



THE SENATE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMPLEX
THREE-ARMS ZONE
ABUJA

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REPORT OF THE SCREENING OF 47 CAREER AMBASSADORIAL NOMINEES

WEDNESDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 2016

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1.0 MEMBERSHIP

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Sen. Clifford Ordia	-	Member
S.D. Umar, <i>Hon. Kentucky Colonel</i>	-	Clerk to the Committee

1.2 INTRODUCTION

In August, 2015 and January, 2016 the political (non-career) and career Ambassadors heading various Nigerian Missions abroad were, respectively, recalled. This created vacancies that must be filled to ensure Nigeria's full participation in the international arena.

1.3 POWER OF THE SENATE

Section 171 sub-sections 4 of the 1999 Constitution, as amended, vested the power to confirm person to occupy the office of Ambassador, to the Senate, Federal Republic of Nigeria. The section stipulates:

"An appointment to the office of Ambassador, High Commissioner or other principal representatives of Nigerians abroad shall not have effect unless the appointment is confirmed by the Senate".

In compliance with this constitutional provision, President Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFRN*, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, on Wednesday, 8th June, 2016, forwarded the list of 47 Ambassadorial nominees to the Senate for confirmation.

Soon after the announcement of the nominees by Senate President, at plenary, controversies over alleged lopsidedness in the selection exercise emanated from across the country and in the Senate.

Following the outcries, the Senate, on Wednesday, 22nd June 2016, mandated this Committee to consider the matter of the alleged irregularities and lopsidedness before the commencement of the screening exercise.

Accordingly, the Committee conducted investigative hearings on Tuesday, 12th July, 2016 and reported its findings/ recommendations to the Senate the following Tuesday, 19th July, 2016. The Senate considered and adopted the report on Wednesday, 20th July, 2016. Thereafter, it referred the screening of the 47 carrier Ambassadorial nominees to this Committee, to report promptly.

2.0 METHODOLOGY/ ASSESSMENT YARDSTICK

a) Data collection:

Prior to the date of the screening exercise, the Committee obtained the curriculum vitae, Tax clearance certificate, code of conduct acknowledgement slip, Police and DSS report on each of the 47 nominees.

b) Physical presence:

The Committee invited all the nominees, who appeared before it for assessment in line with the following. Thus:

- i. Appearance
- ii. Composure

- iii. Presentation
- iv. Special skills
- v. Issues of diplomacy
- vi. General knowledge

The Senate may also recall that in arriving at the 47 Career Nominees, the Executive Arm relied on the following criteria, namely:

- a. Federal Character
- b. Seniority
- c. Gender consideration
- d. Specialized relevance
- e. A minimum of 30 months service before retirement
- f. Competence

Against this background, the Senate is requested to note that some of the nominees fall short of one of the six criteria used by the Executive in arriving at the 47 Career Ambassadorial nominees, which is 30 months remaining period of service before retirement.

The nominees were thoroughly screened, before the full glare of the public and the press in the following order:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1. Okeke Vivian Nwunaku | - | Anambra State |
| 2. Enoch Pear Duchi | - | Kaduna State |
| 3. Ibrahim Isah | - | Niger State |
| 4. Balogun Hakeem | - | Lagos State |
| 5. Ndem Jane Ada | - | Benue State |
| 6. Ogundero Sakirat | - | Oyo State |
| 7. Lilian Ijeukwu | - | Enugu State |
| 8. K. C. Nwachukwu | - | Imo State |
| 9. Garba Baba | - | Kano State |

10. Kadiri Ayinla Audu	-	Kwara State
11. Rabiw Akawu	-	Kano State
12. Salisu Umaru	-	Adamawa State
13. Janet Omoleegho Olisa	-	Delta State
14. Mohammed Hassan Hassan	-	Bornu State
15. Manaja Tulah Isah	-	Gombe State
16. Itegboje S. Sunday	-	Edo State
17. Inyang Udo-Inyang	-	Akwa Ibom State
18. I. A. Paragalda	-	Adamawa State
19. Obinna Chukwuemeka Agbugba	-	Abia State
20. Martin Nyong Cobham	-	Cross River State
21. Ngozi Ukaeje	-	Imo State
22. Rahmatu A. Dunama	-	Taraba State
23. Nonye Udo	-	Anambra State
24. Liman Munir	-	Bauchi State
25. Odeka Janet Bisong	-	Kwara State
26. Umar Zairnab Salisu	-	Kebbi State
27. Momoh Sheidu Omeize	-	Kogi State
28. Kabiru Bala	-	Zamfara State
29. Q. I. Worlu	-	Edo State
30. Sonaike Odekunbi Abibat	-	Ogun State
31. Olufemi Abikoye	-	Kwara State
32. Musa Saban Mamman	-	Yobe State
33. Bello Kazaure Hussaini	-	Jigawa State
34. Olatunde Adesesan	-	Ekiti State
35. Usman Bakori Aliyu	-	Katsina State
36. Eric A. Bell-Gam	-	Rivers State
37. Inusa Ahmed	-	Nasarawa State
38. Bankole Adegboyega Adeoye	-	Ogun State
39. Attahiru Halliru	-	Sokoto State

40. D. A. Agev	-	Benue State
41. T. K. Gongulong	-	Borno State
42. Ibrahim Hamza	-	Katsina State
43. E. K. Oguntuase	-	Ekiti State
44. L. A. Gashagar	-	Borno State
45. Ibidapo Obe Oluwasegun	-	Osun State
46. Habu Abubakar Gwani Ibrahim	-	Gombe State
47. Adamu Onoze Shuaibu	-	FCT

2.1 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR

All the 47 nominees acquired the minimum standard of education that qualified them for Ambassadorial appointment. They were equally cleared by the Nigeria Police and the Department of Security Services, as persons eligible for appointment as Ambassadors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Each of the nominees submitted a 3 year tax clearance, as well as, acknowledgement slip from the Code of Conduct Bureau.

2.2 REPRESENTATION OF THE CAREER AMBASSADORIAL NOMINEES ACCORDING TO STATES

See below the distribution of the nominees according to States and those States not represented on the list. However, it is expected that the early submission of the Non-Career, otherwise known as the Political nominees, will balance the perceived lopsidedness and non-representation affecting the States not catered for on the first list under consideration. Thus:

S/N	STATES	NO. OF NOMINEES
1.	Abia	1
2.	Adamawa	2
3.	AkwaIbom	1
4.	Anambra	2
5.	Bauchi	1
6.	Bayelsa	-
7.	Benue	2

8.	Borno	3
9.	Cross River	2
10.	Delta	1
11.	Ebonyi	-
12.	Edo	2
13.	Ekiti	2
14.	Enugu	1
15.	Gombe	2
16.	Imo	2
17.	Jigawa	1
18.	Kaduna	1
19.	Kano	2
20.	Katsina	2
21.	Kebbi	1
22.	Kogi	1
23.	Kwara	2
24.	Lagos	1
25.	Nasarawa	1
26.	Niger	1
27.	Ogun	2
28.	Ondo	-
29.	Osun	1
30.	Oyo	1
31.	Plateau	-
32.	Rivers	1
33.	Sokoto	1
34.	Taraba	1
35.	Yobe	1
36.	Zamfara	1
37.	Federal Capital Territory	1
	TOTAL	47

2.3 CONCERNS OVER THE DIFFICULTY ENCOUNTERED BY SOME NOMINEES IN RECITING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PLEDGE

The Committee and a number of Nigerians frowned at the inability of some nominees to easily recite the National Anthem and Pledge. The nominees concerned who were reproached by the Committee on the issue, assured that they will commit the Anthem and Pledge to memory before they report to post, when eventually confirmed by the Senate.

It is to be noted that the Committee and the Senate recorded similar situation in the past screening exercises, mostly caused by anxiety experienced by those affected. Nevertheless, the nominees performed credibly well in other areas of consideration, as Foreign Service Officers, especially on matters that concerned diplomacy and foreign relations.

3.0 CONFIRMATION HEARING REPORT

1. Vivian Nwunaku Rose Okeke (Nee Anunobi) - Anambra State

- a) Mrs. Vivian Nwunaku Rose Okeke is a 55 year old career nominee from Anambra State. She is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983. She served as a Protocol officer to the former First Lady, Mrs. Maryam Babangida and later as a Protocol Officer to the Wife of the former Vice-President, Mrs. Rebecca Aikhomu. She served in various Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has 30 months remaining period of service.
- c) She equally served in a number of Nigerian Missions abroad, namely, Brussels-Belgium; Embassy of the Nigeria, Washington DC; Nigerian Mission in New York etc. Currently, she is a Director, America and Caribbean Affairs Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a position she assumed since 2015.
- d) Her hobbies are Reading, Tennis and Jogging. She is a member of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs.
- e) The nominee was calm, confident and eloquent. She responded to issues raised on some of the challenges of the Nigerian Missions abroad. She gave a graphic picture of the unfortunate situation in some of our Missions abroad and emphasized the need for adequate and timely funding of the Missions to enable them perform credibly well in the discharge of their functions. She

displayed her readiness to bring her wealth of experiences to bear in the assignment, if confirmed by the Senate.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Vivian Nwunaku Rose Okeke (Nee Anunobi)** to the Senate for confirmation.

2. Mr. Enoch Pear Duchi

-

Kaduna State

- a) Mr. Enoch Pear Duchi was born on the 11th November, 1958 and a native of Kwoi, in Jaba Local Government Area of Kaduna State. He is married with children and he is a career nominee.
- b) The nominee joined the Foreign Service in 1983 as third Secretary. He served in various capacities within and outside Nigeria under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At present he is the charge d` Affairs Nigerian Embassy, Doha Qatar. He has 20 months remaining period of service.
- c) He performed exceptionally well. He was composed, confident and responded to issues with eloquence. He has vast knowledge of middle- East Affairs, with specific reference to Qatar. His performance indicated his ability to head any Nigerian Mission abroad.
- d) He has a good knowledge of the Nigerian political development which is an added advantage to him as a Foreign Service Officer who is expected to educate other Nation States on the potentials of investing in Nigeria.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Enoch Pear Duchi** to the Senate for confirmation.

3. Ibrahim Isah

Niger State

- a) Mr. Ibrahim Isah was born on 27th May, 1959 and a career nominee from Niger State. The nominee is married with children. He joined the Foreign Service in 1983 and meritoriously rose to the level 17, Director Special Grade. He has 30 months remaining period of service.
- b) In the course of his career, the nominee served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters and some Nigerian Embassies abroad including New York, Beijing in China, etc.
- c) He equally served in the office of the Honourable Minister, as Counselor/Assistant to the Minister from 1993-1998. From 2002-2007, he was the Chief Airport Protocol officer in the Presidential Lounge, Abuja. From 2011-2014 he was the Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs' National Assembly Liaison Office. He is currently the Deputy Head of Mission, Foreign Service Officer Special Grade (FSO Sp. Grd) Embassy of Nigeria, Ankara in Turkey.
- d) The nominee displayed confidence in his response to issues raised during the exercise. His eloquent explanation on how he intends to attract Foreign Direct Investment into Nigeria looks promising. His understanding of economic diplomacy in line with the present economic realities and how it will be used for the interest of Nigeria is commendable.
- e) The nominee gave a graphic overview of how China developed to what it is today and how best Nigeria can benefit from such experience. In a similar vein, he carried the Committee through the evolving socio-political development in Turkey and the role of the present political leadership in that country's successes.
- f) The nominee displayed very good diplomatic expertise in his response to issues raised and displayed a strong will to serve Nigeria as an Ambassador of

the Federal Republic of Nigeria. He was the Liaison Officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the National Assembly.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Ibrahim Isah** to the Senate for confirmation.

4. Hakeem Toyin Balogun

— **Lagos State**

- a) Mr. Hakeem Toyin Balogun is a Career nominee. He is 55 years old from Lagos State. He is married with children.
- b) He started his service with Kano State Government, Political Research Department, Kano State Government House, from 1982 to 1988. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1988. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has 29 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee was Head of Chancery in Rome from 2000-2003 and was Director of Protocol to the then First Lady, Mrs. Stella Obasanjo from 2004 – 2005. He is currently Director, Special Grade at post in Washington DC and Deputy Head of Mission. He has spattering knowledge of Hausa, French and Kiswahili. His hobbies include Travelling, Playing Chess & Scrabble, Watching movies and Reading autobiographies.
- d) He has a good understanding of the challenges facing the implementation of the Nigerian Foreign Policy in terms of inadequate funding and the different needs of the categories of Missions. He responded very well on some specific issues that borders on terrorism, which he explained (in his opinion) emanated from the Arab/Israel conflict that is presently spreading across the globe.

- e) Responding to the problems faced in Europe, specifically France and Germany, he cited that unlike the UK which jealously guarded its immigration policy, Germany and France, for example have a loose immigration policy that is accommodative of all and sundry. France, for instance, accommodates all citizens from its former colonies in Africa because of its policy of assimilation. This he stated could be a cause for security threats especially in the face of the current challenge of rising insurgency.
- f) He cited some examples of the element of power and posited that war in any given circumstance is as a result of the failure of diplomacy. Therefore, he emphasized that diplomats across the globe must do more to ensure a peaceful and secured world order.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Hakeem Toyin Balogunto** to the Senate for confirmation.

5. Mrs. Jane Ada Ndem

- **Benue State**

- a) Mrs. Jane Ada Ndem was born on the 24th Novemeber, 1959. She is a career nominee from Benue State and she is married with children.
- b) She joined the Nigeria Foreign Service as a Third Secretary after her National Youth Service in 1983. She has 29 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in various Departments in the Headquarters and some Nigerian Missions in Tokyo, Cairo, Dublin and Morocco. She is presently the Chargé D' Affairs Ad Interim Embassy of Nigeria Stockholm, Sweden. She participated in various international and local seminars and conferences.
- d) Although the nominee sounded nervous when she appeared at the beginning, she was however quick in adjusting and responded satisfactorily

to the issues raised. She gave a good explanation on the implications of Britain exiting the EU, a clear indication that she has a good understanding of international relations.

- e) There is no doubt that the nominee has acquired the basic experience and expertise on international relations in the course of her career progression.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Jane Ada Ndem** to the Senate for confirmation.

6. Mrs. Ogundero Moboloji Sakirat - Oyo State

- a) Mrs. Ogundero Moboloji Sakirat is 52 years old career nominee from Oyo State. She is married with children.
- b) She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2007, as a Foreign Service Officer. From 2009-2010, she served as Chief FSO/Directing staff in the Foreign Service Academy, Badagry, Lagos. She also served as the Minister/Head of Chancery Embassy of Nigeria Budapest, Hungary from 2010-2014. From 2014-2015 she was the Deputy Director/Course Participant, Course 23, National Defence College, Abuja. She has 90 months remaining period of service.
- c) Her hobbies are Reading, Listening to local and International News and Making friends.
- d) The nominee appeared calm and responded to questions raised to the satisfaction of the Committee. She displayed a good understanding of the Nigerian Geopolitical distribution.
- e) The nominee exhibited a commendable degree of the understanding of how best to attract foreign direct investment in agriculture and mining. She

assured the Committee of her ability and experience to discharge her responsibility satisfactorily, if her nomination as an Ambassador is confirmed by the Senate.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Ogundero Mobolaji Sakirat** to the Senate for confirmation.

7. Lilian Ijeukwu Onoh

- Enugu State

- a) Ms. Lilian Ijeukwu Onoh is 51 years old career nominee from Enugu State.
- b) She joined the Foreign Service in 1993 and served in various capacities in a number of Departments at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters in Abuja. She equally served at post in the following Missions, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, New York; Embassy of Nigeria, Lome, Togo, etc. She is presently the Acting High Commissioner, Nigeria High Commission, Kingston, Jamaica, a position she assumed in 2015. She has 116 months remaining period of service.
- c) She has a good understanding of the challenges facing the implementation of the Nigerian Foreign Policy, as it affects inadequate funding in some of the Missions. Her explanation on issues raised, for example, Consular matters, was apt and satisfactory.
- d) The nominee displayed calmness akin only to a diplomat of repute.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Ms. Lilian Ijeukwe Onoh** to the Senate for confirmation.

8. Mr. Kenneth Chikere Nwachukwu

- **Imo State**

- a) Mr. Kenneth Nwachukwu is 57 years old, a Career nominee from Imo State. He is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Foreign Service in 19. In the course of his career, he served in various capacities at the Nigerian Embassies in Burkina Faso, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago and Paris. He has 33 months remaining period of service.
- c) While in Nigeria, Mr. Nwachukwu served in several Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and rose to the position of a Director in the Directorate of Research and Analysis, a position he holds till date.
- d) The nominee displayed confidence in his response to issues raised and displayed satisfactory understanding of international politics as a trained Foreign Service Officer. He indicated strong readiness to serve as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Kenneth Chikere Nwachukwu** to the Senate for confirmation.

9. Mr. Baba Garba

— **Kano State**

- a) Mr. Baba Garba is 56 years old, from Kano State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade).

- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He is currently the Director, European Affairs Division, in the Headquarters of the Ministry. He has 20 months remaining period of service.
- c) He has good knowledge of Diplomacy and the evolving international relations. He responded adequately to issues raised by the Committee. He specifically gave a sound explanation on the poor reception experience by the Legislators as against that extended to the members of the Executive Arms during visits outside Nigeria. He attributed the unfortunate experience to gap in communication. He explained that he did a lot to bridge some of the noticeable gaps during his tenure at the National Assembly, as the Head of Liaison, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- d) He also provided solutions on the way to guard against the recent unfortunate quagmire that occurred between some members of the National Assembly on leadership training in the US and the US Embassy. He emphasized on the need for closer synergy, whereby Legislators will receive adequate briefing on any visit to be embarked upon through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- e) His Hobbies include; Squash, Jogging, Travelling, Music and Reading.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Baba Garba** to the Senate for confirmation.

10. Audu Ayinla Kadiri

- **Kwara State**

- a) Mr. Audu Ayinla Kadiri was born on the 2nd January, 1959. He is a career nominee from Kwara State and he is married with children.

- b) He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983 as Third Secretary, SGL 08 and progressed to the rank of Foreign Affairs Officer, Special Grade, Director, SGL 17. He has 30 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in various Departments in the Headquarters and a number of Missions, such as, Nigerian Embassy, Kinshasa, Now Democratic Republic of Congo; Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the UN office at Geneva. From 2000 -2012, he was the Senior Counsellor – Foreign Service Officer, seconded by the Federal Government as an International Civil Servant to the Secretariat of the Group of Fifteen Countries for South-South Cooperation, Geneva, Switzerland. Presently, he is Minister/Head Political Section in the Nigerian High Commission, London from March 2016.
- d) The nominee is one of the key actors of what is popularly known in the Nigerian diplomatic circle as the “Saminaka declaration”, geared towards improvement on the implementation level of the Nigerian Foreign Policy. He is resourceful and an asset to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- e) The nominee is an Ambassador in waiting, having acquired some wealth of experience in diplomacy and matters affecting relations, both at bilateral and multilateral levels, including consular and immigration matters. His response to issues raised were on point and satisfactory. He assured the Committee of his readiness to efficiently serve Nigeria as an Ambassador, when confirmed by the Senate.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Audu Ayinla Kadiri** to the Senate for confirmation.

11. Rabiu Akawu

— **Kano State**

- a) Mr. Rabiu Akawu was born on the 11th June, 1959. He is from Kano State and a career nominee. He is married with a child.
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has 22 months remaining period of service.
- c) He is currently a Director, in the office of the Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign. He speaks a bit of Arabic and French languages. His hobbies include Reading, Listening to Music and watching Movies.
- d) He demonstrated good knowledge of Diplomacy around the world, as well as, the implementation of technical assistance provided by the Nigerian Technical Aid to countries of needs. His responses to issues raised, bordering on Hajj, issuance of "E" passports and Nigerian Visa were satisfactory.
- e) He was calm, confident, presentable and at ease while responding to the issues raised in the course of the screening exercise.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Rabiu Akawu** to the Senate for confirmation.

12. Mr. Salisu Umaru

— **Adamawa State**

- a) Mr. Salisu Umaru is 57 years old, from Adamawa State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade). He is married with children.

- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1984. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has 29 months remaining period of service.
- c) He is currently at post in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, as Acting High Commissioner, Nigerian High Commission, Tanzania.
- d) He has good knowledge of Diplomacy and a good understanding of the issues around the world. His response to issues raised by the Committee on the quest by Nigeria to represent Africa on the Security Council was convincing and satisfactory. He shared his knowledge on the political development in Tanzania, as well as, his understanding of the evolving political development in Southern Africa.
- e) The nominee displayed diplomatic readiness to serve Nigeria as an envoy of repute, with the ability to bring his wealth of experience to bear on the new assignment, when eventually confirmed as an Ambassador. His Hobbies include; Reading, Travelling, Humanitarian Activities and Squash.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Salisu Umaru** to the Senate for confirmation.

13. Mrs. Janet Omoleegho Olisa

- **Delta State**

- a) Mrs. Janet Omoleegho Olisa was born on 02 October, 1965 and hailed from Delta State. Mrs. Olisa is married with children and she is a Career nominee.
- b) The Nominee joined the Foreign Service as Officer II, after her National Youth Service Corp in 1993. She had served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. She has

served as Assistant Director of Protocol to the in 2011. From December, 2014–December, 2015, she served in the office of the Vice President as Deputy Director Protocol and International Relations. She is presently serving as the Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff to the President, office of the Vice President. She has 112 months remaining period of service.

- c) The nominee was Member of the Nigeria Delegation to the 15th, 16th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th and 79th Session of the UNWTO Executive Council meeting and she attended other international conferences and seminars.
- d) The nominee displayed confidence in her response to issues raised for her comments. She shared some of her experience with the Committee on consular matters affecting Nigerians during her sojourn in Malaysia. She adequately briefed the Committee on the educational system in Malaysia, as well as, the issue of racism across the globe.
- e) She responded adequately on the opportunity available to Nigeria on tourism and added that she always appear in Nigeria's traditional attire during her stay at post and usually sew her clothes, as she is a trained fashion designer. The nominee is soft spoken yet convincing in her responses.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Janet Omoleegho Olisato** the Senate for confirmation.

14. Hassan Mohammed Hassan - Borno State

- a) Mr. Hassan Mohammed Hassan is 57 years old career nominee from Borno State. He is married with children.

- b) He joined the Ministry of External Affairs in 1984 as Third Secretary, Bilateral Economic Department. He served in various capacities in a number of Departments at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in some Missions abroad, including Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, New York; High Commission of Nigeria, Islamabad, Pakistan etc. He is currently, serving as the Head, Industry, Trade and Investment, Nigeria High Commission, London. He has 42 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee displayed confidence and readiness to serve as an Ambassador from the quality of his response to issues raised. He exhibited a good understanding of diplomacy in his choice of words and the way he responded on matters affecting Iran and the art of diplomacy.
- d) He has acquired the prerequisite experience of diplomacy in the course of his career.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Hassan Mohammed Hassan** to the Senate for confirmation.

15. Mr. Manaja Tula Isah, mni - Gombe State

- a) Mr. Manaja Tula was born on 27th May, 1959. He is a career nominee from Kaltungo Local Government, Gombe State. He is married.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service in 1983 as Third Secretary, European Affairs Department. He has 30 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in the Nigeria Embassies in Addis Ababa-Ethiopia, Algiers-Algeria, Maputo-Mozambique and The Hague-Netherland. He also served in various departments in the Ministry, while he carried out some

ad-hoc assignments. He participated in some International Conferences and he is an Alumnus of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru.

- d) The nominee satisfactory responded to the issues he was asked to comment on. Looking at the specifics, he gave a graphic picture of the transformation of the AU from OAU. In the same vein, he explained the importance of the understanding of the process of protocol in foreign policy, as a trained Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Manaja Tula Isa** to the Senate for confirmation.

16. Mr. Samson Sunday Itegbeye

- **Edo State**

- a) Mr. Samsun Sunday Itegbeye is a career nominee. He was born on 24th February, 1968, from Edo State. He is married with children.
- b) Mr. Itegbeye joined the Foreign Service immediately after the National Youth Service, in 1989/90. He has 132 months remaining period of service.
- c) From 1994 to date, the nominee served in the department of Asia and pacific, Admin Officer in the office of the Permanent Secretary and that of Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs. He also served in the office of the Vice President and that of the President as Assistant Director and Deputy Director, respectively. He served in many Nigerian Embassies abroad, and he is presently serving at Nigerian Permanent Mission, New York.

- d) The nominee remained calm throughout the period of his screening and he responded very well to all question raised to him. The nominee recited the National Pledge with ease and displayed his readiness to serve as an Ambassador.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends **Mr. Samsun Sunday Iteboye** to the Senate for confirmation.

17. Mr. Inyang Udo-Inyang Joseph - Akwa Ibong State

- a) Mr. Inyang Udo-Inyang Joseph was born 26th March, 1959. He is a career nominee from Abak Local Government Area, Akwa-Ibom State. He is a widower.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service after his National Youth Service in 1982/83. The nominee served in the Consulate General of Nigeria in Cameroon, Hong Kong and New York. While in Nigeria, he served in various Departments in the Ministry. He attended several international conferences and courses like D-8, UNGA, etc. He has 29 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee displayed experience act of diplomacy in his response, to issues poised to him, the answers of which were satisfactory to the Committee. He assured the Committee that he will do his best when confirmed by the Senate to improve on consular Service delivery in the foreign scene, affecting Nigerians.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Inyang Udo-Inyang Joseph** to the Senate for confirmation.

18. Mr. Paragalda Ilyasu Audu

- Adamawa State

- a) Mr. Paragalda Ilyasu Audu was born on the 31st December, 1959. He is a career nominee from Adamawa State and he is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1986. He served in various capacities in a number of Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters in Abuja. He equally served in a number of Missions, such as the Embassy of Nigeria, Maputo in Mozambique; Embassy of Cotonou, Benin Republic as Economic Desk Office; Embassy of Nigeria, Abu Dhabi, UAE. Currently, he is a Director, Privileges & Immunities in the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has 31 months remaining period of service.
- c) His hobbies are Reading, Travelling and Socializing.
- d) The nominee appeared calm and confident. He displayed good diplomatic ability in his response to issues thrown to him. His explanation on the introduction of single currency in ECOWAS was apt and that Nigeria stands to benefit more from the policy.
- e) On the operation of ECOWAS vis-à-vis the payments of dues for the running of the body, he opined that the policy should be tied to employment and such other opportunities for all member States, based on the level of contribution. Nigeria, as the major player in the running of the affairs of the ECOWAS should ensure compliance in that regard.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Paragalda Ilyasu Audu** to the Senate for confirmation.

19. Obinna Chukwuemeka Agbugba

- Abia State

- a) Mr. Obinna Chukwuemeka Agbugba is 53 years old career nominee from Abia State. He is married with Children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service of Nigeria in 1993. He served in various capacities in some Departments at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters, in Abuja. He also served in some of Missions, such as the Embassy of Nigeria in Tokyo, Japan; Nigeria High Commission, Windhock, Namibia; Embassy/Permanent Mission of Nigeria, Vienna, Austria; Embassy of Nigeria, Paris, France. Currently, he is Deputy Director, First United Nations Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja. He has 78 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee displayed high level of confidence and he was calm during the exercise. He was eloquent and forth coming on issues raised. He showed himself as an officer of the Diplomatic Corp who understand the rudiments of diplomacy.
- d) He specifically shared his experience with the Committee on issues bordering on consular and immigration. Responding on what role he played to attract Japanese technology into Nigeria, he explained that the Japs are traditionalist who hardly exports technology but finished product.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Agbugba Obinna Chukwuemeka** to the Senate for confirmation.

20. Mr. Cobham Martins Nyong

- **Cross River State**

- a) Mr. Cobham Martins Nyong was born on the 8th of October, 1961, and career nominee, from Cross River State. He is married with children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service after his National Youth Service Corps in 1982/83 as Third Secretary. In the course of his career, he served in the Nigeria Embassies in Rome from 1998-1992, Harare from 1998-2003, Consulate General, Atlanta and presently in the Nigerian High Commission Pretoria since 2013. He is currently acting as the Nigerian High Commissioner to South Africa. He has 29 months remaining period of service.
- c) He served in various Departments in the Ministry Headquarters and was Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff to the President 2003-2007. He participated in several International Conferences,
- d) Mr. Nyong described himself as a true Nigerian coming from Cross River State but convincingly a Lagosian with a proper grasp of the Nigerian Community. He speaks in a soft tune and displayed a good acumen of diplomacy during his interaction with the Committee.
- e) He responded satisfactorily to the questions raised. Responding on specific question on the unfortunate xenophobic attacks in South Africa, he threw more light, with the assurance that no Nigerian was killed in the violence.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Cobham Martins Nyong** to the Senate for confirmation.

21. Ms. Ngozi Ukaeje

— **Imo State**

- a) **Ms. Ngozi Ukaeje** is 52 years old, from Imo State. She is a Career nominee on Grade Level 16 (Deputy Director).
- b) She started her service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993. She has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. She is currently a Deputy Director, Inspectorate Division, in the Headquarters of the Ministry. She has 91 months remaining period of service.
- c) She has resourceful knowledge of Diplomacy and a good understanding of the issues around the world. Her responses to issues raised to her by the Committee, were satisfactory. Her hobbies include; Reading, Travelling and Playing Lawn Tennis.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Ms. Ngozi Ukaeje** to the Senate for confirmation.

22. Ramatu Dunama Ahmed

— **Taraba State**

- a) Mrs. Ramatu Dunama Ahmed is 56 years old, from Taraba State. She is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade).
- b) She started her service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983. She has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. She is currently at post as Deputy Chief of Mission, Nigerian High Commission, Gabarone, Botswana. She has 30 months remaining period of service.

- c) She has good knowledge of Diplomacy and general understanding of the issues around the world. Her response to issues raised by the Committee, were satisfactory. She is noted to have acquired verse experience both in her local and foreign posting which has properly positioned her for any assignment at the highest level.
- d) Most importantly, she was part of the efforts that provided the basis for the creation of the Ministry of Women Affairs, in the Nigerian political set up.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Ramatu Dunama Ahmed** to the Senate for confirmation.

23. Mrs. Nonye Esther Udo

- **Anambra State**

- a) Mrs. Nonye Esther Udo was born on the 28th December, 1957. Mrs. Udo is a Career Foreign Service Officer and nominee, from Anambra State. She is married with children.
- b) She did her National Youth Service in 1982/83 and immediately joined the Foreign Service. In the course of her career, the nominee served in various capacities at the Nigerian Embassies in Washington and the Permanent Mission, New York. She has 18 months remaining period of service.
- c) While in Nigeria, Mrs. Udo served in several Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and rose to the position of a Director in the Second United Nations Department in 2014 and International Organizations Department.

- d) The nominee appeared confident, eloquent and knowledgeable on issues presented to her. She has a clear understanding of her immediate environment and the world in general, as an experienced foreign service Officer. The Committee was pleased with her response on Nigeria's efforts to secure a seat in the proposed reorganization of the UN Security Council.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Nonye Esther Udo** to the Senate for confirmation.

24. Mr. Munir Liman

— **Bauchi State**

- a) Mr. Munir Liman was born on 15th July, 1958 and he is from Bauchi State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 16 (Deputy Director).
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2007. Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he had served in the Ministry for the Federal Capital Territory, 1984–1988, Ministry of Agriculture, 1988–1991, Ministry of Water Resources, 1991–2002, Ministry of Solid Minerals, 2002–2005, Office of the Head of Service, 2005–2006 and Ministry for Cooperation & Integration in Africa, 2006–2007, from where he transferred to the MFA. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has 25 months remaining period of service.
- c) He is currently a Deputy Director, Political, at Lisbon. His Hobbies include; Reading and Travelling.
- d) He has fair knowledge of Diplomacy and a general understanding of international issues around the world. His responses to issues raised to him by the Committee, were satisfactory. He has acquired noticeable experience in the

course of his career as a Foreign Service Officer and has an understanding of the workings of a foreign Mission.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Munir Liman** to the Senate for confirmation.

25. Mrs. Janet Bessong Odeka - Cross River State

- a) Mrs. Janet Bessong Odeka was born on 18th January 1959, from Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State. Mrs. Odeka is a career nominee and she is married.
- b) The nominee started her working carrier in Nigeria Foreign Service as third secretary, protocol department in the year 1983. She served in various capacities within and outside Nigeria. She is currently the Acting High Commissioner, Nigerian High Commission, Kuala- Lumpur, Malaysia. She has 42 months remaining period of service.
- c) She attended several international conferences, seminars and actively participated in organizing many bilateral and multilateral agreements between Nigeria and many Nations.
- d) The Committee rated the nominee very high in all aspects related to diplomatic issues. She portrayed characteristics of an ideal diplomat. She also responded adequately to all questions raised during the screening exercise. Her experience on consular issues affecting Nigerians abroad will readily come to bear if she is given the opportunity to serve as an Ambassador.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Janet Bessong Odeka** to the Senate for confirmation.

26. Umar Zainab Salisu

Kebbi State

- a) Mr. Umar zainab Salisu was born on 3rd June, 1964 in Bena Village of Danko/Wasagu Local Government Area of Kebbi State. He is career nominee and married with children.
- b) He undertook a professional program for African Diplomats at China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing.
- c) He started his working carrier as planning research officer II in the Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory in the year 1989 and was deployed to Ministry of Cooperation and Integration in Africa in the year 2005. He was later redeployed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2009. He is presently the charge D' Affairs, Embassy of Nigeria Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He has 108 months remaining period of service.
- d) He participated in several ad-hoc assignments in the Ministries of Federal Capital Territory and Foreign Affairs.
- e) He is very sound and has very good command of the English language. He responded adequately to all issues raised to him during the screening exercise, especially on the relationship between Nigeria and Brazil. He cited inadequate and erratic funding as some of the major challenges inhibiting the effective implementation of the Nigerian Foreign Policy.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Umar Zainab Salisu** to the Senate for confirmation.

27. Mr. Momoh Sheidu Omeiza

— **Kogi State**

- a) Mr. Momoh Sheidu Omeiza was born on 8th October, 1959. He is from Kogi State. Mr. Omeiza is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade).
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He is currently at post as Charge d' Affairs, in Seoul, South Korea and acquired a certificate in Portuguese and Korean languages. He has 24 months remaining period of service.
- c) He has good knowledge of Diplomacy and a good understanding of the evolving issues around the world. His responses to issues raised to him by the Committee, were satisfactory, especially on the acquisitions of nuclear heads by North Korea. He also gave a detailed comparative analysis of the developmental experience Nigeria shared with South Korea which if given the opportunity, will make Nigeria better than what it is now.
- d) His Hobbies include; Reading, Web & Graphic Designing and Embroidery Digitizing.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Momoh Sheidu Omeize** to the Senate for confirmation.

28. Mr. Kabiru Bala

— **Zamfara State**

- a) Mr. Kabiru Bala is 57 years old, from Zamfara State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 16.
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad and currently at post as the Charge' d Affairs in the Nigerian Mission, Bangkok, Thailand. He has 48 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee was calm and focus, with a good choice of words during his response to issues brought before him. He has good knowledge of Diplomacy and general understanding of both national and international issues. His response to issues raised, were done eloquently and satisfactory.
- d) He has displayed a good craft of diplomacy and a clear understanding of the Nigerian Foreign Policy. He gave a clear explanation on the procedure on repatriation of Nigerians in any given trouble area. He also shared his knowledge on evolving political developments in some countries in Africa with a good presentation on South Sudan and the Gambia.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Kabiru Bala** to the Senate for confirmation.

29. Mrs. Queen Imaria Worlu

- **Edo State**

- a) Mrs. Queen Imaria Worlu is 56 years old, a career nominee from Edo State. She is married with children.
- b) She joined the Nigeria Foreign Service as a Desk Officer (Third Secretary) and served in various departments in the Headquarters and some Nigerian

Missions. She was Acting High Commissioner in New Delhi, India 2014-2015. She has 51 months remaining period of service.

- c) She participated in various international and local seminars and conferences. She was a resource person in the Directorate of Training. She received an award for outstanding contribution to the welfare of Nigerians residents in India by Nigerian Citizens Welfare association, Grater Noida, Noida; India.
- d) The nominee was calm and confident. She responded satisfactory to the issues raised on consular matters facing the Missions. She shared her experience with the Committee on her local and foreign postings in the course of her duty as a Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Queen Imaria Worlu** to the Senate for confirmation.

30. Mrs. Adekunbi Abibat Sonaïke- Ayodeji - Ogun State

- a) Mrs. Adekunbi Abibat Sonaïke- Ayodeji was born on 12th April 1960. She is a native of Ijebu-Ode local government Area of Ogun State. She is a career nominee and married with four children.
- b) The nominee began her working carrier in the Nigeria Foreign Service in the year 1983. She worked in various capacities within and outside Nigeria. Presently, she is the Nigerian Acting High Commissioner, in Accra, Ghana. She has 30 months remaining period of service.

- c) She has participated in a number of Nigerian delegations to a number of international outings, including a number of negotiations on family matters in the international arena.
- d) The nominee has authored some projects that contribute to various international Journals and an active member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Journal. She is a member of the National Institutes of Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru.
- e) Her performance during the screening exercise was outstanding. She answered all questions satisfactorily. She demonstrated high knowledge of diplomatic relations and the expectation on her as a Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendations

The Committee hereby recommends **Mrs. Adekunbi Abibat Sonaïke Ayodeji** to the Senate for confirmation.

31. Mr. Michael Femi Abikoye

- **Kwara State**

- a) Mr. Michael Femi Abikoye was born on 3rd June, 1959, from Kwara state. He is a career nominee and married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Nigeria Foreign Service in the year 1983. He has been the director, SAPS II in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2013 to date. He served in many ad-hoc assignments. These includes: member NDLEA, EFCC and NCPC. The nominee also served as a member of presidential investigations committee on continued dialogue and resolution of security challenges in the North-East. He has 37 months remaining period of service.

- c) The nominee has vast knowledge of international affairs. He was calm, confident and very eloquent throughout the period of the screening exercise. He clearly portrayed a promising ability to head any of the Nigeria Mission abroad, if confirmed by the Senate.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Michael Femi Abikoye** to the Senate for confirmation.

32. Mr. Musa Saban Mamman

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Yobe State

- a) Mr. Musa Saban Mamman is 49 year old career nominee from Yobe State. He is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Foreign Ministry in 1993 and served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters, as well as, in some Nigerian Missions abroad, such as Ottawa in Canada, Kampala in Uganda, Lome in Togo and Harare in Zimbabwe. Currently, he is serving in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He has 117 months remaining period of service.
- c) His hobbies are Football, Table Tennis and Golf.
- d) The nominee was calm and confident when he appeared before the Committee. He displayed good qualities of a diplomat acquired in the course of his career.
- e) His response to questions poised to him was both satisfactory and convincing, especially on the alleged preferential protocol extended to pilgrims and officials by the Hajj Mission, over the years, during annual

Pilgrimage. He displayed a good understanding of diplomacy and protocol matters.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Musa Saban Mamman** to the Senate for confirmation.

33. Mr. Bello Kazaure Hussein - **Jigawa State**

- a) Bello Kazaure Hussein is from Kazaure Local Government Area of Jigawa State. He was born on 11th December, 1967. He is a career nominee and he is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993 as third Secretary. He worked in many capacities under various department of the Ministry. He is presently serving as the charge d` Affairs at the Nigerian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. He has 126 months remaining period of service.
- c) He is a very enthusiastic young looking diplomat, full of energy, with high self-confidence and the zeal to serve Nigeria as an Ambassador. He sounded self-assured to the Committee; with the pledged that he will defend the interest of Nigeria and Nigerians if confirmed by the Senate.
- d) He responded fairly well to issues raised to him on international relations and foreign policy in addition to some developmental issues across the globe.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Bello Kazaure Hussein** to the Senate for confirmation.

34. Mr. Adesesan Olatunde

— Ekiti State

- a) Mr. Adesesan Olatunde was born on 6th September, 1958. He is from Ekiti State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade).
- b) The nominee started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1983. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He speaks Portuguese, Spanish and French. He is currently the Charge d' Affairs, Embassy of Nigeria, Lisbon, Portugal. He has 27 months remaining period of service.
- c) He has sufficient knowledge of Diplomacy. He specifically responded adequately on the upcoming election in the US and the consequence of its outcome on Nigeria depending on who out of the two contending candidates emerge as President. Since Nigeria has no vote, it can only hope and pray that it is only the candidate that will serve our interest that emerges.
- d) He equally explained that one of the best ways to achieve result in diplomacy is to use the instrument of soft approach and team work, with a view to not only attracting investors, but, as well expertise and knowledge.
- e) In the same vein, he encouraged Nigeria to relate closely with its neighbours so as to ensure a secured and peaceful sub-region. He identified Guinea Bissau, for example, a neighbour needing Nigeria's military, financial and technical assistance to make that country stable, which is in the best interest of Nigeria.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Adesesan Olatunde** to the Senate for confirmation.

35. Mr. Bakori Aliyu Usman

- **Katsina State**

- a) Mr. Bakori Aliyu Usman was born in 1965. He is a career nominee from Bakori Local Government, Katsina State. He is married with (5) children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service after his National Youth Service in 1991. The nominee served in the in various Nigerian Missions in Beijing-China, Bern-Switzerland, Addis Ababa-Ethiopia, Conakry-Guinea and the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva. While in Nigeria, he served in various departments in the Ministry and the Technical Aid Corps (TAC). He has 100 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee was calm, confident and eloquent. His responses to issues raised on the ill-treatment of Nigerians in Asia were quite convincing. He displayed his readiness to bring his wealth of experiences to bear in the assignment, if confirmed by the Senate.
- d) He assured that he will promote the agenda of the government, of the day, by attracting investors to join in the diversification process in the national economy. He specifically identified the need to encourage the production of cotton in high scale, a product in high demand across the globe. He emphasized that; results could be easily achieved with strong synergy between his Mission of posting and the relevant government agencies.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Bakori Aliyu Usman** to the Senate for confirmation.

36. Eric Adagogo Bell-Gam

- **Rivers State**

- a) Mr. Eric Adagogo Bell-Gam is 56 years old and a career nominee, who hailed from Opobo/Nkoro Local Government Area of Rivers State.

- b) The nominee joined the Nigerian Foreign Service in 1984 as third Secretary, Consular, Legal and Immigration Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served in various capacities in the Nigerian Foreign Service, within and outside Nigeria. He rose to the rank of Director in 2012. He is presently the charge d' Affairs at the Nigerian embassy, Madrid, Spain. He has 42 months remaining period of service.
- c) He attended various national and international courses. He participated in course 35 of the National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru from February 2013- November 2013. He served in multilateral, bilateral and consular Missions during his career progression.
- d) The nominee portrayed vast knowledge of the work of an ideal diplomat. He responded satisfactorily to all questions raised on consular issues affecting Nigerians abroad. He explained that a number of Nigerians do not make contact with Missions when in foreign land except when they find themselves in trouble. He explained that during one of his postings, he participated in an effort that secured a light sentence of life imprisonment for some Nigerians that were on death row.
- e) He shared his experience on the problems caused by the Libyan crisis and the aftermath of the influx of arms into other parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, which has no definite solution in sight. He opined that the problem was created by the Western world and they must come in to clean it.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Eric Adagogo Bell-Gam** to the Senate for confirmation.

37. Mr. Ahmed Inusa

- **Nassarawa State**

- a) Mr. Ahmed Inusa is 57 years old, a Career nominee from Lafia Local Government Area of Nassarawa State and he is married with children.
- e) The nominee joined the Foreign Service in the year 1987 as Third Secretary, Political/Economical-American/Caribbean Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The nominee served in many capacities within and outside the country. He has been the director posting and passage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, from 2014 to date. He has 42 months remaining period of service.
- f) He is a distinguished publisher and recipient of several National and International literary awards and prizes. He served in eighteen different bilateral and multi-lateral ad-hoc assignments. Mr. Inusa participated in nine educational visitations while undertaking Foreign Service program at the University of Oxford, England.
- j) He was very eloquent and composed during the screening exercise. He exhibited mastery of diplomacy and identified the challenges facing the implementation of the Nigerian Foreign Policy, namely, inadequate and erratic funding.

Recommendations

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Ahmad Inusa** to the Senate for confirmation.

38. Mr. Bankole Adegboyega Adeoye

- **Ogun State**

- a) Mr. Bankole Adegboyega Adeoye was born on 9th September, 1959 and he is from of Ogun State. Mr. Adeoye is a career nominee.

- b) He started his working carrier in the ministry of foreign affairs on 15th January 1984 as third secretary on SGL 08. He has 44 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in various diplomatic positions within and outside Nigeria in his sojourn as a career diplomat. He is currently the Director, Second United Nations division, international organizations department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs headquarters, Abuja.
- d) He responded adequately to all questions revised during the screening exercise. The committee members were satisfied with his vast knowledge of diplomatic issues acquired over the years. The nominee has displayed a good and convincing knowledge of international relations, which will make Nigeria proud when put into use.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Bankole Adegboyega Adeoye** to the Senate for confirmation.

39. Mr. Attahiru Haliru

- **Sokoto State**

- a) Mr. Attahiru Haliru is 56years old and a career nominee from, Dogon Daji Local Government Area, Sokoto State. The nominee is married with children.
- b) He began his working career with the Nigerian Foreign Service in January 1987. He served in many Nigerian Missions, namely; Baghdad, Niamey, Asmara, New-York. He is currently serving in Embassy of Nigeria, Riyadh Saudi-Arabia. He has 43 months remaining period of service.

- c) The nominee exhibited calmness during his appearance before the Committee. He responded satisfactory to the questions raised during the screening exercise. He also displayed a good understanding of the working of the Nigerian Legislature. The nominee is noted to be versed in diplomacy, having served both at home and abroad in the course of his career.
- d) The nominee acquired a certificate in classical Arabic, with a score of 765.5 out of 1000, which is an added advantage in diplomatic circle.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Attahiru Haliru** to the Senate for confirmation.

40. Mr. Demenongu A. Agev

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Benue State

- a) Mr. Demenongu A. Agev is 52 years old and a career nominee from Benue State. He is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Foreign Service in 1987 and served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in some Nigerian Missions abroad, including Embassy/Permanent Mission of Nigeria Vienna, Austria; Embassy of Nigeria Washington D.C. etc. Presently, he is a Director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Headquarters, Abuja. He has 80 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee had done some research activities including but not limited to "Internationalizing Insurgencies, The crisis in Mali, The Indigene Settler Conflict in Jos Plateau of Nigeria April 14, 2013, etc.

- d) His hobbies include Reading, watching Documentary and Playing Squash.
- e) The nominee displayed brilliance in his reactions to the views generated by the Committee. He demonstrated competence and performed credibly well in his reaction to the Committee. He assured of efficient service delivery when confirmed by the Senate as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Demenongu A. Agev** to the Senate for confirmation.

41. Toko Ali Gongulong

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Borno State

- a) Mr. Toko Ali Gongulong is 54 years old career nominee from Borno State. He is married with children.
- b) The nominee joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987 as Foreign Service officer grade level 08. He served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in some Nigerian Missions abroad, such as Equatorial Guinea and Indonesia. He is presently a Director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a position he assumed since 2015. He has 77 months remaining period of service.
- c) He had attended numerous Seminars and Conferences in and outside Nigeria especially in the areas of diplomacy, terrorism and conflict resolution over the years.
- d) He has a good understanding of the implementation of the Nigerian Foreign Policy and has acquired the experience to serve as a head of a Foreign

Mission. He explained that inadequate funding exposes Missions to ridicule and hardship. His explanation on issues raised, for example, Consular matters, was apt and satisfactory.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Toko Ali Gongulong** to the Senate for confirmation.

42. Ibrahim Hamzat

— **Katsina State**

- a) Mr. Ibrahim Hamzat is 56 years old and is a Career nominee from Katsina State. He is married with children.
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987. He served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has attended a number of international seminars and conferences during his duty tour, both here at home and at post. He has 52 months remaining period of service.
- c) He has a good understanding of the Nigerian Foreign Policy and his responses to some of the questions raised were satisfactory. He shared his experience on matters relating to consular, bilateral and multilateral functions of Foreign Missions.
- d) The nominee has a good understanding of the expectation on him as a Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Ibrahim Hamzat** to the Senate for confirmation.

43. Mr. Oguntuase Emmanuel Kayode

— **Ekiti State**

- a) Mr. Oguntuase Emmanuel Kayode is 56 years old, from Ekiti State. He is a Career nominee on Grade Level 17 (Special Grade).
- b) He started his service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987. He has served in various Departments in the Ministry and in some Nigerian Missions abroad. He is currently the Director, Inspectorate in the Headquarters of the Ministry. He has 50 months remaining period of service.
- c) He has good knowledge of Diplomacy and a general understanding of the international issues around the world. His responses to issues raised to him by the Committee, were satisfactory and convincing.
- d) The nominee shared his experience with the Committee, having served in various Missions on some of the important components of every foreign Mission, namely, Consular, Economic and Political. He provided a clear understanding of the operation of a Mission. His Hobbies include; Reading, Travelling and Playing Lawn Tennis.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Oguntuase Emmanuel Kayode** to the Senate for confirmation.

44. Mr. Lawal Abba Gashagar

- **Borno State**

- a) Mr. Lawal Abba Gashagar was born on 31st December, 1958. He is a career nominee from Mobbar Local Government Area of Borno State. He is married with seven (7) children.
- b) He began his career with the Borno State Civil Service in 1984 as Assistant Secretary in the Governor's office and later joined the Foreign Service in 1986. He has 19 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in the Nigeria Embassies in Chad, Libya and Sudan and in various Departments in the Ministry. He served as Senior Personal Assistant to the Head of State/President in 1996.
- d) He was self-assured and unruffled during his interaction with the Committee. His response to issues raised was apt and satisfactory. He shared his ideas with the Committee on the developing phenomena of insurgency across the globe and the influence of external factors on the Nigerian experience.
- e) He however suggested that the way out of this unfortunate phenomena resides in the provision of a just society and inclusive government, which can guarantee peace and security in the polity.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Lawal Abba Gashagar** to the Senate for confirmation.

45. Mr. Oluwasegun Ibidapo-Obe

- Osun State

- a) Mr. **Oluwasegun Ibidapo-Obe** hailed from Osun State. He was born on 6th March, 1960. Mr. Obe is a career nominee and he is married with children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Ministry as Third Secretary after his National Youth Service Corp in 1984. The nominee served in different capacities in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and served as Special Assistant to the Principal Secretary to the President C-in-C, State House, Senior Special Assistant to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and also the Head of Service. He rose to the position of Director, Foreign Service Officer Special Grade. He has 31 months remaining period of service.
- c) He served in various capacities at the Nigerian Embassies in Kuwait, London, Zambia and Washington. He is presently the Charge d'Affairs, Nigerian Mission in Togo.
- e) Mr. Ibidapo-Obe participated in various International Conferences and he is a member of various Associations and Bodies. He responded satisfactorily to issues raised to him. He aptly explained that the problems faced by the Nigerian Missions have been mostly owing to the paucity of fund, the release of which is either inadequate or erratic and mostly untimely.
- f) He shared his experience with regard to the evolution of diplomacy as a product of history without which a nation will not understand where it is coming from or where it is heading to. He displayed good act of diplomacy as a well-trained Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Oluwasegun Ibidapo-Obe** to the Senate for confirmation.

46. Mr. Habu Abubakar Gwani Ibrahim - Gombe State

- a) Mr. Habu Abubakar G. Ibrahim is 55 years old career nominee from Gombe State. He is married with children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service of Nigeria in 1985 and served in various Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and some Nigerian Missions abroad. He has 30 months remaining period of service.
- c) In the course of his career, the nominee served in several Nigerian Missions abroad, namely, Gabon, Switzerland and Canada. From 2013-2014, he served as Director, Information, Communications and Technology, responsible for the working of three sections, the Messaging Center, the ICT Training Center and the Network Center. He is currently serving as the Acting Head of Mission of Nigeria, Gabon, a position he assumed since 2014.
- d) His hobbies are Poetry Writing, Swimming, Software and Computer Application research etc.
- e) The nominee received several awards including but not limited to: YUSSA Anti-Apartheid Award, Nigerian Swiss Resident Association Service Award, NIDO America Award etc.
- f) The nominee displayed confidence in his responses to issues raised by the Committee. He also exhibited the capacity to yield positive results while responding on a question touching on the policy framework to be adopted

for peaceful coexistence in the African sub region. The nominee has acquired convincing experience to serve as an Ambassador, when confirmed by the Senate.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Habu Abubakar Gwani Ibrahim** to the Senate for confirmation.

47. Mr. Adamu Onoze Shuiabu F.C.T

- a) **Mr. Adamu Onoze Shuiabu** was born on the 25th December, 1962. He is a career nominee from Abaji Area Council, FCT. He is married with children.
- b) He joined the Foreign Service in 1995 as Third Secretary, Trade and Investment Department. He has 66 months remaining period of service.
- c) The nominee served in the Nigeria Embassies in Dublin-Ireland, Buea-Cameroon, Niamey-Niger and currently the Deputy Consul-General in Guangzhou, China. While in Nigeria, he served in various Departments in the Ministry and was Assistant Director, Protocol in the office of the Vice President from 2013-2014. He attended some number of international conferences.
- d) The nominee was calm and focus during the screening exercise. He has a good communication skill and shared his experience with the Committee on the issues of drug trafficking and internet scams affecting Nigerians in foreign lands.
- e) He also gave a detailed explanation on the deportation of Nigerians from some countries around the world, mostly owing to overstaying. He has

displayed a good understanding of consular and immigration matters and has portrayed himself as an experience Foreign Service Officer.

Recommendation

The Committee hereby recommends **Mr. Adamu Onoze Shuiabu** to the Senate for confirmation.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee having carefully and thoroughly conducted the screening exercise was satisfied with the qualifications and general performance of the 47 Career Ambassadorial nominees. Accordingly, the Committee hereby recommends all 47 nominees for confirmation by the Senate.

4.1 PRAYER


That the Senate do confirm the nomination of all 47 Career Ambassadorial Nominees, for confirmation of their appointments as Ambassadors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

5.0 CONCLUSION

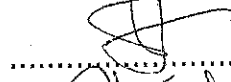
The Senate, Federal Republic of Nigeria, referred the screening of 47 Career Ambassadorial nominees to this Committee for detailed legislative screening. All the nominees appeared before the Committee during the three days events and were duly screened in line with perimeters sets down for the exercise. In so doing, the Committee ensures that it conducted the matter fairly and thoroughly with a view to making far reaching recommendations to the Senate.

We so submit:

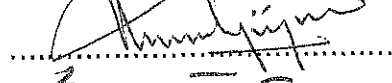
Sen. Monsurat Sunmonu


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Sen. Shehu Sani


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Sen. Mohammed Ali Ndume


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Sen. Bala Ibn Na'Allah


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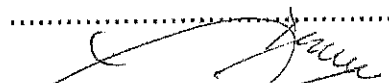
Sen. James Manager

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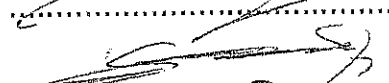
Sen. Mohammed Shaaba Lafiagi

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Sen. Olugbenga Bareehu Ashafa


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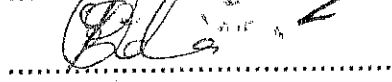
Sen. Enyinnaya H. Abaribe


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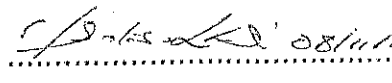
Sen. Sunny O. Ogbuoji


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Sen. Tijjani Yahaya Kaura


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Sen. Clifford Ordia


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S.D. Umar, *Hon. Kentucky Col.* (Clerk to the Committee)