# IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

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# FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

ON

HIS EXCELLENCY THE
PRESIDENT'S NOMINATIONS
FOR MINISTERIAL AND DEPUTY
MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

PARLIAMENT HOUSE OSU - ACCRA

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MAY, 2015

# OTHE FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE ON HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT'S NOMINATIONS FOR MINISTERIAL AND DEPUTY MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

#### 1.0 **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In the exercise of the powers conferred on the President by Articles 78 (1), 79 (1) and 256 (1) of the Constitution, the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency John Dramani Mahama nominated five (5) persons for appointment as Ministers and Deputy Ministers and communicated same to Parliament on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 for their prior approval.
- 1.2 The nominations were subsequently referred to the Appointments Committee by the Rt. Hon. Speaker for consideration and report pursuant to Order 172 of the Standing Orders of the House.

The nominations are as follows:

i)	Mr. Alexander Percival Segbefia	Minister-Designate for Health
ii)	Mr. Peter Anarfi-Mensah	- Ashanti Regional Minister-Designate
iii)	Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh	- Deputy Minister- Designate for Lands and Natural Resources
iv)	Mr. Samuel Yaw Adusei	- Deputy Minister Designate for Water Resources, Works and Housing
v)	Mr. Kenneth Gilbert Adjei	- Deputy Minister- Designate for Defence

#### 2.0 **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The Committee was guided in its deliberations by the following:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana; and
- iii. The Curriculum Vitae of the Nominees.

#### 3.0 PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING THE NOMINATIONS

- As part of its procedures and in line with Order 172 (3) of the Standing Orders of the House, the Committee caused to be published in the national newspapers the notice of its public hearing for the consideration of the nominations and also invited memoranda from the general public in respect of the nominees.
- 3.2 Confidential reports in respect of the nominees were also obtained from Ghana Revenue Authority, the Ghana Police Service and the Bureau of National Investigations (BNI) for the purpose of conducting background checks on the nominees.
- Following these activities, the Committee held a 2-Day Public Hearing from Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 to consider the nominations in furtherance of Order 172 (3) of the Standing Orders of the House.
- 3.4 Before the commencement of proceedings, the nominees subscribed to the Oath of a Witness. The Committee's line of questioning focused on issues relating to the nominees' citizenship, records of their offices, qualification and eligibility, matters pertaining to the offices to which they have been nominated and other issues of national concern.

The Committee has duly considered the above nominations and reports as follows:

### 4.0 MR. ALEXANDER PERCIVAL SEGBEFIA— MINISTER-DESIGNATE FOR HEALTH

#### **Background**

Hon. Alexander Percival Segbefia was born on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1963. He had his primary education at the Christ the King School, Accra from 1967 to 1974. He proceeded to the Achimota Secondary School, Accra from 1974 to 1981 and later attended the Davies College, London between 1981 and 1983 for his Secondary education. He also attended the University of Essex, Colchester in the United Kingdom (UK) where he obtained his Bachelor of Law Degree (LLB) in July, 1987.

The nominee was called to the UK Bar in November, 1988 and was further called to the Ghana Bar in October, 2008.

The nominee holds membership in both local and international professional associations including the Ghana Bar (GBA) Association and the Honourable Society of Inner Temple London, UK.

Between 1989 and 2007, the nominee worked with the Crown Prosecution Services (CPS) and held different positions with the CPS. He returned to Ghana and was appointed the National Campaign Coordinator for the National Democratic Congress (NDC) from September, 2007 to February, 2009 and later as the Secretary of the Transition Team of the Republic of Ghana, March 2009.

The nominee was appointed the Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations) from March, 2009 to January 2013 and he is currently the Deputy Minister of Defence having been appointed to the position in July, 2014.

#### Nominee's Birth Certificate

Regarding his birth certificate, the nominee informed the Committee that he secured a new birth certificate issued by the Births and Deaths Registry. He however disclosed that though he applied for the new certificate as far back as 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014, it was delivered to him on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 due to some difficulties encountered during the processing.

#### Measures to address challenges facing the NHIS

On how the nominee would address the challenges facing the National Health Insurance Scheme, he referred to a Report on the Scheme in 2005 which projected that the NHIS was likely to face cash flow difficulties due to the increasing number of subscribers. The nominee assured the Committee that, if approved, he would engage with the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) and other stakeholders to chart the way forward and in particular, take a look at the diseases covered by the Scheme. He also promised to eliminate wastage of funds of the Scheme by ensuring judicious use of same as well as look for additional funds to support the Scheme and promote benchmarking training to upgrade the capacity of Staff of the Scheme to improve on service delivery.

The nominee also promised to deal with leakages through the payment of claims to service providers of the Scheme; some of which he described as being "abstract". By implementing these measures, he believed that the National Health Insurance Scheme would be positioned to deliver on its mandate.

#### Feasibility of the introduction of the One-Time Insurance Policy

Responding to a question as to why the National Democratic Congress has failed to implement the One-Time Insurance Policy as promised in its 2008 Manifesto, the nominee informed the Committee that the outcome of a major stakeholders' meeting organized by the Government in 2009 came to the conclusion that the implementation of the policy was not feasible and that accounted for the exclusion of the Policy from the NDC's 2012 Manifesto.

#### Increasing access to health services

Responding to the question on the measures he would put in place to ensure that health services are made more accessible to the people, the nominee stated that the Ministry of Health had already started implementing a programme to decentralize health services including the migration of some staff of the Ghana Health Service unto the local government system. He however pointed out that due to challenges in the implementation of the law passed for that purpose, the Ministry has not been able to migrate all the staff as envisaged. He believed that the successful implementation of the exercise would assist in dealing with issues concerning the conditions of service of health personnel in the country. To this end, the nominee promised to contribute effectively towards strengthening the decentralization efforts of Government towards the attainment of the objective if approved.

#### Comment on Alleged Ethnocentric Statement made by the Nominee

In his answer to a question relating to an alleged ethnocentric statement he made during the "Dunenyo" festival in the Volta Region, the nominee explained that he was taken out of context. He stressed that the statement he made had no tribal or ethnic connotations but that he spoke about the region which comprises almost all ethnic groups in the country. He stated that having suffered a similar fate in the past, he was not oblivious of the dangers that discrimination, racism and tribalism could pose to a country. This notwithstanding, the nominee expressed his regrets in view of the misunderstanding that the statement had engendered.

#### Comment on Alleged Diversion of Funds by the Ministry of Health

Commenting on the allegation that the Ministry of health has been diverting funds meant for the NHIS from being lodged into the Consolidated Fund, the nominee stated that, to the best of his knowledge, the Ministry of Health does not have any control over inflows into the Consolidated Fund. He explained that contributions for the NHIS are paid directly into the Consolidated Fund and the Ministry of Finance is mandated by law to administer the Fund and therefore he does not see how the Health Ministry could divert such funds.

## Status of the Policy to deduct 10% of Salaries of Government Appointees towards the construction of CHIPS Compounds

In responding to the question on the status of the Government policy to deduct 10% of salaries of Ministers and other Appointees of Government towards the establishment of Community Health Improvement Services (CHIPS) compounds, the nominee disclosed that he has noted deductions in his salary towards the project. He indicated that the project when implemented would help reduce maternal mortality and assured the Committee that he would work to ensure that more

functional CHIPS compounds are constructed across the length and breadth of the country.

#### Measures to address the current spate of demonstrations by health workers

In responding to questions as to how to tackle labour unrest in the health sector, the nominee intimated that he would encourage dialogue and liaise constantly with the Ministry of Labour to come to an acceptable compromise at the negotiation table. He further stated that health workers like other workers have the constitutional right to demonstrate and that he would work to ensure that compromise is always reached to abate demonstrations. He was also of the view that it is important to keep and monitor assurances that are made. With respect to emoluments the Minister indicated that when wages are being negotiated, it is better to leave those who are at the negotiating table to deal with the matter. The nominee observed that promises are sometimes made outside the negotiation table which then compromise the discussion of the issues at the negotiation table. The nominee assured to take a look at, upon approval, and address that to ensure that the right people deal with any particular issue at any point in time.

#### Measures to combat the perennial outbreak of Cholera

In his response to the measures he would employ to combat the perennial outbreak of cholera in the country, the nominee stated that he would adopt a similar strategy that the nation has adopted in preparedness towards the Ebola prevention. He indicated that the approach would involve working closely with all stakeholders including the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies and the Ghana Education Service. A holistic approach to sanitation, in the opinion of nominee, is requested at this moment.

#### Issues regarding recruitment of persons into the Ghana Armed Forces

When asked about allegations of regional or tribal imbalance in the recruitment into the Ghana Armed Forces, he promised to inquire into the matter and help develop mechanisms to address the issue if the allegation was true.

He further stated categorically that recruitment into the military has now become more transparent like never before in the history of GAF. He stated that for the first time, the vetting of candidates is not done manually but through an electronic means and that has ensured the integrity of the outcome of the vetting process. He indicated that applicants have to procure scratch cards to enable them to make the online application. He stated that after this stage, an instant report is received indicating whether the applicant has qualified or not. He was convinced that by this system, it is not possible to even see the identity of the applicant and emphasized that the

current recruitment exercises are based on merit and nothing more. He further stated that the system is applied on regional basis because an applicant will have to indicate his preference for a region.

On the allegation that people secure recruitment into the GAF through the influence of Government Officials, he stated that he was not aware of any such practice and maintained that the laid down rules are applied strictly.

#### Withdrawal of allowances of nursing trainees

Commenting on the withdrawal of allowances for nursing trainees in the country, the nominee stated he supports the policy because he believes that the rationale for the introduction of the policy was to attract more people into the nursing profession. He explained that the reason has outlived its purpose and that the time is due to pave the way for people who genuinely desire to be admitted into Nursing Training Colleges without allowances as pertains in other disciplines to apply in Ghana.

He further hinted that he would put in place a support package to assist students from poor backgrounds through scholarship schemes and secure assistance from possible sources including GETfund without giving a blanket rule of allowances for student nurses.

#### **Promotion of Preventive Medicine**

On his view on Preventive Medicine, the nominee said he intends, if approved, to promote preventive medicine in the same manner as the country has been vigorously pursuing the Ebola prevention campaign. He said he would achieve this by encouraging good personal hygiene to prevent most communicable diseases and added that he would work closely with Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development under the environmental cleanliness initiative which is currently being pursued in addition to all other programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Health.

#### Recommendation

The Committee *consensually* recommends that the House approves the nomination of Mr. Alexander Percival Segbefia as the Minister for Health.

#### **Background**

Mr. Peter Anarfi-Mensah was born on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1956. He attended Roman Catholic Primary and Middle Schools in Tepa in the Ashanti Region for his basic education from 1961 to 1969. He proceeded to the Presbyterian Secondary School at Bechem and did obtain his Ordinary Level Certificate. He later sat for the GCE Advanced Level Examinations as a private candidate and obtained his Advanced Level Certificate in 1977. Between 1975 and 1978, the nominee attended Evangelical Presbyterian College, Amedzofe where he obtained a Post-Secondary Certificate (Cert A). Between 1991 and 1994, the nominee attended the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi and graduated with the Bachelor of Arts (Geography and Sociology) and went on to obtain the Master of Arts Degree in Geography and Rural Development in the same institution. In 2011, he furthered his education at the Graduate School of Governance and Leadership, Tema where he was awarded an Advanced Executive Certificate in Management and Administration.

Mr. Anarfi-Mensah was appointed as the Assistant Headmaster of the Experimental Junior Secondary School, Tepa from 1978 to 1985. He was thereafter appointed as the District Organising Assistant for the CDR from 1985 to 1988. Between 1988 and 1991, the nominee served as the District Secretary of the PNDC for Ahafo Ano South District Assembly, Mankranso and later as the District Director for the Offinso District of the National Commission on Civic Education.

The nominee again taught at the Awere M/A Junior Secondary School, Kumasi from 1996 to 1997 and was thereafter appointed the Headmaster for City of Kumasi M/A Junior Secondary School, Kumasi. He was later appointed as the Deputy Regional Coordinator of NADMO in the Ashanti Region from 1999 to 2000 and was subsequently appointed the District Chief Executive for Ahafo Ano North from 2000 to 2001.

From 2003 to 2006, he taught at Afua Kobi Ampem Girls' Secondary School. He later became the Assistant Headmaster of the School from 2006 to 2007. He joined Bosome Senior High Technical School as the Headmaster from 2007 to 2010. From 2010 to date, he has been the Headmaster for Tepa Senior High School.

Mr. Anarfi-Mensah has held a number of positions on various Committees and Councils. He was the Chairman of the District Assembly Executive Committee of the Ahafo Ano South District Assembly between 2000 and 2001. He was also a Council Member for the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi from 2014 up to the time of his nomination. He is the Chairman for the

District Education Disciplinary Committee, Ahafo Ano North District as well as the National Vice President of the Conference of Heads of Assisted Secondary Schools; two positions which he held concurrently from 2014 up to the time of his nomination.

#### **Declaration of Assets**

Responding to a question as to whether he has declared his assets in his capacity as the Headmaster of a public school as required by law, the nominee stated that, to the best of his knowledge, he did not know that as Headmaster he was required to declare his assets. He however disclosed that he declared his assets when he was appointed as District Chief Executive for the Ahafo Ano District. The Committee informed the nominee that assets declaration applies to public office holders including heads of colleges. The Committee referred the nominee to Article 286 which requires all public office holders including Heads of Ministries, government departments or equivalent office in the Civil Service as well as such officers in the public service and any other public institutions to declare their assets.

The Committee accordingly recommends to the House to direct the National Commission for Civic Education to educate all public office holders to comply with the law.

#### Youth Development Agenda for the Region

On his vision for the development of the youth in the Ashanti Region, the nominee indicated that he intends to implement aspects of the Youth Programme developed by the National Youth Authority to empower the youth in the Region. He also stated that, as an educationist, he would bring his experience to bear on his work to promote education in the Region and said that he would therefore work with the Regional Education Directorate to achieve this objective. He maintained that one of his key priorities is to help improve education in the region.

#### **Issues regarding Procurement**

The nominee stated that procurement is vital to operation of every institution but where there are lack of the requisite personnel and the appropriate procurement methods, that institution is bound to face serious challenges. He therefore emphasised the need to ensure regular capacity-building for procurement personnel to bring them abreast with emerging procurement trends. He also promised to ensure that the procurement laws are strictly adhered to at all times, if he is approved.

#### Recommendation

The Committee by consensus recommends that the House approves the nomination of Mr. Peter Anarfi-Mensah for appointment as Minister for the Ashanti Region.

#### 6.0 HON. KWABENA MINTAH AKANDOH – DEPUTY MINISTER-DESIGNATE FOR LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### **Background**

Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh was born on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 1980 at Sefwi Wiawso in the Western Region. The nominee attended the Sefwi Essakrom D/C Primary School and continued to the Sefwi Antobia D/C Primary School and later proceeded to the Okumdom Junior High school D/C School for his primary education from 1985 to 1992. He had his secondary education at the Kumasi Anglican Senior High School from 1996-1999 but later sat for the West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examinations as a private candidate between 2001 and 2002. The nominee attended the University of Cape Coast, where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Mathematics and Statistics from 2003 to 2007.

The nominee has been engaged in commercial farming since 1998. Between 2007 and 2008, he taught at the Juaboso Senior High School for his national service and proceeded to work with the National Service Secretariat as a Volunteer from 2010 to 2012.

As part of his work experiences, Hon. Akandoh related to serving as a Dining Hall Prefect of the Anglican Senior High School, Kumasi and as a member of the Students Representative Council of the University Cape Coast. The Committee drew his attention to the fact that these positions do not qualify as work experiences rather they form part of leadership roles he played in the course of his education. He has also held leadership positions in politics such as the Deputy Regional Organizer for the NDC in the Western Region and the Regional Youth Organizer for the NDC in the Western Region.

Hon. Akandoh has participated in a number of local and foreign conferences such as the National Conference of Directors for the National Service Scheme in Kumasi and the 2011 Ghana Youth Forum in London, United Kingdom.

Hon. Akandoh is currently the Member of Parliament for the Juaboso Constituency.

#### Combating illegal small scale mining activities (Galamsey)

The nominee explained that small scale mining is legal provided the laid down procedures for acquiring mining licenses are complied with. He went on further to

state that "galamsey" on the other hand is a form of small scale mining without the requisite legal license or mandate. The nominee stated that the licensing regime has been designed to ensure that licences are issued to people to undertake mining activities only on lands suitable for mining. He indicated that because "galamsey" operators do not go through the lawful procedures to get the licence, they tend to destroy large tracts of land whether the land is suitable for mining or not and thereby causing serious environmental damage. This, according to him, prompted the President to constitute a Task Force to bring sanity into the mining sector. He said the Task force has achieved some success and there was therefore the need to sustain the gains made so far. He also indicated that the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources has set up Minerals Committees at the district level to complement ongoing efforts but suggested that Committees should be owned by the District Assemblies for better results. He further called for public education on the matter to encourage people to operate as small scale miners instead of "galamsey". He said he would assist the Sector Minister to curb the menace if approved by Parliament.

#### Addressing challenges confronting the land sector

The nominee noted that numerous challenges have plagued the country's land sector. He stated that the lack of clearly defined boundaries was one of the key challenges that has created problems for the sector resulting in the numerous land disputes in the country. He also mentioned the issue of multiple sale of lands and the emergence of land guards in the sector. He further stated that most of the activities of the Lands Commission including recordkeeping are still being performed manually and that has caused the undue delays in the processing of land title registration amongst others. He believed that the implementation of the second phase of the Land Administration Reform Project (LARP) as well as the migration of the Lands Commission unto a digital platform would help address some of these challenges. He further promised to assist his Minister to position the Commission to perform its constitutional mandate as stipulated by Article 258 of the Constitution in order to improve land administration in the country.

#### Measures to address challenges at the Forestry Sector

The nominee agreed with the Committee that the rate of degradation of the country's forestry resources was alarming. He noted that the current forest cover has reduced significantly to about 1.6 million hectares and therefore called for vigorous efforts to reverse the trend to avert desertification. He indicated his support for one of the reforms introduced by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources whereby portions of the degraded lands are released to farmers to cultivate. He explained that by virtue of the direct benefit to the farmers, they tend to protect the land from degradation. He said the policy does not only help in the country's re-afforestation efforts but also helps to create more jobs and increase food production. He also called for the creation of eco-tourism parks to complement these other ongoing

interventions and assured the Committee that he would assist the Sector Minister to implement these policies to save the environment if given the nod.

#### View on the acquisition of public lands by public Officers

On his view on the subject, the nominee stated that he did not have any reservations against the acquisition of public lands by public officials but advised that the appropriate procedures should be followed in doing so. He therefore called on all public officers who intend to acquire public lands to go through the laid down procedures and pay the appropriate consideration.

#### Ensuring the efficient management of public lands

The nominee agreed to the suggestion that there is the need to take stock of all public lands in the country for the purposes of improving their management. He informed the Committee that he was aware that Heads of public institutions have been instructed by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to compile and document all state lands in their possession and to submit the records to the Commission for necessary action. He said if this is done, a database of public lands would be available and the necessary compensation for these lands can be paid to prevent encroachment and disputes. He assured the Committee that he would assist the Sector Minister to implement the directive.

#### Recommendation

The Committee by consensus recommends to the House to approve the nomination of Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh for appointment as Deputy Minister for Lands and Natural Resources.

# 7.0 MR. SAMUEL YAW ADUSEI – DEPUTY MINSTER-DESIGNATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, WORKS AND HOUSING

#### **Background**

Mr. Samuel Yaw Adusei was born on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1974 at Bantama, Kumasi. He is native of Ankaase in the Ashanti Region. He attended Bantama Methodist School between 1980 and 1990 for his basic level education. He then proceeded to Prempeh College for his secondary education. He attended the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology where he studied Biochemistry and was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree (B.Sc. Biochemistry) in 1999. He then discharged his national service obligation as Laboratory Technician at the Aninwaa Medical Center, Emena, between September 1999 and August, 2000. The nominee further pursued an MBA programme at the same university and obtained a Master of Business Administration Degree in Finance in 2014.

Prior to the commencement of his national service, Mr. Adusei taught at the Seventh Day Adventist Secondary School in Kumasi between July and August 1999. He later worked as the Administrator at Rees Motors Limited between September 2006 and August 2007. He further worked at the Gyasi Adusei Electric Company Limited as a General Manager from September, 2007 to May, 2010. Between June, 2010 and March, 2013, the nominee served as the Ashanti Regional Coordinator for National Forest Plantation Development Program.

In April, 2013, the nominee was appointed the Deputy Minister for the Ashanti Region and held this position until June, 2014.

#### **Uncompleted Affordable Housing Project**

The nominee noted Government's intention to complete the affordable housing project in Kumasi which was started in 2005. He also stated that the then Minister for Water Resources, Works and Housing Hon. Collins Dauda reiterated the Government's decision on one of his official visits to Kumasi.

#### Addressing land use challenges

On how he would assist to address the challenges regarding land use in the country especially building in unauthorized areas, he made reference to the National Spatial Development Framework which includes the street naming. He said he was aware that the Local Government Ministry had gone a long way in trying to implement the street naming policy and hoped that it would pave the way for the proper regulation of land use in the country.

#### Measures to address Housing Deficit

The nominee in responding to a question on how he would assist the Sector minister to reduce the country's housing deficit, said that he was aware of some current interventions being undertaken by the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing to improve the situation. He suggested that lands in prime areas should be used in building high-rise buildings to complement efforts to reduce the housing deficit. He agreed that the cost of housing units in the country was too high and therefore proposed that we should encourage the use of local building materials to reduce the cost of buildings and also called for measures to provide assistance to low and middle income earners to acquire their own houses.

#### Dealing with the high rent advance

Responding to a question on how he would assist in dealing with the widespread charging of illegal rent advances by landlords in the country, the nominee stated that the huge housing deficit accounts for the situation as demand for accommodation

far outstrips that of supply. He also said that sometimes some tenants also indicate their willingness to pay more than six months' rent contrary to the law in order to secure long tenancies and for that matter, he said both landlords and tenants are equally culpable in disregarding the statutory requirements that rent advance should not exceed six months. He therefore assured the Committee that, should the august House approve of his nomination, he would assist in implementing solutions to remedy the situation.

#### Interventions in the Water Sector

The nominee in responding to interventions made in the water sector said he was aware that various interventions had been and were being undertaken by the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing to improve upon water supply. He also mentioned the expansion works which are being done in both urban and rural communities to achieve set targets. He promised to assist the Sector Minister to ensure the successful implementation of such interventions.

#### **Maintenance of Public facilities**

In response to maintenance of sewerage systems, the nominee said he was aware the State Housing Corporation has policies in place to rehabilitate the old estate houses. He also indicated that, in tackling the challenges relating to the sewerage system, an inter-ministerial approach must be adopted where the Ministry liaises with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to ensure that all public facilities are properly maintained. Again, he suggested that public education must be pursued to educate people on the benefits of maintenance. The nominee believes the Ministry should have in place already established mechanisms to handle the lack of maintenance culture which he would readily support when he is given the nod.

#### Addressing inefficiencies in Water Distribution

In tackling the difficulties in water distribution especially water spillage, the nominee indicated that when pipes are properly laid and monitored regularly, issues of water spillage and other challenges could be minimized. He also said that illegal connections pose a great challenge to the Ghana Water Company and the recent clamp down on perpetrators of illegal water connections lend credence to that fact. The nominee said he would support the Minister to enforce the activities of the Task Force in addition to educating the general public about the effects of illegal water connections which affect revenue and reduces supply of reliable water over the years. The nominee promised to provide support to the Sector Minister to implement the policies in the works, housing and water sectors when approved by Parliament.

#### Measures to prevent frequent flooding

The nominee is of the view that frequent desilting of drains must be done before the rains to allow the free flow of water. The prevention of dumping of refuse in gutters would go a long way to prevent the usual flooding of the cities anytime there is a heavy down pour. Furthermore, an inter-ministerial approach would be recommended to engage all MMDAs for supervision of these works.

#### Recommendation

By a consensus decision, the Committee recommended that the House approves the nomination of Mr. Samuel Yaw Adusei for appointment as Deputy Minister for Water Resources, Works and Housing.

### 8.0 MR. KENNETH GILBERT ADJEI – DEPUTY MINSTER-DESIGNATE FOR DEFENCE

#### **Background**

Mr. Kenneth Gilbert Adjei who hails from Trede in the Ashanti Region was born on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1978 in Accra in the Greater Accra Region. The nominee obtained his Common Entrance Certificate in 1994 after completing Martyrs of Uganda Preparatory School in Kumasi. He then proceeded to Opoku Ware Secondary School in Kumasi from 1989 to 1994 and obtained the GCE Ordinary Level Certificate. He continued his education at the Asankragwa Secondary School where he obtained the GCE Advanced Level Certificate in 1996. He further attended the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing in 2008. The nominee holds a Diploma in Computing from the NIIT, Accra.

Mr. Adjei discharged his national service obligation at the Galilea D/C Junior Secondary School in the Ga District where he taught Social Studies from November, 1996 to August, 1997. He then worked at the A Plus A Enterprise in Accra as Sales Supervisor between August, 1997 and June, 2001. He is currently the Business Development Manager of the A Plus A Enterprise company.

#### **Recruitment into the Armed Forces**

On his comment on the growing perception that some people were being assisted by influential persons to enlist in the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF), the nominee stated that he was not aware of any such practice. However, if approved by the House, the nominee promised to support the Sector Minister to discourage the practice if the perception turns out to be real. He also promised to support the

Minister to sensitize the general public on the procedures for recruitment into the military.

#### **Ghana's Participation in Peace-keeping Operations**

The nominee indicated that he did not agree with the suggestion that the country's GAF should reduce its participation in international peace-keeping operations in view of financial constraints facing the Forces. While commending the gallantry of the Officers and men of the GAF in peace keeping operations, he was of the view that peace-keeping operations limit the escalation of conflicts and possible spillover of conflicts into neighbouring countries which may include Ghana. If approved by Parliament, he will support the provision of equipment and other logistics that will ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the Armed Forces during peace-keeping operations as well as securing the territorial integrity of the country.

#### Diversifying the role of the Military

On his position on the call for the Armed Forces to diversify its traditional role, the nominee stated that he supports the professional engagement of the military if they are geared towards national development. He acknowledged that the military has a lot of skilled personnel and professionals whose expertise could be harnessed to implement the development agenda of the country. The nominee also stated that he did not know the policy directions on the Armed Forces engaging in income generating activities but if approved, he will study the policy and proffer the appropriate advice to the Sector Minister.

#### Deepening the relationship between the Military and Civilians

The nominee concurred with the assertion that the relationship between the military and civilians has not been the best but added that the situation has improved in recent times. The nominee said he will encourage the organization of events both in and outside the military camps that would serve as a platform for interaction among the military personnel and civilians to deepen the prevailing cordial relationship. The nominee believes the interactions will demystify some of the misconceptions of the military and also engender the necessary cooperation from the public. He further stated that he will deploy his relationship skills to enhance the civilian-military relationship and also assist the Minister in ensuring that the military follows due procedures in matters involving civilians.

#### Incorporating Military training into the National Service programme

The nominee indicated that he supports the proposal that graduates undergo military training as part of the national service programme to inculcate the values of discipline and the spirit of patriotism into the youth. He stated however that

difficulties will most likely occur if all the national service personnel are to be taken through the training at the same time. He therefore promised to take up the matter and consult widely with the Sector Minister on how the policy can be implemented if given the nod.

#### Establishment of Life Insurance Policy for the Military

The nominee recognized the risky nature of the work of the military particularly during peace-keeping operations and therefore canvassed that Officers and men and women of the GAF should be covered with life insurance policies as a way of reducing the burden on the State and the hardships family members and dependents go through in the event of the loss of a member of the GAF. He therefore promised that he will assist his Minister to institute the policy if approved.

#### Comment on the Alleged Sale of Military Lands

Commenting on the allegation of sale of lands belonging to the Ghana Armed Forces, the nominee drew the Committee's attention to a Statement issued by the Military High Command which had debunked the allegation. He cited part of the Statement which stressed that the military has not been selling their lands but rather some military lands were being given out in the form of public-private partnership arrangements which secures value for money. To this end, the nominee assured the Committee that he would offer the necessary support to the Sector Minister to ensure that arrangements are put in place to realize the benefits of the transaction if given the nod.

#### Recommendation

By unanimous decision, the Committee recommended that the House approves the nomination of Mr. Kenneth Gilbert Adjei for appointment as Deputy Minister for Defence.

#### 9.0 **CONCLUSION**

Having duly considered the nominations in the light of the provisions of the 1992 Constitution and the provisions of the Standing Orders of the House, the Committee is satisfied that the under-listed are qualified to be appointed to the respective positions to which they have been nominated. The Committee accordingly recommends their approval by the House as far as their qualifications are concerned.

The nominees are:

i) Mr. Alexander Percival Segbefia - Minister-Designate for Health

ii) Mr. Peter Anarfi-Mensah

Ashanti Regional Minister-Designate

iii) Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh

Deputy Minister-Designate for Lands and Natural Resources

iv) Mr. Samuel Yaw Adusei

Deputy Minister-Designate for Water Resources, Works and Housing

v) Mr. Kenneth Gilbert Adjei

Deputy Minister-Designate for Defence

Respectfully submitted.

7

HON. EBO BARTON-ODRO (FIRST DEPUTY SPEAKER AND CHAIRMAN, APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE)

> PEACE FIAWOYIFE (MS.) (CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)

v) Mr. Kenneth Gilbert Adjei

osasi na amitasa. Sasamia kindaa

> HOX, ERO BARTON-ODRO (MIKST DEPUTY SPEAKER AND CHADRINAN, APPONTMENTS C

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