# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 19th January, 2016

**1.** The Senate met at 10:56 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.

**2.** **Closed Session:**
**Closed Session — 10:57 a.m.**

**Open Session — 11:15 a.m.**

The Senate President reported that the Senate in a Closed Session considered issues bothering on the 2016 Appropriation Bill and its consideration.

**3.** **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 14th January, 2016.

*Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.*

**4.** **Message from Mr. President:**
The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

***2016 Budget Proposals:***

**PRESIDENT,**
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

*15th January, 2016*

*Distinguished Senator Abubakar Bukola Saraki,*
*President of the Senate,*
*Senate Chambers,*
*National Assembly Complex,*
*Three Arms Zone,*
*Abuja.*

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*Dear Distinguished Senate President,*

***2016 BUDGET PROPOSALS***

*It will be recalled that on Tuesday 22nd December, 2016 I presented my 2016 budget proposals to the joint sitting of the National Assembly. I submitted a draft bill accompanied by a schedule of details. At the time of submission, we indicated that because the details had just been produced we would have had to check to ensure that there were no errors in the detailed breakdown contained in the schedule. That has since been completed and I understand that the corrections have been submitted.*

*The National Assembly would therefore have the details as submitted on the 22nd and a copy containing the corrections submitted last week. It appears that this has led to some confusion.*

*In this regard, please find attached the corrected version. This is the version the National Assembly should work with as my 2016 budget estimates. The draft bill remains the same and there are no changes in any of the figures.*

*Please accept, Mr Senate President, the assurances of my highest regards.*

*(Signed)*
***Muhammadu Buhari***

**5. Letter on 2016 Budget Proposals:**

*Motion made:* That the Senate do accept and adopt the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, as contained in his 2016 Budget Proposals letter (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Request accordingly accepted and adopted.*

**6. Announcements:**

***(a) Collection of 2016 Budget Details:***

The Senate President announced that Distinguished Senators should collect copies of the 2016 Budget details from the office of the Clerk, Appropriations Committee Room SG. 11 Ground Floor, White House.

***(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

*19th January, 2016*

*Mr President,*

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

*(Signed)*
***Senator Emmanuel Bwacha***
*Deputy Minority Leader*

*(c)* ***Burial of Late Pa. Ozo Akunnnia Pius Ngige:***
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Philip T. Aduda (*FCT*) as follows:

**SENATOR PHILIP T. ADUDA**
FCT SENATORIAL DISTRICT

***SEN. CHRIS NGIGE'S FATHER'S BURIAL PROGRAMME;***

***LATE PA OZO AKUNNIA PIUS NGIGE***

*1. Thursday, 21st January, 2016: Wake keep 5pm- 7pm.*

*2. Friday, 22nd January, 2016: Burial Mass and Entertainment of Guests 10am - 6pm*

*THURSDAY, 21st JANUARY, 2016*
*ABUJA - ASABA ARIK AIR 3:30PM*

*FRIDAY, 22nd JANUARY, 2016*
*CHARTERED FLIGHT FROM 7AM RETURN 6PM*

*Free Transportation from Asaba Airport and Accommodation till 22nd January, 2016.*

*(Signed)*
***Senator Philip T. Aduda***
*Minority Whip*
*Contact: 08034274243*

*(d)* ***Acknowledgement:***
The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the Students of International Relations Department, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

**7. Briefing by the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele:**
*Motion made:* That the Senate do resolve into Closed Session to receive the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele to brief the Senate on the depreciation of the Naira (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**Privileges of the Floor:**

*(i)* ***Admission of Senator Ita S. J. Enang, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate):***
*Motion made:* That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit Senator Ita S. J. Enang, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate) to the floor of Senate *(Senate Leader)*.

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Senator Ita S. J. Enang, Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate) accordingly admitted to the floor of Senate.*

*(ii)* ***Admission of Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele and other Officials:***
*Motion made:* That the Senate do suspend Rule 17(1) to admit the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele and other Officials to the Floor of the Senate *(Senate Leader)*.

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele and other Officials accordingly admitted to the Floor of the Senate.*

**(SENATE IN CLOSED SESSION)**

Briefing by Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele on the depreciation of the Naira.

Chairman to report progress.

**(SENATE IN PLENARY)**

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Closed Session was briefed by Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele on the depreciating value of the Naira, the monetary policies of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), foreign exchange, bureau de change and other issues relating to national and global economy.

Thereafter, the Governor answered questions from Senators on these issues and other topical national economic matters and reassured the Senate that deliberate effort will be taken on the speculations in the foreign exchange market and assured the Senate that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has no intention to confiscate Dollars deposited.

The Governor further assured the Senate that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) will continue to support downward interest regime and policies to support exporters and businesses which will diversify our economy and lead to reduction on the demand side in the immediate and near future.

*Question:* That the Senate do approve the Report of the Closed Session — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

**8. Motion:**
***The Need to Urgently Seek the Resuscitation of Collapsed and Ailing Industries as Well as the Establishment of New ones to Rejuvenate The Economy:***

*Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.*

**9. Committee on Aviation:**
***Report on the need to Publish Accident Investigation Reports:***

*Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.*

**10. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:**
***Report on the Petition from Maritime Professionals against the Ministry of Transport:***

*Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.*

**11. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:**
***Report on the Petition from Engr. Adamu Suleiman Yakubu against the National Universities Commission (NUC):***

*Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.*

**12. Deep Off Shore and Inland Basin Sharing Contract Cap D3 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill 2016 (SB.119):**

*Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.*

**13. Adjournment:**
*Motion made:* That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 20th January, 2016 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

*Adjourned accordingly at* 1:44 *p.m.*

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