



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 22nd November, 2018

1. The Senate met at 11:00 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 21st November, 2018.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcement:**

Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Staff and Students of Whiteplains British School, Jabi, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of Tovicas Global Academy, Dakwa, Niger State; and
- (iii) Staff and Students of Potter's-field Academy, Gwagwalada, Abuja.

4. **Petition:**

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Clifford A. Ordia (*Edo Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Solomon Ewanehi, Managing Director/CEO of Solewant Nigeria Limited, against Vurin/Chevron Nigeria Limited over the refusal to honour contract agreement. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition 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 Rules 42 and 52, Senator Albert B. Akpan (*Akwa Ibom North-East*) drew the attention of the Senate to his yesterday's point of order on the invasion of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly Complex Uyo, by the Nigeria Police Officers. He stated that the Policemen were still in the precinct of the Assembly, preventing the State Honourable Members and Assembly staff to access their respective offices. He further noted that an injustice to Akwa Ibom State indigenes is also injustice to Nigerians. He urged the Senate to intervene.

Accordingly resolves to:

urge the Nigeria Police to vacate the precinct of Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Uyo to enable Parliamentarians and staff conduct their legislative activities.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do urge the Nigeria Police to vacate the precinct of Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Uyo to enable Parliamentarians and staff conduct their legislative activities — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do urge the Nigeria Police to vacate the precinct of Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Uyo to enable Parliamentarians and staff conduct their legislative activities (S/Res/043/04/18).

6. Privileges:

Rising on Rules 14 and 15, Senator Ibrahim D. Abdullahi (*Sokoto South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the state of redundancy in the Committee on Army since inauguration. He stated that as the Vice Chairman, Committee on Army, the Committee had never embarked on any oversight function, apart from 2016 visit to the Nigerian Army Headquarters, Abuja. He urged the Senate to mandate the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to investigate the matter.

By the leave of the Senate, the Senate Leader was mandated to investigate the matter and report to the Senate.

7. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Bala Ibn Na'Allah (*Kebbi South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the assault on the Nigerian Army Camp in Borno State, on Sunday, 18th November, 2018, by Boko Haram, where about forty-four (44) Soldiers lost their lives to the insurgents. He noted that these brave men have sacrificed and paid the ultimate price for our safety and peace in Nigeria. He further stated that these officers were gallantly defending the territorial integrity of the country.

Accordingly Resolves to:

- (i) observe one minute silence in honour of the soldiers who lost their lives in the attack;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Army to pay condolence visit to the Chief of Army Staff and families of the deceased; and
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to immortalize the deceased.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe one minute silence in honour of the soldiers who lost their lives in the attack — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate mandate the Committee on Army to pay condolence visit to the Chief of Defence Staff and families of the deceased — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to immortalize the deceased — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

- “(i) That the Senate do suspend plenary in honour of soldiers who died in the attack (*Senator Andrew I. Uchendu — River East*).

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

- (ii) That the Senate do visit our soldiers at the theatre of war to boost their morale (*Senator Francis A. Alimikheria — Edo North*).

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

- (iii) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to pay more attention to the service men and ex-servicemen's welfare and well-being in order to restore the confidence of the military (*Senator Mohammad A. Aliero — Kebbi Central*)."

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) one minute silence in honour of the soldiers who lost their lives in the attack;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Army to pay condolence visit to the Chief of Army Staff and families of the deceased;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to immortalize the deceased;
- (iv) suspend plenary in honour of soldiers who died in the attack;
- (v) visit our soldiers at the theatre of war to boost their morale; and
- (vi) urge the Federal Government to pay more attention to the service men and ex-servicemen's welfare and well-being in order to restore the confidence of the military (*S/Res/044/04/18*).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

8. Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND:

Reports of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND on the following Bills:

- a. Federal University of Education Aguleri, Anambra State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.653);
- b. Federal Polytechnic, Daura (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 465);
- c. National Institute of Construction Technology and Management (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 630); and
- d. Federal Polytechnic, Ikom, Cross River State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 672).

Presentation of Reports deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. Joint Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters; and Anti-Corruption & Financial Crimes:

Report on the Proceed of Crimes Bill, 2018 (SB. 376):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

10. Conference Committee:

Report on the National Biotechnology Development Agency Bill, 2018 (HB. 33):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. **Committee on Establishment and Public Service:**
Report on the Counselling Practitioners Council of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.636):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
12. **Committee on Finance:**
Report on the Urgent Need to Review the Excise Tariff Increment in Order to Save Local Distillers of Beverages from Looming Extinction:

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
13. **Committee on Special Duties:**
Report on the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons Bill, 2018 (SB. 335):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
14. **Committee on Science and Technology:**
Report on the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 593):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
15. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do suspend plenary in honour of the 44 soldiers killed in Maiduguri in line with its resolution No. (S/Res/044/04/18) till Tuesday, 27th November, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:14 p.m.

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