



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 6th December, 2018

1. The Senate met at 11:02 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 5th December, 2018.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

- (a) **Appreciation:**

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Barnabas A. I. Gemade (*Benue North-East*) as follows:



SENATOR DR. BARNABAS A.I GEMADE OFR, FNSE

(Nom Iyange u Tiv)

Benue North East Senatorial District

NASS/8S/GEM/28/118

5th December, 2018

His Excellency,

Sen. (Dr.) Abuhakar Bukola Saraki, CON

President of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,

National Assembly Complex,

Abuja.

Your Excellency,

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of my family, constituents and the family of Elder Steven Yashim, I hereby convey our appreciation and gratitude to you and my Colleagues for making out time amidst your crowded schedule to attend and grace the wedding of our children, Sedoo Gemade and Sheyin Yashim with your esteemed presence.

We truly appreciate your time and precious gifts and all that you did to support our families in ensuring that the day was a memorable one for the couple who cherish and would relish the day for a long time.

Honouring our families with your esteemed presence at the wedding made the day special and we are indeed thankful to you all.

Once again, we appreciate your support and entreat you to extend similar love and support to other intending couples also.

Please accept, always the assurances of my esteemed regards.

(Signed)

SEN. (DR.) BARNABAS A. I. GEMADE OFR, FNSE
(Nom Iyange u Tiv)

(b) **Public Hearing:**

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Suleiman M. Nazif (Bauchi North) as follows:



THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)
National Assembly Complex,

6th December, 2018

The Senate President
Dist. Senator (Dr.) Abubakar Bukola Saraki, CON
National Assembly
Abuja.

Your Excellency,

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VOTE BUYING

The National Assembly Joint Committee on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) hereby invites all Distinguished Senators to a one - day public hearing on "Vote buying and Improving Electoral Processes in Nigeria" Scheduled to hold as follow:

Date: Monday, 10th December, 2018

Venue: Conference Room 231, New Senate Building

Time: 10:00 a.m Prompt

As major stakeholders, this public hearing will provide a forum for you as law makers to fashion out ways that will effectively curtail the menace of vote buying and improve the electoral process in Nigeria.

Thank you.

(Signed)

Senator (Dr.) Suleiman Nazif
Chairman

(c) **Acknowledgment:**

The Deputy Senate President acknowledged the presence of Members of Students' Union Government, University of Ngeria, Nsukka, Enugu State who were at the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

4. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Kabir G. Marafa (*Zamfara Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the urgent need to avert the looming crisis in fuel supply due to non payment of approved subsidy arrears to oil marketers. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes that Independent Oil Marketers provide facilities and services that compliment Government effort and services in the supply and distribution of petroleum products across the country;

aware that the Federal Government owed the marketers subsidy arrears accruing from 2006 which led to the request by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation to the National Assembly for approval of "the establishment of a promissory note programme and a bond issuance to settle inherited local debts and contractual obligations" of which the subsidy arrears falls;

also notes that the debt have forced some marketers out of business while most of the marketers are currently being subjected to Mareva Injunctions;

recalls that the National Assembly processed and passed the President's request on Wednesday, 18th and Tuesday, 24th July, 2018 respectively which was forwarded to the Federal Ministry of Finance for payment;

observes that after the passage of the Executive request by the National Assembly, the Debt Management Office (DMO) introduced very stringent measures for the issuance of the promissory note to Include:

- a. Document review by an International Accounting Firm;
- b. Bonds to be issued in phases on the basis of discount with 10 years duration that is not interest bearing without a fixed date for the issuance; and
- c. A reverse auction for the issuance of the notes;

also observes that the procedure of document review by an International Accounting Firm after it was authenticated by the Presidential Initiative for Continuous Audit (PICA), approved by Federal Executive Council (FEC) and passed by the National Assembly is a wrong process that calls for questions;

concerned that the Marketers objected to the processes and reacted by issuing a 7-day ultimatum from Tuesday, 27th November, 2018 to DMO, to not only pay but also revert and adhere to the agreement reached in a meeting with the Ag. President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo in June, 2017 failure of which, the marketers threatened to sack their workers as they can no longer cope to pay salaries from December, 2018;

aware that Government through the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has provided adequate supply of fuel at Government price across the country to ensure a hitch free Christmas, New Year and through the election period;

worried that the action of the marketers if not well checked may result into artificial fuel scarcity that may span through the election period;

more worried that the attendant consequences will impact negatively on Nigerian masses by default; and

also worried that the continuous delay in the payment of the arrears have increased the debt from about ₦29 Billion to close to One Trillion Naira between June, 2017 to date and will continue to increase due to bank interest charges and forex.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Oil Marketers to rescind their 7 days ultimatum decision to allow the Federal Government a little more time to look into their demands;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to as a matter of utmost urgency, direct all concerned Agencies to immediately pay the subsidy arrears as approved by the Federal Executive council (FEC) and passed by the National Assembly within two (2) weeks; and
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to engage marketers and agree on all outstanding liabilities to put an end to all subsidy claims.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Oil Marketers to rescind their 7 days ultimatum decision to allow the Federal Government a little more time to look into their demands — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to as a matter of utmost urgency, direct all concerned Agencies to immediately pay the subsidy arrears as approved by the Federal Executive council (FEC) and passed by the National Assembly within two(2) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to engage marketers and agree on all outstanding liabilities to put an end to all subsidy claims — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to synergise with the Marketers on the need to be considerate on payment of their subsidy debts, in view of the shortfalls in the Federal Government revenue and accept any amicable payment arrangement between the two parties” (*Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf — Taraba Central*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Oil Marketers to rescind their 7 days ultimatum decision to allow the Federal Government a little more time to look into their demands;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to as a matter of utmost urgency, direct all concerned Agencies to immediately pay the subsidy arrears as approved by the Federal Executive council (FEC) and passed by the National Assembly within two(2) weeks;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to engage marketers and agree on all outstanding liabilities to put an end to all subsidy claims; and
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to synergise with the Marketers on the need to be considerate on payment of their subsidy debts, in view of the shortfalls in the Federal Government revenue and accept any amicable payment arrangement between the two parties (*S/Res/049/04/18*)

5. Presentation of a Bill:

International Institute for Excellence and Leadership Development of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 710) — *Read the First Time.*

6. Committee on Establishment and Public Service:**Report on the Conditions of Service for National Assembly Staff:**

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service on the Conditions of Service for National Assembly Staff (*Senator Emmanuel I. Paulker — Bayelsa Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

7. Ad hoc Committee:**Report on the Investigation of the Allegation Levelled against the Inspector General of Police (IGP):**

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the Investigation of the allegation levelled against the Inspector General of Police (IGP) (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. Executive Communications:**Confirmation of Nominations:**

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nominations of the Chairman and Members of the Board of National Bureau of Statistics:

S/No.	Name	Position	Zone
(i)	Dr. Kabiru Nakaura	Chairman	North West
(ii)	Mr. Akinola I. Bashir	Member	South West
(iii)	Prof. Moses I. Momoh	Member	South South
(iv)	Wallijoh Danladi Ahijoh	Member	North Central
(v)	Adam Modu	Member	North East
(vi)	Nwafor Paul Chukwudi	Member	South East

(*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee National Planning to report within two (2) weeks.

9. Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nomination of Hon. Justice Uwani Musa Abba Aji, JCA for appointment as Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within two (2) weeks.

10. 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.

11. **Committee on Information and National Orientation:**
Report on the National Orientation Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 333):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
12. **Committee on Science and Technology:**
Report on the Federal Institute of Industrial Research Bill, 2018 (SB. 586):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
13. **Committee on Science and Technology:**
Report on the Nigerian Council of Food Science and Technology (Establishment, etc.) Bill 2018 (SB.92):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
14. **Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:**
Reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:
- a. Alhaji Kabiru Suleiman, against the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) for alleged forced retirement from the Commission;
 - b. Eze O. Chukwuma, against the Military Pensions Board and Fidelity Bank Plc for non-payment of his gratuity and perpetuation of fraud in his Bank Account;
 - c. Engr. Rasheedat Al-Bashir, against Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC) for her unlawful dismissal from the Service of the Company;
 - d. Ndu A. Nnanna, against the National Population Commission (NPC) for denying him appointment to the post of Director, Administration and Human Resource Management or Secretary to the Commission;
 - e. O. J. Omoke, against the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) for alleged wrongful withdrawal from the Academy;
 - f. Prof. Emmanuel Ume Lekwa Imaga, against the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) for his wrongful dismissal from the Service of the University for alleged gross misconduct;
 - g. Mr. Ominiabohs Odiri Austin, against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Service of the Corporation.
- Consideration of Reports deferred to another Legislative Day.*
15. **Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act No. 19 of 1995 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB.695):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
16. **Federal University Uga, Anambra State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.522):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
17. **Federal University of Environment, Science and Agriculture Ogoni, Rivers State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.680):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

18. **Federal University of Agriculture Dambatta, Kano State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.704):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

19. **National Commission for the Prohibition of the Illegal Importation of Small Arms, Ammunitions and Light Weapons (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 339):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

20. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 11th December, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:37 p.m.

Ike Ekweremadu, CFR
*Deputy Senate President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*