

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF
GUYANA**

(2015-2018)

ELEVENTH REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS

**IN RELATION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS
TO THE POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION**

**COMMITTEES DIVISION
PARLIAMENT OFFICE
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
BRICKDAM
GEORGETOWN**

APRIL 11, 2018

ELEVENTH REPORT

Introduction

1. The Standing Committee established under the Constitution to address matters relating to the appointment of Members of Commissions, pursuant to Article 119C of the Constitution and under the provisions of Standing Order No. 84, has agreed to the following as its Eleventh Report.

Members of the Committee

2. At a Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on September 4, 2015, the following Members were nominated to the Committee on Appointments to address matters relating to the appointment of Members of Commissions:

Members from the A Partnership for National Unity/Alliance for Change (APNU/AFC)(5):

- (i) Hon. Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.
- (ii) Hon. Amna Ally, M.P., Government Chief Whip.
- (iii) Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.
- (iv) Hon. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P.
- (v) Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

Members from the People's Progressive Party (PPP) (4):

- (i) Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
- (ii) Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P.
- (iii) Mr. Ganga Persaud, M.P.
- (iv) Dr. Clive R. Jagan, M.P.

3. Change of Membership on the Committee

3.1 Dr. Clive R. Jagan resigned as a Member of the National Assembly with effect from February 10, 2016. Subsequently the Committee of Selection met on March 4, 2016 and nominated Ms. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P., as the newly appointed Member to replace Dr. Jagan on the Committee.

4. Election of Chairperson

4.1 The Committee at its first meeting held on September 9, 2015, elected Hon. Dr. George Norton, M.P., as its Chairperson

5. Terms of Reference

5.1 The Committee by Resolution No. 17 passed by the National Assembly on May 8, 2003, was entrusted to discharge the following functions in relation to the appointment of Members of the Commission established under the Constitution-

- “(a) identifies appropriate bodies for consultation in the appointment of the relevant members of the Commission, conduct the necessary consultations and, where necessary, receive nominations from appropriate bodies;
- (b) make recommendations to the National Assembly:
 - (i) for a consensual mechanism for the Ethnic Relations Commission, the Women and Gender Equality Commission, the Indigenous Peoples’ Commission and the Commission on the Rights of the Child;
 - (ii) for the appointment of members of the Commissions with the exception of the Public Procurement Commission;
 - (iii) in connection with any other matter referred to it by the National Assembly from time to time.
- (c) report to the National Assembly in relation to each Commission as soon as possible upon the discharge of its function in relation thereto”.

6. Mandate

6.1 The Committee was mandated by article 200 (1) (b) of the Constitution in relation to the Police Service Commission to nominate:

“four members appointed by the President upon nomination by the National Assembly after it has consulted such bodies as appear to it to represent the majority of the members of the Police Force and any other such body it deems fit”

7. Meetings of the Committee

7.1 The Committee held a total of thirty-one (31) meetings.

8. Police Service Commission – The Nomination Process

8.1 At the 26th Meeting held on Wednesday, December 15, 2017, the Committee commenced discussion on the entities to be consulted to submit nominees to be appointed to the Police Service Commission. At that meeting, the Committee agreed to consider the third Report of the Committee dated May 15, 2014, as a guide, on the way forward.

8.2 At the 27th Meeting held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 the Committee commenced discussion on the way forward with respect to the procedure in establishing the Police Service Commission. The Committee decided that it would consult with the same entities as were previously consulted in the 10th Parliament.

8.3 At the said Meeting, the Committee agreed that, in an effort to expedite the process, the Chairperson would enquire from the Minister of Public Security, whether the following entities were functioning:

- The Police Association;
- The Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force;
- National Commission on Law and Order; and
- National Community Policing Executive.

8.4 It was also agreed that, based on information received, the entities would be written to, seeking nominations to the Police Service Commission, giving a deadline of February 13, 2018.

8.5 At the 28th Meeting held on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, the Chairperson informed the Committee that he was unable to communicate with the Hon. Minister of Public Security, in relation to whether the four (4) entities that had been consulted in the 10th Parliament was functioning. The Committee agreed to formally write the Hon. Minister as it relates to the matter.

8.6 At the 29th Meeting held on March 7, 2018, the Chairperson informed the Committee that in keeping with his commitment to consult with the Hon. Minister of Public Security in relation to the functioning of the four (4) entities to be consulted with the exception of the National Commission on Law and Order, indicated that the following entities were functioning:

- Police Association;
- Association of former Members of the Guyana Police Force: and
- National Community Policing Executive.

8.7 At the said meeting, the Committee noted that only three (3) entities were functioning, and that since each entity was required to submit one (1) nominee, agreed to include the Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers in keeping with Article 210 (1) (c) of the Constitution, which states:

“four members appointed by the President upon nomination by the National Assembly after it has consulted such bodies as appear to it to represent the majority of the members of the Police Force and any such body it deems fit.”

8.8 As a result, it was agreed that the following four (4) entities would be invited in formally to submit nominations for the appointment in accordance with article 210(1)(c) of the Constitution:

- The Guyana Police Association;
- Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force;
- National Community Policing Executive; and
- Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers.

8.9 On March 8, 2018, the Committee dispatched letters, addressed to the General Secretary/President of the respective entities stating the following:

- (i) that their entities had been identified as an entity to be consulted to make nominations, in accordance with article 210 (1)(c) of the Constitution;
- (ii) that they should submit nominee(s) for consideration by the Committee, for appointment to the Police Service Commission;
- (iv) they were also required to submit specific information of their nominee(s) on a bio data form that was attached to the letter.

9 Nominations Received

9.1 On March 14, 2018, the **Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force** submitted the names of Mr. Paul Esmond Slowe, D.S.M and Ms. Vesta Geneva Adams, Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police as its nominee.

9.2 On March 22, 2018, the **Guyana Police Association** submitted the names of Mr. Paul Esmond Slowe, D.S.M., Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Clinton Andrew Conway, Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police, Ms. Vesta Geneva Adams, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police, and Ms. Claire Alexis Jarvis, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police as its nominees.

10. The Committee's Selection Process

10.1 At the 30th Meeting held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, the Committee noted that the National Community Policing Executive, the Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers, Guyana Police Association and Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force were written to seeking nomination to the Police Service Commission. Correspondence was received from the Guyana Police Association and the Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force.

10.2 After exhausting the process of notification, the Committee agreed to proceed with the appointment of Members to the Commission. Thereafter, the Members present unanimously agreed that the following persons would be nominated for appointment to the Police Service Commission:

- (i) Mr. Paul Esmond Slowe, D.S.M., Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police;
- (ii) Mr. Clinton Andrew Conway, Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police;

- (iii) Ms. Vesta Geneva Adams, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police; and
- (iv) Ms. Claire Alexis Jarvis, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police.

10.3 At the 31st Meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, Members present unanimously adopted the 11th Report on the appointment of Members to the Police Service Commission.

10.4 The Committee, now therefore, reports to the National Assembly that it has meaningfully consulted with National Community Policing Executive, the Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers, Guyana Police Association and Association of Former Members of the Guyana Police Force, as bodies that appear to represent the majority of Members of the Guyana Police Force.

10.5 The Committee recommends that Mr. Paul Esmond Slowe, D.S.M., Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Clinton Andrew Conway, Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police, Ms. Vesta Geneva Adams, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police and Ms. Claire Alexis Jarvis, Retired Woman Assistant Commissioner of Police be signified as the National Assembly's choice to the President for appointment as Members in the Police Service Commission.



*Dr. George Norton, M.P.,
Chairperson,
Committee on Appointments
Minister of Social Cohesion with
responsibilities for Culture, Youth and Sports
April 11, 2018*