8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 16

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 30th September, 2015

1. The Senate met at 10:57 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 29th September, 2015.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcement:**
Appointment of a Principal Officer of the Senate:
The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from the South-West Caucus of the All Progressives Congress (APC) nominating Senator Olusola Adeyeye (*Osun Central*) as the Chief Whip of the Senate.

4. **Petition:**
Rising on Rule 41, Senator Gilbert E. Nnaji *(Enugu East)* drew the attention of the Senate to two petitions from his constituents, Mr and Mrs Ewoh who were wrongfully disengaged from services by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and Petroleum Product Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) respectively. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petitions laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Rule 41(3)].

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Rising on Rule 42, Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa (*Abia North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the time bomb and disaster in the making, as it relates to the quality of internship/housemanship programmes of medical doctors in Nigeria. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter.

Matter to stand over to the next Legislative Day [(Rule 42(2)].

6. **Presentation of Bills:**

(*i*) Women Empowerment and Gender Equality Bill 2015 (SB. 37) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ii*) Sovereign Wealth Fund Act 2011 (Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB. 38) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iii*) Trade Malpractices Act CAP 12 LFN 2011 (Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB. 40) — *Read the First Time.*

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(*iv*) Energy Commission Act No. 62 1979 (Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB 41) — *Read the First Time.*

(*v*) Federal Scholarship Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2015 (SB. 63) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vi*) Federal University of Petroleum Resources Effurun (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2015 (SB. 65) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vii*) Intestate Succession Bill 2015 (SB. 54) — *Read the First Time.*

7. Motions:

(a) Congratulations to Nigeria and Nigerians on her 55th Independence Anniversary:

Motion made: That the Senate notes that on Thursday, 1st October, 2015, Nigeria will mark her 55th Independence Anniversary having attained Independence from Britain on October 1, 1960;

appreciates that from May 29, 1999 till date, Nigeria at 55 has had the longest reign of democratic government in her political history;

aware that while we may have had our challenges as a nation, we are moving forward as one nation indivisible in character and aspiration;

acknowledges that we have a task to ensure that the labours of those who made this independence possible and those who work tirelessly to keep us united will not be in vain;

agree that while we have come this far, our vision of the future must be kept bright with hard work and dedication;

remember our heroes of independence and democracy, those whose blood and sweat got us this far and celebrate them even today; and

charge ourselves to continue to demonstarate commitment to our unity and oneness as a nation of free citizens.

Accordingly resolves to:
Congratulate the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, the Government and people of Nigeria on the 55th Independence Anniversary of Nigeria (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:
Question: That the Senate do congratulate the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, the Government and people of Nigeria on the 55th Independence Anniversary of Nigeria — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:
Insert additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

(*i*) "Observe one minute silence in honour of our past heroes (*Senator Kabiru I. Gaya — Kano South*).

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

Federation, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, the Government and people of Nigeria on the 55th Independence Anniversary of Nigeria;

(*ii*) observe one minute silence in honour of our past heroes; and

(*iii*) urge the Federal Government that the 55th Independence Anniversary Celebration should be low key in view of the tragedies in Saudi Arabia ***(S/Res/025/01/15)***.

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of our past heroes.

(b) Demise of Olu of Warri:

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(c) Jambs' New Admission Policy:

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

8. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 6th October, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:10 *p.m.*

Abubakar Olubukola Saraki, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.