



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

FIRST SESSION - FOURTH MEETING

THURSDAY, 11TH APRIL, 2019

SESSION – 2018/2019



OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL, FREETOWN

PARLIAMETARY DEBATES

[HANSARD]

OFFICIAL HANSARD REPORT

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Fourth Meeting of the First Session of the Fifth Parliament
of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone.

Proceedings of the Sitting of the House
Held Thursday, 11th April, 2019.

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PROPOSER: HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA

SECONDER: HON. DR KANDEH K.YUMKELLA

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT THE THIRTY-THIRD REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BE ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE AND THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE APPROVED:



THE CHAMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Official Hansard Report of the Proceedings of the House

**FIRST SESSION – FOURTH MEETING
OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC**

Thursday, 11th April, 2019.

I. PRAYERS

[The Table Clerk, Mrs Bintu Weston, Read the Prayers]

[The House met at 10:40 a.m. in Parliament Building, Tower Hill, Freetown]

[The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Segepoh Solomon Thomas in the Chair]

The House was called to Order

Suspension of S.O 5[2]

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to amend the Order Paper thus, instead of Honourable Emilia L. Tongi, we now have Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella to second the Motion.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. MOSES B. JORKIE: Mr Speaker, I so second.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Motion to amend the Order Paper has been carried]

II. CORRECTION OF VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR PARLIAMENTARY SITTING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9TH APRIL, 2019

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we go through the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Tuesday, 9th April, 2019. As usual, we shall skip pages 1 to 4. Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? If there is no amendment or correction, could somebody move for the adoption of the record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Tuesday, 9th April, 2019 as presented?

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: I so move, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. ALICE J. KUMABEH: I so second Mr Speaker.

[Question Proposed, Put and Agreed To]

[Record of Votes and Proceedings for the parliamentary sitting held on Tuesday, 9th April, 2019 has been adopted as presented]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo, Honourable Leader of Government Business, Honourable Lahai Marah and Honourable Kandeh K. Yumkella please approach me.

III. PAPERS LAID

[A] THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

HON MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in my capacity as Acting Leader of Government Business, I beg to lay the following Papers on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on the Table of the House:

- [i] CU 160 - Labour Statistic Convention 1985;
- [ii] C189 – Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 [No. 189];
- [iii] C102 – Social Security [Minimum Standards] Convention, 1952;
- [iv] C150 – Labour Administration Convention, 1978;
- [v] Convention 181 Private Employment Agency; and
- [vi] Protocol 029 of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930.

[B] THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO: This side attempting to scuttle the process this morning and we would want to repeat that for Cabinet Ministers and their Deputies except there is good reason when it comes to critical documents like laying of papers, we would encourage the Ministers or their Deputies to be here. We have discovered that Ministers are avoiding coming to this House to lay their Papers and the Leader of Government Business cannot continue to stand in their place *[Applause]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo, I agree with you.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I went to your office this morning... - *[Interruption]*

THE SPEAKER: Hold on Deputy Leader of Government Business.

HON. KANDEH K. YUMKELLA: I want to second the statement made by our colleague from the APC. The dignity of Parliament has to be respected and in this case today, we have several instruments being presented by the Minister of Finance. If this document is important, the Minister should have been here. I move that we postpone the laying of these Papers *[Applause]*.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, in as much as the concerns they have raised are of utmost importance to us, I want to state here that the Ministers are absent not because they want to do so voluntarily or they want to treat Parliament with levity, but because of some urgent issues that emerged. They came to my office and asked for excuses. They said they had to engage in important government issues at State House this morning. The issue of laying of Papers is simply to notify us that we have to ratify a particular document or instrument in future. Please Honourable Members, let us go ahead and lay these documents and when it is time for ratification, they will definitely come.

THE SPEAKER: I totally agree with Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo and Honourable Kandeh K. Yumkella, but in the circumstance, Honourable Members, I would allow the laying of Papers, but let this be a warning. Mr Speaker, when it is time to ratify these Agreements, we will not ratify them without the presence of the minister concerned [*Applause*]. I will allow the laying of these Papers today. Please tell them that when it comes to the ratification of these Agreements, they should be here, otherwise we will not proceed with their documents.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Thank you for your consideration, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in my capacity as Acting Leader of Government Business, I beg to lay the following Papers on behalf of the Minister of Finance on the Table of the House:

- [i] Loan Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the African Development Fund on the Freetown Wash and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project;
- [ii] Financing Agreement–Agriculture Value Chain Development Project [AVDP] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the International Fund for Agricultural Development;
- [iii] Subsidiary Grant Agreement between the Republic of Sierra Leone, represented by the Ministry of Finance and Guma Valley Water Company;
- [iv] Subsidiary Loan Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Guma Valley Water Company;

[v] Financing Agreement on Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme – Phase II [RFCIP 2] between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the International Fund for Agricultural Development; and

[vi] Financing Agreement on the Financial Inclusion Project between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the International Development Association. I thank you *[Applause]*.

HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO: Mr Speaker, I want it to be noted for the benefits of the government of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Finance in particular, that we are going to tolerate the laying of these Papers today only because it is necessary, but when it comes to ratification we on this side will not take part in any ratification process if our welfare needs are not met *[Applause]*. Mr Speaker, it is not a threat and that is what we mean to do. When it comes to ratification until the Ministry meets our requirements then of course we may not be able to take part in the process. I thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Member.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, before I proceed... - *[Interruption]*.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please lay the Papers on the Table.

HON MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, I am going to lay the Papers, but I know the necessary provisions in the Standing Orders.

THE SPEAKER: I know, Honourable Member.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: I am in support, Mr Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let me tell you the good news. The good news is that, even as I address you, there is a particular part that is being processed. I can tell you with authority. But we would ensure that all the other parts are addressed before the ratification of these documents.

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, before we proceed, we have to take actions where actions are necessary because the privileges of Parliament are very important to us. The last time you asked the Ministry of Finance to come they did not, but later told us that you were not around. Mr Speaker, at the end of today's business, we are going

to ask you again to call the Ministry of Finance to come here. This is because we do not know what will happen before Easter. Honourable Members, he who feels it knows it. Mr Speaker, this is my addendum towards that and we can invite them again for the second time. Thank you.

[C] THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

HON MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, in my capacity as Acting Leader of Government Business, I beg to lay the following Papers on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources on the Table of the House:

[i] Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10th December, 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks; and

[ii] Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas [The Compliance Agreement].

III. MOTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE

PROPOSER: HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA

SECONDER: HON. DR KANDEH K. YUMKELLA

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Mr Speaker, Honourable members, I present to you the Thirty-Third Report of the First Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service:

1. Introduction

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service that is charged with the responsibility of vetting Presidential nominees to select the most fitted and qualified persons to serve in public offices, met on Tuesday, 9th April, 2019 and interviewed eleven presidential nominees for appointment to the following state offices:

[i] Chairman, Political Party Registration Commission [PPRC];

- [ii] Chairman, Agriculture Research Institute Council;
- [iii] Chairman, Sierra Leone Council for Postgraduate Colleges of Health Specialties;
- [iv] Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO];
- [v] Member, Board of Director, Guma Valley Water Company [GVWC];
- [vi] Member, Board of Director, Petroleum Regulatory Agency;
- [vii] Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Road Authority [SLRA];
- [viii] Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency;
- [ix] Member, National Youth Commission;
- [x] Director-General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service; and
- [xi] Deputy Director General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service.

2. Procedure

The Committee conducted the hearings within the ambit of its established criteria set out to elicit facts as to whether the nominees are fit and qualified for their proposed appointments. The deliberations of the Committee were guided by the principle of objectivity to the extent that beside perusing the specified documents provided by the nominees, the Committee went further to request for public inputs into the vetting process by furnishing the Committee with information of relevance to the suitability of the nominees or otherwise for their proposed appointments.

The Committee certified that the nominees were cleared of any criminal records by the Criminal Investigation Department [CID] and that they have the relevant qualifications and necessary backup experience to manned such important offices of state. Inquiring questions put to the nominees covered wide ranging issues pertaining to their track records in other pertinent work situations, their declared assets and liabilities, fulfilment of their tax obligations and their visions for a successful and nationally productive tenure.

3. Thirty-Seventh Sitting of the Committee on Tuesday, 9th April, 2019

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the following nominees were interviewed on oath:

[i] Engineer Alpha Badamasi Savage, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO]

Engineer Alpha Badamasi Savage was a retired Lecturer with thirty-six years of work experience at the University of Sierra Leone and is now an independent consultant in Highway and Transportation Engineering Services. Whilst at the University of Sierra

Leone, he served on several Committees that included Finance and General Purpose Committee, University Standing Committee, Promotions Committee, Appointments Committee, Housing Committee and as Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee. In his interview, Alhaji Savage deposed that he had served the Guma Valley Water Company and had gone through a similar interview. **“So my appointment as a Member of Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company, is similar to that of the Guma Valley Water Company. In the light of my qualification and experience, I believe that I am qualified and capable for the job, he said.”**

[ii] Engineer Alhaji Mohamed B. A. Timbo, Propose Director, Board of Directors, Guma Water Supply Company.

Alhaji Mohamed B. A. Timbo has over forty-five years of Engineering work experience in many institutions including DELCO Mines as Assistant Engineer/Trainee, National Authorizing Office, where he held several positions from Assistant Projects Engineer to Director in 2008. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer, Development Cooperation and Investment Consultants. He has a wealth of experience in coordination, collaboration, monitoring, evaluation, supervision, and management. He has broad experience in several institutions, including Telecommunications, Roads, Tourism, Energy and National Assets and Government Property Commissions. Alhaji Mohamed B. A. Timbo was commended across party lines for his exemplary track records in all work situations he has found himself.

[iii] Mr Jackson Kamara, Proposed Member, Board of Directors Sierra Leone Local Content Agency

Mr Jackson Kamara is an Export Officer at the Sierra Leone Investment & Export Promotion Agency [SLIEPA] 2008 to Date. He had previously served as Research Assistant, National Policy and Advisory Committee [NPAC], from 2001 to 2008.

Reacting to the Committee’s inquiries, Mr. Jackson Kamara said: **“since the Agency was a new institution, it would be most important to first embark on an awareness raising or sensitization campaign to let people know that there is**

an Act of Parliament now existing to monitor the Local Content Policy in the country.”

[iv] Dr Sahr Sama Monde, proposed Chairman, Agriculture Research Institute Council

Dr Sahr Sama Monde is an expert in Agriculture and lectured at the N’jala University College from 1971 to 1986. He became Director and Chief Research Officer of the Rice Research Station, Rokupr from 1990 to 2002 and was Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security from 2002 to 2007. Dr Sama Monde was highly commended across party lines as an expert in agriculture and described as someone who could be relied upon to make this nation proud. He was unanimously given a clean bill of health.

Responding to the commendations of the Committee, Dr Sama Monde said: **“I feel very highly elevated and delighted by all these comments of support and assurance. I came in humility to present myself for yet another assignment. For the last forty six years of my life, I have spent all my time in this country. I have always enjoyed serving my country and I served as Lecturer and I went to Rokupr where I worked for twelve years and at some points in Rokupr, the Late President Kabba found me in 1997. He was so impressed with my performance that he appointed me as Minister of Agriculture in 2002. With my return to SLARI, I can assure you that I will do my best to support this present Programme, the National Agricultural Transformation Programme.”**

[v] Engineer David Gegbai, Proposed Member, Board of Director Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA]

Engineer David Gegbai has been a Lecturer at the Milton Margai College of Education and Technology for over fifteen years, where he has served in several capacities ranging from Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Head of Department, Dean of Faculty, President of the Academic Staff and the current Coordinator of the Examination Taskforce Committee.

Responding to Committee's inquiries, Engineer David Gegbai said: **"In 2010, I did a course in Construction Engineering Technology in China. I was recommended by the Sierra Leone Institution of Engineers and I am here representing them. Engineer David Gegbai promised to work collaboratively with fellow Board Members for the good of the nation. I will listen to their views and if there are complications, I will refer to my institution for appropriate advice."**

[vi] Mr Michael Kendor, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Petroleum Regulatory Agency

Mr Michael Kendor is the Office Manager/Accountant, Wealth hunger life /BMZ-Bo. He has previously served as Deputy National Coordinator IRACODE/UNICEF Sierra Leone.

Reacting to the Committee's inquiries on the current status of the petroleum industry, Mr Kendor said: **"Government must endeavour to expand the Petroleum Industry and to provide more storing facilities. The participation of companies like Total, Safecon and others can help; we still need to expand the Petroleum Industry and include all stakeholders, the Chairman, Board Members, the Minister of Trade and many more so that they can work together as a team to maintain stock level for the security of the country."**

[vii] Mr Abu Bakarr Kamara, Proposed Member, National Youth Commission

Mr Abu Bakarr Kamara is a private Legal Practitioner and a Youth Activist with eight years of work experience. He adds to his credit three years of youth advocacy and has vast experience in youth matters. Answering to probing questions, Mr Abubakarr Kamara said: **"I was representing the newly established North-West Region which has never enjoyed the presence of a National Youth Commission. We have a National Youth Commission in the East, North, South and the Western Area. I will endeavour to talk to and encourage the Commissioner to explore the possibility of establishing a National Youth Commission in that region."**

[viii] Professor [Dr] Sahr Moses Gevao, Proposed Chairman, Sierra Leone Council for Postgraduate Colleges of Health Specialties.

Professor Gevao is a highly trained and qualified Medical Doctor and Academic with Post-graduate specialist professional qualifications and over twenty five Years of experience in top leadership and governance positions in the professional and academic sectors. He has made a significant impact on the lives of Sierra Leoneans and other nationals globally.

Responding to the concerns of Members to the brain-drain in the medical field in Sierra Leone, Professor Gevao said: **"Sierra Leone has been training doctors for the past thirty one years, but the nation has continued to suffer a serious attrition rate of its medical personnel. He attributed that to the lack of opportunities for post-graduate training. We have established post-graduates colleges to bridge the gap so that our young graduates will remain in the country to specialize and also provide services for the people of this country. We are creating these colleges to provide continuous professional development for these young graduates. Most of them are leaving Sierra Leone not just because of money but because there are no opportunities for specialization. We send lots of them to places like Ethiopia, Kenya, but many do not come back to Sierra Leone."**

[ix] Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah, Proposed Chairman, Political Parties Registration Commission

Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangura is a private Legal Practitioner with twenty years of working experience. He is currently the Deputy Attorney General and Minister of Justice. Reacting to the concerns of the Committee, Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah said: **"I certainly intend to carry out my duties with the utmost fairness and impartiality. PPRC is a Commission that is supposed to principally register political parties and supervise their activities. My understanding of the Act is that no Chairman of the Commission should be partial and if you do, you stand the risk of none cooperation from other political parties. The**

Commission has no enforcement powers, all we do is to mediate and if you want the cooperation of all parties you must be seen to be impartial. As a Legal Practitioner, I have always had a professional pathway in mind. My ambition has been to go to the Bench and because of that I have never registered with any political party. I am not a card carrying member of any party. With regard to my neutrality, I can assure you that I intend to do my utmost best to be neutral at all times. My principal challenge is to try and win the confidence of all political parties because until I do that, I do not think I will function properly."

[x] Mr Joseph Lamboi, Proposed Director General Sierra Leone Correctional Service

Mr Joseph Lamboi is currently the Deputy Director General of the Sierra Leone Correctional Services. He joined the service in 1980; and through hard work, consistently rose through the ranks to his current position.

Answering to inquiries, Mr Joseph Lamboi said: **"There are already some reforms since the enactment of the Correctional Service Act of 2014. We have transformed prison to correctional service and from prisoners to inmates and we are ensuring that we uphold their human rights. I have introduced what we call child friendly centres and there are so much more we intent to do. As at now, we have procured cameras which we want to install at the male correctional centres to monitor them throughout to see anything coming in or going out of prison."**

Answering further questions he said: **"We still have a skeletal staff at Massamki, but we are not operating it as an institution because the facilities were burnt down during the course of the rebel war and there are no longer have ownership of the plantations because of the pronouncement made by late President Tejan Kabba when he visited that area. He asked the people to take over the plantations."**

[xi] Mr Kofie Frank Harman, proposed Deputy Director General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service.

Mr Dennis Frank Harman is currently the Director of Human Resource in 2014 to date. He joined the prison service in 1984 and rose through the ranks to his current position.

Responding to the concerns of the Committee about his willingness to collaborate with the Director-General, Mr Harman said: **"I am ready to work with him because regimentally we obey the orders of our superiors and we are at all times prepared and ready to work under the directions of whosoever is your superior."**

5. Recommendation[s]

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following presidential nominees to be fit and qualify for their proposed appointments and they are recommended to the House for approval:

[i] Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah, Chairman, Political Party Registration Commission [PPRC];

[ii] Dr Sama Sahr Monde, Chairman, Agriculture Research Institute Council;

[iii] Professor [Dr] Sahr Moses Gevao, Chairman, Sierra Leone Council for Post-graduate Colleges of Health Specialties;

[iv] Engineer Alhaji Alpha Badamasi Savage, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Water Company [SALWACO];

[v] Alhaji Mohamed Bailor Allieu Timbo, Member, Board of Director, Guma Valley Water Company [GVWC];

[vi] Mr Michael Alie Kendor, Member, Board of Director, Petroleum Regulatory Agency;

[vii] Mr David Maada Gegbai, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Road Authority [SLRA]

[viii] Mr Jackson Kamara, Member, Board of Directors, Sierra Leone Local Content Agency

[ix] Mr Abubakarr Kamara, Member, National Youth Commission;

[x] Mr Joseph Lamboi, Director-General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service

[xi] Mr Dennis Kofie Frank Harman, Deputy Director-General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the Thirty-third Report is a unanimous decision of the Committee. I therefore move that the Thirty-third Report of the First Session of the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service be adopted by the House and that the recommendations contained therein be approved.

THE SPEAKER: Any seconder?

HON. KANDEH K. YUMKELLA: Mr Speaker, I second the Motion.

[Question Proposed]

HON. KANDEH K. YUMKELLA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I participated in the interview and I am pleased to say that we vetted the nominees thoroughly. I think we have already approved about two hundred and fifty to three hundred presidential nominees in this Parliament. Those are individuals who are supposed to be the change agents of the 'New Direction.' What I wanted to say is what we have already said to all other nominees. We hope you will be change agents. We have been hearing mismanagement in our institutions almost on a monthly basis. We have also been hearing about problems in our various institutions. You have been vetted and if approved by this Honourable House, we are not expecting business as usual. Our country is still poor because social services are very bad. If you look at the Report, we have list of very important institutions that are responsible for the provision of basic social amenities. Mr Speaker, access to water in all our cities is a problem and we know that most infectious diseases are got from water. Again, if you look at the Petroleum Regulatory Agency [PRA], our children will be very happy when our petroleum resources are exploited to transform this nation, as it is happening elsewhere.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to the Sierra Leone Roads Authority [SLRA]. We have been alleging that we have constructed roads that are four times expensive than international bench marks. The fact of the matter is that we need more roads but we have to take into consideration value for money.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to the Youth Commission. Recently, one of the judges of the Commissions of Inquiry visited the Youth Village, where some investments were to take place. In short, by endorsing your nomination, we expect performance. Also when we embark on oversight, you have to allow us to do our work. I look forward to the day when this Parliament will begin to recommend to Mr President to fire those who could not perform. People usually come here and we praise them, but when they go there, they fail to do their work. We usually praise them here as if they walk on waters [*Applause*]. I hope we will also have the same zeal to see whether in fact they are delivering to the expectation of the people.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah, proposed Chairman, Political Party Registration Commission [PPRC]. We consulted a lot and we in Opposition are concerned about those who are supposed to be the protectors of our democracy, whether it is NEC or the PPRC. The APC and C4C will tell you that they called us and all of us endorsed Justice Bangurah. As a legal man, we were heavily persuaded when you said that 'you are not a card carrying member of any political party.' You gave us full assurance that you would be independent and neutral. You also promised to use your knowledge and skills to ensure that our political parties function properly. Your institution is one of the most critical institutions of our democracy. I speak for NGC, but I know what I say reflects the views of other Opposition parties. There are three other Opposition parties in this Parliament, but we also have about sixteen outside this House that are not here and I am sure all of us share the same concerns and interests. We want an effective PPRC to help us settle our internal disputes between and among political parties. You have already been working there and you know the challenges. We want you to make sure that our democracy functions properly. Maintain that neutrality and non-partisan position you have been exhibiting.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to the two proposed professors. When they appeared for the interview, one of them taught me and I said I decided not to question this man because I know his credibility. Agriculture is crucial for the development of a

country. We need you to perform and we also know that you need the resources to perform. We hope we can support you to do your work.

With those few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I now ask my colleagues to approve these nominees. I would however like you to remember what I said that we have a responsibility to oversee your activities. I thank you.

HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, one of the nominees is a great son of a great warrior who passed away and his remains metamorphosed into a lion. Professor Sahr Gevao is a true academic and having reached the echelon of his profession in the West, he decided to come and help young Sierra Leoneans in the medical profession. He has been Head of College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences. During his tenure, standards were encouraged. I got to respect him when my junior brother, who wanted to go to England for internship, failed the exam. He got a forty-nine percent [**49%**], but the pass mark was supposed to be fifty percent [**50%**]. My brother was never allowed to graduate and Professor Gevao was the Principal at that time. He told us that the young man failed and he must repeat. My younger brother is now a medical Doctor, a Major in the Military and a consultant in Epidemiology. He had to repeat the year, but today, he is one of the best medical doctors in Sierra Leone. I am saying this because I know he is a man who is very personate about standards.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have no doubt that his nomination by the President in that position was no mistake and it will never be a mistake. His passion for education has got him to be the sole applicant for the position of Vice Chancellor at the University of Sierra Leone, a position he had never been interviewed because he is so very passionate about education and he does want to go out of the academic circle. He always wants to be there in order to see how the young Sierra Leoneans are doing. I am so pleased to have him here today. I want to beseech you to please approve his nomination.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to the proposed Director, General Correctional Service Prisons Department. Mr Joseph Lamboi is somebody I met when the Committee

on Human Rights went to visit the Prisons. Mr Joseph Lamboi took us to all the rooms of the inmates. He was not very pleased with the challenges we discovered. He was not so proud of the state of the inmates that we met. He was however very bold to take us around and he even took some of the blames for what was happening. He spoke about financial challenges, which he said the Ministry of Finance has not been supportive in that regard. I also want to take this opportunity to commend the outgoing Director. There had been some improvements in that institution. The Kenema Correctional Centre has improved greatly. Today, you can have you meal in any of the inmates' room without disgusting smell. The inmates were very pleased and they were full of commendations for the hierarchy of the Correctional Centres.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to crave the indulgence of the nominees that this House is very personate about human rights issues. This is because we are the representatives of the people. Constituents usually put forward their complaints to parliamentarians on human rights violation. And when these violations are being perpetrated, if those perpetrators are taken to court, they end up in the Correctional Centres. We are passionate about the Correctional Centres because we do not want it to be another place where human rights are abused. We want your management to know that those in the Correctional Centres are our brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers. They are still part of this society and they should be treated in a humane manner. Mr Speaker, when a man's liberty is taken away from him that is enough punishment. He/She should not be brought to a point where he will think he does not need to exist anymore because of what he is going through. We believe you are now at the helm of affairs and you are going to emulate what your predecessor did, particularly during the last few months of his departure.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Dr Sahr Sama Monde. As you have heard from Honourable Kandeh K. Yumkella, Dr Sama Sahr Monde is a soft spoken academic who has dedicated most of his time in this country trying to improve the Agricultural Sector. I knew him when he was the Minister of Agriculture under late President Armed Tejan Kabba's led Government. He is a performer and he cuts across party lines. I have

no doubt in the institution he has been nominated to serve. That institution relies on research for the improvement of agriculture and I know he is going to improve that institution.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Mr Michael Alie Kendor, proposed Member, Board of Directors, Petroleum Regulatory Agency. He is a true brother of mine. We are from the same area and we speak the same language. He is a Kissy and he is very passionate about Sierra Leone. He was one of those who wanted to be a Member of Parliament. He competed with Honourable Emilia Loloh Tongi, but he was unfortunate. He is highly admired and respected in the Kissy Tongi Chiefdom. He is a role model in his own right. Even though he is not being paid as a teacher, he always goes to the Kissy Tongi High School to give national service to pupils, particularly those preparing for the West African Secondary Certificate Examination [WASCE]. I am so happy and gratified that the President used his microscope and was able to pick him up. Please, we want you to work very hard.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to somebody from my profession, Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah. Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah has been a highly respected Sierra Leonean in this country. One thing Lawyers always admire him for is the fact that while majority of us used to lobby to practice in Freetown, Mr Bangurah used to go and reside in Kenema, to cover Kenema, Bo, Kailahun and Kono. Mr Speaker, I can authoritatively state here that **80%** of his service was done on pro bono basis. Some of us never went there because we knew there was very little or no money there. Honourable Panda can attest to that and at times when he had a matter, lawyers will run away from him because he could not afford to pay a lawyer. Mr Bangurah's choice to reside and work in Kenema was deliberate because people needed Lawyers there. He was the only Lawyer who chose to live in Kenema for over ten years irrespective of the fact that litigants or people do not pay much for his service. He however diligently served his nation and his people without thinking about profit.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Bangurah had always yearned to be a member of the Bench. I could remember in 2013, he had wanted to go to the Appeals Court Bench,

but that was not his calling because he did not get it, but when this Government assumed power, he was picked up by His Excellency the President to be the Deputy Attorney General and Minister of Justice. I was surprised when he was giving that position, but I got to admire the President for his appointment because it is not only card carry member that should be given appointment. I can confirm his deposition in his interviews that Mr Bangura is not a card carry member of any political party. I am a politician and any time we go to Kenema on political activity, Mr Bangurah will not be in our midst. He used to tell me thus: **"You politicians do your job and we are on the other side."** I am very pleased that he has been carefully chosen to serve as Chairman of the PPRC. Like my colleague said earlier, the PPRC is a very critical and crucial institution that whosoever goes there should discharge his/her duties without fear or favour. I have no doubt in the way he has conducted himself when he was Deputy Attorney General and Minister of Justice. I know he is going to replicate that after this approval and this country will be very proud of him. I pray that you live long because we have had situations where most of former Chairmen retired or shortly called home by God. We pray that you go there and serve the people of this country for a very long time.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to talk about my younger brother who is a Lawyer and has been nominated to the Youth Commission... - *[Interruption]*.

HON. ZAINAB C. TARAWALLY: Mr Speaker, I rise on S.O. 38. The nominees are so unique and the seconder of this Motion has already said it. We know that the nominees went through rigorous scrutiny and we also aware that Honourable Hindolo M. Gevao knows most of the nominees, but he should allow us to talk.

HON. HINDOLO M. GEVAO: I take the cue and I will not spend more than one minute. He is a young man that is highly respected. He is a Lawyer and he is a youth as well. We are happy that the President has nominated a young person to go and head the Youth Commission. I am glad that the right people are being chosen for the right jobs. I have no doubt that he will perform exceptionally well. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Hon. ALUSINE KANNEH: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker today is a very important day for this House. I am the Chairman of Committee on Internal Affairs and one of the nominees is my agent Mr Joseph Lamboi, proposed Director General, Sierra Leone Correctional Service is here for approval. I came across Mr Joseph Lamboi in the last Parliament, when I was a member of this particular Committee. The Chairman then was Honourable PC Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III. Mr Speaker, Honourable PC Bai Kurr Kanagbaro Sanka III was very fair with us. Honourable Pateh Bah and I used to manage this Committee whenever the Honourable Paramount Chief was not around.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I came across Mr Joseph Lamboi when I was part of this Committee and we used to meet them on our oversight activities. Mr Lamboi was a very tolerant man. Honourable Hindolo M. Gevao said that he took us around the Correctional centres to make sure we see for ourselves. Mr Speaker, we never knew he would take over the administration of that institution today. I have no doubt that he will do the necessary things for the improvement of that institution. However I would like to caution him on certain issues. Some of us are from abroad and we have seen how Correctional Centres operate in overseas countries like Norway. Some of their Correctional Centres are far better than some houses in Freetown. If this House approved your nomination, please go there and take the mantle of leadership with candour and honesty. Go and do the correct things for the inmates because they are human beings. They should not be abused at all. The Committee on Internal Affairs will be visiting the correctional centres very soon and we will report accordingly to the public for them to know what is going on with the inmates. Please make sure that the conditions of the inmates are properly managed. The inmates have their human rights because those are inalienable rights. You being the Director of Human Resource for quite a long time, I am sure you worked with your boss and did not undermine him. I am saying this because we have instances where deputies usually undermine their seniors.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please be careful when you refer to deputies
[Laughter].

HON. ALUSINE KANNEH: Not my own Deputy, Mr Speaker. I am a lesser evil and I know my deputy will do the necessary thing and I have no doubt at all.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah. The name Bangurah in the legal profession is a firebrand in the court. Mr Speaker, if anybody should talk about him is myself. I hardly praise nominees in this Well, but sometimes it is important to talk about people when necessary. I met this man in Kenema when I was a very young boy. I used to carry his files to the Chamber with the late Lawyer Navo, who was also one of the best Lawyers in Sierra Leone. Mr Bangurah was in Kenema, but a Northern then.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to tell you something you may not know that the people of Kenema District wanted to elect Mr Bangurah as Mayor of Kenema City. The reason is when you have somebody with integrity, humanity, honesty and respect for other people, somebody who can stand and speak the truth, I am sure people will always want to have such person as their leader and Mr Bangurah is the man of the people [*Applause*]. When he came this morning, he called me Alusine, but I reminded him I am now the Whip of Parliament and he should address me as either 'Mr Whip' or 'Honourable' [*Laughter*]. Honourable Members, this is not a joke and I believe Lawyer Bangurah will do the necessary thing for the PPRC and also for the good of this nation. This is because the peace of this country is paramount. I want to admonish him not to twist the rules in favour of groups or individuals.

With these few words, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am a peaceful man and I also believe in peace. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I stand here as a happy Honourable Member for the simple fact that I and ten others are free from the petition cases.

THE SPEAKER: Congratulations!

HON. MOHAMED BANGURA: Thank you very much. We are now taking part in the debate with an open mind. I have nothing to talk about the nominees because all of

them are qualified for the positions they have been nominated to serve. The only advice I want to give to the proposed Chairman of the PPRC is that in his statement, he said: **“Communication has no enforcement powers.”** You are in charge of registering political parties, but when it comes to the registration of political parties, you have no hands there. I would like him to review that Act and bring it to this Well. The Act contributes to this institution being called a ‘toothless bulldog’ because the PPRC do not have the powers to act, but to only mediate. I will want you to be a very powerful Chairman of that Commission. That office is very delicate and people are afraid to go there. However, I am sure with what you have said in your interview, you are going to stay long [*Laughter*]. I want you to go to that Commission with neutrality. You are not there to represent any political party. If you fail to win the trust of political parties, you are not going to be an effective Chairman. Please try to look into the registration of political parties. Few days ago, I heard a political party complaining bitterly on radio for registration. Mr Speaker, I do not have much to say about the nominees because they are all qualified for the positions they have been nominated to serve. I want to wish all of them good luck. I call on all of you to speedily approve their nominations. I thank you very much.

HON. EMILIA L. TONGI: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I have some mixed feelings this morning because there is no woman among these nominees. We are fighting for **30%** quota of women’s representation. The nominees are over qualified. If I were the Chairman of the Committee, believe you me, immediately you submit your documents, we bring you here directly for approval. I believe the present government is looking out for the most qualified and most experienced nominees to run this country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to talk about two very important nominees. I want to first of all state here for the past two months, His Excellency the President has been actually grateful to the Eastern Province of Sierra Leone. Professor Gevao is a Kissi man and he is a gentleman. I have known him for a very short time, but he is a man filled with joy, happiness and integrity. He is determined to push Sierra Leone forward

with his qualifications and experiences. I think Sierra Leone is ready to go further with recommendations which we have received from the Committee. Professor Gevao is an experienced Medical Doctor and I am sure he has been appointed by the government, so that others will learn more from him. I am sure he is ready to give his best to this country. I want to thank him for accepting this nomination.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Mr Michael Alie Kendor, Member, Board of Directors, Petroleum Regulatory Agency. We fought together for this seat, but unfortunately, he could not succeed in the elections. He is another Kissi from my home town. I want to seize this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President for being very kind to us this past two months. Mr Michael Alie Kendor is here to represent the Kissi people from the Kissi Teng. We are proud to receive him and we are very happy for him. I was in Buedu when I heard that he had been nominated. I was very happy when I got that news and the people in the villages were also happy. It is over ten years now and we have never heard nominees from that part of the country.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I do not know what has happened, but I stood here few months ago and informed this House that Government was pretending as if 'we are not part of Sierra Leone.' However, the 'New Direction' has shown to us that we are part of Sierra Leone and that was why the President nominated these from that part of the country. These nominees are very intelligent, qualified and experienced. I am very sure they are here to push Sierra Leone forward. They are not just ordinary people, but elites. The Kissi people are very intelligent and if they want to do something, we do it to perfection. We have had Professor Roberts who is also another Kissi who was nominated by the President. He is one of the Kissi men in this country who has won laurels in France, where I studied. This is not tribalism, but it is because we have been left behind for over ten years now, but somebody is trying to show to this country that we are part of this country. I think when I stand up to talk about it I feel proud and happy. I will talk and talk as if I will not stop any more, but I have to say the truth. My colleagues have been there for ten years and they never thought of us.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the 'New Direction' has proved to us that we are part of Sierra Leone and we should be part of this country's activities. I want to inform this House that the Kissi people are educationists and are ready to move this country forward. I wish you good luck and you all are over qualified. I will not repeat what my colleagues have already said. I want to thank all of you and congratulations to each and every one of you in advance.

HON. REBECCA Y. KAMARA: Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am sure some of you know Dr Sahr Sama Mondeh. This man served under the leadership of one of Sierra Leone's finest Presidents in this country, the Late Dr Ahmad Tejan Kabba as a Minister of Agriculture. Dr Sama Mondeh served this country very well when he was the Minister of Agriculture and he has a reservoir of knowledge in his area of studies. We have been talking about food sufficiency and food security in this country, but we are still importing rice into this country. I believe that in any community, institution or sector that does not have a very good research department, that sector is bound to fail. I believe if Dr Sama Mondeh takes over the leadership of this sector, I am sure this country will move forward. The only request I want to make to the Government is that the Research Institute has been vandalised and is down to earth. There is nothing to write home about and Dr Sama Mondeh is going to start from zero. I am appealing to the Government, not only to appoint people and put them in institutions or positions of trust, but give them the tools to work. Dr Sama Mondeh will make it if he is supported by the Government. I know the 'New Direction' is the 'Real Direction' for Sierra Leoneans. Dr Sama Mondeh should be supported to perform his responsibilities.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to the Sierra Leone Correctional Centre. I am appealing to the Director and Deputy Director to ensure that the Sierra Leone Correctional Centre carries its name as a Correctional Centre. It is unfortunate that sometimes when we see prisoners being released, they are still the worst people in those communities, causing mayhems. They are worse than the way they were before they were taken to the Correctional Centre. I want the Correctional Centre to be a real

Correctional Centre and not a centre for bunch of criminals who will come out and cause more havocs.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, on behalf of the C4C, I want Honourable Members to approve these fine nominees. I am appealing once more to Government to empower the nominees with the necessary tools. We should not just approve and appoint them without the tools to do their work. I thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo

HON. IBRAHIM B. KARGBO: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I am going to be very brief. Again, even though the nominees were nominated from State House, we on this side have continuously held the view that we will continue to cooperate with the Government where necessary. We have demonstrated and exhibited our cooperation and we are doing it to ensure that when nominees are brought here after been nominated by His Excellency the President, we have no doubt in their abilities to perform and we are ready to cooperate.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I will start with Professor [Dr] Sahr Moses Gevao, proposed Chairman, Sierra Leone Council for Post-graduate Colleges of Health Specialties. He knows that I am not the kind of man that simply praises people because I want to praise them. I praise people because they are capable and efficient. When the School of Medicine was established in this country, some of us took part in the process because we had the opportunity to advice the President at the time that instead of converting the Medical School into a faculty, we should make it a Medical School. The President agreed and we all know that the first principal was a Nigerian, who was called Dr Taqi, he performed remarkably well.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I remember at one time in our history, as young people in this country, he was part of a conclave to which I was a member. The conclave was very interesting because it was also a centre of discussion and all of us enjoyed Dr Gevao when he explained to us the difficulties and the problems relating to the medical profession in this country. We learnt a lot from him. Those were difficult

days during the military regime, but we sat together sometimes as late as 1:00 a.m. to discuss issues of Sierra Leone. So, I know him very well and I know that he is a man of candour, a man with the capacity to perform. I will state here that he is capable for the job he has been nominated. I wish you good luck.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I move to Dr Sahr Sama Mondeh. He was one of our juniors in the University. He entered the University when I was about to graduate, but very soon he demonstrated that he was an academic, even as a student or as a fresh man. We used to call them fresh men in those days, but he worked very hard and because he worked hard, he got the result. Possibly he was also mentored by Professor Mondeh, his uncle, who was also a Lecturer at the University. One thing that is clear was that when some of us frequented winter quarters, Mondeh did not frequent the winter quarters and for those who went to N'jala knows. Winter quarters are the dormitory for the girls. He did not frequent it *[Laughter]*. Maybe Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella must have also visited that place. He was committed to his books and he did very well. When he left university, it was so clear that he was a successful Agriculturist. When he was appointed Minister of Agriculture, I visited his office quite a number of times to give him support and he performed remarkably well.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, we are talking about Correctional Centre. I am not going to praise the gentlemen who have been nominated to those positions, but to caution them. I read the gazette and it is always advertised that contractors are required to supply meat, milk and everything that you can think of, but when you go to the place, there is no meat or milk. I would want to be very certain here that the things that are provided for the inmates are made available to them because it is important. So, we also think that you will perform well and you have been part of the Correctional Centre for a while. Therefore, I always think that you will perform remarkably well. I wish you good luck and not to forget the women. Mr Speaker, for the fact that they have been sent to jail does not make they are slaves. We should take care of our women even when they are in jail *[Applause]*.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it will be incomplete on my part if I were to complete my statement without mentioning Engineer Mohamed Bailor Allieu Timbo, Member, Board of Directors, Guma Valley Water Company. Engineer Mohamed Alieu Timbo may appear very quiet and unassuming, but he is a great academic and an Engineer by profession. He is a man who had worked for quite a number of institutions in this country, a man who will make you feel proud whenever you give him an assignment. I know this because I have tried it and we have tested him. He has worked for almost all the institutions in this country. He is a docile and a quiet man who is not arrogant. What I want us to do is to continue to give Engineer Mohamed Alieu Timbo the opportunity to serve this country. He has served this country very well and I am very certain that he will continue to serve this country well, especially now that he has been given another job.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I am going to roundup because it is important and we also want to make it very clear that whosoever is appointed by the President must have attracted the attention of the President please gentlemen do your best I am saying this out of the conviction and the knowledge that some of you were nominated and recommended to the President by individuals who knew you before the President came to know you. It is impossible for the President to know everybody in this country, but there are also people of good will in this country who have identified you to be good gentlemen and they have recommended you to His Excellency the President. I want to caution you that if you disappoint the President, then you would have disappointed those who recommended you and you would have also created problems for those who recommended you to him. This is because if they go to the President next time for another recommendation, the President will make reference to your previous recommendation.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the young man form Karene District, the new region in Sierra Leone is a new comer into public life. However, as a young man and as a Lawyer, I am sure he is going to perform exceptionally well. I keep on talking about the new region in the North-West because it was our creation and I am proud to say that

Ibrahim B. Kargbo took part in creating the North Western region and the Karene District. It was a sensible decision which you are using now.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to look for the day, perhaps when our children would come to this place. My son is coming next time and I will not be here. Mr Speaker, we do not have the tradition whereby after appointing people to public offices and have served their tenure of office, we bring them back to this House to congratulate them. We do not have that system yet, but I wish that day will come when after appointment and possible retirement, we bring you back to this House and talk about your stewardship. I ask that we give them an opportunity to be approved, so that they can go and perform their duties. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

[Suspension of S.O. 5[2]]

HON. MATHEW S. NYUMA: Thank you very much, Mr speaker. The Acting Leader of the Opposition and other Leaders have made their contributions y. I am happy because the Opposition Leader said: **“Let us give them a chance to perform.”** I am happy because we are not making mistakes at all and we do not look at party colours. What we want you to do is to ensure that you perform as Sierra Leoneans. These Sierra Leoneans we are about to approve are very powerful and they have served in different capacities before coming into governance. We have Professor Sahr Moses Gevao, Dr Sama Mondeh and Mr Abdulai Masiyambay Bangurah. They have served in various capacities before. The President did not look for party cards or any forms of qualifications, but Sierra Leone. We do not put square pigs in round holes.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, the ‘New Direction’ believes in nation building and a nation is like a pyramid. This means the President cannot do everything alone. He only formed part of that pyramid and if you do your duties well, the Government will get praises from its citizens. If the President, together with his team failed, all of us will carry the blame. However, we looked at what they have done in this country and what have been said about them by the various speakers. We believe they can perform in the interest of Sierra Leone. For instance, Professor Gevao said they were not running away because of money, but they did not have opportunities here.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I go to Dr Sama Mondeh. He is one of my secret admirers. He said: **'There are challenges and I am proud to return home.'** We believe he introduced what we call the concept of food security in this country. We are here to achieve that and that is a challenge for all of us. Our staple food must be grown home if food sufficiency is to be achieved. If the 'New Direction' wants to achieve food security, we need Dr Sama Mondeh. He has worked in that field for a very long time. We know Members of the Opposition have done their best, their best is not enough. However, we are going to do more to ensure that this nation moves forward. We are on the driving seat and we will ensure that people benefit from what we do. For the young generation, it has been a rhetoric about the Youth Commission or empowering the youth. I like the statement made by a comrade and a very young man when he said, 'we are not talking about youth because they have been in existence, but I will take another youth Commission to North-West' where Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo said they politically formed the North-Western Region. Well, we are going to maintain it because Government is continuity.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I admired the statement of the young man and I believe he is not only taking the Youth Commission there, but they will provide opportunities for young people in that region because it is a new region. When I was a lecturer at the Eastern Polytechnic, I knew he would always be somebody that would do well in life.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr Michael Alie Kendor is a serious and very focused young man. I believe he will collaborate with his colleagues, so that he can succeed as a member of that Board. As the Honourable Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella said, most of roads are not good and we are expecting you to influence regulatory industry in a positive way to ensure that we have storage facilities. Please be a serious minded person, so that you can contribute positively to that industry.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Alhaji Mohamed Bailor Allieu Timbo Director and Mr Joseph Lamboi, Director-General are good Sierra Leoneans. I am saying this because you can tell a good leader by the way they handle their prisoners or inmates. You

should not treat inmates because they have been convicted. Though they are restricted, they still have their human rights.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to support what Honourable Ibrahim B. Kargbo said that the resources that are usually allocated to prisons are not made available to the inmates. This is true because if you conduct an oversight to those places, you will not see the milk and meat. We have to serve with our consciences. If you think you are in charge and you want to improve on the lives of the inmates, please put that into action. We are tired of theories without action. Please go there and improve the lives of inmates.

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, I want to thank my colleagues for their beautiful statements about the nominees. I thank you very much.

[Question Proposed, Put and agreed to]

[Motion on the Committee on Appointments and the Public Service has been approved]

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Members, you would recall that we committed the Anti-Corruption Amendment Act of 2019 to the Legislative Committee. The Committee was required to table a report before Parliament today, but unfortunately we have not got the report. Therefore, I want Members of the Legislative Committee to attend this meeting, so that we can conclude this amendment.

Secondly, Honourable Members, I want to express my dissatisfaction with today's attendance. Honourable Members of Parliament, we all know that we have been going all out to ensure that our privileges are respected by the current Government. If we are to ensure that we maintain that particular right and to every right, we must be aware that there are obligations. The attendance is so poor and sometimes we all know that sittings start at 10:00 a.m.' I think this is not fair at all. We must maintain the kind of obligation we have to the State and to the public. We must have the capacity to ensure that the public sees Parliament as very serious institution. On that note, I want to caution colleagues to ensure that we attend parliamentary sittings. Let us fulfil our own

part as responsible citizens of this country. I thank you very much Honourable Members.

ADJOURNMENT

[The House rose at 12:25 p.m. and was adjourned to Tuesday, 16th April, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.]