# IN THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

## FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

ON

THE PRESIDENT'S NOMINATION FOR DEPUTY MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENT

20th February 2008

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Article 79 (1), of the Constitution, His Excellency the President on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2007 communicated to Parliament for prior approval, his nomination of Mr. Kenwuud Nuworsu, as Deputy Minister. In accordance with Order 172 (2) of the Standing Orders, the Speaker referred the nomination to the Appointments Committee for consideration and report. The Committee considered the nomination and submitted its report to the House on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2007. However this Honourable House deferred its decision on the nominees "Prior approval" to allow for further checks.

It may also be recalled that the Committee also suspended its report laid in the House dated  $29^{\rm th}$  November 2007 to perform further checks on Mr. Kenwuud Nuworsu.

Upon thorough verification from the Auditor-Generals Department, the Appointments Committee has completed its work on the nominee and hereby submits its report to the House.

## 2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

During its deliberations the Committee was guided by the following documents:

- The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana
- ii. Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- iii. 12th and 13th Report of the Appointments committee
- iv. 2004 Auditor-Generals Report on the Accounts of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO), Ho
- v. Report on the Review Audit of the Accounts of the NADMO, Ho December 2007

## 3.0 PROCEDURE

The procedure adopted for considering the nominee was as set out in paragraph 3.0 of the 13<sup>th</sup> Report of the Committee to this House. It may be necessary, however, to emphasise that the Committee's decision was guided by the Auditor-General's Report on the Review Audit of the Accounts of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO), Ho-December-2007, dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

## 4.0 Mr. Ken-Wuud Nuworsu

Deputy Minister designate Manpower, Youth & Employment

## Published allegations

Mr. Kenwuud Nuworsu, who is currently the Volta Regional Director of National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) had to deal with very much publicized allegations against him and these were put before him at his vetting.

Consequently, questions to the nominee by the Committee were mainly centred on those allegations which bothered on financial impropriety and queries from the Auditor-General's Department as well as the Serious Fraud Office (SFO). Mr. Nuworsu duly and respectfully informed the Committee that he was surprised at the questions posed to him on those matters since according to him they have been sufficiently dealt with by various investigative bodies before his nomination. Nevertheless, he explained and denied the many allegations made against him. Mr. Nuworsu told the Committee that he had responded to queries that were raised in an audit report and had also obliged by the regional SFO directives which Members raised.

## Youth Employment Scheme

The nominee in a response to concerns raised by the committee said that if given the nod he would have the opportunity of working with an experienced Minister. He assured the Committee that he would work assiduously with the Minister to ensure that government plans to deal with youth unemployment is fully achieved.

#### **Veracity of allegations**

The Committee was obliged to conduct further checks on the veracity or otherwise of allegations against the nominee. Through correspondence with the Auditor-General, Mr. Edward Dua Agyeman, he confirmed that there were irregularities in the procedure adopted in the maiden 2004 audit report that was carried out on the Accounts of NADMO, Ho, which report adversely affected the nominee. A re-audit has subsequently been conducted on the said Accounts. The Appointments Committee was provided with a copy of the report of the re-audit by the Auditor-General's Department. The Committee subsequently noted that the report on the re-audit exonerated the nominee from the alleged financial impropriety and other related matters that were raised at the public vetting of the nominee.

#### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee is satisfied with the outcome of the further investigations conducted by the Auditor-General and recommends that this Honourable House approves the appointment of Mr. Ken-Wuud Nuworsu as Deputy Minister for Manpower, Youth Employment by consensus.

Hon. Freddie W. A. Blay

1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Speaker and Chairman, Appointments Committee Linda Gyekye Boadu Committee Clerk

20th February 2008