



**SENATE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER**

Tuesday, 13th March, 2018

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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Industrial Development (Income Tax Relief) Act CAP I17, LFN, 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 638) - *First Reading*
Sen. Sabo Mohammed N. (*Jigawa South-West*).
2. Federal Polytechnic Marama, Borno State (Est, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 639) - *First Reading*
Sen. Ali Ndume (*Borno South*).
3. Federal College of Education (Technical) Abakiliki, Ebonyi State. (Est., etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 641) - *First Reading*
Sen. Sam O. Egwu (*Ebonyi North*).

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service
Chartered Polymer Institute of Nigeria (Est, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 396)
Sen. Emmanuel Paulker (*Bayelsa Central*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service on the Chartered Polymer Institute of Nigeria (Est, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 396) - *To be Laid.*
2. Report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service
Pension Reform Act CAP P4 LFN (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 281)
Sen. Emmanuel Paulker (*Bayelsa Central*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service on the Pension Reform Act CAP P4 LFN (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 281) - *To be Laid.*

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. The need to Exercise Constitutional Powers of the National Assembly to ratify Treaties in Nigeria.

Sponsor: Senator Bala Ibn Na'allah (*Kebbi South*)

The Senate:

Notes that Section 12 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that "no treaty between the Federal Government and any country shall have the force of law except to the extent to which any such treaty has been enacted into law by the National Assembly;

Notes that out of over 250 United Nations Treaties, Conventions, Charters and Protocols alone which Nigeria is a party, over 50 have not been ratified while many others require succession, signature, acceptance or notification;

Amazed that there seems to be no comprehensive and accurate data on exact number of treaties entered into by Nigeria since Independence as according to some records only 61 have been ratified out of about 300 and yet according to others, no exact number could be established from relevant institutions of government responsible for treaty management in Nigeria which raises the urgent need to call the attention of all stakeholders to discharge their responsibilities to rectify the anomaly;

Aware that the recent Roundtable on Treaties Management in Nigeria organized by the National Defence precisely on Tuesday, 13th February, 2018 observed that several treaties have been entered by various MDAs without having the instrument of full powers and complying with other procedures required by the Treaty Making Procedure Act CAP T20 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004;

Further notes with deep concern as further observed by the said Roundtables that the reluctance, bordering on persistent refusal by the MDAs to comply with the decision of the Federal Executive Council contained in a circular issued by the Head of Civil Service of the Federation Ref: HCSE/LU/FEC/M/38 dated 2nd March, 2017 to forward all Treaties/International Agreements to the Federal Ministry of Justice for deposition;

Worried that a huge number of treaties have not been submitted to the National Assembly for domestication due to reliance on provisions of section 3(2) of the Treaty Making Procedure Act CAP T20 LFN, 2004 which classified treaties that require ratification by the National Assembly and those that do not;

Established that the said provisions of the Treaty Making Procedure Act is inconsistent with the provisions of section 12 of the constitution which categorically subjects all treaties without any classification to ratification by the National Assembly;

Cognizance that in the 5th Assembly, only 11 treaties were enacted into law by the National Assembly out of over 1000 Bills considered by the Assembly while only 61 Executive Bills out of 619 Bills considered by the 7th Senate with none on treaties and still in the 8th Senate, only 3 Executive Bills so far have been presented for ratification of treaties;

Regrets that the good reputation and image of Nigeria may continue to be low in the eyes of the international community and the country may suffer multi-dimensional loss if the National Assembly is denied its powers of ratifying treaties to acquire the force of law for municipal application in Nigeria,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Direct the Federal Ministry of Justice to produce a comprehensive record of all the treaties that were entered into by Nigeria, those that were ratified by the National Assembly, those that are yet to be presented for ratification by the Executive and many others that require different forms of action by relevant institutions of government responsible for treaty management in Nigeria;
- ii. Direct the Federal Ministry of Justice and the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to establish a comprehensive database on status and management of treaties in Nigeria;
- iii. Urge the Executive to submit all Bills on all outstanding treaties that require ratification by the National Assembly; and
- iv. Mandate Committees of Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters and Foreign Affairs to liaise with the relevant Ministries affected by the resolution to facilitate collation of the documents and report to the Senate within 4 weeks.

2. The need for sustainable Tourism Policy in Nigeria.

Sponsor: Sen. Fatimat Raji-Rasaki (*Ekiti Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that according to the 2008 UN Recommendations on Tourism Statistics, tourism is a social, cultural and economic phenomenon which entails the movement of people to countries or places outside their usual environment for leisure, business, religion, health and for other purposes;

Notes further that sustainable tourism on the other hand entails the adoption of policies and programmes that takes into account the expectations of tourists and the desire of the communities affected by tourism projects to entrench environmentally friendly practices that minimize carbon dioxide emissions associated with operation of transport and other tourism facilities as well as ensure efficient use and conservation of energy, water, biodiversity, cultural heritage, traditional values, and generally promote intercultural understanding with a view to generating local income and facilitating integration of local communities;

Aware of the importance and potential contribution of tourism to Nigeria's quest for economic diversification and creation of employment opportunities to the teeming youth population and the recognition of tourism by the United Nations (UN) as one of the ten sectors capable of making significant contributions to sustainable development because of its close linkages to other sectors of the economy;

Notes that over the last decades, tourism has emerged as one of the largest economic sectors accounting for 9% of the world GDP and over 200 million jobs with business volume of tourism reported to equal or even surpass that of oil exports, food products or automobile. Tourism offers millions of direct and indirect entry point into the workforce, particularly for youths and women and ensure diversity of investment opportunities for young entrepreneurial talents;

Observes that Nigeria is yet to formulate and adopt policies that would develop the tourism sector in a sustainable manner and leverage on the sector as a wealth creator, major source of foreign exchange earner and most viable economic development strategy with positive impact on poverty alleviation;

Convinced that it has become absolutely necessary for the Senate to intervene in a manner that would ensure that tourism is given priority in our development agenda because of its globally recognized potentials in contributing to the growth of local economies,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate the Senate Committees on Information and Culture to consider summoning the Minister of Information and Culture to brief the Committee on the performance of the culture and tourism sectors and the efforts being made to reposition the sector as a major foreign exchange earner and to report back within two (2) weeks;*
- ii. *Call on the Federal Government to adopt a comprehensive sustainable tourism policy with a view to showcasing tourism as an important tool for economic diversification; conservation of natural resources and creation of employment;*
- iii. *Call on the Federal Government to consider de-merging "culture and tourism" from the Federal Ministry of Information to ensure effective implementation of a sustainable tourism policy that would ensure the optimum realization of the recognized potentials of the tourism sector to our economy; and*
- iv. *Call on the Nigerian Immigration Service and the Federal Ministry of Health to intensify surveillance and monitoring of tourist traffic to forestall cross-border crimes and epidemics at Nigeria's international borders.*

3. Urgent need for the declaration of Emergency in the Public Health Sector over the decay of infrastructure.

Sponsor: Sen. Suleiman O. Hunkuyi (*Kaduna North*)

The Senate:

Notes with alarm the decay of infrastructure in public healthcare institutions in the country occasioned by epileptic power and inadequate water supply resulting in unhygienic conditions which further increases the risk of hospital acquired and transmitted infections;

Further notes that critical diagnostic equipment such as MRI, CT Scan, Ultrasound etc. essential for providing efficient diagnosis are either non-functional or not available and coupled with lack of life-saving medicaments and drugs which are inadequate and in most cases unavailable to dispense to the patients who throng these facilities in search of treatment for their various conditions;

Concerned that this situation has compounded the dearth of ability to attract the required calibre of health professionals and skilled manpower in our public health institutions with doctors and other healthcare professionals leaving for greener pastures to private medical facilities or even abroad where they can practice with ease;

Further concerned that the sorry situation in our public health institutions has resulted in increased medical tourism by Nigerians, with the attendant outflow of hard earned foreign currency to the tune of several millions of dollars spent on medical care annually in Europe, America, Asia and even some African countries to the detriment of our own Health Institutions;

Regrets that this sorry state of affairs has rendered our hospitals and other healthcare facilities ineffective resulting in dire consequences for the citizenry;

Recalls that recently, UNICEF in its latest statistics on child mortality ranked Nigeria second highest in the world with losses of about 2300 under-five year olds and 145 women of child bearing age daily,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Executive to declare a state of emergency in the public health sector in the country; and
- ii. Urge the Executive to provide special funding for the overhaul of at least one Government owned medical facility in each of the six geo-political zones of the country every year.

BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

1. Digital Right and Freedom Bill, 2018 (HB. 490) - Concurrence
Sen. Ahmad Lawan (Yobe North-Senate Leader).
2. Energy Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 72 & 446) - Concurrence
Sen. Ahmad Lawan (Yobe North-Senate Leader).

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Housing
Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2018 (SB. 216)
Sen. Barnabas Gemade (Benue North-East)
-That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Housing on the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2018 (SB. 216).
2. Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and TETFUND
Federal University, Gashua (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 459)
Sen. Barau I. Jibrin (Kano North)
-That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and TETFUND on the Federal University, Gashua (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 459).

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Joint Committee on Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Communication, Capital Market and National Security & Intelligence	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018 (Investigative Hearing)	2.00pm	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
2.	Local and Foreign Debts	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018	2.00pm	Committee Room 327 Senate New Building
3.	Employment, Labour & Productivity	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018	1.00pm	Committee Room 328 Senate New Building
4.	Defence	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018	2.00pm	Committee Room 224 Senate New Building
5.	Tertiary Institutions & TETFUND	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018 (Conference Meeting)	2.00pm	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building
6.	Gas	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018	2.00pm	Committee Room 221 Senate New Building
7.	Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy	Tuesday, 13 th March, 2018	2.00pm	Committee Room 438 Senate New Building
8.	Joint Committee on Ecology & Climate Change and Environment	Wednesday, 14 th March, 2018 (Public Hearing)	9.00am	Conference Room 022 Senate New Building
9.	Industries	Wednesday, 14 th March, 2018 (Budget Defence)	2.00pm	Committee Room 328 Senate New Building
10.	Local Content	Wednesday, 14 th March, 2018	2.00pm	Committee Room 211 Senate New Building
11.	Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions	Thursday, 15 th March, 2018 (Public Hearing)	12.00noon	Conference Room 022 Senate New Building
12.	Tertiary Institutions & TETFUND	Thursday, 15 th March, 2018 (Public Hearing)	2.00pm	Conference Room 231 Senate New Building