



**SENATE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER**

Wednesday, 1st July, 2020

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

BUSINESS OF THE DAY

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. National Commission for Refugees Act CAP N21 LFN 2004 (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 171)
- *First Reading*
Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).
 2. Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund Act CAP A11 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 451)
- *First Reading*
Sen. Bima, Muhammad Enagi (*Niger South*).
 3. 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 458) - *First Reading*
Sen. Gyang, Istifanus Dung (*Plateau North*).
 4. National Institute of Management Act No. 14 2003 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 464) - *First Reading*
Sen. Oduah, Stella Adaeze (*Anambra North*).
 5. Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 465) - *First Reading*
Sen. Kalu, Orji Uzor (*Abia North*).
-

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. Reports of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters
Sen. Bamidele, Micheal Opeyemi (*Ekiti Central*)
-That the Senate do receive the reports of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the followings:
 - a. Sexual Harassment Bill, 2020 (SB. 77);
 - b. Criminal Code Act CAP C38 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 2); and
 - c. Alleged Court Invasion by Officers of the Department of the State Security Services (DSS) on Friday, 6th December, 2019 - *To be Laid*.
2. Reports of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND
Sen. Ahmad, Babba Kaita (*Katsina North*)
-That the Senate do receive the reports of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND on the followings:
 - a. City University of Technology Auchu (Est, etc) Bill, 2020 (SB. 22);
 - b. Federal College of Education Mutum Biyu (Est, etc) Bill, 2020 (SB. 101);
 - c. Federal College of Education Giwa Kaduna State (Est, etc) Bill, 2020 (SB. 121); and
 - d. Federal College of Education (Technical) Ibokun (Est, etc) Bill, 2020 (SB. 134) - *To be Laid*.

3. Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions.

Sen. Akinyelure, Patrick Ayo (*Ondo Central*)

-That the Senate do consider the reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:

- a. Petition from Alhaji Bashir Abdullahi and Five (5) others against MTN Group Limited and Airtel Nigeria for alleged unbearable noise and discomfort caused by Telecommunication Mast mounted at No. 20 Oke-Agbe Street, Garki, Abuja;
- b. Petition from Hon. Julius Ibere and Nwojiji Abraham on behalf of Izzi Development Union (IDU) against the Federal Ministry of Education for siting the newly approved Federal College of Education in Ebonyi South Senatorial District instead of Ebonyi North Senatorial District;
- c. (2) Petitions from Okuzo Leaders of Thought and Oba Patriotic Union respectively, against Rev. Uche U. Ibeabuchi who was seen as unqualified to be nominated for Appointment as a representative of Anambra State in the Federal Character Commission (FCC); and
- d. Petition from CSP Ebereuche Mike (Rtd) against the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) for the poor retirement Benefits /Pension of retired Nigeria Police Officers - *To be Laid*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Herdsmen attack on Echori and Itakpa communities in the Benue South Senatorial District of Benue State: urgent need for legislative intervention.

Sponsor: Sen. Moro, Patrick Abba (*Benue South*)

The Senate:

Notes with grave concern the recent twin attacks of suspected Fulani herdsmen on two communities of Echori and Itakpa of Obi local government area of Benue South Senatorial District of Benue State on the 10th of May, 2020 and 1st of June, 2020 respectively;

Notes further with sadness that two person, Innocent Joseph and Tony Ogbu Alapa and 11 Persons, 1. Christian Abe Igo 2. Sunday Atubu, 3. Steven Okwute, 4. Okwu Joshua 5. Ogo Imuila Ogbu 6. Friday Adekpe Ola, 7. Mrs. Cecilia Onah, 8. Onah Ogaga AKA Orisha, 9. Linus Udor, 10. Sunday Okariki and 11. Enokela Ameh were mowed down by the Marauders;

Saddened that this is one in a series of attacks and kidnappings carried out by the herdsmen in Communities in Benue South Senatorial District leaving in their wakes Loss of Lives and wanton destruction of properties; and

More saddened that as at today, no single person out of the perpetrators of the heinous attacks have been apprehended.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Nigeria Police and other relevant Security agencies to carry out a comprehensive investigation of these dastardly attacks with a view to arresting the perpetrators;*
- ii. Urge the federal government to mount Comprehensive Surveillance at the affected areas to proactively detect and deter further future attacks;*
- iii. Urge the Nigeria Police and other relevant Security agencies as a matter of national emergency necessity to review their operational mechanism with a view to being more proactive;*
- iv. Request the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately mobilize relief materials to those many persons displaced by these recent attacks in Echori and Itakpa Communities; and*

2. International Day of Parliamentarianism.

Sponsored: Sen. Ubah, Ifeanyi Patrick (*Anambra South*)

The Senate:

Notes that the International Day of Parliamentarianism was established on June 30, 1889 by the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/72/278 and aimed at recognizing the role of parliaments in national plans and strategies and in ensuring greater transparency and accountability at national and global levels;

Further notes that the day celebrates parliaments and is also an opportunity for parliaments to take stock, identify challenges, and ways to address them effectively;

Aware that every country in the world has some form of representative government with 79 bicameral and 114 unicameral chambers of parliaments with over 46,000 members of parliament;

Further aware that today 30 June, 2020 is the 131st anniversary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the celebration of the third edition of International Day of Parliamentarianism;

Concerned that despite the parliament being the most important arm of government in a democracy due to its representativeness, it is the most vilified and misunderstood arm of government; and

Further concerned that parliaments all over the world are needed more than ever to put in place legislations to respond to the health and economic crisis occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, protect vulnerable people and help scrutinize government's actions and spending.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Congratulate* the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the community of parliamentarians the world over, on this occasion of the International Day of Parliamentarianism; and
- ii. *Urge* Parliamentarians in Nigeria both at the State and Federal levels to use this opportunity to take stock and reposition themselves as the pivots of democracy and nation-building in the country.

3. Urgent need for Completion and Take-off of the Federal Government Aquaculture Project at Idah, Kogi State.

Sponsor: Sen. Isah, Jibrin (*Kogi East*)

The Senate:

Commends the efforts of the Federal Government at diversifying the Nigerian economy, in view of the increasing unfavourable climate in the world oil market;

Notes that Agriculture forms one of the core spindles around which the Government's diversification programme revolves, and rightly so, given the enormous agricultural potentials in the country;

Further notes that the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) was established in 2001 to undertake well-focused research and development in biotechnology, in priority areas of food and agriculture, health, industry, environment and other strategic sectors for national development, and draw up programmes and policies for biotechnology utilization, research, and development in Nigeria;

Concerned that according to NABDA, the demand for fish in Nigeria is currently about 3.2 million tonnes annually. Of this, 1.1 million tonnes is produced locally, while about 1.0 million tonnes is imported, leaving a deficit of about 1.1 million tonnes;

Further concerned that inadequate supply of quality fingerlings and fish feeds, and low quality pressed pellets produced locally, constitute the major challenges of aquaculture in Nigeria;

Cognizant that in fulfilling its mandate, outcomes of research and development of NABDA are disseminated, propagated and reproduced by 34 Centres it has established across the country, as the Centres have the scope, capacity and immediate access and contacts to host communities;

Further Cognizant that of the 34 Centres of NABDA, four are designated as Aquatic Bioresource Centres with focus on aquaculture. These are located at Idah (Kogi State), Pategi (Kwara State), Tunari (Taraba State), and Adiado (Cross River State), with Idah as the pioneer Centre established in 2015;

Realized that for proper take-off and functioning of the Idah Centre, a high-tech fingerling production equipment with capacity to produce 500,000 fingerlings per batch and 3 million fingerlings per year, was imported and has been at the Centre since 2018;

Further realized that the imported equipment represents a world class Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS), with the filtration, aeration, oxygenation, sterilization and decarbonizing units;

Recalls that a 500 kg/hr fish feed extruder line with all the machinery, comprising the grinder, mixer, preconditioner extruder, cutter, dryer, cooler, packaging machine, and a boiler has been equally procured and delivered to the Centre;

Regrets that the various machinery and equipment at the Idah Centre have not been installed since 2018, thereby inhibiting the take-off of the Project;

Further regrets that apart from the non-installation of the machinery and equipment, rainstorm has damaged parts of the buildings at the Centre, which calls for immediate attention to avoid further mishap; and

Convinced that the immediate completion of the Centre, through installation of the machinery and equipment, and the repair of the buildings, will adequately position the Centre to serve as a source of high quality fingerlings and fish feeds in the Country, which will be a major boost to the on-going economic diversification efforts into Agriculture. Meanwhile, the foreign exchange currently spent on importation of fingerlings and fish feeds would be conserved as part of the import substitution strategy of the government.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the National Biotechnology Development Agency to ensure immediate installation of the machinery and equipment, and equally address the repairs of the damaged buildings, to actualize the take-off of the project at Idah; and
 - ii. *Urge* the Senate Committee on Science and Technology to interface with the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology and NABDA, to ensure expeditious take-off of the Centre, and report back to the Senate within a month.
4. The need to review the domestic legal framework against Illicit Financial Flows and to consider the creation of a Tax Amnesty for the voluntary repatriation of funds to Nigeria.

Sponsor: Sen. Bassey, Gershom Henry (Cross River South)

Co-Sponsors:

<i>Sen. Oduah, Stella Adaeze (Anambra North)</i>	<i>Sen. Apiafi, Betty Jocelyn (Rivers West)</i>
<i>Sen. Onor, Sandy Ojang (Cross River Central)</i>	<i>Sen. Odebiyi, Tolulope Akinremi (Ogun West)</i>
<i>Sen. Oriolowo, Adelere Adeyemi (Osun West)</i>	<i>Sen. Yakubu, Oseni (Kogi Central)</i>
<i>Sen. Musa, Mohammed Sani (Niger East)</i>	<i>Sen. Mandiya, Bello (Katsina South)</i>
<i>Sen. Eyakenyi, Akon Etim (Akwa-Ibom South)</i>	

The Senate:

widely understood as the cross-border transfers of capital that are illegally earned, transferred or utilized. IFFs often consist of commercial money laundering, tax evasion and proceeds of corruption and criminal activities;

Alarmed that according to a 2014 Global Financial Integrity Report, Nigeria lost a minimum of US\$140 billion to illicit financial flows between 2000 and 2014, mainly to crude oil and commercial activities mispricing. This enormous economic loss to the country was not abated, as Nigeria was ranked among the global top 30 countries of illicit financial outflows by dollar value, with US\$8.3 billion in illicit financial outflow from Nigeria in 2015;

Further alarmed that the Tax Justice Network and the International Monetary Fund estimated that developing countries, including Nigeria, have lost over US\$200 billion per year to illicit financial flows as multinational corporations neglect, fail and/or refuse to pay taxes in these countries where they generate substantial amounts of profit. Nigeria loses approximately US\$15 billion annually to offshore tax evasion. This has resulted in a consistently low tax revenue as a percentage of GDP, as low as 5.7% in 2017. Such statistics are alarming, especially when compared to the 17.2% average of 26 African countries in the same year;

Concerned that this incessant financial drain on the Nigeria's economy continues to have negative implications for domestic resource mobilization and long-term economic growth and development. IFFs continue to pose serious obstacles to development, as approximately 5% of the IFFs from Africa can be attributed to corruption, while 95% of IFFs come from commercial and criminal activities. These unrecorded and untaxed cross-border financial transfers, could have been mobilized as part of government revenue and injected into Nigeria's formal economy towards sustained development and economic growth;

Concerned also that statistics show that the amount of revenue lost annually by Nigeria is more than the sums provided as development aid. For example, the net official development aid received by Nigeria in 2017 was US\$3,358,790,000. Additionally, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has donated over US\$526.7 million in humanitarian assistance to Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin, since 2017. Neither of the above figures match the estimated US\$15 and US\$18 billion Nigeria loses to IFFs annually. It is therefore unsurprising that Nigeria continues to struggle with growing inequality, poor infrastructure and lacking service delivery;

Further concerned that there are at least 12 Nigerian institutions and agencies with responsibilities that align with tackling IFFs and related crimes. Yet, Nigeria continues to be menaced by weak regulatory structures and the complicity of other financial secrecy jurisdictions, among others. With estimates that 60% of IFFs from Nigeria are predominantly committed by multinational corporations, these challenges continue to drive the cross-border siphoning of the country's revenue, to the direct and/or indirect benefit of foreign economies;

Observes that international information sharing and domestication of relevant policies has become a global priority, in order to ensure cross-border cooperation to tackle this global threat to national revenue generation and its negative economic and developmental impacts;

Further observes that this global awareness has prompted governments to develop measures and policies aimed at eradicating the perpetuation of IFFs, such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Common Reporting Standard (CRS); a set of principles for the cross-border implementation of financial information automatic exchange between countries, to assist tax authorities track offshore holdings of tax payers;

Notes that in an effort to ensure the domestication and implementation of the above international legal framework, the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) published the Income Tax (Common Reporting Standard) Regulations, 2019. Through this framework, Nigeria aims to commence the implementation of a standardized automatic exchange of information this year, in order to curb future revenue losses due to tax evasion;

Further notes that although Nigeria is taking steps to curtail IFFs, especially from tax evasion, billions of dollars have already been lost to IFFs. A CBN Financial Stability Report (2014) estimated that 35% of illicit financial flows out of Nigeria could be attributed to oil bunkering. Until the recent economic recession, the oil sector accounted for 95% of Nigeria's foreign exchange earnings and 80% of Nigeria's total budgetary

revenue. It has therefore become imperative to recover some of these funds so as to increase short-term national revenues, particularly to alleviate the pressures of the current Covid-19 pandemic, while implementing mechanism to prevent further IFFs;

Aware that international best practices and examples from countries such as South Africa and Italy, have shown that a carefully formulated funds and asset repatriation scheme, that consists of specific timeframes; an effective legislative framework that enforces anti-money laundering and anti-corruption measures; competent enforcement authorities; adequate resources and cooperation (both international and domestic), could have multiple benefits for a country. This could provide an avenue for Nigeria to repatriate lost resources, provide relevant authorities with otherwise unavailable information about illicit cross-border transfer channels and potentially deter future IFF practices; and

Convinced that in order to foster the repatriation of Nigerian offshore funds, the Nigerian government could introduce an appealing, yet legally acceptable offshore repatriation framework, with legal and economic incentives to taxpayers and Multinational Corporation to repatriate such resources. Such a framework, could allow Nigeria reclaim billions of lost revenue, which could be injected into the economy to boost economic growth. In light of the recent global crisis, it is critical that Nigeria enhances its national revenue to revive the economy and support its citizens and local businesses, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate the Senate Committees on Finance, Anti-Corruption & Financial Crimes, Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions to:*
 - a. *investigate the phenomenon of illicit financial flows; and*
 - b. *appraise the Federal Government's current policy framework to curb the continuous loss of Nigeria's revenue to illicit financial flows;*
- ii. *Mandate the Senate Committees on Finance, National Planning, Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes, Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions and to appraise the Federal Inland Revenue Service's (FIRS) current framework for tracing, identifying, preventing and sanctioning cross-border tax evasion and other illicit financial outflows;*
- iii. *Invite the Minister of Finance and the Executive Heads of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU), The Nigerian Export-Import Bank (NEXIM), Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and any other relevant institution, to address the Committee on the continuous loss of government revenue to illicit financial flows and to present reports on the measures being sought to curb revenue losses, particularly the coordinated implementation of the automatic exchange of information standard, in order to prevent further revenue leakages and curb tax evasion and money laundering activities; and*
- iv. *Mandate the Committee to advise the Senate on a holistic legislative framework on how to repatriate lost revenue due to IFFs, mitigate future unabated illicit financial flows and provide an efficient strategy for the re-investment of these repatriated resources into the Nigerian economy.*

BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

1. Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 01) - *Concurrence*
Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).
2. FCT Health Insurance Agency (Est, etc) Bill, 2020 (HB. 60) - *Concurrence*

Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).

3. Pharmacy Council of Nigeria Act CAP. P17, L FN, 2004 (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 334)
- *Concurrence*

Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).

4

Wednesday, 1st July, 2020

16

4. Environmental Health Officers (Registration, etc) Bill, 2020 (HB. 44) - *Concurrence*

Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Wednesday 1 st July, 2020	12:00noon	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
2.	Environment	Wednesday 1 st July, 2020	1:00pm	Committee Room 107 New Senate Building
3.	Ad-hoc Committee on Investigation of the Alleged Financial Recklessness in the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)	Wednesday 1 st July, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 221 New Senate Building
4.	Public Accounts	Wed. 1 st - Thu. 2 nd July, 2020 (Public Hearing)	11:00am	Hearing Room 4 White House
5.	Aviation	Thursday 2 nd July, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 117 New Senate Building
6.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Thursday 2 nd July, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
7.	Power	Tuesday 7 th July, 2020	2:00pm	Committee Room 224 New Senate Building

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS,
ABUJA