



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

Tuesday, 17th October, 2017

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 Culture and Tourism
Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 428)
Sen. Mathew A. Urhoghide (*Edo South*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Culture and Tourism on the Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 428) - *To be Laid.*
2. Interim Report of the Committees on Customs, Excise and Tariffs and Marine Transport
Sen. Hope Uzodinma (*Imo West*) and Sen. Ahmed Rufai Sani (*Zamfara West*)
-That the Senate do receive the report of the Committees on Customs, Excise and Tariffs and Marine Transport in respect of a motion on the urgent need to examine the Operations of the Nigeria Customs Service Revenue Drive - *To be Laid.*

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Demise of Lieutenant General Victor Samuel Malu (Rtd) DSS, MNI, FWC, PSC.

Sponsor: Sen. Barnabas Gemade (*Benue North-East*)

Co-sponsors: Sen. David A.B. Mark (*Benue South*) Sen. Akume George (*Benue North West*)
Sen. Jeremiah T. Useni (*Plateau South*) Sen. Abdul Aziz M. Nyako (*Adamawa Central*)
Sen. Jang Jonah David (*Plateau North*)

The Senate:

Notes with heavy heart and a deep sense of loss, the demise of Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), former Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at the early hours of Sunday October 9th, 2017, at the age of 70 years;

Notes also that Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), was born on January 15th, 1947; in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State in North Central Nigeria;

Notes further that Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), enrolled into the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna in 1967 as part of the legendary 3rd Regular Course and was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant

enlisted upon graduation in 1970. He subsequently attended courses at the Command and Staff College (CSC) Jaji, and National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) Kuru in Jos;

Convinced that through dint of hard work, dedication and commitment to professionalism, Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), rose to the pinnacle of his military career. He became Commander ECOWAS Peace-Keeping Force ECOMOG and later Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Nigerian Army;

Aware also that Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), served the Army and Country in various capacities as:

Chief Instructor, Nigerian Military School, Zaria
 General Officer Training, Army Headquarters
 Commander, 7 Mechanized Brigade
 Commander ECOWAS Peace-Keeping Force ECOMOG (1996 - 1998)
 Chief of Army Staff (COAS) 1999 - 2001

Observes that Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), was a proud Awardee of National and several prestigious military awards/honours such as:

Force Service Star (FSS),
 Meritorious Service Star (MSS) and
 Distinguished Service Star (DSS);
 Member National Institute (Mni);
 Pass Staff College (PSS);

Notes that as Commander ECOMOG, Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd) is globally applauded for his diligence and professionalism in turning the fortunes of that sub-regional peace force around during the Liberian first civil war;

Observes that as Chief of Army Staff, he doggedly canvassed and undertook reforms aimed at preserving apolitical Army with a deep sense of professionalism. It is on record that he did not accept any political appointment throughout his work life;

Aware that his demise is a great loss to the people of Benue North-East Senatorial District in particular, Benue State and Nigeria, and the West African sub-region at large,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Observe* one minute silence in honour of the late Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd);
- ii. *Send* a high powered delegation of this hallowed Chamber to condole with the family, the people and Government of Benue State; and
- iii. *Urge* the Federal Government of Nigeria to immortalize Lieutenant General Samuel Victor Malu (Rtd), by naming a National monument in his honour.

2. Commemoration of the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 17th October, 2017.

Sponsor: Senator Malam Ali Wakili Mni (*Bauchi South*)

Co-Sponsors: Senator Danjuma La'ah (*Kaduna South*)

Senator Ibrahim Gobir (*Sokoto East*)

Senator Ubali Shittu (*Jigawa North-East*)

Senator Stella Oduah (*Anambra North*)

Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf (*Taraba Central*)

Senator Wamakko (*Sokoto North*)

Senator Magnus Abe (*Rivers South-East*)

Senator Atai Idoko Ali (*Kogi East*)

Senator Rose Okoji Oko (*Cross River North*)

Senator Sonny Ogbuaji (*Ebonyi South*)

Senator Abdulfatai Buhari (*Oyo North*)

Senator Andy Uba (*Anambra South*)

Senator Ovie Omo-Agege (*Delta Central*)

Senator Shehu Sani (*Kaduna Central*)

Senator Olanrewaju Tejuoso (*Ogun Central*)

Senator Buruju Kashamu (*Ogun East*)

Senator Mao Ohuabunwa (*Abia North*)

Senator Fatima Raji-Rasaki (*Ekiti Central*)

Senator Biodun Olujimi (*Ekiti South*)
 Senator Oluremi Tinubu (*Lagos Central*)

Senator Binta Masi Garba (*Adamawa North*)
 Senator Monsurat Sunmonu (*Oyo Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that October 17th is the day set aside as the commemoration day for eradicating poverty worldwide. This year 2017, marks the 25th Anniversary of the Declaration by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of the 17th October as the International Day for Eradication of Poverty;

Notes also that this year also marks the 30th Anniversary of the call to action by Father Joseph Wresinki which inspired the observance of October 17 as the World Day for overcoming of extreme poverty and the recognition by the UN of the day as the International Day for Eradication of Poverty. Joseph Wresinki's personal experience as a child living in poverty and his daily struggle with his family to overcome shame and social exclusion and his lifetime commitment to make heard families living in poverty worldwide;

Aware that the theme for the 2017 commemoration is "Answering the call of October 17 to end poverty: A path towards peaceful and inclusive societies"; and that the theme reminds us of the importance of the values of dignity, solidarity and voice underscored in the call to action to fight to end poverty everywhere;

Further aware that the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and its antecedents, the World Day for overcoming extreme poverty are intended to promote dialogue and understanding between people living in poverty and their communities and society. It is meant to demonstrate the strong bonds of solidarity between people living in poverty and people from all works of life, and the commitment to work together to overcome extreme poverty, a chance for men to make their concerns heard and a moment to recognize that the poor people are in the forefront in the fight against poverty;

Interesting to note that the achievement of a World free from poverty provides a path towards achieving peaceful and inclusive societies as envisioned in goal 16 of the SDG, which key target is to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels;

Recalls that the recent data from the Nigeria Bureau of Statistics indicates that no fewer than 112 Million Nigerians representing 67.1% of the country's estimated population now live below poverty level. Hence the challenge for all to rise to the occasion to vanquish poverty. The passage of the Poverty Eradication Bill has been the right step towards the actualization of the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and meeting the obligation by all countries to end poverty in all forms,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Call* upon the Federal, State and Local Governments of Nigeria to henceforth designate and observe October 17 as World Poverty Day in-line with the UN resolution;
 - ii. *Appeal* to Community based Organizations, the Media both conventional and social must step up discourse and discussions on the scourge of poverty and its debasement of human dignity;
 - iii. That policies and programmes evolved by the Federal Government through the Social Investment Programmes and other poverty alleviation and eradication measures are vigorously pursued; and
 - iv. That the Federal Government of Nigeria implements the necessary SDGs that will eliminate poverty in line with goal 16.
3. The need to sanction private companies and institutions that disallow workers' unionism in their companies.

Sponsor: Senator Shehu Sani (*Kaduna Central*)

The Senate:

Notes with profound distress the deteriorating conditions under which the workers of this country function particularly with the recent downturn of the fortunes of the Nigerian economy;

Worried that their very dismal condition is now increasingly compounded by the unacceptable practices and policies of some private companies and institutions that disallow labour unionism and related forms of workers' associations;

Aware that Section 40 of the Constitution of the Federal of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that:

Every person shall be entitled to assemble freely and associate with other persons, and in particular he may form or belong to any political party, trade union or any association for the purpose of his interests...

Aware also that global best practices as well as myriad international labour laws and conventions, many of which Nigeria has acceded to and is a Party, recognize this inalienable right of the worker to unionize and associate freely;

Recalls that sometime in early 2017, the Nigeria Labour Congress organized a mass picket of the corporate headquarters of the telecom giant MTN Nigeria, to protest the decision of the company to proscribe unionism in the company;

Worried that the intolerance of unionism has become increasingly rife among private companies and institutions in Nigeria, including private universities, in blatant disregard of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Recognizes that this practice, having effectively silenced and weakened the voice as well as the collective platform of workers' power, leaves them vulnerable to super exploitation and work place victimization;

Contends that this ignominious act infringes on the fundamental rights of the Nigeria worker and ought therefore to be challenged, halted and reversed in the present democratic dispensation, and under the watchful eyes of this Distinguished 8th Senate who, by the express Will of the People and the Divine Will of the Almighty God, are the elected representatives and voice for the Nigerian people, workers inclusive,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* the Senate Committee on labour matters, to as a matter of urgency, draw up measures of ensuring compliance with labour unionism in work places; and
- ii. *Urge* the Senate Committee on labour Matters to ensure that companies who have proscribed unionism in their companies are appropriately sanctioned.

4. Update on Lead Poisoning in Zamfara State and the need to prevent further propagation of the resource curse theory.

Sponsor: Sen. Oluremi Tinubu (*Lagos Central*)

Co-sponsors: Sen. Ovie Omo-Agege (*Delta Central*) Sen. Suleiman O. Hunkuyi (*Kaduna North*)
 Sen. Ogola Foster (*Bayelsa West*) Sen. Bukar Abba Ibrahim (*Yobe East*)
 Sen. Magnus Abe (*Rivers South-East*) Sen. Rose O. Oko (*Cross River North*)
 Sen. Abubakar Kyari (*Borno North*) Sen. Andrew Uchendu (*Rivers East*)

The Senate:

Received with great distress, updates on lead poisoning which occurred in 36 villages and communities in Zamfara State;

Recalls that in 2014, 38 villages including Anka, Abare, Bagega, Bukkuyum Dareta, Duza, Maru, Sunke, Tungar Daji, Tungar Guru, and Yargalma etc. were reported to have been affected by the effects of artisanal mining, unwholesome mining practices and the resulting processing of gold;

With varying effects ranging from blindness, infertility, neurological defects etc., over four hundred (400) children casualties were recorded with many others needing treatment;

Sequel to this, a motion was moved by Senator Sahabi Ya'u in the 7th Assembly;

Recalls that in June 2016, Senator David Umaru moved a motion on "Urgent Remediation of Lead Poisoning in Shikira Community of Niger State, Nigeria";

Further Recalls that the motion prayed amongst other things for the Federal Government to urgently approve and release needed intervention funds from the Ecological Funds Office for urgent remediation of areas affected; and the Committee on Solid Minerals to review the 2007 Mining Act to reflect present realities in the sector as it affects local communities;

Disturbed that reports show that only eight (8) of the thirty eight (38) affected communities in Zamfara State have had any remediation carried out with the effect that too many Nigerians are suffering, unable to access effective medical treatment for the resulting ailments, losing loved ones and suffering deformities of varying degrees;

Notes the report of Medecin sans frontier (MSF) wherein thousands were reported to have been affected and in need of treatment;

Notes also that due to paucity of funds, the MSF and several other Civil Society Organisations have had to pull out of the area;

Aware that Bagega, the largest community affected in Zamfara State has been remedied. However, with no alternative source of livelihood for these artisanal miners, a repeat scenario is in the offing;

Observed that besides Zamfara, mining host communities in States like Kogi, Niger etc. have also been affected by the negative effects of mining practices;

Notes that Nigeria does not qualify as a mining state. The 2016 Gross Domestic Product breakdown shows the mining sector's contribution to the nation's GDP to be abysmal;

Further notes that the nation's mining sector is almost redundant, that the Honourable Minister of Solid Minerals, Dr. Fayemi, is working to resuscitate the sector; and that the Ministry has approved a mining road map;

Worried however that even though mining is yet to make economic impact, symptoms of the resource curse have begun to be evident particularly in the communities blessed, or cursed if you will, with these natural resources and mineral ore;

Further worried that if we do nothing, we may well be on our way to creating a 'Niger delta' situation except on a larger scale as nearly every state of the federation will be affected;

Mindful that these environmental abuses negate and breach the rights of citizens to life, dignity of person and other fundamental rights as enshrined in the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended),

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Invite the Minister of Solid Minerals to appear before the Senate in plenary to deliver a brief on its mining roadmap, implementation framework and how it intends to ensure protection of the residents of mining host communities;*
- ii. *Mandate the Senate Committees on Environment and Solid Minerals to visit the affected communities to ascertain the level of damage done and report to the Senate;*
- iii. *Urge the Minister of Solid Minerals to ensure adoption of safer mining methods by mining concerns; and*
- iv. *Mandate the Senate Committee on Environment to investigate the activities of the Ministry of Environment as it affects the mining sector.*

5. The need to establish and delegate Special Purpose Vehicles to execute and operate Major Power Sector Development Projects.

Sponsor: Senator (Engr.) Mustapha Bukar (*Katsina North*)

The Senate:

Notes that the National Assembly enacted the Electric Power Sector Reform (EPSR) Act, 2005 on March 11, 2005, which kick-started the process of privatization of the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI) towards developing a Competitive Electricity Market with the establishment of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) to provide for the licensing and regulation of the entire value chain of the Nigerian Electricity Market (NEM);

Also notes that the privatization exercise became effective on November 1, 2013 when the unbundled Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) was sold and transferred to successful bidders of the 6 Generation Companies (GENCOs) and the 11 Distribution Companies (DISCOs), while the ownership and control of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) was retained by the Federal Government for strategic reasons;

Further notes that in its quest to bridge the power gap for sustained economic growth in Nigeria by adding significant new generation capacity to Nigeria's electricity supply system, the Federal Government conceived the National Integrated Power Project (NIPP) in 2004, which metamorphosed into Niger Delta Power Holding Company Limited (NDPHC) incorporated in 2005;

Aware that this institution oversees Generation portfolio consisting of 10 gas-fired power plants with cumulative design capacity of 4,774 MW; Total Asset value of \$8.5 Bn including generation projects accompanied by supporting transmission, distribution and gas infrastructure projects and due to gas supply shortage and uncompleted transmission projects, only about 1,200 MW was accessible to the national grid at that time;

Consequently upon the commencement of the privatization and establishment of the Nigerian Electricity Market, the role of the Federal Ministry of Power, Works & Housing (FMPW&H) was restricted to Policy and oversight of the autonomous agencies operating in the Nigerian Power Sector; these are the:

- Transmission Company of Nigeria
- National Power Training Institute of Nigeria
- Nigerian Electricity Liability Management Limited (NELMCO)
- Nigerian Electricity Management Services Agency (NEMSA)
- Rural Electrification Agency

Notes that considering the need for continuous development of the Power Sector infrastructure, the Federal Government remains committed to developing project initiatives in order to increase generating capacity and diffuse the energy mix beyond thermal generation to renewable energy, such as hydro-power, solar power and wind energy. Consequently, certain project initiatives were retained for direct supervision by the Federal Ministry of Power. These included, but are not limited to:

- 3,050 MW Mambilla Hydropower project
- 700 MW Zungeru Hydropower project
- 215 MW Kaduna Thermal Power project
- 50 MW Katsina Wind Power project

Further Notes that annually significant and incremental sums are appropriated towards these projects and the National Assembly has been approving such appropriation in the interest of conceived intention to improved generation capacity to the Nigerian citizens;

Worried that there are challenges of managing such projects because the Federal Ministry of Power, as currently constituted, does not have the required professional competence and resources to effectively execute these projects, hence they resort to engaging contractors and consultants for every project development activity;

Also worried that the implementation of large scale projects is always fraught with the risk of cost and schedule overrun, with attendant consequences on overall contract sum;

Notes that turnkey Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) projects have FIDIC Conditions of Contract being applicable with strict provisions for liquidated damages, such as fixed contract sum and set delivery period. Unfortunately, these conditions of contract cannot be met under the setting of a ministry;

Further notes that necessary project management controls needed for effective delivery are not enforceable on the Federal Ministry of Power; these are:

- Cost Control
- Schedule Control
- Quality Assurance (Q-plan, Q-criteria, etc.)
- Procurement Control (personnel, inspection and expedition)
- Design Control (Design compliance and value engineering)
- Change Order Control (Management of scope variations)
- Document Control (Review & timely approval of designs).

Worried that with the engagement of multitudes of consultants, there is a risk of lack of ownership and knowledge transfer upon completion and commissioning of the projects, which would hamper proper management of the facilities when in operation. This is the current situation being experienced at the 215 MW Kaduna Power plant under construction by the Ministry;

Aware that Nigeria has had successful record of implementing several mega infrastructure projects to completion and it is imperative to draw on such models utilized for refineries, fertilizer plants and steel mills (Kaduna and Port Harcourt Refineries, National Fertilizer Company of Nigeria Plc (NAFCON), Delta Steel Company Limited and the 3 Inland Rolling Mills). Each of these Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) had full management team and foundation staff to manage the execution of the project on site. Upon completion, the Project Managers were appointed as the Managing Directors, while full-stream staff members were recruited prior to commissioning the projects;

Further aware that when the Federal Government was keen to build Gas based power plants, it created the Niger Delta Power Holding Company of Nigeria (NDPHC) to build, manage and operate these schemes. Although some of the power generating plants have been sold, NDPHC has continued to own and run these plants while the Government is preparing to sell the remaining plants;

Worried that with the privatization of the power sector, the Federal Ministry of Power, Works & Housing is rapidly expanding its project implementation activities rather than limit its role to General Policy direction pursuant to Section 33 of the EPSR Act 2005. This attitude has not given the regulatory body, Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and other agencies created by the Reform Act the enabling environment to develop their capacity to regulate and create the electricity market required to attract investment in the sector. This assertion is evidenced by the fact that over N100billion has been provided for the construction of power projects by the ministry under the 2017 budget. Recently, the Federal government announced the approval of over \$5billion for the construction of the Mambila hydro project under the ministry,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Federal Government to immediately incorporate SPVs for the implementation of the following alternative energy projects:
 - a. Hydropower Projects;
 - b. Solar Power Projects; and
 - c. Wind Power Projects;
- ii. Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to use gas as the source of Energy for the Kaduna Project in accordance with the original project concept and the MOU signed with gas suppliers to complete the project as adequate provision has been made for the project in the 2017 Budget;

- iii. Urge the Federal Government to employ qualified management team to take charge of the project development in the SPVs and gradually resource the companies in readiness for full operations when the projects are commissioned;
 - iv. Urge the Federal Government to transfer all generation, transmission and rural electrification projects to the respective agencies for proper administration; and
 - v. Urge the above-named SPV's when created to comply with the provisions of the Electric Power Sector Reform (EPSR) Act by applying to NERC for the generation licenses and to the TCN for Grid inter-connection approval.
6. The Need for all to preserve and protect the Core Values and benefits of NYSC by implementing Presidential Directives to strengthen the unity of the Nation.

Sponsor: Senator Theodore A. Orji (*Abia Central*)

The Senate:

Aware that the NYSC has since 1974, by tradition established the "President's Honours Award" as foremost mechanism for identifying, projecting and rewarding corps members who have done exemplary service to the Nation;

Further aware that the selection process for this award is very competitive, rigorous and devoid of ethnicity, religious and gender biases;

Notes that the benefits of the NYSC President's Honours Award which every Head of State or President of Nigeria has always traditionally honoured are (a) Presidential Recognition (b) Presidential Medal (c) Automatic employment into the Federal Civil Service (d) Scholarship for Post-graduate studies up to Ph.D;

Aware that the NYSC has in its over 42 years existence, played a significant role in actualizing our quest for a united Nigeria;

Informed that the NYSC annual President's Honours Award, owing to unavoidable Government exigencies, could not hold in 2012, 2013 and 2014 but on 2/03/15 the Award ceremony held to cover the 3 years and a total of 164 ex-corps members who were painstakingly selected were rewarded with Presidential recognition and Presidential medals;

Acknowledges that on 14th December, 2015, all the 164 persons received their letters of appointment into the Federal Civil Service;

Informed that the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) later awarded scholarship to 74 out of the 164 ex-corps members, leaving a balance of 90 ex-corps members;

Aware that this list of 90 persons covers all states of the Federation and is totally without question;

Worried that a Presidential directive conveying Presidential approval for the conclusion of sponsorship of this scholarship award for the remaining 90 persons since September, 2016 has not been carried out;

Alarmed that a Presidential directive that the National Universities Commission and TETFUND to hand-over all records and funding to the Federal Scholarship Board (FSB), also fell on deaf ears;

Notes that a situation like this could demoralize serving youth corps members and erode on the core value for which the Scheme was set up;

Aware that if there is any time to do things that will foster and strengthen the unity of Nigeria that time is now, and if there is any Government Policy or Scheme that can be encouraged to continue to exist for the sake of our unity, that policy or Scheme is the NYSC with all its values and tradition,

Accordingly resolves to:

Direct the relevant Senate Committee (on Sports) overseeing the NYSC to investigate the matters raised and make appropriate recommendations.

7. The Anchor Borrowers Programme and its benefits to farmers.

Sponsor: Senator Mohammed Shaaba Lafiagi (*Kwara North*)

The Senate:

Aware that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in line with its developmental function established the Anchor Borrowers Programme which is intended to create a linkage between anchor companies involved in processing of key agricultural commodities and small holder farmers;

Worried about the unpredictable price of crude oil and its resultant effect on the revenue profile of the country;

Concerned that there is need to boost agricultural production and non-oil exports in order to diversify the economy from solely depending on oil revenue;

Further concerned that there is need to create economic linkage between small holder farmers and reputable large processors with a view to increasing agricultural output;

Notes that there is the need to assist rural small holder farmers to grow from subsistence to commercial production in order to reduce agricultural commodity importation and conserve external reserve and also increase capital utilization of agricultural firms;

Recognizes that the thrust of the programme is the provision of farm inputs in kind and cash (for farm labour) to small holder farmers to boost production of these selected commodities, stabilize inputs to agro-processors and create a new generation of farmers/entrepreneurs thereby assuring employment;

Notes that loans granted to the smallholder farmers under this programme are to be repaid with harvested produce delivered to the anchor and must cover the loan principal and interest which must not be above 9% per annum;

Concerned that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the presidential Committee on Rice Production launched the programme in some states like Kebbi, Jigawa, Ebonyi, Sokoto, Imo and Cross River which has led to massive production and exportation of rice in 2017;

Aware that the programme has led to massive cultivation, self- substance in food production and job creation for the unemployed youth through farming in the selected states where the programme is being practiced,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Call* on Government at all levels to embrace the Anchor Borrowers Programme;
- ii. *Direct* the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Presidential Committee on rice Production and other Agencies concerned to sustain the momentum in states where the programme is already launched; and
- iii. *Mandate* the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development to investigate the circumstances surrounding the delay in extending this laudable intervention programme to other states and the FCT.

8. The Falling Standard of Education in Nigeria.

Sen. Muhammad Adamu Aliero (*Kebbi Central*)

The Senate:

Notes the falling standards and poor quality of education in Nigeria;

Observes that the prescribed standards for Primary, secondary and tertiary education are not being attained by educators and policy makers as pupils and students do not possess or demonstrate the knowledge and skills expected of them at critical points in their educational career;

Observes also that the educational standards and quality of education in the country as shown in public examinations are declining in such an alarming rate that if nothing is done now, the education sector is most likely to descend into crisis;

Aware that curricula and assessment systems for Primary, Secondary and Tertiary educational standards are not working effectively and are not producing the desired results;

Worried that the declining standards and poor quality of education are already adversely affecting all other sectors and facets of the economy and society;

Further Notes that the causes of the falling standards and quality of education in the country include poor funding and neglect of the education sector by the Federal and state Governments that have over the years allowed basic school infrastructure and facilities across the country to run down to the point of sordid decay;

Aware that the distasteful state of teaching, a profession that has become very unattractive to undergraduate and postgraduate students, which in turn has denied the profession the quality of the teachers and educators it requires for it to deliver the prescribed standards and quality for primary, secondary and tertiary education;

Worried that pervasive poor infrastructure and the lack of teaching tools and research facilities at all levels of education in Nigeria, which is frustrating those in the teaching profession and putting off those who would otherwise be attracted to it;

Convinced that sound education provides the most reliable foundation for the country's growth, development, the ability to compete effectively in the modern age of science and technology and the ability of the country's students and graduates to succeed in our global economy,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal and State Governments to declare a state of emergency in the education sector;
- ii. *Urge* the Federal and State Governments to restore the glory of the teaching profession by improving the status of teachers through building capacities to deliver better quality education;
- iii. *Urge* the Federal and State Governments to be more involved in early childhood education, seeing that it is the foundation of every level of education; and
- iv. *Urge* the Nigerian Teachers Registration Council to evolve more vibrant methodologies for delivering on their mandate.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions

Sen. Samuel Anyanwu (*Imo East*)

-That the Senate do consider the reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:

- a. Petition from Mr. Abu Timothy Achile on Behalf of His Late Father S.O. Abu Against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) for Non-payment of His Benefits, Entitlements, Pension and Gratuity;
- b. Petition from Mr. Arinze John Against Nigerian Prisons Service (NPS) for Alleged Wrongful Retirement from the Service;

- c. Petition from ASP Anthony Igwe Mgbeojirikwe Against the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) for Unlawful Suspension from Duty by the Force;
 - d. Petition from Comrade Princewill Okorie on Behalf of the Association for Public Policy Analysis Against the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri Over the Crisis Between the Hospital Management, Led by Dr. Angela Uwakwem and the Hospital Staff Union Which Crippled Service Delivery At the Centre;
 - e. Petition from Jude Anyanwu on Behalf of TransGlobal Insurance Brokers Limited Against National Identity Management Commission For Refusal to Pay Outstanding Premium;
 - f. Petition from Lekan Alabi, Esq. on Behalf of Mr. Aina Isiaka Babalola Against Federal Housing Authority (FHA) for Alleged Unlawful Termination of His Appointment by the Authority;
 - g. Petition from PC Celestine Williams Against the Nigeria Police Force for Unlawful Dismissal from the Force;
 - h. Petition from PC Ovuomariani Akpometeaho Against the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) for Alleged Unlawful Dismissal from the Force;
 - i. Complaint of Breach of Personal Privilege by the Senate Leader, Senator Ahmad Lawan Against ThisDay and Punch Newspapers for Publication of Untrue and Damaging Stories about His Person;
 - j. Complaint from Senator Matthew Urhoghide (Edo South) Against Mr. Babachir David Lawal, Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) Over a Publication in the Daily Trust Newspaper of 28th June, 2016 Which Allegedly Infringed on His Privilege and Threatened His Representation as a Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
 - k. Petition from Sergeant Biyo Ladong against the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) for Unlawful Verbal Dismissal from the Force.
2. Report of the Committee on Culture and Tourism
National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2017 (SB. 380)
 Sen. Mathew A. Urhoghide (Edo South)
 -That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Culture and Tourism on the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2017 (SB. 380).

 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Privatization	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017 (Meeting with Hon. Minister)	12.00noon	Committee Room 224 Senate New Building
2.	States and Local Government Administration	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building
3.	Ecology and Climate Change	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 313 Senate New Building
4.	Employment, Labour and Productivity	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 221 Senate New Building
5.	Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017 (Interactive Session)	2.00pm	Committee Room 224 Senate New Building
6.	Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the various Allegations Levelled against the Police, Inspector-General of Police and Police Service Commission	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 431 Senate New Building

7.	Ad-hoc Committee on Investigation of Allegations Of corruption against the NNPC Trading Limited	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	12.00noon	Committee Room 328 Senate New Building
8.	Marine Transport	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Committee Room 305 Senate New Building
9.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	3.00pm	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
10.	Customs, Excise and Tariffs & Marine Transport	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	12.00noon	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building
11.	Trade and Investment	Tuesday, 17 th October, 2017	11.30am	Conference Room 211 Senate New Building
12.	Foreign Affairs	Tue. 17 th & Thu. 19 th October, 2017	1.00pm	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
13.	Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs	Tue. 17 th - Thu. 19 th October, 2017	2.30pm	Committee Room 438 Senate New Building
14.	Ad-Hoc Committee on Alleged Mis-use, Under-Remittance and other fraudulent Activities.	Tue. 17 th - Thur. 19 th Oct, 2017 (Public Hearing)	12.00noon	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building
15.	Local and Foreign Debts	Wednesday, 18 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Conference Room 431 Senate New Building
16.	Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND	Wednesday, 18 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Conference Room 231 Senate New Building
17.	INEC	Wednesday, 18 th October, 2017 (Interactive Meeting)	2.00pm	Conference Room 221 Senate New Building
18.	Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters	Wednesday, 18 th October, 2017	2.00pm	Conference Room 313 Senate New Building
19.	Foreign Affairs	Tue. 17 th & Thu. 19 th October, 2017	1.00pm	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
20.	Local and Foreign Debts	Thursday, 19 th October, 2017	1.00pm	Conference Room 231 Senate New Building
21.	Ad-Hoc Committee on Alleged Mis-use, Under-Remittance and other fraudulent Activities.	Tue. 24 th - Thur. 26 th Oct, 2017 (Public Hearing)	12.00noon	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building