SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 1st March, 2016

1. **Prayers**
2. **Approval of the Votes and Proceedings**
3. **Oaths**
4. **Announcements (if any)**
5. **Petitions**

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. *Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions*
Sen. Samuel N. Anyanwu *(Imo East)*
"That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Mr. Anaele Mark against Nigeria Customs Service for alleged wrongful retirement from the Service" – *To be laid.*

2. *Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions*
Sen. Samuel N. Anyanwu *(Imo East)*
"That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Mr. Meseko Olugbenga Felix against the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) for wrongful dismissal from Service" – *To be laid.*

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. Nigerians involvement in illicit global drugs trade and increase in domestic drug abuse by Nigerian youth.
Sen. Gbenga B. Ashafa *(Lagos East)*

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Ahmed Lawan
Sen. James Manager
Sen. Ben Murry-Bruce
Sen. Olamilekan Solomon Adeola
Sen. Philip Aduda
Sen. Abu Ibrahim
Sen. Suleiman Hunkuyi
Sen. Binta Masi Garba
Sen. Biodun Olujimi
Sen. Abdullahi Adamu
Sen. Oluremi Tinubu
Sen. Ajayi Boroffice
Sen. Abdullahi Gumel
Sen. Samuel Anyanwu
Sen. Enyinaya Abaribe
Sen. Joshua Lidani
Sen. Kabir Marafa
Sen. Rafiu Ibrahim
Sen. Isiaka Adeleke
Sen. Babajide Omoworare
Sen. Ovie Omo-Agege

The Senate:

Notes with serious concern the engagement of some Nigerians in the usage and smuggling of Hard Drugs into Southeast Asian Countries and other parts of the world;

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

Notes that the Malaysian authorities have again issued a strong statement that 40 percent of the foreigners being arrested for drug offences are from Nigeria. So far, 30 out of 80 foreign students arrested in 2015 were Nigerians, in a country where drug trafficking attracts the supreme retribution;

Observes that in their desperation, these Nigerians are disguising as "University Students", colluding with drug syndicates (predominantly outside Nigeria) there to undermine the visa system and gain entrance into Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and other drug traffic routes. On getting there, they abandon the education agenda and get busy with their illicit and illegal drug business activities; trading in opiates, cocaine, heroin, cannabis and amphetamines. The Colleges/Universities have been told to keep a lookout for those who sign up for courses and don't turn up;

Worried that the involvement of Nigerians in this dangerous enterprise is tarnishing the image of the country. Our Nationals are viewed with suspicion and subjected to demeaning treatment at airports across the world as a result of this Negative perception;

Equally worried that the Federal Government has not swung into strategic action to curb the menace of drug couriers and their sponsors both in and out of Nigeria;

Aware that the NDLEA (National Drug Law Enforcement Agency) is doing its best within its powers as presently constituted;

Further Aware that while the incidence of lifting of the drugs from Nigeria in itself has become few and far between, those involved have found a way of picking up the narcotic substances while in transit, considering that most flights from Nigeria to some of the countries at stake like Thailand and Indonesia are not direct flights;

Equally Aware that in April 2015, Indonesia, another Southeast Asian Country that imposes the death sentence on drug traffickers, executed four Nigerians despite pleas for leniency by Nigeria, the United Nations and Amnesty International. The four were among the eleven Nigerians facing execution for drug offences. In spite of this, some desperate Nigerians are not deterred. According to newspaper reports, the case for leniency was rendered impotent because, at that point, seven fresh cases of drug trafficking involving Nigerians had just emerged in Indonesia;

Aware also that apart from the cases in Malaysia and Indonesia, at least one Nigerian is on the death row in Singapore for drug-related offences. But the situation in China, which also punishes drug trafficking with death penalty, is alarming. Two Nigerians were executed in China in April 2015, but 120 other Nigerians are still on the death row for drug-related offenses, with 74 of them being held in Guandong and Guanxi provinces. Harm Reduction International (HRI), a United Kingdom based NGO, said 33 countries impose the death penalty for drug related offenses;

Further aware that drug trafficking is not only a challenge in the international sense of the word but also that the usage of different harmful narcotic substances including the abuse of prescription medicines by different demographics of the society (particularly the Youth), constitute a major problem in our society;

Notes that across the length and breadth of Nigeria, East, West, North and South, the incidence of young Nigerians abusing substances including Codeine, Rochephenol, Tramadol, Heroin, Cannabis Sativa (Indian Hemp) and even different grades of crack cocaine have become prevalent;

Notes that the implications of the drug trade are staggering. Drug syndicates are destroying the lives of others, UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) reported that there were 183,000 drug- related deaths worldwide, with drug dependent users rising to about 39 million. Drug use is closely linked to violent crimes and terrorism in many parts of the world, Nigeria inclusive;

Worried that young Nigerians are being distracted and derailed by the high prevalence of drug abuse/trafficking and as such have become willing tools for crime/ criminal syndicates who find it easier to brainwash young Nigerians in their state of alternative reality or what they refer to as 'Highness';

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

Further Worried that the scenario in Nigeria is also unnerving, in a 2012 report, the International Narcotics Control Board said that Nigeria, was a transit point for cocaine from Latin America destined for Europe;

Nigeria also topped the list of the countries involved in drug trafficking and drug use in West Africa and also the list of drug couriers arrested in Europe in 2011 and 2012;

Accordingly resolves to:

i. *Urge* the Federal Government to restructure and reposition the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency to be able to meet the challenges of evasive drug traffickers using Nigerians to traffic drugs.

ii. *Urge* the Nigerian Police Force, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and the Pharmaceutical Council of Nigeria to develop a collaborative approach towards curbing the incidence of drug use and abuse within the country.

iii. *Mandate* the Senate Committee on Drugs and Narcotics to consider an urgent amendment of Section 23 of the Pharmaceutical Council of Nigeria Act, to include the sale of prescription pills over the counter as an offence punishable by the Act.

iv. *Mandate* the Federal Government to urgently consider placing the NDLEA under the direct supervision of the presidency as obtainable with the EFCC and ICPC as against being under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. *Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions*
Sen. Samuel N. Anyanwu *(Imo East)*
"That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from St. Matthew's Church, Gwarimpa, Abuja against the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) and the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) for an Unlawful Order to stop work".

2. *Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions*
Sen. Samuel N. Anyanwu *(Imo East)*
"That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Mr. Chuks Ewoh against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) for alleged unlawful retirement from the service of the Bank".

3. *Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions*
Sen. Samuel N. Anyanwu *(Imo East)*
"That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition by 800 former staff of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) against Kano Electricity Distribution Company (KEDCO) for Improper Disengagement and non-payment of outstanding benefits and entitlements".

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to amend the 2015 Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Appropriation Act to give effect to the implementation of the Capital Budget Provisions beyond 31st December, 2016. (SB. 225) –*Second Reading.*
Sen. Mohammed Ali Ndume *(Senate Leader)*

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

2. **A Bill for an Act to establish the Nigerian Peace Corps (NPC) to train, educate and reorient the youths of this nation, particularly students, to facilitate Peace and Youth Development and for other related matters 2016 (SB. 173) - *Second Reading.***
Sen. Mohammed Ali Ndume *(Senate Leader)*

3. **A Bill for an Act to establish the National Unity and Peace Corps to uphold and impart the attributes of the National Ethics for restituting diligence; rekindle and rejuvenate the virtues of discipline in the citizenry, build a society of resourceful and productive persons for national consciousness and for other matters connected therewith 2016 (SB. 183) - *Second Reading.***
Sen. Binta Masi Garba *(Adamawa North).*

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Rights	Tuesday, 1st March, 2016	2.00pm	Committee Room 313 Senate New Building
2.	Finance	Thursday, 4th March, 2016	2.00pm	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA