SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 1st November, 2016

1. The Senate met at 10:09 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 27th October, 2016.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

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

Confirmation of Appointment:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

31st October, 2016

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

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NIGERIA DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

In accordance with the provisions of sections 5(4) and 8(3) of the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, CAP. N.102 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, I hereby forward the name of UMARU IBRAHIM for confirmation by the Senate for re-appointment as Managing Director of the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation.

It is my hope that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the Senate.

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

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcement:

(a) ***Burial Rites:***

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Francis A. Alimikhena (*Edo North*) as follows:

Senator Francis Asekheme Alimikhena
Edo North Senatorial District
Senate Deputy Whip

His Excellency,
Sen. (Dr) Bukola Saraki,
The President of the Senate,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.

31st October, 2016

BURIAL RITES OF MY MOTHER-IN-LAW MADAM THERESA IMOMOH

I write to notify the Senate of the Burial Rites of my mother-in-law whose sad event occurred on the 9th of October, 2016 at the age of 81 years. She was a quintessential mother in Christ.

She will be buried on Friday, 4th of November, 2016 at Agenebode. Requiem Mass will start at 10.00am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Agenebode.

Internment and Reception will follow immediately after the Mass.

You are cordially invited.

(Signed)
Senator Francis Alimikhena
Deputy Chief Whip

(b) ***Conference Committee:***

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (SB.17):

(*i*)	Senator Abdullahi Adamu	—	Chairman
(*ii*)	Senator Theodore A. Orji	—	Member
(*iii*)	Senator Shitu M. Ubali	—	Member
(*iv*)	Senator Albert B. Akpan	—	Member
(*v*)	Senator Yele O. Omogunwa	—	Member
(*vi*)	Senator Emmanuel Bwacha	—	Member

(c) ***Conference Committee:***

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act CAP P43 LFN (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (*Concurrence*) (HB. 245):

(*i*)	Senator Kabiru G. Marafa	—	Chairman
(*ii*)	Senator Tanimu P. Aduda	—	Member
(*iii*)	Senator Biodun C. Olujimi	—	Member
(*iv*)	Senator Ahmad I. Lawan	—	Member
(*v*)	Senator Foster Ogola	—	Member
(*vi*)	Senator Buhari Abdulfatai	—	Member

(d) ***Acknowledgment:***

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the Staff and Students of Pakit Foundation School, Dakwa, Niger State who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

5. Petitions:

(*i*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Sunny O. Ogbuoji *(Ebonyi South)* drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Mrs. Ogbonne N. Idam, on her unjust retirement from the Service of West African Examinations Council (WAEC). 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.

(*ii*) Rising on Rule 41, Senator David Umaru *(Niger East)* drew the attention of the Senate to two petitions from:

(a) Abdulsalam T. Bello, over wrongful termination of appointment by the Nigerian Railway Corporation, Minna, Niger State; and

(b) CSP Ukujede O. Felix, over wrongful termination of appointment by the Civil Defence, Fire, Immigration and Prisons Services Board.

He urged the Senate to look into the matters.

Petitions laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Rule 41(3)] to report within two (2) weeks.

6. Presentation of Bills:

(*i*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 329) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ii*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 342) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iii*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 343) — *Read the First Time.*

(*iv*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 344) — *Read the First Time.*

(*v*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 345) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vi*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB 346) — *Read the First Time.*

(*vii*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 347) — *Read the First Time.*

(*viii*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 348) — *Read the First Time.*

(*ix*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 363) — *Read the First Time.*

(*x*) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (SB. 348) — *Read the First Time.*

7. Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC):
Report on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016. (SB. 231 & SB. 234):
Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (*Senator Abubakar Kyari — Borno North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. Executive Communication:
2016 - 2018 External Borrowing Plan:
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the 2016 - 2018 External Borrowing Rolling Plan (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and negatived.

9. Confirmation of Nomination:
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Igo Weli for appointment as a Representative of the Oil Companies in the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Niger Delta to report within Four (4) weeks.

10. Confirmation of Nomination:
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nomination of the following persons for appointment as Non-Career Ambassador Designate:

	State of Origin	Name
1.	Abia	Dr. (Mrs) Uzoma E. Emenike
2.	Adamawa	Dr. Clifford Zirra
3.	Akwa Ibom	Maj. Gen. Godwin G. Umo (Rtd)
4.	Anambra	Christopher J.N. Okeke
5.	Bauchi	Yusuf Tuggar
6.	Bauchi	Baba Madugu
7.	Bayelsa	Brig Gen. Stanley Diriyai
8.	Benue	Dr. Enyantu Ifenne
9.	Borno	Mohammed Hayatuddeen
10.	Cross River	Dr. Etubom N.E. Asuquo
11.	Delta	Engr. Francis Efeduma
12.	Ebonyi	Mr. Jonah M. Odo
13.	Edo	Uyagwe Ibe
14.	Ekiti	Ayodele L. Ayodeji
15.	Enugu	Maj. Gen. Chris Eze

16.	Gombe	Alh. Suleiman Hassan
17.	Jigawa	Amin Muhammad Dalhatu
18.	Kaduna	Muhammad Yaro
19.	Kaduna	Deborah S. Iliya
20.	Kano	Prof. D. Abdulkadir
21.	Kano	Alh. Haruna Ungogo
22.	Katsina	Justice Isa Dodo
23.	Katsina	Dr. Usman Bugaje
24.	Kebbi	Prof Tijjani Bande
25.	Kogi	Prof Y. O. Aliu
26.	Kwara	Nuruddeen Mohamed
27.	Kwara	Prof. Mohamed G. Yisa
28.	Lagos	Justice George Adesola Oguntade
29.	Lagos	Sen. O. Mamora
30.	Lagos	Mrs. Modupe Irele
31.	Nasarawa	Musa Ilu Muhammad
32.	Niger	Mohammed Ibeto
33.	Ogun	Mr. Ade Asekun
34.	Ondo	Barrister Sola Iji
35.	Osun	Adegboyega A. Ogunwusi
36.	Oyo	Maj. Gen. Ashimiyu A. Olaniyi (Rtd)
37.	Plateau	Pauline Talin
38.	Plateau	Dr. Haruna Sawa Abdullahi
39.	Rivers	Orji Ngofa
40.	Rivers	Justice Sylvanus Adiewere Nsofor
41.	Sokoto	Jamila Ahmadu-Suka
42.	Sokoto	Hon. Kabiru Umar
43.	Taraba	Alh. Mustapha Jaji
44.	Yobe	Goni Modu Zanna Bura
45.	Zamfara	Alh. Garba Gajam
46.	Zamfara	Cpt. Abdullahi Uba Garbasi

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs to report within Two (2) weeks.

11. Motions:

(a) ***The Need to avoid the Mismanagement of the ₦500bn Social Intervention Funds:***
Motion made: That the Senate observes that one of the cardinal policy thrusts of the current All Progressive Congress (APC) government has been the use of social- safety nets through interventions schemes to foster inclusive growth and opportunity for our people;

states clearly that it supports all programs of this administration aimed at creating opportunities for our less privileged and the reduction of poverty through intervention schemes;

notes that the 8th National Assembly in consonance with the Executive's request, fully approved the huge sum of ₦500bn in the 2016 annual budget for this purpose of facilitating the FG ₦500bn social intervention fund for this objective;

acknowledges that of this amount, government stated that it intends to create job opportunities for 500,000 teachers. It also stated that 5.5 million children are to be provided with meals through school feeding programmes, conditional cash transfer schemes, financial support to one million vulnerable beneficiaries. The program also targets to have a complementary enterprise programme which is targeted at empowering up to one million market women; 400,000 artisans and 200,000 agricultural workers nationwide;

notes that the National Assembly without insisting on the implementation template approved the program in the budget in order to fast track the process of implementation of the program for the benefit of the poor;

observes that the current economic situation and the need to have a social intervention scheme that can lift our people out of poverty, was the overriding concern of the National Assembly when it did not insist on having a proper framework for the implementation of the fund made available before it approved the program;

concerned that the implementation of such a huge program is now being carried out in the same manner as the other failed social interventions funds like the Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Program SURE-P, without a proper framework which led to their failure;

observes that in the light of recent petitions and complaints from our constituencies this money will not be well spent, nor will it achieve any major benefit to the economy despite the good intentions of Government because of the way it's been structured;

reiterates that the one size fit all of online registration of beneficiaries have the tendency to exclude and marginalize the very segment of the population it should target which are the poor and their children;

further observes that there is nothing on the ground to do a proper oversight on the project as it is yet unclear how each State, Local Government to the ward level of our country is going to benefit from this program;

also notes that the new concept on NPower requiring teachers, market women and graduates, to register online, is faulty and discriminates against rural women and men who are technologically disabled. This situation is especially so with the people of Borno State in general who are technically off grid and off line;

concerned that the Federal Government intervention program was set up for the poorest amongst us meaning those of us that can hardly afford to eat and meet their basic needs, but the implementation targets those who are far ahead of these segment, those who are not only connected to but can afford technology and are able to use them effectively;

notes that these are not the most vulnerable of our society, they are not the neediest amongst us, and they may be vocal but not the segment we believe this intervention should target;

believes that a proper social intervention scheme that we need must be robust enough to capture all segment of the Nigerian population; we are not building a nation for elites alone, but a nation for all citizens; and

observes that with the way the program is being run, nothing of meaningful value is going to be achieved with the ₦500 billion, neither is it going to create the future value it could, if implemented effectively.

Accordingly resolves to:

(*i*) That in order to avoid the pitfalls of the past intervention schemes, urge the Federal Government to take another look at the ₦500bn Intervention program to incorporate manual registration of beneficiaries from all Wards and Local Governments in the country;

(*ii*) That the Federal Government present a clear framework that does not marginalize any segment of our society no matter where they may be in the country and present same to the National Assembly for passage into law;

(*iii*) Ensure that the implementation of the Intervention program going forward is framed to be robust enough to reach the poorest in our community for whom the program was first conceived; and

(*iv*) That a clear channel of accountability for the implementation of the program must be created and be audited on a continuous basis and its report presented to the National Assembly (*Senator Mohammed A. Ndume — Borno South*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That in order to avoid the pitfalls of the past intervention schemes, urge the Federal Government to take another look at the ₦500bn Intervention program to incorporate manual registration of beneficiaries from all Wards and Local Governments in the country — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Federal Government present a clear framework that does not marginalize any segment of our society no matter where they may be in the country and present same to the National Assembly for passage into law.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out the words "for passage into law" in line 3, and *insert* the words "within two (2) weeks" instead thereof (*Senator Ike Ekweremadu — Enugu West*).

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

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: Ensure that the implementation of the Intervention program going forward is framed to be robust enough to reach the poorest in our community for whom the program was first conceived — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: That a clear channel of accountability for the implementation of the program must be created and be audited on a continuous basis and its report presented to the National Assembly — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:
(*i*) That in order to avoid the pitfalls of the past intervention schemes, urge the Federal Government to take another look at the ₦500bn Intervention program to incorporate manual registration of beneficiaries from all Wards and Local Governments in the country;

(*ii*) That the Federal Government present a clear framework that does not marginalize any segment of our society no matter where they may be in the country and present same to the National Assembly within two (2) weeks; and

(*iii*) That a clear channel of accountability for the implementation of the program must be created and be audited on a continuous basis and its report presented to the National Assembly ***(S/Res/038/02/16)***.

(*b*) ***Need to Determine the Status of Unclaimed ₦90 Billion Dividends in Securities for Nigerian Investors:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(*c*) ***Need to give recognition to Anambra and Kogi as oil producing states and to forestall further hostilities between the warring communities of Odeke Echeno in Ibaji Local Government Area of Kogi State and Enugu-Otu Aguleri and Eziagulu-Otu Communitites in Anambra East Local Government Area of Anambra State:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(d) ***Intolerable Upswing of Unemployment in Nigeria:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(e) ***Urgent need to decongest the Nigerian Prisons:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(f) ***Addressing the problem of the Rehabilitation of Prison Inmates through Agricultural Training Programmes run by the Nigerian Prisons Service:***
Motion made: That the Senate is aware of the growing problem of congestions in the Nigerian Prisons by offenders, many of whom can be reformed and be rehabilitated to become economically self-dependent and responsible citizens after serving their terms;

further aware of recent statistics showing that Nigerian Prisons hold total inmates population of 57,212 out of which 31% or 17,544 prisoners are convicted prisoners and 37,577 or 69% are unconvicted and awaiting trial;

Concious that these statistics is made up of a total number of 55,965 male inmates or 98% of the total inmate population, and 1,156 or 2% women, most of them able bodied persons that can pursue and benefit from productive reformatory programmes while in prison custody - if appropriately directed;

informed that the Nigerian Prisons Act 1972, fully spells out the goals and orientation of the Nigerian Prisons Service for inmates, charging the service with taking custody of those legally detained, identifying the causes of their behavior and retraining them to become useful citizens in the society after leaving the confines of the prison yards;

knowing too well that the Nigerian Prisons Service was designed to be a center for reformation, rehabilitation and integration back into the society and not just for the punishment of the offenders; and employment of ex-offenders and re-integration into the society to reduce recidivism where post-inmates are assisted to move away from offending or re-committing the same offence of which they were jailed;

informed that the available rehabilitation programmes in Nigerian Prisons are very weak and have concentrated on:

a. Adult literacy and carpentry training (26%);
b. Tailoring training (18%);
c. Arts/Crafts and welding (15%); and
d. Agriculture/farming training skills (0%).

persuaded that the rehabilitation programmes of the Prisons Service as it now stands is designed in favour of creating perpetual prison inmates - those who see a reason to make the prisons walls their best secured home, rather than adapt to their communities with a new improved, and very usual profession such as farming, after their prison terms;

fully convinced that it is only a prison rehabilitation program with a capacity to impart a functional skill on the otherwise many Nigerian offenders with high intelligence quotient, but with little or no access to good education, and executed along a part that is very familiar and commonly known to inmates, and within a format that excites their pecuniary imaginations, that can provide the needed reformation for Nigerian prison inmates;

believe that a functional skill in farming designed to accommodate inmates through a crop sharing formula and monetary savings made from proceeds, which is payable at the point of inmate disengagement from prison, will serve both the reformed prisoners and the Nation; and

committed to the belief that a focused strategy of the Nigerian Prisons Service for inmate reformation through agricultural training will produce ex-prisoners that easily adapt and are re-absorbed into their communities with a new focus, with a capital base to take off, with a new confidence to face the future, and with their own self supportive entrepreneurship. This will equally address the problems of Nigerian prison inmates both mentally, physically and economically, and end the plague of inmate prisoners that return to the society as hardened criminals and hopeless enemies of the society. This strategy will provide food sufficiency for the Prison Service, create self-employment for ex-prisoners and reduce insecurity in the society.

Accordingly resolves to:

(*i*) invite the Nigerian Prisons Service through the Committee on Interior to brief it on its programmes for rehabilitating prison inmates in Nigeria's prisons, which considering the economic and security imperatives of focusing more on skill training in agriculture - with specialized incentives that assist prisoners adapt socially and economically after leaving the prison walls; and

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to support the Nigerian Prisons in establishing Agricultural Projects as training bases for reforming prisoners to become entrepreneurial farmers, for the dual purpose of contributing to national food security and for improving the national security through reduced criminal activities (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do invite the Nigerian Prisons Service through the Committee on Interior to brief it on its programmes for rehabilitating prison inmates in Nigeria's prisons, which considering the economic and security imperatives of focusing more on skill training in agriculture - with specialized incentives that assist prisoners adapt socially and economically after leaving the prison walls — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to support the Nigerian Prisons in establishing Agricultural Projects as training bases for reforming prisoners to become entrepreneurial farmers, for the dual purpose of contributing to national food security and for improving the national security through reduced criminal activities — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

(*i*) invite the Nigerian Prisons Service through the Committee on Interior to brief it on its programmes for rehabilitating prison inmates in Nigeria's prisons, which considering the economic and security imperatives of focusing more on skill training in agriculture - with specialized incentives that assist prisoners adapt socially and economically after leaving the prison walls; and

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to support the Nigerian Prisons in establishing Agricultural Projects as training bases for reforming prisoners to become entrepreneurial farmers, for the dual purpose of contributing to national food security and for improving the national security through reduced criminal activities ***(S/Res/039/02/16).***

(g) ***Urgent need to Investigate Special Funds that Accrued to the Federation as provided by the Revenue Allocation Act 2004:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(h) ***Provision of Medical Attention for Critical Condition Victims:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 2nd November, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:19 *p.m.*

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