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PRESS RELEASE

PARLIAMENT APPROVES HON. MANSO DUMBUYA, TUMA ADAMA JABBI AND SIX OTHERS

The Parliament of Sierra Leone has on Thursday 19th July 2018 debated and approved the Ninth Report of its Committee on Appointments and the Public Service, chaired by the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis.

The Report contains eight presidential nominees to serve in high offices of State including the Sierra Leone Ports Authority, National Revenue Authority, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority and the National Civil Registration Authority.

After the approval of the presidential nominees, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Parliament of Sierra Leone, Dr. Abass Chernor Bundu described them as “eminently and extraordinarily qualified for the positions” by borrowing a leaf from the Nigerian Senate “that they had truly arrived”, whilst calling on them to deliver their services extraordinarily to the people of Sierra Leone, in view of the confidence reposed on them by President Bio and by extension the Parliament of Sierra Leone.

The following presidential nominees were approved by Parliament:

- I. Hon. Abu Manso Dumbuya-Chairman, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Ports Authority
- II. Ms. Tuma Adama Jabbi-Chairman, Board of Directors, National Revenue Authority
- III. Mr. Khalilu Omaru Bah-Chairman, Public Service Commission
- IV. Ms. Martha Consilia Kanagbo-Chairman, National Insurance Company Limited
- V. Mr. Mohamed M. Massaquoi-Director-General, National Civil Registration Authority
- VI. Mr. Moses Tiffa Baio-Director-General, Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority
- VII. Mr. Timothy Musa Kabba-Director-General, Petroleum Directorate and

VIII. Mr. David Panda-Noah-Executive Director, Sierra Leone Roads Safety Authority

Contributing to the debate, the Chief Whip of Parliament, Hon. Dickson Rogers referred to Tuma Jabbi's nomination as one based on merit and that she is one of the finest lawyers in Sierra Leone who stands tall in executing her duties. Calling on Mr. Bah to share his knowledge with the civil service training school, with the aim of making our civil service to take its rightful position in West Africa, he said Mr. Bah had risen from the low to the highest echelons of our civil service progressively. Speaking on the vision and expertise of the other nominees, he encouraged them to offer 70 to 80% of their energy and capacity for the success of the "New Direction", adding that they are agents of change that would bar APC from winning the next general elections.

The Opposition Whip, Hon. Hassan Sesay whilst speaking on "political loan" said that Hon. Dr. Bubuakei Jabbi had served the APC in the capacity as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs under the one party State, whose penchant for thoroughness had translated to the success of his children. Speaking on the need for removing our civil service from the shackles of colonialism, he referred to Mr. K.O Bah as "very experienced, focused and well-mannered", considering Mr. Kabba's appointment as one with an element of continuity of encouraging the young with innovative skills and experience to contribute to national development. He also spoke on road safety and the decongestion of traffic, whilst calling on insurers to educate the public on the advantage of having a comprehensive insurance instead of a third party insurance.

Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina, Leader of C4C said that it would not be difficult for him to sing eulogies of "all these fine nominees", whilst encouraging them to "dream big". He also called on Mr. Bah to fix the diagonal matrix in respect of conditions of service between rural and urban areas, to harmonize the ambiguity in the Income Tax Act of 2000 in line with grey areas that are being exploited by conglomerate mining companies, saying that long periods of exploration licences are doing a disservice to the country. He has also mentioned the importance of negotiating a reduction in cost of continental air fares which are amongst the most expensive in the world.

Acting Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo congratulated Mr. Speaker for his level of objectivity in directing the affairs of the House, adding that the opposition is satisfied with the presidential nominees and that even "when the APC comes to power in 2023" they would be retained because of their materiality. Speaking on the protection and resuscitation of the National Insurance Company, he recounted its formation was mainly for revenue mobilization and job creation, whilst congratulating President Bio for carefully identifying and nominating competent Sierra Leoneans to serve in high offices of State. He also spoke on the need for vehicular identification and to discourage the idea of covering number plates, and to bring our petrol and gas industry to warrant investment that will attract a lot of resources for the development of Sierra Leone.

The Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis congratulated MPs for their brilliant contributions, including those who spoke in Parliament for the first time, attributing to a Member's contribution that "for every mistake you make, it will take ten years to correct". Recalling Mr. Kabba's role in the discovery of oil in Ghana, he called for measures to be put in place, having regard for the discovery of oil in Sierra Leone, adding that Parliament would support any amendment that would enhance its productivity. He also called on Sierra Leoneans to put politics aside and execute their duties, adding that those who were openly partisan and active in political campaigns would hardly keep their jobs.

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