



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 6th February, 2020

1. The Senate met at 11:02 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 5th February, 2020.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

- (a) **Notice of Meeting Postponement:**

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi (Kebbi North) as follows:



THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON NIGERIAN SECURITY CHALLENGES:
URGENT NEED TO RESTRUCTURE, REVIEW AND REORGANIZE THE
CURRENT SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

*His Excellency,
The President of the Senate,
National Assembly, Abuja.*

8th February, 2020

Your Excellency,

NOTICE OF MEETING: POSTPONEMENT

This is to inform Members of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Nigerian Security Challenges: Urgent Need to Restructure, Review and Reorganize the Current Security Architecture; that the earlier scheduled meetings/activities of the Ad-Hoc Committee slated to start today; 6th February, 2020 by 12:00 noon prompt at the NAF Conference Centre have been postponed to Monday, 10th - Friday, 15th February, 2020 at the same venue and time.

This to make way for the event/ceremony of the Nigerian Airforce Helicopter at the Eagle Square today.

The Minister of Defence and Service Chiefs among other slated Stakeholders invited by the Ad-Hoc Committee are expected to attend the Ceremony.

Any inconvenience is highly regretted.

Please accept the assurances of the Committee's highest consideration.

(Signed)

*Distinguished Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi PhD, OON
Chairman.*

(b) Constitutional Review Committee:

The President of the Senate named the following Senators as Chairman and Members of Constitutional Review Committee, 9th Assembly (2019-2023):

(i)	Senator Ovie A. Omo-Agege	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Robert A. Boroffice	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Orji Uzor Kalu	—	Member
(v)	Senator Aliyu S. Abdullahi	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Emmanuel Bwacha	—	Member
(viii)	Senator Phillip T. Aduda	—	Member
(ix)	Senator Sahabi Y. Alhaji	—	Member
(x)	Senator Theodore A. Orji	—	Member
(xi)	Senator Aisha A. Dahiru	—	Member
(xii)	Senator Stella A. Oduah	—	Member
(xiii)	Senator Albert B. Akpan	—	Member
(xiv)	Senator Halliru D. Jika	—	Member
(xv)	Senator Degi-Eremienyo W. B.	—	Member
(xvi)	Senator Gabriel T. Suswam	—	Member
(xvii)	Senator Abubakar Kyari	—	Member
(xviii)	Senator Gershom H. Basse	—	Member
(xix)	Senator James E. Manager	—	Member
(xx)	Senator Samuel O. Egwu	—	Member
(xxi)	Senator Matthew A. Urhoghide	—	Member
(xxii)	Senator Michael O. Bamidele	—	Member
(xxiii)	Senator Ike Ekweremadu	—	Member
(xxiv)	Senator Mohammed D. Goje	—	Member
(xxv)	Senator Anayo R. Okorocho	—	Member
(xxvi)	Senator Sabo Mohammed	—	Member
(xxvii)	Senator Uba Sani	—	Member
(xxviii)	Senator Kabiru I. Gaya	—	Member
(xxix)	Senator Babba Kaita Ahmad	—	Member
(xxx)	Senator Muhammad A. Adamu	—	Member
(xxxi)	Senator Smart Adeyemi	—	Member
(xxxii)	Senator Sadiq S. Umar	—	Member
(xxxiii)	Senator Oluremi S. Tinubu	—	Member
(xxxiv)	Senator Abdullahi Adamu	—	Member
(xxxv)	Senator Mohammed S. Musa	—	Member
(xxxvi)	Senator Ibikunle O. Amosun	—	Member
(xxxvii)	Senator Nicholas O. Tofowomo	—	Member
(xxxviii)	Senator Surajudeen A. Basiru	—	Member
(xxxix)	Senator Teslim K. Folarin	—	Member
(xl)	Senator Hezekiah A. Dimka	—	Member

(xli)	Senator George T. Sekibo	—	Member
(xlii)	Senator Aliyu M. Wamakko	—	Member
(xliii)	Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf	—	Member
(xliv)	Senator Ibrahim A. Gaidam	—	Member
(xlv)	Senator Hassan Mohammed	—	Member

Zonal Representation

(i)	Senator Bala Ibn-Na'Allah	—	Member
(ii)	Senator Ibrahim Shekarau	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Kashim Shettima	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Lawal Y. Gumau	—	Member
(v)	Senator Umaru T. Almakura	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Yakubu Oseni	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Abdulfatai Buhari	—	Member
(viii)	Senator Biodun C. Olujimi	—	Member
(ix)	Senator Uche L. Ekwunife	—	Member
(x)	Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi	—	Member
(xi)	Senator Akon E. Eyakenyi	—	Member
(xii)	Senator Rose O. Oko	—	Member

4. Petition:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi (*Enugu North*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Comrade Nnadi Bernard, on behalf of Nigerian Coal Miners' Union, against the Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development; and Bureau of Public Enterprises, over their emoluments and sale of houses. 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.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE IN CHAIR)

5. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Ifeanyi P. Ubah (*Anambra South*) drew the attention of the Senate to last three (3) weeks facemasks that have become the most sought after commodity in Nigeria with over hundred million facemasks being unpatriotically exported to Asia using Murtala Mohammed Airport and Port Harcourt International Airport. He stated that it has now become a booming trade for illicit traders aided by airport officials to unpatriotically export facemasks to China, India, and other affected countries.

He further noted that the Coronavirus which originated from China and has currently spread to at least twenty-eight (28) countries globally and suspected cases of the deadly virus also in African countries. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recorded 565 deaths with 28,276 cases of infected persons. He emphasised that if proactive measures are not taken to checkmate our borders, an imminent outbreak might occur in the same manner which an infected carrier from Liberia transferred the Ebola disease to Nigeria in 2014.

By the Leave of the Senate, the Committee on Health was mandated to follow up this assignment accordingly.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Abba P. Moro (*Benue South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the Urgent Need to Deal with a Strange Epidemic Outbreak ravaging Oye-Obi Local Government Area, Benue State. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate *notes* with grave pain that on Wednesday, January 29th, 2020, there was an epidemic outbreak in Oye-Obi claiming at least 15 lives in the community, the first victims were Happiness Ogbu, Onah Ogbedu, Wisdom Agwo, Andy Edu who were hit by the disease all died within 48 hours of contacting the undiagnosed disease;

further notes that the strange disease has not yet been diagnosed by health authorities and medical experts in Benue State;

saddened that victims who have died from the disease developed the same symptoms of headache, internal heat, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach ache, weakness of the body, swollen stomach and died; and

more saddened that as at Monday, February 3, 2020; the number of persons affected with the strange endemic has risen to a hundred and four.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to mobilize a qualified health official to the area to investigate and ascertain the nature of the disease;
- (ii) urge the Centre for Disease Control to promptly put up surveillance to contain the disease and see to the treatment of victims and protect others from contacting it;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to conduct mass mobilization and awareness campaign on how to prevent the spread of the disease; and
- (iv) further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to provide succour for those affected.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Health to mobilize a qualified health official to the area to investigate and ascertain the nature of the disease — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Centre for Disease Control to promptly put up surveillance to contain the disease and see to the treatment of victims and protect others from contacting it — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to conduct mass mobilization and awareness campaign on how to prevent the spread of the disease — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to provide succour for those affected — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to mobilize a qualified health official to the area to investigate and ascertain the nature of the disease;
- (ii) urge the Centre for Disease Control to promptly put up surveillance to contain the disease and see to the treatment of victims and protect others from contacting it;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to conduct mass mobilization and awareness campaign on how to prevent the spread of the disease; and

- (iv) further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to provide succour for those affected (S/Res/119/02/20).
7. **Presentation of Bills:**
- (i) National Biosafety Management Act 2015 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 302) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 306) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Federal College of Forestry, Wawa Zange, Dukku, Gombe State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 308) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Community Health Practitioners (Registration, etc.) Act CAP C19 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 309) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Federal College of Forestry, Tuongo, Adamawa State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 310) — *Read the First Time.*
- (vi) Nigerian Railway Corporation Act N129 LFN 2004 (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 311) — *Read the First Time.*
8. **Nigerian Maritime University Okerenkoko (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 272):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Delta State and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator James E. Manager — Delta South*).
- 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.*
9. **Fiscal Responsibility Commission Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 144):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for prudent management of the Nation's Resources, ensure long Term Macro-Economic stability of the National Economy, secure greater accountability and transparency in Fiscal operations within the Medium Term Fiscal Policy Framework and the establishment of the Fiscal Responsibility Commission to ensure the promotion and enforcement of the Nation's Economic objectives; and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Aishatu A. Dahiru — Adamawa Central*).
- 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.*
10. **Maritime Academy of Nigeria Act Cap. M3 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 265):**
Motion made: That a Bill for An Act to repeal the Maritime Academy of Nigeria Act Cap. M3 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 and to establish the University of Maritime Studies, Oron and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Akon E. Eyakenyi — Akwa-Ibom South*).

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.

- 11. Federal University Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 165):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Federal University Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi State to Ensure Equity and Access to Tertiary Education in the Country and for Other Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Muhammad A. Adamu — Kebbi Central*).

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.

- 12. College of Education Mutum Biyu, Taraba State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 101):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the College of Education Mutum Biyu, Taraba State which will among other things provide full-time courses of teaching, instruction and training in technology and for other related matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf — Taraba Central*).

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.

- 13. Federal University of Technology, Manchok, Kaduna State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 141):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal University of Technology, Manchok, Kaduna State and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Danjuma T. La'ah — Kaduna South*).

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.

- 14. Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 01) — Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

- 15. FCT Health Insurance Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB. 60) — Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

- 16. Chartered Institute of Treasury Management (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB. 57) — Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

17. **Motions:**

- (a) *The Need to Mainstream the National Parks Service into the Nigeria Security Architecture:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

- (b) *The Need to Ensure Citizen Integrity to Guarantee Security and Compliance with Global Efforts at Combating International Crime and Terrorism:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

18. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 11th February, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.
(*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:25 p.m.

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