



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 13th February, 2020

1. The Senate met at 10:35 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 12th February, 2020.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Announcement:**
Acknowledgment:
The President of the Senate acknowledged the presence of the following who were at the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings:
 - (i) Staff and Students of Lyngra High School, Karu Local Government Area, Nasarawa State;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of Maraken International School, Karu Local Government Area, Nasarawa State; and
 - (iii) Staff and Students of Noble Guide Academy, Kubwa, Abuja.
4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Kashim Shettima (*Borno Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the twin Boko-Haram attack on Borno Villages: Auno and Tungushe on Sunday 9th and Monday 10th February, 2020 respectively. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes that Borno Central Senatorial District and indeed Borno State has been the epicenter of the Boko-Haram Insurgency over the years;

saddened that suspected Boko Haram Terrorists invaded Auno village few kilometers to Maiduguri the State capital around 10pm on Sunday, 9th February, 2020 and killed 30 people, burned down shops, razed about 18 commercial vehicles including trucks loaded with goods and abducted many people, mostly women;

notes further that the victims arrived at the military checkpoint leading into Maiduguri after the 5pm closure of the gate and had no choice but to sleep in Auno, the neighbouring village on the Maiduguri-Damaturu Highway;

disturbed that the military usually lock up the 2 gates in the village (both the entrance and exit gates) by 5pm and proceed to spend the night in Maiduguri despite its closeness to Maiduguri;

further disturbed that there was no single military personnel to engage them and there was also no re-enforcement from Maiduguri despite its closeness to the Headquarters of Operation Lafiya Dole;

notes that while people of Auno were still in shock over the attack, the insurgents around 6pm Monday, 10th February, 2020, struck the village of Tungushe shooting sporadically, casualty figures are yet to be ascertained; and

concludes that we cannot succeed as a nation until the lives of every Nigerian is protected and secured as the primary objective of government is the security and the protection of its citizens.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) condemn in strong terms the dastardly act perpetrated by these insurgents;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims of the attacks;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to begin a process of rehabilitating the affected communities through the North East Development Commission;
- (iv) urge the Military authority to establish a base in Auno to intensify their efforts in the fight against insurgency in the North East;
- (v) urge the Federal Government to instruct the Defence Headquarters to set up a panel to investigate what transpired at Auno and find measures to forestall future occurrences; and
- (vi) urge the Federal Government through and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management; and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the families of those affected by the attack.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do condemn in strong terms the dastardly act perpetrated by these insurgents — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims of the attacks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to begin a process of rehabilitating the affected communities through the North East Development Commission — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Military authority to establish a base in Auno to intensify their efforts in the fight against insurgency in the North East — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to instruct the Defence Headquarters to set up a panel to investigate what transpired at Auno and find measures to forestall future occurrences — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vi):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government through and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management; and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the families of those affected by the attack — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do urge the Nigeria Army and all relevant security agencies involved in the fight against the insurgency in the North East and other parts of Nigeria to re-engineer their approach to fighting insurgency” (*Senator Abba P. Moro — Benue South*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) condemn in strong terms the dastardly act perpetrated by these insurgents;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims of the attacks;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to begin a process of rehabilitating the affected communities through the North East Development Commission;
- (iv) urge the Military authority to establish a base in Auno to intensify their efforts in the fight against insurgency in the North East;
- (v) urge the Federal Government to instruct the Defence Headquarters to set up a panel to investigate what transpired at Auno and find measures to forestal future occurrences;
- (vi) urge the Federal Government through and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management; and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the families of those affected by the attack; and
- (vii) urge the Nigeria Army and all relevant security agencies involved in the fight against the insurgency in the North East and other parts of Nigeria to re-engineer their approach to fighting insurgency (*S/Res/121/02/20*).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Federal College of Education Omuo-Ekiti, Ekiti State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 269) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Federal College of Education (Technical) Michika, Adamawa State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 312) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Institute of Information and Communication Technology Billiri, Gombe State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 313) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Prohibition of Discrimination between First Degrees and Higher National Diploma Bill, 2020 (SB. 297) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Federal Medical Centre Kaura Namoda (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 314) — *Read the First Time.*

6. Motion:

The Need to Mainstream the National Parks Service into the Nigeria Security Architecture:

Motion made: That the Senates notes that there are seven national parks in Nigeria covering 20,156 km², which is about 3% of Nigeria's total area;

also note the national parks portray the success or failure of government environmental policies, the national parks are especially critical in mitigating environmental threats;

aware that the national parks in Nigeria serve to protect the country's diverse flora and fauna thereby ensuring that the natural ecosystem remains intact;

concerned that these National parks are becoming safe haven for criminal elements within the society, who often use parks as hide out. They come out to attack and return back there for safety;

aware that the security agencies routine patrols do not cover the Parks, and the Park Rangers are only trained to guide and protect the parks;

worried that the National Park Service has no sufficient resources, personnel and training to cope with the current security challenges the nation is facing;

also worried that what is at the disposal of park rangers are obsolete and low caliber firearms and ammunitions such as Double Barrel Short Gun (DBSG), pump action, and Dane guns; and

distressed that parks are now home to organized crime (banditry, kidnapping and cattle rustling) with resultant killing of Rangers and commuters by Poachers/herdsmen.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to mainstream the National Park Service into the National Security architecture in line with the resolution of the 12th National Council on Environment (FMENV12/NCE/FED/IG/123);
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to give special training in fire arms and ballistics as well as surveillance and intelligence information gathering to park rangers;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to conclude the tripartite consultation with the Ministries of Environment; Agriculture and Rural Development; and Interior on the presidential intervention; and
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to involve other security agencies in Park protection and surveillance (*Senator Sadiq S. Umar — Kwara North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to mainstream the National Park Service into the National Security architecture in line with the resolution of the 12th National Council on Environment (FMENV/12/NCE/FED/IG/123) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to give special training in fire arms and ballistics as well as surveillance and intelligence information gathering to park rangers — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to conclude the tripartite consultation with the Ministries of Environment; Agriculture and Rural Development; and Interior on the presidential intervention — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to involve other security agencies in Park protection and surveillance — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to involve the host communities in park protection and surveillance through developmental interventions and livelihood support” (*Senator Aliyu S. Abdullahi — Niger North*)

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to mainstream the National Park Service into the National Security architecture in line with the resolution of the 12th National Council on Environment (FMENV/12/NCE/FED/IG/123);
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to give special training in fire arms and ballistics as well as surveillance and intelligence information gathering to park rangers;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to conclude the tripartite consultation with the Ministries of Environment; Agriculture and Rural Development; and Interior on the presidential intervention;
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to involve other security agencies in Park protection and surveillance; and
- (v) urge the Federal Government to involve the host communities in park protection and surveillance through developmental interventions and livelihood support (*S/Res/122/02/20*).

7. Repeal of Police Act Cap. P19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and enact the Nigeria Police Bill, 2019 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (SB.181):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Police Act Cap. P19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and enact the Nigeria Police Bill, 2019 to provide for the framework for the police service and ensure cooperation and partnership between the police and communities in maintaining peace and combating crime; and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Dauda H. Jika — Bauchi Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

8. Federal College of Forestry Technology and Research, Birnin Gwari, Kaduna State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB.201):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. **Federal College of Forestry Technology and Research, Akamkpa (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB.99):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

10. **Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo, Benue State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB.216):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. **Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 01) — Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. **FCT Health Insurance Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB. 60) — Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. **Chartered Institute of Treasury Management (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB. 57) — Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 18th February, 2020 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:41 p.m.

Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan, Ph.D, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.