7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 70

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 21st February, 2012

1. The Senate met at 11:03 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Deputy Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 16th February, 2012 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Message from Mr President:**
The Deputy Senate President announced that he had received a letter from the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

Submission of Revised 2012 -2014 Revenue framework and revised 2012 Budget Proposal:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

February 15, 2012

Distinguished Senator David B. Mark, GCON
Senate President,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Your Excellency,

SUBMISSION OF REVISED 2012 - 2014 REVENUE FRAMEWORK AND REVISED 2012 BUDGET PROPOSAL

I seize this opportunity to express my gratitude for the enduring productive partnership between the National Assembly and the Executive arms of government in discharging our shared responsibility for nation-building and I note, with thanks, the patriotism, commitment and support that the Distinguished Members of the Senate have consistently demonstrated.

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Recent domestic developments, key among which was the partial withdrawal of subsidy on petroleum products and the ripple effect on government revenue and expenditure items, have necessitated the revision of the 2012-2014 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and the 2012 Budget Proposal which I presented to the National Assembly on the 13th December 2011.

In this respect, I hereby forward copies of the revised 2012 Budget Proposal. It is my hope that the Distinguished Senate will kindly consider and approve these revised proposals expeditiously.

Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN

Request referred to the Committee on Appropriations for further Legislative Action [Rule 40(2)].

4. Petition:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Akin B. Odunsi (*Ogun West*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Inspector Emmanuel Ediare, on wrongful dismissal from the Nigeria Police Force. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition Laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to report within four (4) weeks [Rule 41 (3)].

5. Committee on Health:

Report on the Sickle Cell (Prevention, Control and Management) Bill 2012 (SB. 59):

Presentation of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

6. Committee on Police Affairs:

Report on the Activities of Boko Haram Sect and Escape from Police Custody of Kabiru Umar Alias Kabiru Sokoto:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Police Affairs, on the Activities of the Boko Haram Sect and Escape from Police Custody of Kabiru Umar Alias Kabiru Sokoto (A High Profile Boko Haram Sect Member) (*Senator Igwe P. Nwagu — Ebonyi Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the office of the coordinator on counter-terrorism as established in the Nigerian Security Adviser's office should be strengthened through legislative Act — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That there should be the establishment of a Joint Boarder Patrol to include: The Nigeria Police Force, The Armed Forces, Immigration Services, Custom Services, State Security Services (SSS) and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), to check the challenges of the Country's porous boarders — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: The existing laws on terrorism should be strengthened such that offences under the Act should be made public — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: Special courts should be assigned to handle cases of terrorism — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (v):
Question: Government should ensure special training for Judges and prosecutors to handle terrorist offences — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (vi):
Question: Members of the public are urged to assist the Security Agencies by providing relevant information — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vii):
Question: Zakari Biu and those involved in the escape of Kabiru Sokoto should have their prosecution expedited to serve as a deterrent to other security operatives — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

(*i*) That members of the public are urged to assist the Security Agencies by providing relevant information; and

(*ii*) That Zakari Biu and those involved in the escape of Kabiru Sokoto should have their prosecution expedited to serve as a deterrent to other security operatives ***(Res/S/036/01/12).***

7. Committee on Health:

Report on the Cholera - a Recurring Epidemic:
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Health in respect of the motion "Cholera-a Recurring Epidemic"(*Senator Gyang D. Dantong — Plateau North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: Improved Water Supply:
The Federal Ministry of Water Resources (In liaison with States and Local Government Councils, Organized Private Sector and NGOs) should ensure a scale-up of the total water supply coverage in the country from the current estimate of 58% to at least 80% by year 2015 — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: Environmental Sanitation:
The following environmental sanitary measures should be enforced:

(*a*) Provision of public sanitary toilets in public places and household toilets to reduce the incidence of open indiscriminate defecation;

(*b*) Encourage regular environmental sanitation days in the States and Local Government Areas;

(*c*) Adequate training and retraining of Environmental Health Workers and the revival of Sanitary Inspectorate regime in all the States and Local Government Areas to ensure clean environment;

(*d*) Employment of more Environmental Health Officers (EHO) by the States and Local, Government Councils to bridge the current gap (WHO recommends 1:8,000, but figures stand at 1:19,000 in Nigeria) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: Advocacy:
There should be increased collaboration between Government Agencies and relevant stakeholders such as faith based organizations, NGOs, traditional leaders, the media etc in disseminating information for community awareness on preventive measures for the control of cholera in Nigeria — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: Improving Health Care Delivery:
(*a*) The Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with States and local Government Councils should ensure an effective and functional Primary Health Care Services in all local Governments in the Country;

(*b*) There is need for improved funding to the Federal Ministry of Health for disease prevention and control, surveillance, epidemic preparedness and response, including procurement of drugs, laboratory reagent and consumables;

(*c*) The States and local Government Councils should be encouraged to provide adequate funding in their annual budgets for timely and appropriate response to disease outbreak;

(*d*) There is need for improved funding for training and retraining of Health workers at all tiers of the Health care delivery system;

(e) Strengthening of laboratory capacity at Federal, State and local Government Area levels should be encouraged; and

(*f*) Contingency funds for timely response should be set aside at all tiers of the Health care delivery system, to reduce the delay in making logistics and materials available in responding to outbreaks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):
Question: Inter Governmental/MDAs Collaboration:
(a) There is need for increased collaboration among the tiers of government in the provision of safe water, improved sanitation and Health care delivery, especially in ensuring timely response to disease outbreaks. This collaboration should also be extended to advocacy and education programmes aimed at containing the scourge of Cholera;

(b) There is great need for collaboration among line Ministries of Health, Water Resources, Environment, Education, Information, Women Affairs and relevant agencies for effective and efficient response to containment of Cholera outbreaks as well as ensuring success of planned preventive programmes;

(c) A National policy mandating all schools in Nigeria to have functional clinics with appropriate staff should be encouraged;

(d) A collaborative efforts of all relevant Ministries to enhance personal hygiene and to promote hand-washing (especially before eating and after going to the toilet) through advocacy and education programmes should be encouraged; and

(e) There is urgent need to adequately educate the populace on the necessity to wash fruits and vegetables with clean water before consumption, especially in the fasting period, when fruits and vegetables are consumed in large quantities. The need to cook food properly and re-heat left-over food before consumption should also be encouraged particularly in our rural communities and urban slums where sanitation is lacking — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

(i) Improved Water Supply:
The Federal Ministry of Water Resources (In liaison with States and Local Government Councils, Organized Private Sector and NGOs) should ensure a scale-up of the total water supply coverage in the country from the current estimate of 58% to at least 80% by year 2015;

(ii) Environmental Sanitation:
The following environmental sanitary measures should be enforced:

(a) Provision of public sanitary toilets in public places and household toilets to reduce the incidence of open indiscriminate defecation;

(b) Encourage regular environmental sanitation days in the States and Local Government Areas;

(c) Adequate training and retraining of Environmental Health Workers and the revival of Sanitary Inspectorate regime in all the States and Local Government Areas to ensure clean environment;

(d) Employment of more Environmental Health Officers (EHO) by the States and Local, Government Councils to bridge the current gap (WHO recommends 1:8,000, but figures stand at 1:19,000 in Nigeria);

(iii) Advocacy:
There should be increased collaboration between Government Agencies and relevant stakeholders such as faith based organizations, NGOs, traditional leaders, the media etc in disseminating information for community awareness on preventive measures for the control of cholera in Nigeria;

(iv) Improving Health Care Delivery:

(a) The Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with States and local Government Councils should ensure an effective and functional Primary Health Care Services in all local Governments in the Country;

(b) There is need for improved funding to the Federal Ministry of Health for disease prevention and control, surveillance, epidemic preparedness and response, including procurement of drugs, laboratory reagent and consumables;

(c) The States and local Government Councils should be encouraged to provide adequate funding in their annual budgets for timely and appropriate response to disease outbreak;

(d) There is need for improved funding for training and retraining of Health workers at all tiers of the Health care delivery system;

(e) Strengthening of laboratory capacity at Federal, State and local Government Area levels should be encouraged; and

(f) Contingency funds for timely response should be set aside at all tiers of the Health care delivery system, to reduce the delay in making logistics and materials available in responding to outbreaks;

(v) Inter Governmental/MDAs Collaboration:

(a) There is need for increased collaboration among the tiers of government in the provision of safe water, improved sanitation and Health care delivery, especially in ensuring timely response to disease outbreaks. This collaboration should also be extended to advocacy and education programmes aimed at containing the scourge of Cholera;

(b) There is great need for collaboration among line Ministries of Health, Water Resources, Environment, Education, Information, Women Affairs and relevant agencies for effective and efficient response to containment of Cholera outbreaks as well as ensuring success of planned preventive programmes;

(c) A National policy mandating all schools in Nigeria to have functional clinics with appropriate staff should be encouraged;

(d) A collaborative efforts of all relevant Ministries to enhance personal hygiene and to promote hand-washing (especially before eating and after going to the toilet) through advocacy and education programmes should be encouraged; and

(e) There is urgent need to adequately educate the populace on the necessity to wash fruits and vegetables with clean water before consumption, especially in the fasting period, when fruits and vegetables are consumed in large quantities. The need to cook food properly and re-heat left-over food before consumption should also be encouraged particularly. in our rural communities and urban slums where sanitation is lacking ***(Res/S/037/01/12).***

8. Erosion Control and Prevention Commission (Establishment, etc) Bill 2012 (SB.54):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. Preservation and Control of National Grazing Reserves (Establishment, etc) Bill 2012 (SB.60):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

10. Electronic Fraud and Electronic Transfer of Funds Bill 2012 (SB.69):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 22nd February, 2012 at 10.00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:12 *p.m.*

Ike Ekweremadu, CON
Deputy President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.