(2) was moved by **Hon. Dickson M. Rogers** of **Pujehun District** at 3:20 pm for the proceedings to continue after 3:00 pm. The motion was seconded by **Hon. Abu Kemokai of Pujehun District** and approved by the House.

Proceedings Continued:

24.	Hon. Brima Mansaray	SLPP	Kenema
25.	Hon.		
26.	Hon. Alpha Foday Maddie Jabbie	SLPP	Falaba
27.	Hon. Bintu Fatmata Bockarie	SLPP	Bonthe
28.	Hon. Ibrahim Kabba	SLPP	Western Rural
29.	Hon. Ibrahim Koroma	SLPP	Kenema
30.	Hon. Ing. Fallah Kenawah Tengbeh	SLPP	Kailahun
31.	Hon. Fatmata Sarah Soukenah	SLPP	Western Urban
32.	Hon. Amara Momoh Kargbo	SLPP	Western Rural
33.	Hon. Tamba Simeon Johnny	SLPP	Kono

Mr. Speaker's Acknowledgement:

The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, acknowledged the felicitations showered upon him by Hon. Members based on the achievements of the Fifth Parliament. He stated that the work done in the Fifth Parliament was due to his hard work and Hon. Members alike. He extended his gratitude to Hon. Members of the Fifth Parliament who were also Members of the Sixth Parliament for the great work they did together. He advised Hon. Members not to be complacent that the water would be softer and smother as the ambience within the chamber might give that impression, but the storm would blow as their colleagues would come and take their allotted seat. He said that it would be an act of unforgivable treachery if Members of the Opposition failed to come to the House after they had been elected by their people to participate in the proceedings of the House for the growth and betterment of Sierra Leone. He extended an olive branch to Members of the Opposition that



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



were absent for that day's sitting. He said that they should see wisdom of their own volition to come to the House for the reason that they were elected. He reminded the House about the happenings in the 2007 as well as the 2012 general elections. He said that they were extremely annoyed when they were told to 'go the police' as they protested against the results, but at the end they reconciled themselves and accepted the results. He stated that Sierra Leone is bigger than any political party. He thought that over 60 years of independence, Sierra Leoneans should take pride and learn to resolve their differences among themselves and not to rely entirely on the dictate by outsiders. He asked the House to say thanks to the Government of Sierra Leone for conducting the June 24th general elections on the basis of its own resources. He reminded the House about slavery and its decimated effect on the human capital of Africa especially West Africa. He made mentioned of religion as another means of exploitation by the colonialists. He noted that with the Instrument of Independence, the doors were shut as the colonialists could no longer access the natural resources of Africa at their will. He stated that the bid for Sierra Leone's natural resources have become so competitive and intense because China, India and Russia were with Sierra Leone. He said the West thought they could access our natural resources by interfering with our domestic affairs and electoral processes by determining who governed. He urged all Sierra Leoneans to be alert to strongly defend and protect Sierra Leone. He hoped that Hon. Members of the Opposition would join the House. He stated that they did not wish to run a one-party state because the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone could not allow them even if they intended that. He further extended his gratitude to all Hon. Members for their warm felicitations to him and the Deputy Speaker.

8. Announcement of Membership of the Parliamentary Service Commission:

Pursuant to Section 93 of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone (Act No. 6 of 1991) and Section 2 of **The Parliament Act 2023**, The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, announced the following membership of the Parliamentary Service Commission as constituted:

1. Parliamentary Service Commission			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	PARTY
1.	Honourable Speaker	Chairman	
2.	Deputy Speaker	Deputy Chairman	SLPP
3.	Leader of Government Business	Member	SLPP
4.	The Leader of Opposition	Member	APC
5.	Chief Whip	Member	SLPP
6.	Opposition Whip	Member	APC
7.	President, Female Caucus	Member	SLPP
8.	Chairman, PCMPs	Member	.....
9.	Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member	SLPP
10.	Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina	Member	SLPP



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



11	Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member	SLPP
12	Hon. Quintin Salia-Konneh	Member	SLPP
13.	Hon. Emilia Lolloh Tongi	Member	SLPP
14.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
15	Hon. ...	Member	APC

Hon. Nenneh Lebbie of Bo District moved a motion that the Membership of the Parliamentary Service Commission be approved by the House. The motion was seconded by **Hon. Joseph Williams-Lamin of Bo District**.

Mr. Speaker put the question for vote as quoted:

"All those in favour, say Aye."

"All those against, say Nay."

Through collection of voices, Mr. Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

The Senior Table Clerk, **Mrs. Fatmata Bintu Weston**, pronounced that the Membership of the Parliamentary Service Commission had been approved.

9. Announcement of Membership for Standing Committees:

Pursuant to Section 93 of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone (Act No. 6 of 1991) and Standing Order 70, The Rt. Hon. Speaker, **Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu**, announced the Membership of the following Standing Committees of Parliament as constituted:

2. Committee of Selection			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	PARTY
1.	Speaker	Chairman	
2.	Leader of Government Business	Deputy Chairman	SLPP
3.	Leader of Opposition	Member	APC
4.	Deputy Speaker	Member	SLPP
5.	Chief Whip	Member	SLPP
6.	Chairman, PCMPs	Member	.....
7.	President, Female Caucus	Member	SLPP
8.	Opposition Whip	Member	APC
9.	Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina	Member	SLPP
10.	Hon. Bashiru Silikie	Member	SLPP
11.	Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member	SLPP
12.	Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member	APC
13	Clerk of Parliament	Secretary	.....



**SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING**



3. Supervisory Committee			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	PARTY
1.	Leader of Government Business	Chairman	SLPP
2.	Leader of Opposition	Deputy Chairman	APC
3.	Deputy Speaker	Member	SLPP
4.	Chief Whip	Member	SLPP
5.	Opposition Whip	Member	APC
6.	Chairman, PCMPs	Member	.....
7.	President, Female Caucus	Member	SLPP
8.	Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member	APC
9.	Hon. Clerk of Parliament	Secretary	.....

4. Business Committee			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	PARTY
1.	Leader of Government Business	Chairman	SLPP
2.	Deputy Leader 1 of Government Business	Deputy Chairman	SLPP
3.	Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina	Member	SLPP
4.	Hon. Nenneh Lebbie	Member	SLPP
5.	Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh	Member	SLPP
6.	Hon. P.C. Bai Shebora Gberek III	Member	.....
7.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
8.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
9.	Hon. ...	Member	APC

5. Committee on Appointments and the Public Service			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	PARTY
1.	Leader of Government Business	Chairman	SLPP
2.	Deputy Leader 1 of Government Business	Deputy Chairman	SLPP
3.	Deputy Speaker	Member	SLPP
4.	Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina	Member	SLPP
5.	Hon. Veronica K. Sesay	Member	SLPP
6.	Chief Whip	Member	SLPP
7.	Hon. Rebecca Yei Kamara	Member	SLPP
8.	Hon. Emilia Lolloh Tongi	Member	SLPP
9.	Hon. Ibrahim Tawa Conteh	Member	SLPP
10.	Hon. P.C. Foday Gondor	Member	.....
11.	Hon. Francis A. Kaisamba	Member	SLPP
12.	Hon. Mohamed Bangura	Member	APC



SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE
FIRST SESSION, 2023/2024
FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SITTING



13.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
14.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
15.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
16.	Hon. ...	Member	APC
17.	Hon. ...	Member	APC

The Deputy Leader 1 of Government Business, **Hon. Bashiru Silikie of Bo District**, moved a motion that the Membership of the aforementioned Standing Committees be approved by the House. The motion was seconded by **Hon. Emilia Lolloh Tongi of Kailahun District**.

Mr. Speaker put the question for vote as quoted:

"All those in favour, say Aye."

"All those against, say Nay."

Through collection of voices, Mr. Speaker declared that the Ayes had it.

The Senior Table Clerk, **Mrs. Fatmata Bintu Weston**, pronounced that the Membership of the aforementioned Standing Committees had been approved.

Adjournment:

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to Tuesday 25th July, 2023.

The House rose at 4:45 p.m.