SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 8th July, 2014

1. The Senate met at 10:48 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 3rd July, 2014.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Petition:**
Rising on Rule 41, Senator Ayo P. Akinyelure (*Ondo Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Mr Akinduko Oyeyemi on behalf of 24 others, on the non-employment regularization and payment of salaries arrears by the Police Service Commission. 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)].

4. **Privileges:**
Rising on Rule 14, Senator Abdul A. Ningi *(Bauchi Central)* drew the attention of the Senate to a programme aired by Channels Television on Friday, 4th July, 2014, which analysed the Resolution of the Senate on Imo State Government issuing identification cards to Northerners as lacking basis, facts and mere rumour. He stated that the matter was neither a rumour nor frivolous, but an issue which was not disputed by the Imo State Government before it was considered by the Senate. The analysis by the Channels Television impugned on his privilege as a Senator and mover of the Motion.

5. **Personal Explanation:**
Rising on Rule 43, Senator Ifeanyi A. Okowa *(Delta North)* drew the attention of the Senate to the on-going strike by Members of Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) nationwide. He informed the Senate that following the Committee's meeting on 2nd July, 2014 with Nigerian Medical Association and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, doctors have resolved to attend to emergency cases in all hospitals while efforts are being made by relevant bodies and individuals to end the strike.

6. **Committee on Education.**
Report on the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2014 (SB. 188)
Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Education on the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2014 (*Senator Ahmad I. Lawan — Yobe North*).

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Ocean surge in coastal areas and consequences for coastal ...

Motion made: That the Senate notes the plight of residents of coastal communities in Bayelsa and Delta states who have recently been displaced by rising ocean waves which have submerged their communities and destroyed their livelihood;

notes that only last week the affected communities in these coastal areas, especially Koluama I, Koluama II, Foropa and many other communities in Southern Ijaw LGA of Bayelsa State cried about the current ocean activities in the area which have killed many of their people, wiped out their communities and destroyed their markets and properties worth billions of naira and permanently altered their lifestyles;

aware that these communities trace the origin of their woes to the unmitigated impact of the Chevron oil rig explosion and fire which occurred in Koluama in January 2012, which they claim was not appropriately tackled;

equally aware that such under water explosions and vibrations triggered the 2004 Indian Ocean Sunami that claimed about 290,000 lives and affected about 14 countries along the ocean coast;

also aware that similar vibrations were responsible for the devastating tidal waves that hit Japan in 2011, killing tens of thousands of people, destroying homes and properties and damaging Japan's nuclear and industrial capabilities;

afraid that the Chevron explosion could result in such a calamity if nothing is done to mitigate its impact and other consequent seismic implications;

recall also that a similar unchecked ocean wave rise about 15 years ago submerged Victoria Island and Ikoyi in Lagos for many months, destroying valuables and lives in its wake; and

disturbed that the unimpeded ocean rise of this nature and frequency without any curtailment or protection plan could continue to cause unquantifiable damage to the cultural, social and economic life of the people of all coastal communities in Nigeria, with very dire consequences for security and navigational activities in the country, including offshore oil production.

Accordingly resolves to:

(*i*) call on the National Emergency Management Agency to send relief materials to persons displaced by the ocean surge; and

(*ii*) call on the Federal Government to put in place measures to bring lasting solution to the problem, including aggressive shoreline protection of coastal areas in the country (*Senator Emmanuel Paulker — Bayelsa Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do call on the National Emergency Management Agency to send relief materials to persons displaced by the ocean surge — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to put in place measures to bring lasting solution to the problem, including aggressive shoreline protection of coastal areas in the country — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

(*i*) The that Senate do urge Ecological Funds Office, National Inland Waterways Authority(NIWA), Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to assist in the clearance of water hyacinths along the creeks and waterways for easy flow of water (*Senator Margery Chuba-Okadigbo — Anambra North*).

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

(*ii*) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to ensure that Ecological Funds are used for Ecological challenges (*Senator Olugbenga B. Ashafa — Lagos East*).

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

(*iii*) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to obtain compensation for the Communities from Chevron Nigeria Limited (*Senator Atiku A. Bagudu — Kebbi Central*).

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

(*iv*) That the Senate do urge the Ministry of Environment to initiate Environmental Impact Assessment to determine the possible earth tremor and minor earthquake and advice pre-emptive measures to prevent major earthquake and earth tremor (*Senator Ita S. J. Enang — Akwa Ibom North-East*).

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

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(*i*) call on the National Emergency Management Agency to send relief materials to persons displaced by the ocean surge;

(*ii*) call on the Federal Government to put in place measures to bring lasting solution to the problem, including aggressive shoreline protection of coastal areas in the country;

(*iii*) urge Ecological Funds Office, National Inland Waterways Authority(NIWA), Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to assist in the clearance of water hyacinths along the creeks and waterways for easy flow of water;

(*iv*) urge the Federal Government to ensure that Ecological Funds are used for Ecological challenges;

(*v*) urge the Federal Government to obtain compensation for the Communities from Chevron Nigeria Limited; and

(*vi*) urge the Ministry of Environment to initiate Environmental Impact Assessment to determine the possible earth tremor and minor earthquake and advice pre-emptive measures to prevent major earthquake and earth tremor ***(S/Res/005/04/14).***

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Interior to report within Two (2) weeks.

9. **Immigration Act of 1963 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2014 (SB. 463):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal Immigration Act of 1963 and enact the Immigration Act 2014 and other related matters 2014 be read the Second Time (*Senator Sahabi A. Ya'u — Zamfara North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Interior to report within Two (2) weeks.

10. **National Biosafety Management Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2014 (SB. 308):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. **Conference Committee:**
Report on the Federal Capital Territory College of Education (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2014 (SB. 27):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. **Conference Committee:**
Report on the HIV and AIDS Anti-Discrimination Bill 2014 (SB. 258):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. **Committee on Drugs, Narcotics, Financial Crimes and Anti-Corruption:**
Report on the Nigeria Financial Intelligence Centre Bill 2014 (SB. 292 and SB. 358):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. **Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development:**
Report on the Animal Health and Husbandry Technologists (Registration, etc.) Bill 2014 (SB.161):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 9th July, 2014 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:59 *p.m.*

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