SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 20th March, 2013

1. The Senate met at 10:29 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 19th March, 2013.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved by unanimous consent.

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

(a) Confirmation of Appointment:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

March 14, 2013

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

Your Excellency,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL POPULATION COMMISSION

The National Population Commission is one of the Federal Executive Bodies established under Section 153(1)(j) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 as amended. Section 23 of the Third Schedule of the Constitution stipulates that the commission shall comprise a Chairman and one person from each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

While hoping that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the Distinguished Senators, please accept, Mr. Senate President, the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN

(b) Confirmation of Appointment:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

March 14th 2013

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

Your Excellency,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF A NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is one of the Federal Executive Bodies established under Section 153(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as amended. Section 14(1) of the Third Schedule of the Constitution stipulates that the Commission shall comprise a Chairman and twelve other members to be known as National Electoral Commissioners.

I wish to note that since the inception of INEC, the appointment of the twelve National Electoral Commissioners has been done based on two per geopolitical zone.

The tenure of one of the Commissioners representing the South West geopolitical zone expired since June 2012. In this connection, after due consultation with the Council of State at its meeting on Tuesday, 12th March 2013, and in accordance with the provisions of Sections 154(1) and (3) of the 1999 Constitution as amended, I hereby present the nomination of Professor Akinola Muritala Salau from Oyo State for confirmation by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Curriculum Vitae of the candidate is attached herewith.

While hoping that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the Distinguished Senators, please accept, Mr. Senate President, the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN

4. Announcements:

(a) Report on the Status Inquiry into the Special Funds Accounts:

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Ita S. Enang *(Akwa Ibom North-East)* as follows:

THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND BUSINESS

20th March, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENT

Further to the Notice Paper, may I please inform Senators that the Report on the Status Inquiry into the Special Funds Accounts will be considered on Tuesday, the 26th of March, 2013.

Copies of the report are being made available to all Senators, please.

(Signed)
Senator Ita Enang
Chairman, Rules and Business Committee

(b) 20th Memorial of Late Chief Brigadier-General Udoakaha Jacob Esuene:

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Helen U. Esuene *(Akwa Ibom South)* as follows:

SENATOR HELEN U. ESUENE (PHP)
Chairman, Senate Committee on Women Affairs & Youth Development

15th March, 2013

Senator David A. B. Mark
The President of the Senate
National Assembly
Three Arms Zone
Abuja

Your Excellency,

20th MEMORIAL OF LATE CHIEF BRIGADIER - GENERAL UDOAKAHA JACOB ESUENE

I write to respectfully inform Your Excellency and my Distinguished Colleagues that the 20th year anniversary of the demise of my late husband, Chief Brigadier- General Udoakaha Jacob Esuene comes up on Sunday, 14th April 2013.

It will be recalled that the late Brigadier-General Esuene was the first Military Governor of the defunct South-Eastern State (presently Cross River and Akwa Ibom States). He was a fine soldier, an airman, an effective administrator and a gentleman. To mark the occasion, the family has decided to renovate and refurnish the male surgical ward of Immanuel Hospital in Eket, Akwa Ibom State and to provide new equipment for Esuene Stadium Gymnasium.

I solicit your support and would be highly honoured with your presence as Special Guests on this occasion which commences with a thanksgiving service at The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Mega parish, Eket on Sunday the 14th April, 2013 by 10am. This will be quickly followed by the commissioning of the ward and a reception at Villa Marina Hotel.

Please accept the assurances of our best wishes and highest esteem.

Yours sincerely
(Signed)
Senator Helen Esuene

(c) ***Acknowledgment:***
The Deputy Senate President acknowledged the presence of the Members of Ogun State Law School Students' Association, Nigerian Law School Headquarters, Bwari, Abuja who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

5. Personal Explanation:
Rising on Rule 43, Senator Uche Chukwumerije (*Abia — North*) in consultation with Senator Kabir I. Gaya (*Kano South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the multiple bomb blast in Sabon Gari area of Kano State on Monday, 18th March, 2013 where over 100 persons reportedly lost their lives and 5 luxurious passenger buses burnt.

He informed the Senate that over 80% of the victims were from one ethnic group and the owners of the buses destroyed were from that same ethnic group. He feared that the actions of the perpetrators of the dastardly act might be viewed as being targeted towards a particular ethnic/regional group which was the aim of the perpetrators.

He further informed the Senate of the unresponsiveness of the Governor of Kano State over the matter since the occurrence of the incident.

Senator Kabiru Gaya briefed the Senate that in the recent past, bombings in Kano was now a recurring decimal, one of which was targeted at the Emir of Kano. He called on Government to be more proactive in tackling insecurity in the Country.

The Senate condemned the recent bombing in Kano State and consoled the families of the deceased. The Senate also called on the Federal Government to intensify efforts to end the bombings in the country.

One minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Petitions::
(*i*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Gilbert Nanji *(Enugu East)* drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Corporal Titus Olowu on wrongful termination of his appointment 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 [Rule 41(3)] to report within two(2) weeks.

(*ii*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Ita S. Enang *(Akwa Ibom North-East)* drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from parents of students of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Abuja on non accreditation of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Abuja. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Rule 41(3)] to report within two(2) weeks.

(*iii*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Nurudeen Abatemi-Usman *(Kogi Central)* drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Mr Ibrahim Mohammed Rabiu, on wrongful dismissal from the Nigerian Air Force. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Rule 41(3)] to report within two(2) weeks.

7. **Presentation of Bills:**

(*i*) Federal Capital Territory Water Board (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2013 (SB. 276) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ii*) 2013 Appropriation Act (Amendment) Bill 2013 (SB. 277) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iii*) Nigeria Postal Services Act Cap. N127, LFN 2011 (Amendment) Bill 2013 (SB. 278) — *Read the First Time.*

8. **Committee on Police Affairs:**

Report on the Appearance of the Inspector-General of Police:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Police Affairs, on the appearance of the Inspector-General of Police to give reason why he did not act on the Warrant of Arrest issued on Alhaji Abdulrasheed Maina by the President of Senate (*Senator Paulinus I. Nwagu — Ebonyi Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

9. **Nigerian Search and Rescue Guard (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2013 (SB. 234):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Search and Rescue Guard to provide for Maritime and Aeronautical search and rescue operation and other search and rescue services and Other Related Matters 2013 be read the Second Time (*Senator Domingo A. Obende — Edo North*).

Debate:

Question put and negatived.

10. **Nigerian Merchant Navy Security and Safety Corps (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2013 (SB.10):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. **Legislative Compliance Bill 2013 (SB.199):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. **Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act CAP CIS 2004 (Amendment) Bill 2013 (SB.127):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. **New Partnership for Africa's Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2013 (SB.121):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 26th March, 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:23 *p.m.*

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