

**IN THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF THE  
FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

**FOURTEENTH REPORT OF THE  
APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**ON**

**THE PRESIDENT'S NOMINATION FOR  
DEPUTY MINISTERIAL  
APPOINTMENT**

**7<sup>th</sup> February, 2008**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 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 Ms. Victoria Bright as Deputy Minister.
- 1.2 In accordance with Order 172 (2) of the Standing Orders, the Speaker referred the nomination to the Appointments Committee for consideration and report. However on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2007, this Honourable House deferred its decision on the nominee's "prior approval" for further exercises to be conducted.
- 1.3 Mr. Speaker may also recall that the Committee withheld its report on Ms. Victoria Bright dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 2007 in order to enable further work to be done on certain aspects of her testimony before the Committee to be conducted.
- 1.4 The Appointments Committee has completed its work on the nominee and hereby submits its report to the House in accordance with order 172 of the Standing Orders.

## **2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- iii. 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Report of the Appointments Committee
- iv. Citizenship Act 2000, Act 591 and Citizenship Regulations (L.I. 1690)
- v. [www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk)

## **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 the House.

## **4.0 MS. VICTORIA BRIGHT**

**Deputy Minister designate at  
the Office of the President**

### **Dual Citizenship**

The question of Ms. Bright's dual citizenship was raised again at the hearing. She took the opportunity to explain the procedure for the renunciation of British Citizenship to the Committee. According to Guide

RN1 published by the Home Office at its website  
[www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk),

*“you cease to be a British citizen, a British Overseas citizen or a British subject on the date your declaration of renunciation is registered by the Home Secretary. This date will be shown on your copy of the form”.*

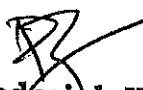
She tended in evidence from the Immigration and Nationality Directorate of the British Home Office dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2007, showing that she had paid the requisite fee and duly renounced her British citizenship in accordance with the British Nationality Act 1981 and the regulations made under it.

### **Expertise**

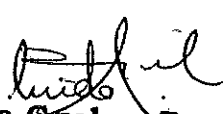
Ms. Bright told the Committee that she was a partner at Piper Rudnick Solicitors (DLA) which is one of the world's largest international law firms with more than 3,400 lawyers throughout Europe, Asia and the Middle East. She said she would avail her immense expertise in international negotiations to the Office of the President to effectively negotiate agreements that promote the interest of the country. She cited one of her projects as the “Broadband Aggregation Project” in the UK which resulted in the roll-out of broadband throughout the UK to help telecom/ICT service providers to spread their services to the Outer Hebrides that were hitherto underserved. She admitted that she may not earn as much as her practice in the UK nevertheless she was prepared to serve her country.

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

The Appointments Committee has satisfied itself that the nominee has renounced her British citizenship in accordance with the British Nationality Act. The Committee is of the view that **Ms. Victoria Bright** is qualified under the Constitution and Standing Orders of the House to be appointed as **Deputy Minister at the Office of the President**. The Committee therefore recommends to this Honourable House her nomination for approval by consensus.

  
**Hon. Frederick W. A. Blay**  
1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Speaker and Chairman,  
Appointments Committee

7<sup>th</sup> February 2008

  
**Linda Gyekye Boadu**  
Committee Clerk