SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 20th October, 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 Thursday, 15th October, 2015.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) *Appointment of Mr Nelson Ayewoh as the Acting Deputy Clerk, Senate:*
The Senate President announced the appointment of Mr Nelson Ayewoh as the Acting Deputy Clerk, Senate.

(b) ***Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Senate Caucus Meeting:***
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Emmanuel Bwacha (*Taraba South*) as follows:

SENATOR EMMANUEL BWACHA
TARABA SOUTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

20th October, 2015

Mr President,

There will be a Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Senate Caucus meeting immediately after Plenary at Hearing Room 1.

(Signed)
Senator Emmanuel Bwacha
Deputy Minority Leader

(c) ***National Prayer Breakfast:***
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Sunny O. Ogbuoji (*Ebonyi South*) as follows:

CHRISTIAN LEGISLATORS' FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

19th October, 2015

NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Christian Legislators' Fellowship International wish to remind all Senators of its annual National Prayer Breakfast.

Date: 22nd October, 2015

Day: Thursday

Time: 7:00 a.m

Venue: ThisDay Dome

(Signed)
Sen. Sonni Ogbuoji
Coordinator Senate

4. Petitions:

(*i*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Nneji A. Achonu *(Imo North)* drew the attention of the Senate to a number of petitions from his constituents against the submission of Anthony Gozie Anwuka, as the Ministerial nominee for Imo State. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petitions laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to report on Thursday, 23rd October, 2015 [Rule 41(3)].

(*ii*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Shehu Sani *(Kaduna Central)* drew the attention of the Senate to two petitions from:

(a) the Nigerian Union of Pensioners, New Nigerian Newspapers Branch regarding the discrepancies in the computation and payment of their pensions; and

(b) his constituent, Mr Salahudeen Balarabe Yakubu, on his wrongful disengagement from service by the Nigerian Export Processing Zone Authority (NEPZA).

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

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Oluremi S. Tinubu (*Lagos Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the traffic gridlock along Apapa Wharf road and its crippling economic implications to Lagos State. She sought to present the matter the next legislative day.

By leave of Senate, matter to be presented next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:
Rising on Rule 42, Senator Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) drew the attention of the Senate to several Newspaper Publications on the upward review of the contract for the construction of the second Abuja Airport runway from ₦8 Billion in 2010 to ₦63 Billion in 2015. He sought to present the matter the next legislative day.

By leave of Senate, matter to be presented next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

7. Presentation of Bills:

(*i*) Anti-Criminal Gang Bill 2015 (SB. 039) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ii*) Federal Capital Territory(FCT) Water Board (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2015 (SB. 070) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iii*) Nigerian Agricultural Quarantine Service Bill 2015 (SB. 081) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iv*) Hydro-Electric Power Producing Areas Development Commission Act 2010 (Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB. 089) — *Read the First Time.*

(*v*) Deep Offshore and Inland Basin Production Sharing Contracts Act, CAP D3 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB. 098) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vi*) Non-Governmental Organisations Regulations Bill 2015 (SB.111) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vii*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Alteration) Bill 2015 (SB. 113) — *Read the First Time.*

(*viii*) Students Financial Aid Scheme (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2015 (SB.114) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ix*) Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill 2015 (SB. 116) — *Read the First Time.*

8. Motion:
Demise of former Governor D. S. P. Alamieyeseigha:
Motion made: That the Senate notes the demise of former Governor of Bayelsa State, Chief Diepreye Solomon Peter Alamieyeseigha at the age of 63;

notes further that Chief DSP Alamieyeseigha was the first democratically elected Governor of Bayelsa State, having been elected in May 1999 and re-elected in 2003; and generally referred to by his people as Governor-General of the Izon (Ijaw) Nation;

appreciates that Chief Alamieyeseigha, before becoming Governor, served the nation as a member of the Nigerian Air Force where he retired as a Squadron Leader;

appreciates further that he held various other public positions including Sole Administrator of Pabod Supplies in Port Harcourt, and Head of Budget, Planning, Research and Development in National Fertiliser Company of Nigeria (NAFCON);

aware that Chief Alamieyeseigha was widely acknowledged as a voice of unity in the Ijaw nation, the South-South Geo-political zone and in the entire nation;

aware also that Chief Alamieyeseigha received many awards for his commitment to national unity by many political, social and traditional bodies, including the Katsina Emirate Council, which turbaned him as the Ganuwan Katsina; and

further aware that his death is a big loss to the people and Government of Bayelsa State, the Izon people, the South South geopolitical zone and Nigeria.

Accordingly resolves to:

(*i*) send a high powered Senate Delegation to condole with the family, people and Government of Bayelsa State; and

(*ii*) observe a minute silence for the departed former Governor (*Senator Foster Ogola — Bayelsa West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That the Senate do send a high powered delegation to condole with the family, people and Government of Bayelsa State — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence for the departed former Governor — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(*i*) send a high powered delegation to condole with the family, people and Government of Bayelsa State; and

(*ii*) observe a minute silence for the departed former Governor ***(S/Res/036/01/15)***.

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

Senate Delegation to Bayelsa State:
The Senate President named the following Senators to condole the family, people and Government of Bayelsa State over the death of Chief Diepreye Solomon Peter Alamieyeseigha:

(*i*)	Senator Francis A. Alimikhena	—	Leader
(*ii*)	Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa	—	Member
(*iii*)	Senator Biodun C. Olujimi	—	Member
(*iv*)	Senator Joshua C. Dariye	—	Member
(*v*)	Senator Mohammed A. Aliero	—	Member
(*vi*)	Senator Umar I. Kurfi	—	Member
(*vii*)	Senator Ben Murray-Bruce	—	Member
(*viii*)	Senator Paulker I. Emmanuel	—	Member
(*ix*)	Senator Foster Ogola	—	Member

Question put and agreed to.

Privileges of the Floor:

(i) ***Admission of Hon. Kawu Sumaila, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters; serving and former Honourable Members:***
Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit Hon. Kawu Sumaila, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters; serving and former Honourable Members to the Floor of the Senate *(Senate Leader)*.

Question put and agreed to.

Hon. Kawu Sumaila, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters; serving and *former Honourable Members accordingly admitted to the Floor of the Senate.*

(ii) ***Admission of Ministerial nominees and All Progressive Congress (APC) Party Members:***
Motion made: That the Senate do suspend Rule 17(1) to admit the Ministerial nominees and All Progressive Congress (APC) party members to the Floor of the Senate *(Senate Leader)*.

Question put and agreed to.

Ministerial nominees and All Progressive Congress (APC) party members accordingly admitted to the Floor of the Senate.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to resume consideration of the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, for confirmation of nominees as Ministers of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria *(Senate Leader)*.

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

(Screening of Ministerial Nominees)

Nominees screened:

(*i*) Barrister Adebayo Shittu
(*ii*) Khadija Abba Ibrahim

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole resumed consideration of the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, for the confirmation of nominees for appointment as Ministers of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The following nominees answered questions from Distinguished Senators on a number of topical national issues:

(*i*) Barrister Adebayo Shittu
(*ii*) Khadija Abba Ibrahim

Further Confirmation hearings on the other nominees deferred to the next Legislative Day.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

10. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 21st October, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:45 *p.m.*

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