



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 14th March, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:39 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 9th March, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Messages from Mr. President:**
The Senate President announced that he had received two letters from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

- (a) *Request for Amendment to Extend the FCT 2016 Statutory Appropriation Act to 30th April, 2017:*



**VICE PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/Ag. President/02/03/

8th March, 2017

*His Excellency,
Senator (Dr.) Bukola Saraki, CON
President
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja*

Dear Senate President,

**REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO EXTEND THE FCT 2016 STATUTORY
APPROPRIATION ACT TO 30TH APRIL, 2017**

I have the honour to seek Senate approval to extend the application of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) 2016 Statutory Appropriation Act until 30th April, 2017.

2. *It would be recalled that the 2016 FCT Appropriation was assented to on 29th August, 2016, a fact that affected its implementation in respect of Capital Projects and other expenditure. In this connection, numerous payments for critical and essential project are now outstanding.*
3. *In view of the foregoing, the Distinguished President of the Senate is most respectfully invited to note that:-*
 - (i) *the FCT 2016 Appropriation Act was assented to on 29th August, 2016 with its termination date as 31st December, 2016. The Act had thus been operated for only four (4) months before its tenure ended.*
 - (ii) *to meet its obligations and as permissible by the Constitution, the FCT, 2016 Appropriation needs to be extended to 30th April, 2017 to enable the FCTA make payments for various critical and essential on-going projects towards achieving a better performance in the implementation of Projects for the 2016 Statutory Appropriation.*
4. *I have taken the liberty of attaching the FCT 2016 Appropriation Act and the proposed Amendment Bill for ease of reference and consideration.*
5. *While looking forward to your kind approval of my request, please accept, Distinguished President of the Senate, the assurances of my highest esteem at all times.*

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN

Acting President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

(b) Resumption of Office:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

13th March, 2017

*Distinguished Senator Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

RESUMPTION OF OFFICE

In compliance with Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), I write to intimate the Senate that I have resumed my functions as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with effect from Monday, 13th March, 2017, after my vacation.

Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)*

Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcements:**(a) Notification of Award:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Muhammad Umar Jibrilla (*Governor, Adamawa State*) as follows:



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
P.M.B. 2066, YOLA, ADAMAWA STATE.

7th March, 2017

REF: GHA/S/528/S.1/710

Sen. Bukola Abubakar Saraki,
The Senate President,
The Nigerian Senate,
National Assembly, Three Arms Zone, Abuja.

Your Excellency,

NOTIFICATION ON MY AWARD AS LEADERSHIP GOVERNOR OF THE YEAR 2016

I have the pleasure to respectfully inform you the Senate President that I have been honoured by the prestigious Leadership Newspaper as an Awardee as The Leadership Governor of the Year 2016.

2. *The Award is an annual event organised by the Newspaper as part of the overall "Leadership Man of the Year Award". I was made to understand that the traditional selection process involved the meticulous choice of some distinguished Nigerians who get awarded as persons of the year in different fields. For the category on the 36 Executive State Governors in the Nation, the selectors align the awards in different fields covering a limited number of Governors usually not more than four. They are selected based on their outstanding performance in different areas of Governance such as Giant Strides in infrastructure development. The Award is based on a collection of News reports and clips on the Executive Governor's performance over a period of one year. Such clips are analyzed and a secret verification team visits the States nominated.*
3. *Based on our high impact and performance since May 29th 2015, especially on the delivery of a large number of high quality township and other roads in the State, I have been found as the best performing Governor in the Country, as published in the leadership daily newspaper of Thursday, December 8, 2016 (Annex I). This is the first time Adamawa State will be honoured to win such an Award in the area of Good Governance & Leadership for sustainable development.*
4. *Mr. President sir, the Award ceremony will take place at the INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE Abuja on Thursday, 16th March, 2017 (Annex II).*
5. *In view of the above, and in view of the fact that I served as a Distinguished Senator in the 7th Senate, and indeed your cordial/close working relationship and support to Adamawa State Government since I became the Governor, I wish to respectfully and officially notify the Senate President and indeed all the Distinguished Senators of the 8th Senate, of this Award, and to also invite all to kindly attend and grace the Ceremony on the 16th March, 2017 in Abuja.*

6. *Mr President sir, please accept my esteemed regards as always.*

(Signed)

Senator Muhammad Umaru Jibrilla (Bindow)

Executive Governor, Adamawa State.

(b) Re: Invitation to Brief the Senate:

The Senate President announced that the Clerk to the Senate received a letter from Comptroller-General of Nigeria Customs Service and the Clerk was mandated to read the letter as follows:

Telephone: 09-5234680
Telegrams: CONTROL ABUJA
Fax: 09-5234680



OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER-GENERAL
NIGERIA CUSTOMS SERVICE
CUSTOMS HQS
NO.3 ABIDJAN STREET, ZONE 3,
WUSE-ABUJA

Date: 10th March, 2017

Reference: NCS/ADM/MGT/018/S.88/C/T

CUSTOMS

*The Clerk to the Senate,
The National Assembly,
Federal Republic of Nigeria,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

RE: INVITATION TO BRIEF THE SENATE

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. NASS/CS/8S/R/09/29 of 9th March 2017, on the above subject.

I am further directed to inform you that the date given to the Comptroller-General of Nigeria Customs Service, Wednesday, 15th March, 2017 to brief the Senate in plenary on the retrospective duty payment on vehicles in Nigeria has coincided with the fortnightly meeting of the NCS Management. Consequently, the Comptroller-General is humbly requesting for a new date from the Distinguished Senate.

As we await your favorable response, please be assured of the highest regards and esteem of the Comptroller-General of Customs.

(Signed)

Azarema, A.

Assistant Comptroller-General (HQ)

For: Comptroller-General of Customs.

Debate:

The Senate reaffirmed that the Comptroller-General of Customs must appear before it as contained in its Resolution of Wednesday, 15th March, 2017 (S/Res/104/02/17).

(c) Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Members of National Association of Political Science Students, Bayero University, Kano, Kano State;

- (ii) Staff and Students of Excellent Grade International School, Kubwa, Abuja; and
- (iii) Staff and Students of Raudah Quba Kings Academy, Kubwa, Abuja.

(d) **Budget Defence:**

The Deputy Senate President read a list of Sub-Committees yet to defend their 2017 Budget Proposal before the Appropriations Committee as follows:

1. Air Force
2. Army
3. Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes
4. Capital Market
5. Communications
6. Co-operation and Integration in Africa and NEPAD
7. Culture and Tourism
8. Defence
9. Downstream Petroleum Sector
10. Ecology and Climate Change
11. Environment
12. Federal Capital Territory
13. Federal Roads Maintenance Agency
14. Finance
15. Foreign Affairs.
16. Gas
17. Health
18. Housing
19. ICT & Cyber-Crimes
20. Independent National Electoral Commission
21. Information & National Orientation
22. Industries
22. Land Transport
23. National Identity and National Population
24. National Planning
26. National Security and Intelligence
27. Navy
28. Niger Delta
29. Police Affairs
30. Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy
31. Poverty Alleviation and Social Welfare
32. Public Accounts
33. Primary Health Care and Communicable Diseases
34. Science and Technology
35. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
36. Solid Minerals
37. Special Duties
38. Sports and Youth Development
39. States and Local Governments
40. Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND
41. Petroleum Resources (Upstream)
42. Water Resources
43. Women Affairs
44. Works

(e) **Notification of Wedding:**

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Joshua C. Dariye (Plateau Central) as follows:



SENATOR JOSHUA CHIBI DARIYE JP, FCA, MBA, MA (LD)
PLATEAU SENATORIAL DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN, SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

JCD/NASS/PLC/10/03

10th March, 2017

His Excellency,
Sen. Ike Ekweremadu, CFR
Deputy Senate President
National Assembly Complex
Abuja.

Your Excellency,

NOTIFICATION OF MY SON'S WEDDING

It is with great pleasure that the families of Senator Joshua & Mrs Valentina Dariye (mni) of Mushere District of Bokkos LGA of Plateau State and Senator (Sir) & Barr (Lady) Gladys Araraume from Isiala Mbano LGA of Imo State write to notify you of the wedding solemnization of my son, Mr. Nanle Miracle Dariye to Miss Chioma Anosike Araraume which will be coming up on the;

Date: 1st April, 2017

Venue: Ecumenical Christian Center & the reception immediately after the Church Service at the International Conference Centre, Garki, Abuja.

Time: 12 noon

We covet your sincere prayers and presence to add colour to the celebration as you serve as esteemed guests of honour.

Please accept the assurances of my highest esteem.

(Signed)

SEN. JOSHUA C. DARIYE JP, FCA, MBA, MA (LD)
Chairman, Committee on Public Procurement

(f) **Reminder on Confirmation Hearing:**

The Deputy Senate President announced that there will be Confirmation Hearing of Mr. Ibrahim Magu, as the Chairman of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) tomorrow, Wednesday, 15th March, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

5. Petition:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Clifford A. Ordia (Edo Central) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Comrade Martins Omokri, over criminal breach of trust, diversion of Community funds and insensitiveness against ELANO Nigeria Limited and Indorama Petrochemical, Eleme. 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.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Fatima O. Raji-Rasaki (*Ekiti Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the demise of Major-General Adeyinka Adebayo (Rtd), who passed on to glory in the early hours of Wednesday, 8th March, 2017. She sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter.

Matter to stand over to the next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

7. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Matthew A. Urhoghide (*Edo South*) drew the attention of the Senate on the demise of Dr. Samuel Osaigbovo Ogbemudia. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

recalls that Dr. Samuel Osaigbovo Ogbemudia was born on September 17, 1932 in a small village called Iguovbiurobo in Uhumwode Local Government Area of present day Edo State;

recalls further that he began his educational pursuits in 1938 at the Benin Baptist School, Benin City and then at Western Boys High School;

aware that in 1953, he enlisted into the Nigerian Army and received extensive military training in Nigeria, Ghana, England and the United States;

aware further that he was commissioned Second Lieutenant in 1961 and served with the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in the Congo between 1961 and 1963;

states that in 1964, he served in Tangayika now Tanzania as a great Infantry Soldier and one of the best Mortar Officers;

states further that as a Major in the Nigerian Army, late Dr. Samuel Osaigbovo Ogbemudia, during the Nigerian Civil War ensured that the Midwest was not recaptured by the Biafran troops;

recognizes that as a result of his gallantry, he was made a Military Administrator of the then Midwest State in September, 1967 and became a Military Governor on October 26, 1967;

recognizes further that using top engineers in the army, he designed and built a special vehicle upon which was mounted machine guns capable of rotating 360 degrees. This machine combined with his dexterity helped to put the rebellion at bay;

mindful that late Dr. Ogbemudia was one of the most outstanding Military Governors of his time and his colleagues recognized this and thus prompted them to visit him often for useful advice. Such colleagues included: Abba Kyari, Musa Usman, David Bamigboye, Oluwole Rotimi, Mobolaji Johnson, Audu Bako, Joseph Gomwalk, Ukpabi Asika, U. J. Esuene, and Diete Spiff to mention but a few;

notes that after his military career, he ventured into politics and won the Bendel State Gubernatorial election in 1983 on the platform of the NPN to become the civilian Governor of the State. His administration was nonetheless cut short because of the military intervention in December 1983 which threw up General Muhammadu Buhari as Head of State;

notes further that during his time as Military Governor of Bendel State, he built the under-listed structures which endure till today:

- a. The Palm House which housed majority of the ministries and parastatals of the state;
- b. The National Museum at the King's Square, Benin City;
- c. Agbede Mechanized Farm;

- d. Bendel Steel Structures;
- e. Bendel Pharmaceutical Company;
- f. Midwest Institute of Technology, now the University of Benin, Benin City, founded in 1970;
- g. The popular Ogbe Stadium now named after him as Samuel Ogbemudia Stadium;
- h. Midwest Television, now Nigeria Television Authority, NTA;
- i. Midwest Line later renamed Bendel Line and now Edo Line;
- j. The University of Benin Teaching Hospital, UBTH;
- k. Bendel Insurance Company;
- l. Auchi Polytechnic now Federal Polytechnic, Auchi;
- m. The Observer Newspaper;
- n. Delta Boatyard;
- o. Bendel Rural Electrification Board;
- p. Ughelli Glass Factory;
- q. Asaba Textile Mill;
- r. New Nigerian Bank;
- s. Ethiope Publishing Company; and
- t. Olympic Games Village, Afuze.

believes that his investment in sporting infrastructure made it possible for Midwest State to win the first position in the 1973 National Sports Festival. This foresight also helped to produce great sporting personalities like Victor Oduah, Tompson Usiyen, Sam Ikedi, Damian Ogunsuyi, Charlton Ehizuelen, Isaac Ikhuoria and Nduka Odizor;

recounts his numerous service profiles which included:

- a. Chairman, National Sports Commission;
- b. Sole Administrator, Nigerian Railway Corporation;
- c. Chairman, Port Harcourt Refinery Board;
- d. Minister, Federal Ministry of Labor and Productivity;
- e. Chairman, Foreign Exchange Allocation Committee in the Late Gen. Sani Abacha's regime;
- f. Chairman, Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria;
- g. Director, Brass Liquefied Natural Gas Company;
- h. Chairman Governing Council, University of Abuja;
- i. Member, PDP Board of Trustees; and
- j. Chairman, PPMC Board.

recounts further his well-deserved awards and recognition:

- a. Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON);
- b. Honorary Doctor of Laws (LL.D), University of Nigeria, Nsukka; and
- c. Honorary Doctor of Science (D.Sc), University of Benin.

contends that late Dr. Samuel Osaigbovo Ogbemudia was indeed a great man who served Nigeria with everything he had. He gave his all both in his youth and old age to the service of Nigeria and thus deserves to be so respected even in death.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) observe one minute silence in his honour;
- (ii) send a high-powered delegation of this hallowed chamber to pay a condolence visit on his wife, children and family members in Benin City; the people and governments of Edo and Delta States; and
- (iii) accord his burial all the official rites due such a national figure who served with diligence.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe one minute silence in his honour — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do send a high-powered delegation of this hallowed chamber to pay a condolence visit on his wife, children and family members in Benin City; the people and governments of Edo and Delta States — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do accord his burial all the official rites due such a national figure who served with diligence — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) observe one minute silence in his honour;
- (ii) send a high-powered delegation of this hallowed chamber to pay a condolence visit on his wife, children and family members in Benin City; the people and governments of Edo and Delta States; and
- (iii) accord his burial all the official rites due such a national figure who served with diligence (S/Res/106/02/17).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

Senate Delegation to Edo State:

The Deputy Senate President named the following Senators to condole the families, people and Government of Edo and Delta States over the death of Dr. Samuel Osaigbovo Ogbemudia:

(i)	Senator Olusola Adeyeye	—	Leader
(ii)	Senator Stella A. Oduah	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Umar I. Kurfi	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Joseph G. Dada	—	Member
(v)	Senator Barnabas A. I. Gemade	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Abdul-Azeez M. Nyako	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Ben Murray-Bruce	—	Member
(viii)	Senator Clifford A. Ordia	—	Member
(ix)	Senator Francis A. Alimikhena	—	Member
(x)	Senator Matthew A. Urhoghide	—	Member

8. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Abdullahi A. Sabi (*Niger North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the deplorable state of roads in Niger State, especially the Minna-Suleja road which is characterised with numerous pot holes. The road links Federal Capital Territory from Minna, the State Capital and access route to other States in the country. He urged the Federal Ministry of Works to intervene.

The Senate urged the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) and Federal Ministry of Works to facilitate the repair on this road.

9. Motions:

- (a) ***Urgent need for the Federal Government to access a \$300 Million Malaria Bond through the Innovative Financing for Malaria Prevention and Control Project (IMPACT):***

Motion made: That the Senate is concerned that statistics shows that Malaria is a major public health problem in the Country, with an estimated 100 million cases of Malaria every year and 97% of our population is at risk of transmission. Malaria kills as many as 300,000

people every year and Nigeria accounts for roughly one-quarter of all Malaria infections and deaths in the world. In summary, Malaria accounts for about 23 % of the entire burden of disease in Nigeria and is responsible for the deaths of 250,000 children under five years old in Nigeria every year. Children who survive malaria usually have problems of cognitive and physical development;

concerned also that there is an Equity dimension to the Malaria Issue in the country: Malaria Disproportionately affects the Poor: The poor & vulnerable in our constituencies bear the greatest burden. Malaria is most prevalent in areas with poor living conditions and lack of access to functional healthcare facilities; hence our poor and vulnerable constituents are more at risk. The preliminary results of the 2015 Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) demonstrates that malaria remains disproportionately a disease of the poor. The poorest two income quintiles of children have malaria prevalence of 43.2 % and 40.6 % respectively compared to children in the richest income quintile, children who have only one tenth the prevalence at 4.3 %;

aware that Malaria constitutes a significant economic cost to the country: Malaria diverts resources from our hospitals and health care clinics, and not only does it cost us loss of lives but it is also among the leading causes of absenteeism in schools and in the workplace, thereby significantly crippling our country's economic development. The National Malaria Elimination Programme reported that the financial loss due to Malaria annually is estimated to be about 132 billion naira in form of treatment costs, prevention, loss of man-hours etc;

aware also that Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs) are efficacious in preventing malaria and decreasing under-five mortality and this is confirmed by various scientific studies. Where malaria is effectively treated; it leads to increase in workers earnings by 10%. Intermittent presumptive treatment (IPT) in pregnant women decreases stillbirths. Seasonal malaria chemoprophylaxis (SMC) is life-saving for children. So we have cheap and effective solutions available globally but not enough in Nigeria;

acknowledges that there has been substantial progress on Malaria Control: Over the last 10 years, Nigeria has made significant progress in addressing malaria but more needs to be done;

acknowledges also that a number of Nigerian States currently have no funding for Malaria control efforts. Particularly, most of the States in the North East plagued by insurgency are in urgent need for support yet our populations in the North East geo political zone of Nigeria bear the highest burden of Malaria in Nigeria. In fact 4 of the 6 States in the North East - (Adamawa, Taraba, Borno, and Yobe) have no funding for malaria control efforts whilst 9 other States in the federation have no current funding for malaria control efforts;

alarmed that the substantial funding gaps for the control of Malaria in Nigeria is as indicated in the table below:

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020
Need	483,598,867	506,675,921	522,664,338	554,316,229
Financed	218,855,591	289,084,128	125,389,428	123,215,002
Gap	264,743,275	220,591,792	397,274,959	431,101,227

observes that this presents an opportunity to mobilize additional resources for a huge health problem in a difficult fiscal context; it helps to address an issue that affects the poorest Nigerians disproportionately, including those in North East, it supports efforts to intensify focus on results by using private sector; and this is also an innovative financing techniques that reduce borrowing costs;

notes that the availability of additional resources can fund the following:

- Procurement and distribution of Long Lasting Insecticide Nets (LUNs) in thirteen states without campaigns in the last 4 years (including the aforementioned 4 North East states); this will allow GON to meet 70% of estimated LUN needs;
- Seasonal Malaria Chemoprophylaxis (SMC);
- Artemisinin Containing Treatment (ACTs);
- Rapid Diagnostic Tests (ROTs);
- Intermittent Presumptive Treatment (IPT);
- Indoor residual spraying;
- Performance-Based Contract per state with private entities; and
- All these are critical elements of a successful scale up of Malaria treatment and control in Nigeria;

notes also that there has been Significant External grant financing for Malaria but it is critical that financing of Malaria becomes more dependent on domestic resources: Efforts to combat malaria in Nigeria has largely been dependent on donor funding. There have been significant investments by the Global Fund for AIDS TB and Malaria (GFATM), the United States government's President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), the British government through OFIO, and the World Bank Malaria Control Booster Project. It is essential to note that external grant financing for malaria control in Nigeria is likely to decline over the next few years and this trend has already begun with the new world order. In the long term, the way of filling the gap is for the Federal and State Governments to invest substantially more in malaria control;

recalls that both the Federal Government and the World Bank have been exploring the Innovative Financing for Malaria Prevention and Control Project (IMPACT) as a means of providing relief to Nigeria's Malaria control needs while also attracting investors to Nigeria;

recalls further that the innovative financing mechanism allows Government to sign performance-based contracts with private entities, i.e. shift performance risk to private sector. This engenders accountability and the rapid achievement of results. It will not be business as usual;

informed that the proposed IMPACT project would access a \$300 million to finance Malaria diagnostics, drugs, spraying, mosquito nets and education campaigns for public awareness;

informed also that the World Bank is ready to provide the \$300 million Malaria bond in the form of a low-interest loan to be issued by the World Bank on behalf of Nigeria by issuing an AAA-rated bond on capital market;

convinced that a major advantage of accessing \$300 million Malaria bond would guarantee a \$45 million in Grant Financing to be given to our country by the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria which if combined with the Malaria bond, would bring the borrowing rate of interest to zero; and

convinced also that there is an urgent requirement to explore the IMPACT project in order to benefit from the \$45 million Global Fund grant, which would make the Malaria bond interest free for us as the grant from the global fund expires in March 2017.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to fast-track the access to the 300 million dollars malaria bond by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Nigeria; and

- (ii) commend the effort of the Global Fund in providing the 300 million dollar bond
(*Senator Olanrewaju A. Tejuoso — Ogun Central*)

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to fast-track the access to the 300 million dollars malaria bond by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Nigeria — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do commend the effort of the Global Fund in providing the 300 million dollar bond — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to fast-track the access to the 300 million dollars malaria bond by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Nigeria; and
- (ii) commend the effort of the Global Fund in providing the 300 million dollar bond (S/Res/107/02/17).

(DEPUTY SENATE PRESIDENT IN CHAIR)

- (b) ***Need for the Re-construction and Dualization of the Makurdi-9th Mile Trunk "A" Federal Highway:***

Motion made: That the Senate notes that road infrastructure is critical for economic and commercial development and is one of the most visible signs of government responsiveness;

further notes that the Makurdi-Otukpo-Otukpa-Obollo Afor-Opia (Nsukka)-9th Mile Federal Trunk "A" Highway is a 252-kilometre road that connects Benue State, in the North Central region to Enugu State in the South East;

observes that the Highway, constructed in 1978, is the only major highway that connects the South-East to the Northern part of Nigeria. The road bifurcates at Ninth Mile Corner and feeds the dual carriage ways, with one linking up to Onitsha and from thence to Benin and Lagos, and the other linking Enugu and from thence to Aba and Port-Harcourt. With the passage of time, the Federal Government felt sufficiently concerned about the volume of traffic and decided to expand, into dual carriage ways, the Ninth Mile to Onitsha and Ninth Mile to Port-Harcourt roads;

concerned that it is anomalous that the two roads that receive traffic from the Makurdi-9th Mile road have been dualized, yet the road that feeds them still wallow in the status of a single lane road;

informed that the road is arguably the only Trunk "A" highway of such importance and volume of traffic that has remained a single lane. The sheer volume of traffic on the two dual carriage roads that this single lane road feeds is a pointer to the kind of burden this long-suffering single lane road has borne over the years;

worried that large sections of the road, especially at Ugbokolo, Orokam, Amalla, Obollo-Afor, Orba, Opia, Ogbede, Affa, Ebe, Ukannah, Egede and around Ama Breweries in Ninth Mile have become dangerous craters that cannot be called a road. It is unimaginable that a Federal Trunk "A" road is in such a deplorable state. Charred carcasses of vehicles are a common sight on the road;

concerned that the high level of road crashes and the carnage that happen on the road on a daily basis should be a source of constant worry to the government;

informed that during festive periods, the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) would scrap and re-surface specific segments of the road but even that recourse can no longer work as large segments of the road have totally collapsed, making the road impassable;

concerned that travel time between Makurdi and Ninth Mile used to be 194 minutes, (about three hours) but with the total collapse of the road, travel time now averages nine (9) hours;

disturbed that armed robbers, taking advantage of the totally deplorable state of the road, have become a law unto themselves, ambushing, robbing, dispossessing and killing commuters at will. On September 29, 2016, a gang of armed robbers attacked some passengers on the road and raped some female passengers to coma;

notes that the state of the road requires immediate reconstruction and dualization to reduce the unacceptable level of accidents and robbery on the road;

notes that the importance of the road lies not only that it is the gateway from the North to the Eastern part of Nigeria, but also that commercial and other economic activities, especially the evacuation of agricultural and industrial produce is seriously threatened. For instance, the conveyance of cattle, the evacuation of yams, beans, onions, tomatoes, etc from the North to the South; and the haulage of petroleum products, palm oil, motor spare parts, other products and other resources from the large markets in Onitsha and Aba, that move from the South to the North are gradually grounding to a stop because of the total state of disrepair of that road; and

concerned that while Nigeria makes efforts to attract the much-needed investments to stimulate the weak economy and create jobs, the state of the infrastructure is a prime consideration for investors and therefore the state of this road directly discourages investors from the area. For instance, Ama Breweries is the largest and most modern Brewery in Nigeria and its location not only should bring associated investments, but should also attract other investments into a cluster, but unfortunately, the major road for the evacuation of the products of the Brewery is in total disrepair thereby causing economic lockjaw in the area.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to include the road for design in the 2017 budget for reconstruction and dualization;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to allocate adequate funds in the 2018 budget, for reconstruction and dualization of the Makurdi-Otukpo-Obollo Afor-Opai, Nsukka-9th Mile Federal Trunk "A" Highway;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Works to ascertain the level of disrepair of the road with a view to making recommendations to the Senate; and
- (iv) urge the Police and Other Security Agencies to increase their surveillance on the road to protect innocent commuters from the marauding activities of armed robbers and other criminal elements (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Works to include the road for design in the 2017 budget for reconstruction and dualization — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to allocate adequate funds in the 2018 budget, for reconstruction and dualization of the Makurdi-Otukpo-Obollo Afor-Opii, Nsukka-9th Mile Federal Trunk "A" Highway — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(iii):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Works to ascertain the level of disrepair of the road with a view to making recommendations to the Senate — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution(iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Police and Other Security Agencies to increase their surveillance on the road to protect innocent commuters from the marauding activities of armed robbers and other criminal elements — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to include the road for design in the 2017 budget for reconstruction and dualization;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to allocate adequate funds in the 2018 budget, for reconstruction and dualization of the Makurdi-Otukpo-Obollo Afor-Opii, Nsukka-9th Mile Federal Trunk "A" Highway; and
- (iii) urge the Police and Other Security Agencies to increase their surveillance on the road to protect innocent commuters from the marauding activities of armed robbers and other criminal elements (*S/Res/108/02/17*).

(c) Need to investigate the activities of Weights and Measures:

Motion made: That the Senate notes that weights and Measures Department in the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment is charged amongst other things with the responsibility to ascertain the quantity of crude Oil and Gas and non-Oil and Gas products exported from Nigeria;

observes that the designation, procurement, measurements and calibration of equipment are being handled by expatriates and the equipment used for the measurement are not manufactured in Nigeria;

aware that the quantity of crude Oil and Gas produced on daily basis is not known by the officials of Weights and Measures Department and other agencies who are charged with the responsibility;

aware that the Nigerian tax payers have been short changed seriously by the volume of resources expended on the exportation of products, both Oil and Gas as well as non-Oil and Gas products;

aware that huge revenue has been lost from the Federation Account due to sharp practices by the experts handling the Weights and Measures activities;

aware that the activities of Weights and Measures are not restricted to Oil and Gas alone; and

aware that non-Oil export products should equally be measured to ascertain the exact quantity that leaves Nigeria on daily basis.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Trade and Investment to carry out a holistic investigation into the process of designation, procurement, calibration, measurement and equipment as well as ascertain the quantity of crude Oil and Gas being produced in Nigeria on daily basis; and
- (ii) ascertain the exact number of Oil wells handled by Nigerian National Petroleum Cooperation (NNPC) and other Agencies in Nigeria and production levels (*Senator Fatima O. Raji-Rasaki — Ekiti Central*)

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Trade and Investment to carry out a holistic investigation into the process of designation, procurement, calibration, measurement and equipment as well as ascertain the quantity of crude Oil and Gas being produced in Nigeria on daily basis.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Proposed Resolution (i) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

"That the Senate do mandate the Committees on Trade and Investment; Petroleum Resources (Upstream); Gas; and Customs, Excise and Tariff to carry out a holistic investigation into the process of designation, procurement, calibration, measurement and equipment as well as ascertain the quantity of crude Oil and Gas being produced in Nigeria on daily basis" (*Senator Rose O. Oko — Cross River North*).

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

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do ascertain the exact number of Oil wells handled by Nigerian National Petroleum Cooperation (NNPC) and other Agencies in Nigeria and production levels — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Trade and Investment; Petroleum Resources (Upstream); Gas; and Customs, Excise and Tariff to carry out a holistic investigation into the process of designation, procurement, calibration, measurement and equipment as well as ascertain the quantity of crude Oil and Gas being produced in Nigeria on daily basis; and
- (ii) ascertain the exact number of Oil wells handled by Nigerian National Petroleum Cooperation (NNPC) and other Agencies in Nigeria and production levels (*S/Res/109/02/17*).

10. Employee's Compensation Act, 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 170):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to amend the Employee's Compensation Act, 2010 to include the payment of compensation to Sportsmen who sustain injuries while on National assignment and for other matters connected therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Clifford A. Ordia — Edo Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Employment, Labour and Productivity to report within Four (4) weeks.

11. Tax Incentive Management and Transparency Bill, 2017 (SB.331):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Enhance Transparency in the Management and accounting of Tax incentives by relevant authorities so as to check corruption in the system and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Aliyu A. Sabi — Niger North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Finance to report within Four (4) weeks.

12. Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 256):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Theodore A. Orji — Abia Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Primary Healthcare and Communicable Diseases to report within Four (4) weeks.

13. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 15th March, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:21 p.m.

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