SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 3rd April, 2014

1. The Senate met at 10:44 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 2nd April, 2014.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**
(a) ***Collection of 2014 Special Project Forms:***
The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Mohammed A. Ndume (*Borno South*) as follows:

THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
Committee on Millennium Development Goals
National Assembly Complex,
P. M. B. 141, Garki, Abuja-Nigeria

April 2, 2014

The President of the Senate,
National Assembly,
Abuja.

COLLECTION OF FORMS FOR 2014 SENATE SPECIAL PROJECTS

This is to inform Distinguished Colleagues that the forms for the Special Projects are ready for collection.

Kindly please direct Legislative Aides to collect from the Senate Committee on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) at Room 1.1c, Senate Wing, White House, National Assembly Complex.

Also note that completed forms are to be returned as soonest for onward transmission to the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs.

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Please accept the assurances of the Committee's highest consideration, always.

(Signed)
SENATOR MOHAMMED A. NDUME
Chairman

(b) Submission of 2014 Constituency Intervention Projects:
The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Sonni O. Ogbuoji (*Ebonyi North*) as follows:

THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
Committee on Appropriations
National Assembly Complex,
Three-Arms Zone, Abuja

3rd April, 2014

His Excellency,
The President of the Senate,
Sen. (Dr.) David A. B. Mark, GCON, FNIM,
Senate Chamber.

Your Excellency,

ANNOUNCEMENT

Distinguished Senators are hereby requested to forward their Constituency Intervention Project(s) for 2014 Appropriation Bill to the Senate Committee on Appropriations' Secretariat, Room No. 11, not later that Thursday, 3rd April, 2014, to enable the Committee conclude its compilation process.

(Signed)
Sen. Sonni O. Ogbuoji
Vice Chairman

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

(*i*) Staff and Students of Federal Government Boys' College, Garki, Abuja; and

(*ii*) Members of the National Association of Faculty of Administration Students, Nasarawa State University Chapter, Keffi, Nasarawa State.

4. Personal Explanation:
Rising on Rule 43, Senator Abubakar A. Bagudu *(Kebbi Central)* drew the attention of the Senate to a Resolution directing its Committee on Interior to conduct a Public Hearing on the Nigeria Immigration Service ill-fated recruitment exercise and to report within one week. He informed the Senate that the Committee has not completed the assignment. He sought the leave of the Senate for extension of time to enable the Committee present its report.

By the leave of the Senate, one (1) week extension was granted.

5. **Presentation of Bill:**
Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Act 2014(SB. 469) — *Read the First Time.*

6. **Electoral Act No.6 of 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (SB. 297):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to amend the Electoral Act 2010 to give additional powers to Independent National Electoral Commission(INEC) 2014 be read the Second Time (*Senator Hadi Sirika — Katsina North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Ad-hoc Committee on the Review of 1999 Constitution as Amended; and Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission to report within two (2) weeks.

7. **Nigerian Railway Corporation Act Cap R129 LFN 2011 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2014 (SB. 329):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Nigerian Railway Corporation Act Cap R129 LFN 2011 Bill 2014 be read the Second Time (*Senator Andy E. Uba — Anambra South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Land Transport to report within Four (4) weeks.

8. **2014 FCT Statutory Appropriation Bill, 2014 (SB.329):**
Motion made: That an act to authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₦271,125,103,635 (Two Hundred And Seventy-One Billion, One Hundred and Twenty-Five Million, One Hundred and Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty Five Naira) only of which the sum of ₦49,200,944,858 (Forty Nine Billion, Two Hundred Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight Naira) only, is for personnel costs and the sum of ₦62,891,521,857 (Sixty Two Billion, Eight Hundred and Ninety One Million, Five Hundred and Twenty-One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Seven Naira) only is for overhead costs whilst the balance of ₦159,032,636,920 (One Hundred And Fifty-Nine Billion, Thirty-Two Million, Six Hundred and Thirty Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Twenty Naira) only is for capital projects for the service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja for the Financial Year Commencing from 1st January and ending on 31st December, 2014 be read the Second Time (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to report within one (1) week.

9. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:
Report on the unlawful dismissal of Mr. Joseph M. Bitrus from the Industrial Training Fund (ITF):
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions, on the unlawful dismissal of Mr. Joseph M. Bitrus from the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) *(Senator Kabir G. Marafa — Zamfara Central).*

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That the petitioner having been victimized, unlawfully suspended, dismissed from service on the order of ITF Governing Council without justification is hereby recommended for reinstatement back to work as Director, by urging the Senate of Federal Republic of Nigeria to mandate the Governing Board of Industrial Training Fund to do so with payment of all his entitlements and salaries to date — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That in the interest of justice and fair play and in the interest of good governance to move ITF forward and achieve the primary objectives and purpose of establishment of Industrial Training Fund, immediately mandate the Governing Board of Industrial Training Fund or Head of Service of the Federation as applicable under Civil Service rules and procedures to transfer the service of the petitioner Mr. Joseph M. Bitrus back to any other Ministry or Parastatal of Government to continue his service to the nation henceforth — *Negatived.*

Resolved:
That the petitioner having been victimized, unlawfully suspended, dismissed from service on the order of ITF Governing Council without justification is hereby recommended for reinstatement back to work as Director, by urging the Senate of Federal Republic of Nigeria to mandate the Governing Board of Industrial Training Fund to do so with payment of all his entitlements and salaries to date ***(S/Res/036/03/14).***

10. Committee on Establishment and Public Services:
Report on the Pension Reform Act CAP P4 LFN 2011 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2014 (SB. 288):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. Joint Committee on Federal Capital Territory; and Finance:
Report on the Federal Capital Territory Internal Revenue Board Bill, 2014 (SB. 203):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. Committee on Capital Market:
Report on the Chartered Institute of Securities and Investment Bill 2014 (SB. 06):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 8th April, 2014 at 10.00 a.m. *(Deputy Senate Leader)*.

Adjourned accordingly at 1:26 *p.m.*

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