

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 25th February, 2020

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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

- 1. Raw Materials Research and Development Council Bill, 2020 (HB. 47) First Reading Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (Kebbi North-Senate Leader).
- 2. 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 322) First Reading Sen. Omo-Agege, Ovie Augustine (Delta Central).
- 3. 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 339) First Reading Sen. Moro, Patrick Abba (Benue South)
- 4. 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 316) First Reading Sen. Ekweremadu, Ike (Enugu West).
- 5. Federal College of Education Gwoza (Est, etc.) Bill, 2020 (sb. 342) First Reading Sen. Ali Ndume (Borno South).

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

- 1. Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions Sen. Akinyelure, Patrick Ayo (Ondo Central)
 - -That the Senate do receive the reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a:
 - a. Petition from Captain Diamond Onoberhie Against the Nigerian Navy for Unjust Treatment and Refusal to Promote Him; and
 - b. Petitions from Ishaku I. Garba, Esq. and Comrade Gboyega Adeoye Respectively, Against the Presidency for Prematurely Replacing the Chairman, Governing Board of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) Whose Tenure Was Yet to Expire To be Laid.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act No. 19 of the 1995, Enact the Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards Act and Re-establish the Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority and for related matters, 2020 (SB. 19) - Second Reading Sen. Boroffice, Robert Ajayi (Ondo North).

- 2. A Bill for an Act to establish the Federal College of Education Ibokun to make comprehensive provisions for its due management and administration and for other related matters, 2020 (SB. 134) Second Reading Sen. Fadahunsi, Francis Adenigba (Osun East).
- 3. A Bill for an Act to establish the Vigilante Group of Nigeria charged with the responsibilities to among other, provide community policing, maintenance of law and order and community service for Nigerians and for related matters, 2020 (SB. 249) Second Reading Sen. Balogun, Kola Ademola (Oyo South).

MOTIONS

1. Digitization/Automation of collection and remittance of Withholding Tax on bank Deposits and Dividends payments for enhanced State Government Internally Generated Revenue (IGR).

Sponsor: Sen. Ekwunife, Uche Lilian (Anambra Central)

The Senate:

Notes that it has been discovered that Central Security & Clearing System [CSCS) and Banks in Nigeria do not remit Withholding Tax on bank Deposit and Dividend to state Government as and when due;

Further notes that most state governments are unable to pay salaries and meet their financial obligations as a result of poor and dwindling revenue;

Aware that billions of Naira are being held by Banks in Nigeria either in form of under remittance or non-remittance of Withholding tax due to Government;

Further aware that the need for states to increase their internally generated revenue has become imperative giving the dwindling revenue from the federation account which has left various State Governments in Nigeria with the task of formulating strategies to improve the revenue base of their states;

Worried that one of the major sources of revenue for state governments is the Withholding Tax on bank deposits and dividends which has been difficult for the states to track. The current practice is that both the Banks and central Security Clearing System remit to state governments any amount they desire as it is difficult for the states to reconcile what amounts should be credited to them. Remittances without recourse to details is capable of and already eroding the revenue due to the state governments;

Opines that the leakages with respect to remittance of Withholding Tax can be addressed using modern tax solutions and information technology; and

Desirous of taking proactive measures to ensure that all Withholding tax due to government is remitted for enhanced revenue and in meeting the Federal Government's drive and quest for increased and enhance internally generated revenue at all levels of government to meet the developmental needs of the Nation.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge all Banks & Central Security & Clearing System [CSCS] to work with various Government agencies and stakeholders in ensuring that collection and remittance of Withholding tax to Government are done using modern automated Tax Solution and Information Technology infrastructure; and
- ii. *Urge* the Senate committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions to investigate this matter, and ensure that all Withholding tax revenues on both bank deposits and dividends are recovered and report back to the senate in four weeks.

2. Urgent need to reduce accidents involving Trucks and Articulated Lorries (Tankers and Trailers) on our Highways.

Sponsor: Sen. Folarin, Teslim Kolawole (Oyo Central)

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Amosun, Ibikunle Oyelaja (Ogun Central) Sen. Mustapha, Olalekan Ramoni (Ogun East) Sen. Akpan, Albert Bassey (Akwa-Ibom North East) Sen. Mohammed, Sabo (Jigawa South-West) Sen. Fadahunsi, Francis Adenigba (Osun East) Sen. Adeola, Solomon Olamilekan (Lagos West) Sen. Buhari, Abdulfatai (Oyo North)
Sen. Musa, Mohammed Sani (Niger East)
Sen. Tinubu, Oluremi Shade (Lagos Central)
Sen. Bamidele, Micheal Opeyemi (Ekiti Central)
Sen. Yusuf, Abubakar Yusuf (Taraba Central)
Sen. Umar, Sadiq Suleiman (Kwara North)

The Senate:

Notes that our economy still relies majorly on trucks and articulated Lorries for the movement of goods and products into, within and out of our country;

Notes that the Nigerian National Petroleum Company loads on average, 1255 trucks laden with petroleum products for dispatch daily, with demand and supply chain concluded through Road Transport in tanker trailers;

Aware that there are about 11.9million registered vehicles currently in Nigeria, where 58.05% are commercial, 40.7% are privately owned, 1.2% registered to government and 0.05% Diplomatic;

Disturbed that in 2017, there were 779 recorded Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) involving trailers and tankers, which resulted in 737 fatalities and 2622 serious injuries. That implies that an average of two Nigerians were killed every day and 7 seriously injured in 2017 as a result of trailer/tanker accidents. These accidents accounted for 28% of road accidents in Nigeria, which is grossly disproportionate to the percentage of trailers and trucks plying our roads;

Aware that the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), cited none adherence to road traffic safety practices and parking in unauthorized location along the road as two of the three top reasons for road accidents involving articulated Lorries;

Saddened at the continued loss of lives and properties caused by truck and articulated lorry accidents in our country. In 2018, over a thousand lives and an estimated N39bn were lost directly due to accidents involving trucks and articulated lorries (i.e. tankers and trailers);

Notes that in the aftermath of the Otedola bridge tanker accident in June 2018, the Federal Government conveyed a Haulage Operators Stakeholders' Summit (in July 2018). At the Summit, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation directed relevant government agencies to ensure that tankers and trailers that do not comply with legally prescribed minimum safety standards are prevented from plying our highways. He expressed the displeasure of the Federal Government at the rising rate of preventable accidents involving trucks and articulated Lorries on our highways;

Aware that, listed amongst the top intervention measures at the Summit was enforcement of the breach of section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation (2012), which specifies minimum lighting system required of a motor vehicle on our highway. The FRSC also released Safety Guidelines and Regulations which required the fixing of retro-reflective tapes on trucks and articulated Lorries to enhance visibility;

Concerned that several legislative provisions, including those of The Road Traffic Act; Road Traffic Regulation (2012); Federal Highways Act 1971 and the Federal Road Safety Act 2007 are being flaunted by truck/trailer/tanker owners, operators and drivers with impunity, leading to avoidable road traffic collisions (RTCs) involving these class of vehicles. Road traffic collisions involving this class of vehicles are more likely to result in fatalities and serious injuries, in comparison to other classes of motor vehicles; and

Alarmed that despite statutory provisions empowering the Nigerian Police, the Federal Road Safety Commission and Vehicle Inspectorates to curb the menace, the problem persists unabated.

- i. *Urge* the Nigerian Police Force, the Federal Road Safety Commission and Vehicle Inspection Officers to immediately clamp down on trucks and articulated Lorries, plying our highways without the minimum prescribed levels of lighting or other road safety requirements;
- ii. *Mandate* Senate Committee on transport to investigate the level of compliance to road safety legislations amongst Haulage operators, owners and drivers; and
- iii. *Mandate* Senate Committee on Transport to investigate adoption and implementation of the recommendations from the 2018 haulage Operators Stakeholders' Summit amongst all relevant stakeholders.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Solid Minerals, Mines, Steel Development and Metallurgy	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020	1:00pm	Committee Room 324 Senate New Building
2.	Environment	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020 (Interactive Meeting)	1:00pm	Conference Room 022 Senate New Building
3.	Appropriations	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 224 Senate New Building
4.	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building
5.	Primary Health Care and Communicable Diseases	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 305 Senate New Building
6.	Interior	Tuesday, 25 th February, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building
7.	Joint Committee on Local Content, Downstream Petrolet And Legislative Compliance	Tue. 25 th – Thu. 27 th February, 2020 um (Investigative Hearing)	12:00noon	Conference Room 231 Senate New Building
8.	Public Accounts	Tue. 25 th - Thu. 27 th February, 2020 (Public Hearing)	1:00pm	Senate Hearing Room 4 White House Complex
9.	National Security and Intelligence	Wednesday, 26 th February, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 431 Senate New Building
10.	Constitution Review (Steering Committee)	Wednesday, 26th February, 2020	2:30pm	Committee Room 2.04 Senate New Building
11.	Establishment and Public Service	Thursday, 27 th February, 2020	12:00noon	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building
12.	Ecology and Climate Change	Thursday, 27 th February, 2020	3:00pm	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building
13.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Tuesday, 10 th March, 2020	12.00noon	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
14.	Public Accounts	Tue. 3 rd – Thu. 5 th March, 2020 (Public Hearing)	1:00pm	Senate Hearing Room 4 White House Complex

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