



# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 9th June, 2015

1. The Senate met at 10: 00 a.m. pursuant to the proclamation by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari.



**PRESIDENT,  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

*Your Excellency,*

### **PROCLAMATION FOR THE HOLDING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

*WHEREAS it is provided in Section 64(3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (As Amended) that the person Elected as President shall have power to issue a proclamation for the holding of the First Session of the National Assembly immediately after his being sworn-in.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I Muhammadu Buhari, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in exercise of the powers bestowed upon me by Section (64) aforesaid, and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf hereby proclaim that the First Session of the eight (8<sup>th</sup>) National Assembly shall hold at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 9th June, 2015 in the National Assembly, Abuja.*

*Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at Abuja, this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of June, 2015.*

*Yours Sincerely,  
(Signed)*

**Muhammadu Buhari**  
*President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces  
Federal Republic of Nigeria*

2. At 10.04 a.m. the Clerk to the National Assembly called the Senate to order and informed Senators-Elect that writs had been received in respect of the elections held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in accordance with the Constitution. He then proceeded with the roll call of Senators-Elect State by State:

**ABIA STATE**

<b>S/No</b>	<b>Name of Senator-Elect</b>	<b>Senatorial District</b>
1	Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt	Abia South
2	Ohuabunwa Mao A.	Abia North
3	Orji, Theodore Ahamefule	Abia Central

**ADAMAWA STATE**

4	Garba, Binta Masi	Adamawa North
5	Abubakar, Ahmadu	Adamawa South
6	Nyako, Abdul-Aziz Murtala	Adamawa Central

**AKWA IBOM STATE**

7	Akpan, Bassey Albert	Akwa-Ibom North East
8	Akpabio, Godswill Obot	Akwa-Ibom North West
9	Effiong, Nelson Asuquo	Akwa-Ibom South

**ANAMBRA STATE**

10	Uba, Andy Emmanuel	Anambra South
11	Ekwunife, Uche Lilian	Anambra Central
12	Oduah, Stella Adaeze	Anambra North

**BAUCHI STATE**

13	Misau, Isah Hamma	Bauchi Central
14	Wakili, Mallam Ali	Bauchi South
15	Nazif, Suleiman Mohammed	Bauchi North

**BAYELSA STATE**

16	Murray-Bruce, Ben	Bayelsa East
17	Emmanuel, Paulker Izibefien.	Bayelsa Central
18	Foster, Ogola	Bayelsa West

**BENUE STATE**

19	Gemade, Barnabas A. I.	Benue North East
20	Akume, George	Benue North West
21	Mark, David A. B.	Benue South

**BORNO STATE**

22	Kyari, Abubakar	Borno North
23	Ndume, Mohammed Ali	Borno South

**CROSS RIVER STATE**

24	Oko, Rose Okoji	Cross River North
25	Enoh, John Owan	Cross River Central
26	Bassey, Gershon	Cross River South

**DELTA STATE**

27	Amori, Ighoyota	Delta Central
28	Nwaboshi, Peter	Delta North
29	Manager, James Ebiowou	Delta South

**EBONYI STATE**

30	Egwu, Samuel Ominyi	Ebonyi North
31	Obinna, Ogba Joseph	Ebonyi Central
32	Ogbuoji, Sunny Oji	Ebonyi South

**EDO STATE**

33	Ordia, Clifford A. M.	Edo Central
34	Alimikhena, Francis Asekhame	Edo North
35	Urhoghide, Matthew A.	Edo South

**EKITI STATE**

36	Faseyi, Duro Samuel	Ekiti North
37	Raji-Rasaki, Fatimat Olufunke	Ekiti Central
38	Olujimi, Biodun	Ekiti South

**ENUGU STATE**

39	Nnaji, Gilbert Emeka	Enugu East
40	Ekweremadu, Ike	Enugu West
41	Chukwuka, Joseph U.	Enugu North

**FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (FCT)**

42	Tanimu, Philip Aduda	F.C.T
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**GOMBE STATE**

43	Goje, Mohammed Danjuma	Gombe Central
44	Nafada, Bayero Usman	Gombe North
45	Lidani, Joshua Moltobok	Gombe South

**IMO STATE**

46	Anyanwu, Samuel Nnaemeka	Imo East
47	Uzodimma, Goodhope Odidika	Imo West
48	Nneji, Achonu Athanasius	Imo North

**JIGAWA STATE**

49	Shitu, Muhammad Ubali	Jigawa North-East
50	Gumel, Abdullahi Abubakar	Jizawa North-West
51	Mohammed, Sabo M.	Jigawa South-West

**KADUNA STATE**

52	Hunkuyi, Sulaiman Othman	Kaduna North
53	Sani, Shehu	Kaduna Central
54	La'ah, Danjuma	Kaduna South

**KANO STATE**

55	Kwankwaso, Musa Mohammed Rabiu	Kano Central
56	Jibrin, Barau I.	Kano North
57	Gaya, Kabiru Ibrahim	Kano South

**KATSINA STATE**

58	Bukar, Mustapha	Katsina North
59	Abu, Ibrahim	Katsina South
60	Kurfi, Umar Ibrahim	Katsina Central

**KEBBI STATE**

61	Abdullahi, Yahaya A.	Kebbi North
62	Aliero, Muhammad Adamu	Kebbi Central
63	Na'allah, Bala Ibn	Kebbi South

**KOGI STATE**

64	Ohiare, Abdulsalami	Kogi Central
65	Abubakar, Abdulrahman	Kogi East
66	Melaye, Dino	Kogi West

**KWARA STATE**

67	Lafiagi, Mohammed Shaaba	Kwara North
68	Saraki, Abubakar Olubukola	Kwara Central
69	Ibrahim, Rafiu Adebayo	Kwara South

**LAGOS STATE**

70	Tinubu, Oluremi Shade	Lagos Central
71	Ashafa, Bareehu Olugbenga	Lagos East
72	Olamilekan, Adeola Solomon	Lagos West

**NASARAWA STATE**

73	Gyunka, Philip Aruwa	Nasarawa North
74	Adamu, Abdullahi	Nasarawa West
75	Egye, Salihu Hussain	Nasarawa South

**NIGER STATE**

76	Umaru, David	Niger East
77	Abdullahi, Aliyu Sabi	Niger North
78	Garba, Mohammed A.	Niger South

**OGUN STATE**

79	Tejuoso, Olanrewaju Adeyemi	Ogun Central
80	Kashamu, Prince Buruji	Ogun East
81	Dada, Joseph Gbolahan	Ogun West

**ONDO STATE**

82	Boroffice, Robert Ajayi	Ondo North
83	Alasoadura, Donald O.	Ondo Central
84	Omogunwa, Yele	Ondo South

**OSUN STATE**

85	Adeyeye, Olusola	Osun Central
86	Omoworare, Babajide Christopher	Osun East
87	Adeleke, Isiaka Adetunji	Osun West

**OYO STATE**

88	Sunmonu, Monsurat J. A.	Oyo Central
89	Abdulafatai, Buhari	Oyo North
90	Akanbi, Rilwan Adesoji	Oyo South

**PLATEAU STATE**

91	Dariye, Joshua Chibi	Plateau Central
92	Jang, Jonah David	Plateau North
93	Useni, Jeremiah T.	Plateau South

**RIVERS STATE**

94	Sekibo, George Thompson	Rivers East
95	Nwogu, Olaka Johnson	Rivers South-East
96	Ideozu, Osinakachukwu	Rivers West

**SOKOTO STATE**

97	Gobir, Ibrahim Abdullahi	Sokoto East
98	Wammako, Aliyu Magatakarda	Sokoto North
99	Abdullahi, Ibrahim	Sokoto South

**TARABA STATE**

100	Abba, Marafa Bashir	Taraba Central
101	Bwacha, Emmanuel	Taraba South
102	Danladi, Abubakar Sani	Taraba North

**YOBE STATE**

103	Ibrahim, Bukar Abba	Yobe East
104	Lawan, Ahmad Ibrahim	Yobe North
105	Hassan, Muhammad	Yobe South

## ZAMFARA STATE

106	Marafa, Kabir Garba	Zamfara Central
107	Kaura, Tijjani Yahaya	Zamfara North
108	Sani, Ahmad Rufa'i	Zamfara West

**3. Election of Senate President:**

Senator-elect Sani Ahmed Rufa'i (*Zamfara West*) nominated Senator-elect Abubakar Olubukola Saraki (*Kwara Central*). The nomination was seconded by Senator-elect Melaye Dino (*Kogi West*).

Senator-elect Abubakar Olubukola Saraki (*Kwara Central*) accepted his nomination.

In the absence of further nominations, the Clerk to the National Assembly declared nominations closed.

There being no further nominations, the Clerk to the National Assembly declared Senator-elect Abubakar Olubukola Saraki (*Kwara Central*) as President of Senate, pursuant to Rule 3(2)(c) of the Senate Standing Orders 2011 as amended.

**4. Oaths of Allegiance, and Oath of Office (Senate President):**

The Clerk to the National Assembly called on Senator-elect Sani Ahmed Rufa'i (*Zamfara West*) and Senator-elect Melaye Dino (*Kogi West*) to conduct the Senate President to the Table to take and subscribe to the Oaths as required by law.

**5. Election of Deputy Senate President:**

Senator-elect George Tompson Sekibo (*Rivers East*) nominated Senator-elect Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*). The nomination was seconded by Senator-elect Olaka Johnson Nwogu (*Rivers South-East*).

Senator-elect Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) accepted his nomination.

Senator-elect Mohammed Ubali Shitu (*Jigawa North-East*) nominated Senator-elect Mohammed Ali Ndume (*Borno South*). The nomination was seconded by Senator-elect Ibrahim Rafiu Adebayo (*Kwara South*).

Senator-elect Mohammed Ali Ndume (*Borno South*) accepted his nomination.

Thereafter, the Clerk to the National Assembly conducted election into the Office of the Deputy Senate President:

Name	No. Of Votes
Senator-elect Ike Ekweremadu ( <i>Enugu West Senatorial District</i> )	— 54
Senator-elect Mohammed Ali Ndume ( <i>Borno South Senatorial District</i> )	— 20
Abstention	— 1
Absent	— 32
Total	— <u>107</u>

**6. Oaths of Allegiance, and Oath of Office (Deputy Senate President):**

The Clerk to the National Assembly also called on Senator-elect George T. Sekobo (*River East*) and Senator-elect Olaka Nwogu (*Rivers South-East*) to conduct the Deputy Senate President to the Table to take and subscribe to the Oaths as required by law.

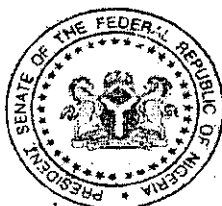
**7. Oaths of Allegiance and Membership (Senators-Elect):**

The following Senators-elect took and subscribed to the Oath of Allegiance and Membership as required by law:

1	Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt	<i>Abia South</i>
2	Ohuabunwa Mao A.	<i>Abia North</i>
3	Orji, Theodore Ahamfule	<i>Abia Central</i>
4	Garba, Binta Masi	<i>Adamawa North</i>
5	Abubakar, Ahmadu	<i>Adamawa South</i>
6	Nyako, Abdul-Aziz Murtala	<i>Adamawa Central</i>
7	Akpan, Bassey Albert	<i>Akwa-Ibom North East</i>
8	Akpabio, Godswill Obot	<i>Akwa-Ibom North West</i>
9	Effiong, Nelson Asuquo	<i>Akwa-Ibom South</i>
10	Uba, Andy Emmanuel	<i>Anambra South</i>
11	Ekwunife, Uche Lilian	<i>Anambra Central</i>
12	Oduah, Stella Adaeze	<i>Anambra North</i>
13	Misau, Isah Hamma	<i>Bauchi Central</i>
14	Wakili, Mallam Ali	<i>Bauchi South</i>
15	Murray-Bruce, Ben	<i>Bayelsa East</i>
16	Emmanuel, Paulker Izibefien.	<i>Bayelsa Central</i>
17	Foster, Ogola	<i>Bayelsa West</i>
18	Mark, David A. B.	<i>Benue South</i>
19	Kyari, Abubakar	<i>Borno North</i>
20	Ndume, Mohammed Ali	<i>Borno South</i>
21	Okon, Rose Okoji	<i>Cross River North</i>
22	Enoh, John Owan	<i>Cross River Central</i>
23	Bassey, Gershom	<i>Cross River South</i>
24	Amori, Ighoyota	<i>Delta Central</i>
25	Nwaboshi, Peter	<i>Delta North</i>
26	Manager, James Ebiowou	<i>Delta South</i>
27	Egwu, Samuel Ominyi	<i>Ebonyi North</i>
28	Obinna, Ogba Joseph	<i>Ebonyi Central</i>
29	Ogbuoji, Sunny Oji.	<i>Ebonyi South</i>
30	Ordia, Clifford A. M.	<i>Edo Central</i>
31	Alimikhena, Francis Asekame	<i>Edo North</i>
32	Urhoghide, Matthew A.	<i>Edo South</i>
33	Faseyi, Duro Samuel	<i>Ekiti North</i>
34	Raji-Rasaki, Fatimat Olufunke	<i>Ekiti Central</i>
35	Olujimi, Biodun	<i>Ekiti South</i>
36	Nnaji, Gilbert Emeka	<i>Enugu East</i>
37	Chukwuka, Joseph U.	<i>Enugu North</i>
38	Tanimu, Philip Aduda	<i>F. C. T</i>
39	Goje, Mohammed Danjuma	<i>Gombe Central</i>
40	Lidani, Joshua Moltobok	<i>Gombe South</i>
41	Anyanwu, Samuel Nnaemeka	<i>Imo East</i>
42	Uzodimma, Goodhope Odidika	<i>Imo West</i>
43	Nneji, Achonu Athanasius	<i>Imo North</i>
44	Shitu, Muhammad Ubali	<i>Jigawa North-East</i>
45	La'ah, Danjuma	<i>Kaduna South</i>

46	Bukar, Mustapha	<i>Katsina North</i>
47	Ohiare, Abdulsalami	<i>Kogi Central</i>
48	Abubakar, Abdulrahman	<i>Kogi East</i>
49	Melaye, Dino	<i>Kogi West</i>
50	Lafiagi, Mohammed Shaaba	<i>Kwara North</i>
51	Ibrahim, Rafiu Adebayo	<i>Kwara South</i>
52	Gyunka, Philip Aruwa	<i>Nasarawa North</i>
53	Egye, Salihu Hussain	<i>Nasarawa South</i>
54	Umaru, David	<i>Niger East</i>
55	Abdullahi, Aliyu Sabi	<i>Niger North</i>
56	Garba, Mohammed A.	<i>Niger South</i>
57	Kashamu, Prince Buruji	<i>Ogun East</i>
58	Alasoadura, Donald O.	<i>Ondo Central</i>
59	Omogunwa, Yele	<i>Ondo South</i>
60	Dariye, Joshua Chibi	<i>Plateau Central</i>
61	Jang, Jonah David	<i>Plateau North</i>
62	Useni, Jeremiah T.	<i>Plateau South</i>
63	Sekibo, George Thompson	<i>Rivers East</i>
64	Nwogu, Olaka Johnson	<i>Rivers South-East</i>
65	Ideozu, Osinakachukwu	<i>Rivers West</i>
66	Gobir, Ibrahim Abdullahi	<i>Sokoto East</i>
67	Wammako, Aliyu Magatakarda	<i>Sokoto North</i>
68	Abdullahi, Ibrahim	<i>Sokoto South</i>
69	Abba, Marafa Bashir	<i>Taraba Central</i>
70	Bwacha, Emmanuel	<i>Taraba South</i>
71	Danladi, Abubakar Sani	<i>Taraba North</i>
72	Hassan, Muhammad	<i>Yobe South</i>
73	Kaura, Tijjani Yahaya	<i>Zamfara North</i>
74	Sani, Ahmad Rufa'i	<i>Zamfara West</i>

8. Remarks by Senate President:



President of the Senate  
Federal Republic of Nigeria

*A SPEECH PRESENTED BY SENATOR ABUBAKAR BUKOLA SARAOKI ON THE OCCASION OF HIS SWEARING-IN AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ON TUESDAY JUNE 9, 2015.*

*PROTOCOLS.*

*Distinguished Colleagues, Senators of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I am most honoured and privileged to be elected from among such distinguished men and women of your caliber to serve you as President of the Senate. I accept with humility and respect the honour you have conferred upon me today. I am indeed moved by such demonstration of faith and trust you have reposed on me. I am very grateful and I accept this call to serve with humility, responsibility and sense of duty.*



*I give all glory to the Almighty God for all the significance of this day for our dear country. I am immensely delighted that only a few months after we have witnessed an uncommon democratic transition in our country, we are witnessing yet again, a further consolidation of that lofty victory for our country and our democracy.*

*I want to thank all members of the National Assembly, especially the distinguished Senators for your maturity and patriotism in the exercise that we have just concluded in electing the leadership of the 8th Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. We have demonstrated that even though we may belong to different persuasions and parties, we are ultimately united by our common desire to entrench democracy and allow its core principles guide the conduct of our political affairs.*

*I thank all those who have supported me and journeyed with me through the difficult road that has brought us here. I believe that the courage and the commitment that you have demonstrated go beyond your support for any individual's ambition. I believe that what you have demonstrated is an unflinching commitment to the sanctity and integrity of this hallowed chamber as the primary bastion for the government of the people, by the people, for the people.*

*Beyond any political party or personal victory, the 2015 general elections, in many ways, represents a major watershed in the political annals of our great country. And for long would that moment be remembered as the period when our democracy truly came of age. The uniqueness of that moment, fired by our people's overwhelming desire for change would remain an inspiration for the future generation of our country. However, the enormous responsibilities that it imposes on those of us who occupy leadership positions in our respective capacity at this time can hardly be over-emphasized.*

*The change that our people voted for is a change from a life of poverty, misery and hopelessness to a life of prosperity, happiness and confidence in the future; a change from a pervasive culture of fear to a life of security and comfort; a change from impunity and elite arrogance to a life of accountability and respect for every citizen, regardless of tribe, gender, religion, region or political persuasion. This is the change that all of us in this National Assembly must strive to bring about, if we must justify the privilege of representation conferred on us by our people. Nigerians want to see a proactive National Assembly that will devote itself to rigorous thinking, rolling up sleeves to forge a new and prosperous Nigeria.*

*As the President of the 8th Senate and the Chairman of this National Assembly, I shall be guided by the enormity of the responsibilities that this moment imposes on us all. As a first among equals, I shall strive at all times to be just, equitable and fair to all. I shall work with you all to build a National Assembly that will enjoy greater confidence and trust among the people that we represent. We shall entrench greater openness and accountability. We shall strengthen our capacity for public engagement as well as broaden access for inclusion, recognizing that this temple of democracy belongs to all the people of our country.*

*Modern democracy is built on the principle of separation of powers. It will be my responsibility to protect the independence of the legislative arm of our government in the overall interest of our democracy. However, I will pursue this duty with the understanding that our autonomy must be embedded within the collaborative framework that allows government to function more effectively in bringing the greater good to the greatest number of our people. Our quest for autonomy must not lead us into pursuing adversarial relationship with other arms of government, especially the executive. Our oversight duties must be constructive, supportive and productive, believing that while we all have different roles to play; we have a common responsibility to the people of Nigeria.*

*At this juncture, permit me distinguished Senators, Honourable Members to salute the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR for remaining steadfast in his defence of the right of the National Assembly members to choose its own leaders. With his principled position, he has laid a solid foundation for the stability of the 8th National Assembly and for strengthening our democracy. On behalf of my colleagues in the Senate (and the House of Representatives,) I promise that we shall reward the great confidence you have reposed in us by being worthy partners and dependable ally in the great task ahead.*

*Similarly, I thank all the leaders of our party, the All Progressives Congress for the leadership you have provided and the efforts you have made in providing guidance and in managing the process that would lead to amicable resolution of the conflict and contention that any democratic process necessarily generates. Now we can move forward with renewed confidence in our efforts to build a stronger and virile party, where all members would find comfort and space to pursue their legitimate aspirations.*

*Shall end this address by expressing the immense gratitude of all members of the 7th Senate and House of Representatives to His Excellency, David Bonaventure Mark, for the uncommon leadership that you have provided for us over the years, which has stabilized the National Assembly and paved the way for the enormous achievements that were recorded under your leadership. Thank you for your immense service to our country.*

*My dear distinguished colleagues, we are entering the saddle at a time when a lot is being expected of us. Nigerians expect the barest minimum out of our agenda; that the new senate and National Assembly must make laws that will enable us renew our infrastructure, reform the oil sector, reform our security systems, boost agriculture, create jobs and make doing business in Nigeria much more competitive. In the coming days we shall be converging to hammer out an aggregate agenda that will help us focus and deliver on these minimum expectations.*

*Distinguished Senators, Honourable Members, as we formally assume the legislative task of our nation's government today, I pray that the Almighty God will continue to increase us in wisdom and visit us with courage to always do that which is best for our people and our country. May our hallowed chambers continue to ennoble the memory of our great country men and women who fought and died so that democracy may see the light of day in our country. And, may the future generations of our citizens look upon the 8th National Assembly as a true assembly of our people's representatives who did their very best in the service of our nation.*

*Thank you all.*

*(Signed)*

*Abubakar Olubukola Saraki  
President of the Senate  
Federal Republic of Nigeria*

**9. Adjournment:**

*Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. (Senator Ibrahim Abdullahi Gobir — Sokoto East).*

*Adjourned accordingly at 1:05 p.m.*

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