



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 3rd March, 2020

1. The Senate met at 10:45 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 27th February, 2020.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

- (a) **Appreciation:**

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Emmanuel Bwacha (*Taraba South*) as follows:



DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

*His Excellency,
Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan,
The President of the Senate,
National Assembly, Abuja.*

3rd March, 2020

Your Excellency,

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

This is to appreciate distinguished colleagues who found time to honour us as a family at the dinner in honour of my wife's 50th birthday, especially Senators Phillip A. Tanimu, (Talban Abuja); Robert Boroffice, Aliyu S. Abdullahi, Ezenwa F. Onyewuchi, Jibrin I. Barau, Betty J. Apiafi, Uche L. Ekwunife, Smart Adeyemi and all the Chamber staff.

May the good Lord bless you all.

(Signed)
Senator Emmanuel Bwacha
Deputy Minority Leader

(b) Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Members of Zenith Consult, Maitama, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of the Regent School, Maitama, Abuja;
- (iii) Staff and Students of Euston British International School, Gwarinpa, Abuja; and
- (iv) Staff and Students of Bettyvine Montessori International School, Kubwa, Abuja.

4. Petition:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure (*Ondo Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to five (5) petitions from:

- (i) C.A. Aiyamekhue and three others on conspiracy, threat to life, attempted murder, stealing, forceful closure/sealing of shops belonging to our clients and others by Peter Oba, Simeon Ominiya, Mark Onu and their thugs/hirelings by the instrumentality of the Ebonyi State Governor, Engr. David Nweze Umahi;
- (ii) Oko Emmanuel Eje, over complaint of unjust dismissal from Federal Housing Authority (FHA) Mortgage Bank Limited (Administrative injustice);
- (iii) J.U. Ayogu & Co against the Executive Secretary and General Manager - Administration of Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), for wrongful dismissal of 34 Nigerians and concealment of issue of money laundering and fraud of conversion of over ₦2 billion drawn from the Agency's coffers by the malpractices engaged in, by the management of PPPRA; and
- (iv) O. Olurankinse and M.A. Ajayi, over the premature termination of their careers in Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo.

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.

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 324) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Federal College of Education (Special) Onueke Ezza South Ebonyi State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 352)— *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Federal Medical Centre New-Bussa (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 353)— *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 335) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Armed Forces Service Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 362)— *Read the First Time.*

6. **Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act No. 19, 1995 (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2020 (SB.19):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act No. 19, 1995; Enact the Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards Act and Re-establish the Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Robert A. Boroffice — Ondo North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream); and Science and Technology to report within Four (4) weeks.

7. **Nigerian Army University Biu (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 332):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Nigerian Army University Biu to make Comprehensive Provisions for Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Mohammed A. Ndume — Borno South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

8. **Federal College of Agriculture Bambam, Gombe State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB.263):**

Motion made: That a Bill for An Act to Establish the Federal College of Agriculture Bambam, Gombe State, that shall provide full-time courses of Agriculture teaching, instruction and training in the sciences, social sciences, commerce, arts, applied sciences, management and humanities; and carry out research, innovation, development and adaptation of teaching techniques, and Other Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Bulus K. Amos — Gombe 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. **Federal University of Technology Yaba (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 85):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of the Federal University of Technology Yaba and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Solomon O. Adeola — Lagos 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.

By the leave of the Senate, the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND was mandated to invite the National Universities Commission (NUC) on the need to review the Nigerian Educational Curriculums to focus on the next level graduates for the technological growth and development of Nigeria.

10. Motion:

The need to complete the abandoned Greater Awka Water Scheme by Federal Ministry of Water Resources:

Motion made: That the Senate is concerned that the Greater Awka Water Scheme in Anambra State, started by the Federal Ministry of Water Resources has been abandoned since 2006 and nothing has been heard about that project since then;

notes that this project was an extension of the Greater Enugu Water Scheme which has since been completed and commissioned;

notes also that initial progress was made in areas of preparation of Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME), communication was made to Anambra State Government on the acquisition of land for Well Field at Amansea after a successful hydrogeological survey before the unexplained abandonment of the whole project;

worried that by the abandonment of this project, the people who were supposed to be beneficiaries of the water scheme are still drinking from untreated boreholes and natural streams leading to several cases of periodic outbreak of water born disease epidemics causing unnecessary loss of life especially among children; and

further worried that taking into consideration the weak geological formation of Anambra State, indiscriminate drilling of private boreholes in such rock formation poses a very serious danger of earth tremor with-in and around the region. These ground water sources come with high acidity of pH 2 to 4 as against World Health Organization (WHO) acceptable standard of pH 6.5 to 9.5. This pH level has the ability of dissolving iron, lead and other dangerous carcinogenic heavy metals into drinking water leading to serious health complication and implications.

Accordingly resolves to:

mandate the Committee on Water Resources to engage the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ascertain the reason behind the abandonment of this project and report to the Senate within Four (4) weeks (*Senator Uche L. Ekwunife — Anambra Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Water Resources to engage the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ascertain the reason behind the abandonment of the project and report to the Senate within Four (4) weeks.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word project in line 2, *insert* the words “and explore the possibility of commencing the project” (*Senator Surajudeen A. Basiru — Osun Central*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Water Resources to engage the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ascertain the reason behind the abandonment of this project and explore the possibility of commencing the project; and report to the Senate within Four (4) weeks (*S/Res/132/02/20*).

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 Wednesday, 4th March, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.
(Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:51 p.m.

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