SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 24th November, 2015

1. The Senate met at 11:05 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 19th November, 2015.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) Launching of the President of the Senate's Suggestion Box:
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Abubakar Olubukola Saraki (*Kwara Central*) as follows:

President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE LAUNCHING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE'S SUGGESTION BOX.

I wish to inform you, my distinguished colleagues that I will today, being Tuesday, 24 November, 2015, formally launch, the President of the Senate's Suggestion Box.

This event is in line with our legislative agenda which aims at bringing law making closer to the people. These suggestion boxes would provide the necessary feedback mechanism; allowing us to hear and listen to our constituents to ensure that the laws we make here impacts on the lives of our people.

You are all therefore, invited to join me launch the President of the Senate's Suggestion Box; immediately after Plenary, outside the Chamber at the Lobby of the White House.

(Signed)
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
(24/11/15)

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(b) ***2016 Armed Forces Remembrance Day and Appeal Fund:***
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Abubakar Olubukola Saraki (*Kwara Central*) as follows:

President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria

ANNOUNCEMENT

2016 Armed Forces Remembrance Day and Appeal Fund

Distinguished Colleagues,

Kindly recall that on Monday, 16th November, 2015, His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, launched the 2016 Armed Forces Remembrance Day Emblem and Appeal Fund.

As a mark of respect for our fallen Heroes and to identify with families who have lost their loved ones in various peace keeping and other operations within and outside the Country, we are all expected to wear these emblem until 15th January, 2016 which is the Armed Forces Remembrance Day.

Accordingly, the Senate Leadership has resolved to request Twenty Thousand Naira (₦20,000), only, from every Senator towards this appeal fund.

The Office of the Senate Leader would oversee the collection of these donations while the Sgt-At-Arms would ensure that each Senator is decorated with the emblem.

Thank you.

(Signed)
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
(24/11/15)

(c) ***Burial Arrangements for the deceased Acting Clerk, Senate:***
The Senate President read a letter from Alhaji Salisu A. Maikasuwa, Clerk to the National Assembly as follows:

Clerk to the National Assembly
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
Three Arms Zone, P. M. B. 141, Garki - Ahuja

NASS/CNA/66/Vol. II/139 *19th November, 2015*

His Excellency
Senator (Dr) Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate
National Assembly
Abuja

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DECEASED ACTING CLERK, SENATE

As His Excellency is already aware, the Acting Clerk, Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mr. Adedotun Olushola Durojaiye passed on to eternal glory on Friday, 6th November, 2015. Mr. Durojaiye was a hard working and resourceful Officer who dutifully served in the National Assembly Service for 23 years. The demise of this outstanding staff has left a serious vacuum that is difficult to fill. We take consolation in the fact that he impacted immensely on his family and those who knew and valued his eventful life.

2. The burial arrangements are as follows:

Thursday, 26th November, 2015	-	*Christian Wake-Keep at his residence, No. 24, Boulevard Street, Sun City Estate, Galadimawa, Abuja at 4 pm.*
Friday, 27th November, 2015	-	*(a) Funeral Service at Living Faith Church, Jahi, along Kubwa Express Way, Abuja at 10:00am.*
		(b) Internment follows thereafter at Gudu Cemetery, Apo District, Abuja, FCT

3. Your Excellency is by this notice, kindly requested to bring the above burial arrangements to the attention of all Distinguished Senators and to invite them to join the family, Management and Staff of the National Assembly in the final rites of passage.

4. May his gentle soul rest in peace, Amen.

(Signed)
***Salisu A. Maikasuwa,** OON, mni, FNIM, FFPN, FCEA*
Clerk to the National Assembly

(d) Demise of HRH Chief Gabriel Indyer Akume Ter-Mbakori:
The Senate President read a letter from Senator George Akume (*Benue North-West*) as follows:

SENATOR GEORGE AKUME fnim
BENUE NORTH-WEST SENATORIAL DISTRICT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

November 24th, 2015

H.E. (Dr.) Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate
NASS. Abuja

Your Excellency,

NOTIFICATION OF DEATH AND BURIAL OF HRH CHIEF GABRIEL INDYER AKUME, TER-MBAKOR I.

I write with a heavy heart but with total submission to the will of God Almighty, to notify you of the death of my elder brother Chief Gabriel Indyer Akume, Ter Mbakor I, who answered the call of God on the 28th of March, 2015 at the age of 67.

Until his death the late Chief Gabriel Indyer Akume was a Second Class Chief and Chairman Tarka Local Government Area Traditional Council as well as a member of the Tiv Traditional Area Council in Benue State.

The late Chief Gabriel Indyer Akume is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, sisters and brothers including Senator George Akume, Senator representing Benue North-West Senatorial District.

He will be buried at Wannune, the headquarters of Tarka Local Government Area of Benue State on Saturday, 28th November, 2015 at 10.00am.

Your Excellency, I crave your indulgence to invite my worthy and distinguished colleagues to join me at the ceremony.

(Signed)
Sen. George Akume
for the family

(e) Acknowledgement:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the following who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings:

(*i*) Staff and Students of Imam Malik Academy, Gwagwalada, Abuja;

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

(*iii*) Staff and Students of Visionary Secondary School, Dutse, Abuja; and

(*iv*) Staff and Students of Bafat Victory Academy, Karu, Abuja.

4. Petitions:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi *(Kebbi North)* drew the attention of the Senate to two petitions from his constituents:

a. Extra judicial execution of All Progressive Congress(APC) supporters at Koko town, Koko Besse Local Government Area of Kebbi State by an Army Officer, C. S. Adamu of No. 1 Battalion Nigerian Army, Dukku Barracks; and

b. Extra judicial execution of All Progressive Congress(APC) supporters at Bayan Dutse Village, Suru Local Government Area of Kebbi State by some six Army Officers of No. 1 Battalion Nigerian Army, Dukku Barracks, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State.

He urged the Senate to look into the matters.

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

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Abdulraman A. Abubakar (*Kogi East*) drew the attention of the Senate to the demise of Prince Abubakar Audu, former Governor of Kogi State, All Progressives Congress (APC) Gubernatorial candidate and All Progressives Congress (APC) Leader in Kogi State on Sunday, 22nd November, 2015.

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. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Rabiu M. Musa (*Kano Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to two bomb blasts in GSM Village, Kano on Wednesday, 18th November, 2015. 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)].

7. Presentation of Bills:

(*i*) North East Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2015 (SB. 163) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ii*) Frivolous Petitions (Prohibition, etc) Bill 2015 (SB. 143) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iii*) National Youth Service Corps Act LFN 2004(Amendment) Bill 2015 (SB. 147) — *Read the First Time.*

8. Committee on Communications:

Report on the Screening of Nominee:

Presentation of Report deferred to the next Legislative Day.

9. Committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions:

Report on the Screening of Nominees:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions on the screening of the following nominees for appointment as Managing Director and Executive Directors of the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON):

S/No.	Name	Designation
1.	Ahmed Lawan Kuru	Managing Director
2.	Kola Ayeye	Executive Director
3.	Eberechukwu Fortunate Uneze	Executive Director
4.	Aminu Ismail	Executive Director

(*Senator Rafiu A. Ibrahim — Kwara South*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

10. 2015 Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2015 (SB.162):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦465,636,926,857 (Four Hundred and Sixty-Five Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Seven Naira) only, of which ₦460,636,926,857 (Four Hundred and Sixty Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty Six Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Seven Naira) only is for additional Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure, while the balance of ₦5,000,000,000 (Five Billion Naira) only is for contribution to the development fund for additional Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2015 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Appropriations to report within One (1) week.

11. Motions:

(a) The current fuel scarcity around the country and the need to urgently resolve the crisis:

Motion made: That the Senate notes the scarcity of petroleum products in major cities and towns around the country in recent weeks, and the hardship the scarcity is inflicting on our citizens;

worried that the scarcity is creating an untold hardship on our citizens who have to pay higher prices for these products especially petrol;

convinced that the current situation is not in tune with the desire of the current progressively inclined Government to bring succour to Nigerians in all spheres of their lives;

recalls that this problem of fuel scarcity has continued to remain as a recurring problem in this country, and believes that in line with the change mantra of this administration, it is time to put a final stop to the trend; and

desirous that the Legislature is set to demonstrate the will and capacity to work very harmoniously with the Executive branch of government to find final solutions to the occurrences of fuel scarcity in the country.

Accordingly resolves to;

(*i*) commend President Muhammadu Buhari for his diligence and uncommon commitment to resolving the intractable issues of petroleum products supply and distribution and the commendable efforts made so far to clean up all institutions associated with the petroleum industry;

(*ii*) mandate the Senate Committee on Petroleum Downstream to urgently examine all issues associated with the current scarcity of petroleum products, determine how the Legislature will collaborate with the Executive arm of Government to bring a lasting solution that will prevent any future problem of fuel scarcity in this country and report within two weeks; and

(*iii*) urge the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and other stakeholders to continue with their current push to stem the tide of the present scarcity of petroleum products while the Legislative and Executive arms of government continue their collaboration to find lasting solutions to the recurring problem of petroleum products scarcity (*Senator Barau I. Jibrin —Kano North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do commend President Muhammadu Buhari for his diligence and uncommon commitment to resolving the intractable issues of petroleum products supply and distribution and the commendable efforts made so far to clean up all institutions associated with the petroleum industry — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do mandate the Senate Committee on Petroleum Downstream to urgently examine all issues associated with the current scarcity of petroleum products, determine how the Legislature will collaborate with the Executive arm of Government to bring a lasting solution that will prevent any future problem of fuel scarcity in this country and report within two weeks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and other stakeholders to continue with their current push to stem the tide of the present scarcity of petroleum products while the Legislative and Executive arms of government continue their collaboration to find lasting solutions to the recurring problem of petroleum products scarcity — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(*i*) commend President Muhammadu Buhari for his diligence and uncommon commitment to resolving the intractable issues of petroleum products supply and distribution and the commendable efforts made so far to clean up all institutions associated with the petroleum industry;

(*ii*) mandate the Senate Committee on Petroleum Downstream to urgently examine all issues associated with the current scarcity of petroleum products, determine how the Legislature will collaborate with the Executive arm of Government to bring a lasting solution that will prevent any future problem of fuel scarcity in this country and report within two weeks; and

(*iii*) urge the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and other stakeholders to continue with their current push to stem the tide of the present scarcity of petroleum products while the Legislative and Executive arms of government continue their collaboration to find lasting solutions to the recurring problem of petroleum products scarcity ***(S/Res/054/01/15)***.

(b) The Need to Publish Accident Investigation Reports:
Motion made: That the Senate remembers with sorrow and sadness the Bellview Airline crash of 2005, the Sosoliso Airline crash also of 2005, the Aviation Development Corporation Airline crash of 2006, and the Dana Airline flight nos. 0992 crash of 2012;

recalls that in all these unfortunate incidents precious lives were lost, the nation mourned and investigations were also ordered to find out the immediate and remote causes of the crashes;

notes, the importance of air transportation as the quickest and safest means of transportation all over the world;

notes further, the universal crave including Nigeria to inculcate international standards in almost all aspects of our lives;

notes the adage that "prevention is better than cure" and calls for attitudinal change of shutting the stable only after the animal has bolted;

is aware that it is the legal duty of the Accident Investigation and Prevention Bureau to publish Accident Investigations Reports;

is aware also that the international standard practice all over the world is to publish accident investigations reports in form of a book to enable pilots, engineers and the general public know the cause of the air accident to forestall, or guard against or prevent further occurrences. For example in Miami, Florida, USA, a $60 million Boeing 747 air craft crashed in 2001, when it made a turn around in the ocean and the accident investigation report later revealed the cause of the crash to be that the engineers at base forgot to put the oil seal in the four engines of the aircraft;

is worried that in Nigeria, this international standard practice is lacking as no single air accident investigation report has ever been published by AIPB;

is even further worried that no reason has ever been given for the non-publication of air accident investigation report by AIPB; and

notes that the publication of air accident investigation report will do no harm to anybody, but will only enable pilots, engineers to learn from past mistakes and help members of the public to be informed on how to also be vigilant as to developments that could endanger their safety.

Accordingly resolves to:
direct the Committee on Aviation to holistically investigate the reason or reasons behind the non-publication of the reports on air crashes by the Accident Investigation and Prevention Bureau, to ensure compliance and report within one (1) week (*Senator Theordore A. Orji — Abia Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:
Question: That the Senate direct the Committee on Aviation to holistically investigate the reason or reasons behind the non-publication of the reports on air crashes by the Accident Investigation and Prevention Bureau, to ensure compliance and report within one (1) week — *Agreed to*.

Resolved:
That the Senate direct the Committee on Aviation to holistically investigate the reason or reasons behind the non-publication of the reports on air crashes by the Accident Investigation and Prevention Bureau, to ensure compliance and report within one (1) week ***(S/Res/055/01/15)***.

(c) 2015 Police Recruitment:
Motion made: That the Senate notes that the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, recently granted approval to the Police Service Commission to recruit 10,000 suitably qualified Nigerians into the Nigeria Police Force;

aware that in line with International Best Practices, the United Nations global effective policing standard is a ratio of 222 police officers to 100,000 people;

worried that Nigeria is grossly "under-policed". In a country of about 170 million people, we have a paltry 305,579 policemen and women;

alarmed that the present scenario in Nigeria is a situation where we have one(1) policeman/woman to an average of 566 people;

further alarmed that the situation has worsened the security situation in the country with the increased incidences of kidnapping, armed robberies, assassinations, arsons and of course, terrorism; and

concerned that the Nigeria Police Force; over the years, has been under-funded, ill-equipped and ill-trained.

Accordingly resolves to:

(*i*) commend President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, for the approval granted to recruit 10,000 personnel for the Nigeria Police Force;

(*ii*) urge the Police Service Commission to come up with a thorough and stress free recruitment process, bearing in mind the disastrous 2014 recruitment saga of the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS);

(*iii*) urge the Ministry of Interior, Police Service Commission and the Inspector-General of Police, to come up with plans to upgrade police training facilities, accommodation and other incentives that will improve the welfare of the incoming and already existing men and women of the Nigeria Police Force;

(*iv*) urge the Federal Character Commission to ensure strict compliance with the Federal Character Principle during the police recruitment process;

(*v*) urge the Committee on Police Affairs to monitor the recruitment process (*Senator Isiaka A. Adeleke — Osun West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That the Senate do commend President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, for the approval granted to recruit 10,000 personnel for the Nigeria Police Force — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Police Service Commission to come up with a thorough and stress-free recruitment process, bearing in mind the disastrous 2014 recruitment saga of the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Ministry of Interior, Police Service Commission and the Inspector-General of Police, to come up with plans to upgrade police training facilities, accommodation and other incentives that will improve the welfare of the incoming and already existing men and women of the Nigeria Police Force — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Character Commission to ensure strict compliance with the Federal Character Principle during the police recruitment process.

Amendment Proposed:
Immediately after the word "Principle" in line 2, *insert* the words "and also to be gender sensitive" (*Senator Uche L. Ekwunife — Anambra Central*).

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

Proposed Resolution (v):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Committee on Police Affairs to monitor the recruitment process — *Agreed to*.

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(*i*) commend President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, for the approval granted to recruit 10,000 personnel for the Nigeria Police Force;

(*ii*) urge the Police Service Commission to come up with a thorough and stress-free recruitment process, bearing in mind the disastrous 2014 recruitment saga of the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS);

(*iii*) urge the Ministry of Interior, Police Service Commission and the Inspector-General of Police, to come up with plans to upgrade police training facilities, accommodation and other incentives that will improve the welfare of the incoming and already existing men and women of the Nigeria Police Force;

(*iv*) urge the Federal Character Commission to ensure strict compliance with the Federal Character Principle and also to be gender sensitive during the police recruitment process;

(*v*) urge the Committee on Police Affairs to monitor the recruitment process ***(S/Res/056/01/15)***.

12. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 25th November, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:18 *p.m.*

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