



**HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT
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FREETOWN**

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**FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

**NINETEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS AND
THE PUBLIC SERVICE ON PARLIAMENTARY VETTING OF
PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS –JULY, 2024**

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 serve in public offices of state, met on Wednesday , 17th July, 2024 and interviewed three Presidential nominees for the following appointments:

- i. The Sierra Leone's High Commissioner to Federal Republic of Nigeria
- ii. Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the, Islamic Republic of Iran
- iii. Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the Kingdom of Saudi-Arabia

2. PROCEDURE

The Committee conducted its open hearing within the usual framework of procedures and with live media trending to encourage active public participation . The Nominees were interviewed on issues pertaining to their educational backgrounds to ensure that they had the required proven track records in pertinent work situations for appointments to such important offices of State. Further probing questions put to the appointees covered wide ranging issues relating to declared assets, tax obligations and their visions for productive

diplomatic tenures. Issues of unsuitability or otherwise were also closely looked into

3. Twentieth-Second Sitting of the Committee on Wednesday 17th July ,2024

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, in pursuit of His Excellency the President's front line policy aimed at ensuring the realization of Sierra Leone's interest on expanding the socioeconomic and political diplomacy , the recent appointments of career civil servants to the Federal Republic of Nigeria ,the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a testament of government policy change to further deepened our diplomatic relations abroad. Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members in respect of the aforesaid, the following nominees were interviewed on oath:

i. Dr .Julius Fofanah Sandy-Proposed High Commissioner of Sierra Leone to the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Dr. Julius Sandy is a seasoned Civil Servant, Lecturer, Policy Adviser, Strategist, Administrator and Human Resource expert per excellence .He has a proven track record of success and accomplishment in excellent report writing and communication, as well as negotiation skills .His exposure to and considerable knowledge of Governance ,Ethics, Public Administration, Policy , and Development at all tiers of Governance has earned him the highest respect and regard within the Presidency and Government as a whole.

From June 2018 till his appointment to this , position Dr.Julius Sandy has been serving as the Secretary to the President whose major roles includes but not limited to head of administration office of the President, vote controller and principal adviser to the President on all State matters .Dr.Sandy has been the prime catalyst in a plethora of positive changes within the government, the civil service and the public service. Below are some of the remarkable changes to

name just a few achievements by the nominee during his tenure in the civil and public services:

- Designed a new National Public Sector Reform Programme/ Framework (A Government led Multi-donor Support programme), first National Public /Civil Service Reform Strategy in Sierra Leone.
- Developed an Emergency Capacity Building Support Programme.
- Led the development of a Government Pay and Performance Programme
- Hosted and coordinated a highly successful International Forum on Ethics, namely: "Strengthening the Political Administrative Relations in the Management of **Local Councils in Sierra Leone**".
- Hosted and coordinated a series of highly successful International Forums on Ethics, namely: "strengthening the Political –Administrative Relations in Government of Sierra Leone "- **Central Government**.
- Led and coordinated highly specialized international professionals and local Civil Servants in the design of a new Pay Structure and Pay Policy for Public Servants in Sierra Leone.
- Designed project for support for Sierra Leone on "**Leadership Development and Institutional Capacity Building for Human Development and Poverty Reduction in Sierra Leone**"

Dr.Sandy started as an Assistant Teacher at the Saint Andrew's Secondary School Bo and later joined the Civil Service where he excelled and rose to the rank of Cabinet Secretary in 2018.

Responding to questions from the Committee on his key deliverables as High Commissioner designate to Federal Republic Nigeria if approved by this House, Dr.Sandy said " As High Commissioner my premier role would be firstly, to represent the interest of Sierra Leone and the President on all diplomatic fronts .Additionally, I will also use my office to deepen mutual cooperation and advise government to sign agreements that would strengthen bilateral ties and

explore investment opportunities between the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Federal of Republic Nigeria".

Questioned on his style of leadership when dispensing his duties as High Commissioner, Dr.Julius Sandy said " I will lead from every front either from the back or the front. There is an adage which says that the chain is strongest where it is weak.I will work with all stakeholders to ensure that foreign policies of Sierra Leone succeed." he concluded.

He was commended across by Committee Members for being a decent Sierra Leonean and for his exemplary services rendered over the years in all spheres of work.

ii. Mr.Salamu Koroma Proposed Ambassador –Sierra Leone Embassy, Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, Mr. Salamu Koroma is distinguished career diplomat with approximately twenty-four years of active service in the foreign service .He is reputed to have played strategic roles in strengthening Sierra Leone bilateral ties and missions abroad .

Mr.Salamu Koroma is a graduate of Milton Margai College of Education and Technology with a bachelor's degree in Social Studies and a certificate in Development Studies from the Institute of Public Administration and Management, University of Sierra Leone.

Mr.Koroma, started his foreign service career as an Assistant Secretary to the Head of Chancery in Saudi Arabia and later the Head of Mission in Cairo.He went on to become Deputy Chief of Protocol and later Chief of Protocol of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

Prior to his nomination, Mr. Koroma served as the Deputy Director-General Operations responsible for dealing with the day to day operational matters and

assisting the Director General with the overall oversight of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Mr.Koroma assured the Committee that if approved by this noble House, he would use his experience as a career diplomat to promote Sierra Leone's image in Iran and the Middle East positively . He opined that "As Ambassador if approved it is also my sacred duty to aggressively pursue the government foreign policy , and to move Sierra Leone to a strong middle income country by forging cooperation and lobbying for investment flow into the country".

4. Twenty-Third Sitting of the Committee on Monday ,22nd July, 2024

The undermentioned Candidate was interviewed on oath:

iii Mr. Mohamed Barrie-Proposed Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the Kingdom of Saudi-Arabia

Mr.Speaker,Honourable Members, Mr. Mohamed Barrie is a Business Executive with considerable knowledge and expertise in Accounting ,Business Development, Systems Designs, Sales Service and Integrated Industrial Solutions globally.Currently, he serves as the Honorary Consul through the Sierra Leone Ambassador in Washington DC (from 2019 till this appointment) for the New England Region, with Headquarter in Boston MA

Mr. Barrie holds a double Bachelor Degrees; one in Business Management (Bachelor of Arts) from the Graham Junior College, Boston, MA. United States of America and another Bachelor in Criminal Justice, from Suffolk University, Beacon Hill, Boston.MA,USA (1978).

The nominee as an international business executive exhibited overwhelming knowledge about his assignment destination and expressed great delight for his appointment by the President.His calmness and knowledge about wealth creation and ability to link global network of enterprises for were highly commended by cross section of members.

Responding to the Committee on varying diplomatic issues including but not limited to what Sierra Leone would gain from the bilateral relationship, Mr Barrie said " my global experience of interaction would be of much value to our embassy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I will represent his Excellency and build on our long established diplomatic ties for the growth of Sierra Leone. I will use my initiative to move from

political diplomacy to economic diplomacy to lobby investors in the areas of agriculture, mines and the banking sectors", he concluded.

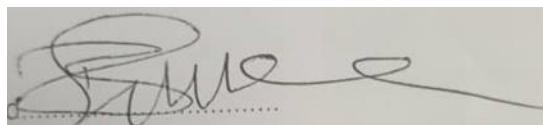
5. **Recommendations**

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the Committee adjudged the following Presidential nominees to be adequately qualified for their proposed appointments and are therefore recommended to the House for approval:

1. Dr. Julius Fofanah Sandy, Proposed Sierra Leone's High Commissioner to the Federal Republic of Nigeria
2. Mr. Salamu Koroma, Proposed Ambassador, Sierra Leone Embassy, Islamic Republic of Iran
3. Mr. Mohamed Barrie-Proposed Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the Kingdom of Saudi-Arabia

6. Conclusion

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, the **Nineteenth Report** reflects the **unanimous** view of the Committee. I therefore move that the **Nineteenth 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.



Signed.....

Hon. Bashiru Silikie

Deputy Chairman and Leader of Government Business

