



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 7th March, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:22 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 2nd March, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Acknowledgment:**

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

(i) Members of Students Representatives Council, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State; and

(ii) Staff and Students of Presiders International School, Karu L.G.A, Nasarawa State.

(b) **Change of Party Affiliation:**

Rising on Rule 43 Senator Ovie A. Omo-Agege (*Delta Central*) read his letter of change of Party affiliation as follows:



SENATOR OVIE OMO-AGEGE
DELTA CENTRAL SENATORIAL DISTRICT
Vice-Chairman, Senate Committee on Land Transport

Ref: LTR-M1-013

6th March, 2017

H.E. Distinguished Senator Bukola Saraki
Senate President, Nigerian Senate
National Assembly Complex,
FCT, Abuja.

Dear, Mr. President,

**NOTICE OF SWITCH OF POLITICAL PARTY MEMBERSHIP FROM
LABOUR PARTY TO THE ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS (APC)**

In response to the unfounded accusations, threats, and libelous allegations arising from irreconcilable divisions in the national leadership (National Working Committee/National Executive Council) of Labour Party (LP) and consequent legal disputations between the opposing factions which have rendered the administration, of the Party ineffective; and having regards to section 68(g) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended), may I humbly notify Your Excellency Mr. Senate President of my decision to switch my party membership from Labour Party to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

- 2.0. *Mr. President, my decision to leave the LP for the APC is overwhelmingly supported by leaders and constituents of my Senatorial District, considering the troubling facts of the divisions within the national leadership of LP; with Comrade Bobo Atare Adou and Alhaji Abdukadir Salam now simultaneously laying claim to the national leadership of LP.*
- 3.0. *Therefore, Your Excellency may kindly inform our Distinguished Colleagues by this letter in plenary that in view of the foregoing I have decided to move to the APC.*
- 4.0. *While assuring Mr. President of my highest esteem, be further assured of my total commitment to this 8th Senate's Legislative Agenda under your calm and steady leadership and absolute support for the APC Federal Government led by President Muhammadu Buhari.*

(Signed)

*Senator Ovie Omo-Agege
(Obarisi of Urhoboland)*

4. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Bala Ibn Na'Allah (*Kebbi South*) drew the attention of the Senate on the recent directive by the Nigerian Customs Service Circular on the alleged impounding of vehicles after its expiration. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

whereas the Senate is aware of a recent circular allegedly issued by the Nigerian Custom Service directing all vehicles owners who have not paid Customs duties to do so within one month;

aware that the said Circular dated 2nd of March, 2017, signed by one Joseph Atta, was issued without clear guidelines as to what categories of vehicles are to be affected; and

concerned that the implementation of that not so clear circular would cause significant discomfort to the teeming law abiding citizens of Nigeria, coupled with the fact that the said circular is causing significant anxiety within the Nigerian public already;

The Senate resolves to:

- (i) direct the Nigeria Customs Service to stop all actions regarding the implementation of the said circular until it appears before Senate Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to explain in details the purported circular to Nigerian public; and
- (ii) direct the Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to immediately engage the Nigerian Customs Service with a view to fashioning out what can clearly be acceptable to the Nigerian public under a democratic dispensation before its implementation.

*Debate:****Proposed Resolution (i):***

Question: That the Senate do direct the Nigeria Customs Service to stop all actions regarding the implementation of the said circular until it appears before Senate Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to explain in details the purported circular to Nigerian public — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do direct the Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to immediately engage the Nigerian Customs Service with a view to fashioning out what can clearly be acceptable to the Nigerian Public under a democratic dispensation before its implementation — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) direct the Nigeria Customs Service to stop all actions regarding the implementation of the said circular until it appears before Senate Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to explain in details the purported circular to Nigerian public; and
- (ii) direct the Committee on Custom, Excise and Tariff to immediately engage the Nigerian Customs Service with a view to fashioning out what can clearly be acceptable to the Nigerian Public under a democratic dispensation before its implementation (S/Res/102/02/17).

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Animal Health and Husbandry Technologies Bill, 2017 (HB. 320) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Railway Loan (International Bank) (Repeal) Bill, 2017 (HB. 300) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Chartered Institute of Customer Relationship Management Bill, 2017 (HB. 69) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Chartered Institute of Export and Commodity Brokers of Nigeria Bill, 2017 (HB. 85) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Chartered Institute of Directors of Nigeria (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2017 (SB. 424) — *Read the First Time.*

6. National Health Insurance Scheme Act CAP N42 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB.278):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Health Insurance Scheme Act CAP N42 LFN 2004 and to Enact the National Health Insurance Commission and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Olanrewaju A. Tejuoso — Ogun Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

7. Secured Transaction in Moveable Assets Bill, 2017 (SB. 261):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for Secured Transactions, Registration and Regulation of Security Interest in Movable Assets and for related matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Rafiu I. Adebayo — Kwara South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions to report within Four (4) weeks.

8. Investment and Securities Act 2007 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 394):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. Federal University of Agriculture Kabba (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 402):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of the Federal University of Agriculture, Kabba to make comprehensive provisions for its due management and administration and Other Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Dino Melaye — Kogi West*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

10. Compulsory, Free, Universal Basic Education Act 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 374):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Compulsory, Free, Universal Basic Education Act 2004 to increase the Block Grant of the Federal Government and reduce that of States and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Aliyu M. Wamakko — Sokoto North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

11. Nationwide Toll-Free Emergency Number (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.107):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish a Nationwide Toll-Free Emergency Number for Reporting of Emergency, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Isa H. Misau — Bauchi Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

12. National Commission for Peace, Reconciliation (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.74):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of the National Commission for Peace, Reconciliation and Mediation and for Matters Incidental Thereto Bill, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Shehu Sani — Kaduna Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within Four (4) weeks.

13. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 8th March, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
(Deputy Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:50 p.m.

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

