

**IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRD PARLIAMENT
OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC**

**THIRD REPORT OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
ON MINISTERIAL NOMINATIONS**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On Friday, 19th January 2001, the Hon. Speaker referred some nominations made by the President for Ministerial appointments to the Appointments Committee for consideration and report.

The Committee affirming its mandate as specified in Standing Order No. 172 (1) and (2), met on Friday, 2nd February 2001 to consider the nominees. The Committee, having completed its assignment in respect of the referral in question, reports to the honourable House as follows:

2.0. NOMINEES CONSIDERED

During the Committee's sitting, the underlisted nominees appeared and testified before it on oath:

- i) Hon. F.K. Owusu-Adjapong (MP, Akim Swedru)
Minister of Transport and Communications, designate

- ii) Hon. Christine Churcher (MP, Cape-Coast)
Minister of State designate at the Ministry of Education (Primary, Secondary and Girl Child)

- iii) Mrs Cecilia Bannerman, Minister of Manpower Development and Employment, designate

- iv) Hon. Ishmael Ashitey, (MP, Tema East)
Minister of State designate at the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries)

3.0 PROCEDURE ADOPTED

Three methods were used by the Committee to get an informed opinion as regards the competence, eligibility and experience of the nominees considered.

First, the media was used to solicit for public opinion, in the form of written memorandum or oral submission on the suitability or otherwise of each of the nominees,

Second, credentials, which procedurally have been a good source of evidence in determining the qualification and experience of nominees, were verified with the assistance of experts from two of the State's intelligence institutions; and

Third, the examination on oath through questioning on a broad range of issues, particularly, with regard to the nominee's familiarity with the designated ministry.

Although the methods used are not foolproof, it enabled the Committee to have an idea on each of the nominee's level of competence and knowledge of existing structures of government machinery.

4.0 OBSERVATIONS

- 4.1. As indicated earlier in the report, a conscious effort was made by the Committee to solicit for public submission on the eligibility or otherwise of the nominees. However as at the close of the committee's public hearing on Friday, 6th February 2001, no adverse report had been received on any of the nominees.
- 4.2 The Committee further observed that all the nominees generally have the requisite qualification and experience to handle their assigned portfolios.
- 4.3 On Hon. F.K. Owusu-Adjapong, the Committee noted that aside his professional background in surveying and law, his experience as minority spokesman for Roads and Transport during the Second Parliament of the Fourth Republic places him in a good stead for the assigned Ministry.
- 4.4. In the case of Hon. Christine Churcher, Minister of State designate at the Ministry of Education (Primary, Secondary and Girl Child), her working experience in the educational sector and also in the Second Parliament of the Fourth Republic as Ranking Member for Education, place her in a good position to handle the portfolio. The Committee approves of her nomination.
- 4.5. The Committee observed that, Mrs. Cecilia Bannerman has a professional background in counselling and for two decades held the position of Director at the Counselling and Placement Centre, University of Ghana, Legon. Further to

that, it was noted that she has ancillary experience in the area of Governance. It is the expectation of the Committee that she will bring her experience to bear on the exalted office as Minister of Manpower Development and Employment when approved by Parliament.

- 4.6. Hon. Ishmael Ashitey, Minister of State designate at the Ministry of Agriculture (Fisheries) convinced the Committee that he is familiar with issues relating to the fisheries sector. The Committee expects him to deliver.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee unanimously recommends all the four nominees to the Honourable House for approval.

Respectfully submitted.



ABREFA TAWIAH
CLERK TO THE
COMMITTEE.



HON. F.W.A. BLAY
1ST DEPUTY SPEAKER
And CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMITTEE.
6TH FEBUARY, 2001