



# NATIONAL GRAND COALITION PARTY



14 NAIMBANA STREET, FREETOWN.

Tel: +23299747796/+23274479655

Email: ngcsalonefos@gmail.com/ ngcsalonefos@yahoo.com

The Secretary to the President,  
Office of the President,  
State House, State Avenue,  
Tower Hill,  
Freetown.

16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Sir,

RE: APPOINTMENT AS ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER (WESTERN REGION)

I am in receipt of your letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 on the subject referenced above in which you informed me that His Excellency the President has appointed Mrs. Zainab Umu Moseray as Electoral Commissioner, Western Region and also in which you asked me to bring this information to the attention of my Chairman and Leader.

However, I noticed that, other than the pleasure of His Excellency the President, you did not cite as is customary for such official letters, the legal instrument(s) that constitute the basis for such an appointment. Assuming this is an oversight, I have the honour to refer you to the Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1990 section 32, subsection 3 which stipulates that:

**“The members of the Electoral Commission shall be appointed by the President *after consultation with the leaders of all registered political parties* and subject to the approval of Parliament.”**

The National Grand Coalition party (NGC) was never consulted about this appointment before it was made even though our party is fully registered at the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC) and actively represented in Parliament. This act constitutes a grave breach of procedure and, if deliberate, could be one more nail on the coffin of democracy in Sierra Leone.

The NGC considers that the framers of our Constitution had very good reasons for instructing that ALL political parties must be consulted before an Electoral Commissioner is appointed by the President. The Electoral Commission plays a pivotal role in the survival of our democracy and those who should ascend to the high office of Commissioner must be



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subject to the scrutiny of political parties which are principal protagonists in the electoral process.

We therefore find ourselves in the embarrassing situation of having to demand that Government follows a simple procedure that is clearly spelt out in the Constitution of the country i.e. consult ALL political parties before appointing a Commissioner.

Thanking you for your attention,

Yours faithfully,

Duparay Sillah

*FOR: NATIONAL SECRETARY GENERAL, NGC*