SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 8th October, 2013

1. The Senate met at 10:25 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 26th September, 2013.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

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

Confirmation of Appointment:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

October 4, 2013

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

Your Excellency,

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF HON. JUSTICE JOHN INYANG OKORO AS JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NIGERIA

In conformity with Section 231, Sub-section (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which gives the President powers to appoint a Justice of the Supreme Court acting on the recommendation of the National Judicial Council and subject to confirmation by the Senate, I hereby present the nomination of Hon. Justice John Inyang Okoro as Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

It is my hope that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration and approval by the Distinguished Members of the Senate.

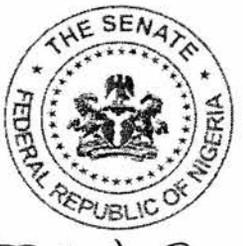
Please accept, Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN

4. Announcements:

(a) Wedding Invitation:

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Odion M. Ugbesia (*Edo Central*) as follows:



Senator (Elder) Odion Ugbesia
EDO CENTRAL
Chairman, Senate Committee on Trade and Investment

My Fellow Distinguished Senators, *19th September, 2013*

WEDDING INVITATION TO ALL THE SENATORS

Kindly accept my hearty and fraternal greetings.

I wish to inform my fellow Distinguished Senators of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, that my son - Barrister Enahoro Odion-Ugbesia will be getting married on Saturday the 19th of October 2013 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 73 Airport Road, Ugborikoko, Warri, Delta State.

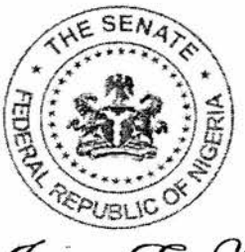
To this end, I will appreciate your esteemed presence during the Wedding Ceremony.

Date:	*Saturday 19th October 2013*
Venue:	*Church Service - St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 73 Airport Road, Ugoborikoko, Warri, Delta State.*
Reception:	*Ishaka Hotel, Refinery Road, Effurun Warri, Delta State.*

(Signed)
Senator Odion M. Ugbesia
Chairman

(b) Wedding Ceremony:

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator James E. Manager (*Delta South*) as follows:



Senator James E. Manager
DELTA SOUTH
Chairman, Senate Committee on Niger Delta

ANNOUNCEMENT

WEDDING CEREMONY

The Daughter of Senator James E. Manager, Barrister Funebi Manager (Miss) will be joined in Holy Matrimony on the 19th October, 2013.

Further details will get to every Senator.

(Signed)
Senator James E. Manager

(c) Acknowledgment:
The Deputy Senate President acknowledged the presence of the following who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings:

(*i*) Legislators from Esan Central Local Government Legislative Council, Irrua, Edo State; and

(*ii*) Members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, United Kingdom Branch.

5. Personal Explanation:
Rising on Rule 43, Senator Ahmad I. Lawan *(Yobe North)* drew the attention of the Senate to the murder of over sixty students of College of Agriculture Gujba, Yobe State. He stressed the need for security agencies to change tactics employed in combating the insurgence.

One minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Committee on Establishment and Public Services:
Report on the National Assembly Service Commission Act Cap N7 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2013 (SB. 245):

Presentation of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

7. Joint Committee on National Security and Intelligence; and Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters:
Report on the Extra Judicial Killing in Apo, Abuja:

Two weeks extension granted to present the Report.

8. Motion:
Crash of Associated Airlines Airplane:
Motion made: That the Senate notes with utmost sorrow the unfortunate crash of the Associated Airlines propeller airplane EMB190 from Lagos to Akure on Thursday, October, 3rd 2013;

notes with concern that the plane bearing the remains of the former Governor of Ondo State late Dr. Olusegun Agagu to Akure for burial crashed within the vicinity of the Murtala Mohammed International Airport barely a minute after take-off from the domestic wing of the Murtala Mohammed Airport;

observes that the ill-fated plane plunged to the ground shortly after over flying the perimeter fencing of the Federal Airport Authority (FAAN) and moments later busted into flames;

observes also that apart from the remains of Dr. Olusegun Agagu there were 20 passengers on board the crashed plane 16 of whom have been confirmed dead while four others sustained varying degrees of injury and are receiving treatment at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital;

further notes that Nigerians and indeed Nigeria have witnessed a record of 7 fatal air mishaps and 2 averted crashes within the last two and half years which is very unprecedented in the history of plane crashes in Nigeria namely:

(*a*) Allied Airlines (Cargo Aircraft)- crashed on 2nd June 2012 in Accra, Ghana killing about ten (10) people on the ground;

(*b*) Dana Airlines - crashed on 3rd June 2012 in Lagos killing about 153 persons on board;

(*c*) Nigeria Police Force Helicopter - crashed on 23rd March 2012 killing Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) John Haruna plus three other officers on board and several other people in Kabong village, Jos North Local Govt. Area of Plateau State;

(*d*) Odenegene Air Services (OAS HELICOPTER) crashed on a flight to Akure in 2012 killing all on board;

(*e*) Taraba State Governor's Aircraft- crashed in Adamawa State while attempting to land in October, 2012 injured His Excellency Governor Danbaba Suntai and others;

(*f*) Associated Airlines- crashed on 3rd October 2013 in Lagos killing 16 persons on board with 4 injured;

(*g*) Augusta 109 Helicopter crashed in Bayelsa State killing the former National Security Adviser (NSA) General Azazi and Kaduna State Governor His Excellency Patrick Yakowa, two Naval pilots and two aides on 15th December 2012:

(*i*) Kabo Aircraft conveying Sokoto pilgrims crash averted on 4th October 2013; and

(*ii*) Maxi Aircraft conveying Taraba pilgrims crash averted on 4th October 2013.

worried that the resurgence of plane crashes in the country since 2011 is suggestive of a deep seated system problem that must be unravelled and resolved in order to avert further and unnecessary loss of lives; and

acknowledges that this crash has robbed Nigeria of her best and brightest citizens who have served the nation gallantly in their respective capacities at various levels.

Accordingly resolves:

(*i*) to condemn the resurgence of plane crashes in Nigeria and the inability of relevant agencies to unearth the causes of the incidents;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Aviation to as a matter of urgency investigate the cause(s) of the crash and ascertain the level of compliance by the relevant agencies with the recent Resolution of the Senate on the Dana Air Crash on Air safety;

(*iii*) to further mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate and identify lapses in the operation of laws and regulations guiding the Aviation industry by the Ministry and all its agencies with a view to correcting and streamlining same in order to avert any further untoward disasters; and

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Aviation to as a matter of urgency investigate the cause(s) of the crash and ascertain the level of compliance by the relevant agencies with the recent Resolution of the Senate on the Dana Air Crash on Air safety — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That the Senate do further mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate and identify lapses in the operation of laws and regulations guiding the Aviation industry by the Ministry and all its agencies with a view to correcting and streamlining same in order to avert any further untoward disasters — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence in honour of the victims of the air crash — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:
Insert additional proposed Resolution as follows:
"That the Senate do invite the Minister of Aviation and the Chief Executives of the Aviation Parastatals to brief this Distinguished Senate on the state of the Aviation sector and the high number of Aviation incidents" (*Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba — Cross River Central*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(*i*) condemn the resurgence of plane crashes in Nigeria and the inability of relevant agencies to unearth the causes of the incidents;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Aviation to as a matter of urgency investigate the cause(s) of the crash and ascertain the level of compliance by the relevant agencies with the recent Resolution of the Senate on the Dana Air Crash on Air safety;

(*iii*) further mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate and identify lapses in the operation of laws and regulations guiding the Aviation industry by the Ministry and all its agencies with a view to correcting and streamlining same in order to avert any further untoward disasters;

(*iv*) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims of the air crash; and

(*v*) invite the Minister of Aviation and the Chief Executives of the Aviation Parastatals to brief this Distinguished Senate on the state of the Aviation sector and the high number of Aviation incidents ***(S/Res/011/03/13).***

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

9. **Committee on Health, Primary Healthcare:**
Report on the National Health Bill 2013 (SB. 215):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

10. **Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition from Thirty-Nine (39) Staff on their Wrongful and Indiscriminate Termination of Appointments by the National Judicial Institute (NJI):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 22nd October, 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:04 *p.m.*

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