



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 12th May, 2020

1. The Senate met at 10:24 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 5th May, 2020.
Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Messages from Mr. President:**
The President of the Senate announced that he had received four (4) letters from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:
 - (a) **Confirmation of Appointments:**



PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

28th April, 2020

*Distinguished Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE NIGERIAN LAW REFORM COMMISSION

In compliance with the provision of Section 2(2) of Nigerian Law Reform Commission Act, No. 7 of 1979, I write to forward to the Senate for confirmation the underlisted four (4) names of nominees as Chairman and full-time members of the Nigerian Law Reform Commission. Their CVs are attached herewith.

S/N	Name	Position	Zone
1.	Prof. (Mrs.) Jummai A. M. Audi	Chairman	North Central

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2. | <i>Hon. Ebele Bernard Chima</i> | <i>Commissioner</i> | <i>South-East</i> |
| 3. | <i>Barr. Basse Dan Abia</i> | <i>Commissioner</i> | <i>South-South</i> |
| 4. | <i>Hon. Mohammed B. O. Ibraheem</i> | <i>Commissioner</i> | <i>South-West</i> |

2. *It is my hope that the Senate will consider and confirm the nominees in the usual expeditious manner.*

3. *Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

(b) Confirmation of Appointments:



PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

4th May, 2020

Distinguished Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF TWO (2) BOARD
MEMBERS OF THE NIGERIA DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

In compliance with the provision of Section 5(2)(4) of the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, I write to request for confirmation by the Senate, the appointment of the following two (2) nominees to fill existing vacancies as non-Executive Directors in the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC). Their CVs are attached herewith.

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Zone</i>
1.	<i>Mrs. Diana O. Okonta</i>	<i>Non-Executive Director</i>	<i>South South</i>
2.	<i>Mrs. Ya'ana Talib Yaro</i>	<i>Non-Executive Director</i>	<i>North East</i>

2. *It is my hope that the Senate will consider and confirm the nominees in the usual expeditious manner.*

3. *Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

(c) *Confirmation of Appointments:*

PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

6th May, 2020

*Distinguished Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

APPOINTMENT OF CAREER AMBASSADORS-DESIGNATE

In accordance to section 171 (1), (2)(c) & sub-section (4) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended, I have the honour to forward for confirmation by the Senate, the underlisted forty-two (42) names of nominees as Career Ambassadors-Designate. Copies of their Curriculum Vitae are attached herewith.

S/N	Name	State
1.	C. O. Nwachukwu	Abia
2.	A. Kefas	Adamawa
3.	R. U. Brown	Akwa Ibom
4.	G. A. Odudigbo	Anambra
5.	O. C. Onowu	Anambra
6.	Y. S. Suleiman	Bauchi
7.	E. S. Agbana	Bayelsa
8.	B. B. M. Okoyen	Bayelsa
9.	G. M. Okoko	Benue
10.	A. M. Garba (F)	Borno
11.	M. I. Bashir	Borno
12.	M. O. Abam	Cross River
13.	A. E. Allotey (F)	Cross River
14.	G. E. Edokpa	Edo
15.	A. N. Madubuiké	Enugu
16.	Adamu Lamuwa	Gombe
17.	Mr. Innocent A. Iwejuo	Imo
18.	M. S. Abubakar	Jigawa
19.	Y. A. Ahmed	Jigawa
20.	S. D. Umar	Kaduna
21.	A. Sule	Kano
22.	G. Y. Hamza	Kano
23.	N. Rimi	Katsina
24.	L. S. Ahmed-Remawa (F)	Katsina
25.	M. Manu	Kebbi
26.	I. R. Ocheni (F)	Kogi
27.	I. A. Yusuf	Kogi
28.	M. Abdulraheem (F)	Kwara
29.	Mrs. W. A. Adedeji	Lagos
30.	A. U. Ogah	Nasarawa

31.	A. A. Musa (F)	Niger
32.	N. A. Kolo	Niger
33.	S. O. Olaniyan	Ogun
34.	A. R. Adejola	Ogun
35.	O. E. Awe	Ondo
36.	O. O. Aluko	Osun
37.	I. A. Alatishe	Osun
38.	V. A. Adeleke	Oyo
39.	M. S. Adamu	Plateau
40.	I. N. Charles	Rivers
41.	Z. M. Ifu	Taraba
42.	B. B. Hamman	Yobe

2. It is my hope that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the Senate.

3. Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

(d) Confirmation of Appointments:



PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

11th May, 2020

Distinguished Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

**REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF FOUR (4)
MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL CHARACTER COMMISSION**

In compliance with the provision of Section 154(1) of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I write to request for confirmation by the Senate, the appointment of the following Four (4) nominees as Members of the Federal Character Commission as replacement of my earlier submission for Delta, Ebonyi, Lagos and Nasarawa States. Their CVs are attached herewith.

S/N	Name	Position	State	Remarks
1.	Hon. Moses Anaughe	Member	Delta	New Appointment
2.	Chief George Afamefuna Ossi	Member	Ebonyi	New Appointment
3.	Abdul Wasiu Kayode Bawa-Allah	Member	Lagos	New Appointment
4.	Barr. Alakayi Toro Mamman	Member	Nasarawa	New Appointment

2. *It is my hope that the Senate will consider and confirm the nominees in the usual expeditious manner.*

3. *Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

4. **Announcement:**

Inauguration:

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Olubunmi A. Adetunmbi (*Ekiti North*) as follows:



**AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION OF
ALLEGED FINANCIAL RECKLESSNESS
IN THE NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NDDC)**

11th May, 2020

*Distinguished Senator Ahmad I. Lawan,
The President of the Senate
National Assembly
Abuja*

Your Excellency,

**FORMAL INAUGURATION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION OF
THE ALLEGED FINANCIAL RECKLESSNESS IN THE NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION (NDDC)**

This is to inform Members of the Ad hoc Committee and other Distinguished Senators that the President of the Senate will formally inaugurate the Committee today Tuesday, 12th May, 2020 by 2:30pm in Conference Hall 022, Senate New Building.

All Members and other Distinguished Senators are cordially invited, please.

(Signed)
Senator Olubunmi A. Adetunmbi
Chairman

5. **Petitions:**

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Uche L. Ekwunife (*Anambra Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to two (2) petitions from her constituents:
- (a) Chief Edwin Obiabumuo, on behalf of Okuzu Leaders of Thought, against Rev. Uche U. Ibeabuchi as Anambra State representative member of the Federal Character Commission;
- (b) Oba Patriotic Union, against Rev. Uche U. Ibeabuchi as Anambra State representative member of the Federal Character Commission;

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.

- (ii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Abba P. Moro (*Benue South*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Simon P. Akor, on behalf of ASP Akor Udeh, No. 120305, against the Anambra State Police Command, over his missing brother. 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.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure (*Ondo Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the Midnight Bomb Explosions in Eleyowo Community along Akure-owo Road in Ondo Central Senatorial District of Ondo State on 28th March, 2020 at about 1:15am caused by Negligence of Nigerian Police Force Ordinance Department of its Failure to Ensure Standards for Compliance. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

aware of the bomb explosion that rocked Eleyowo Community in Ilu-Abo in Akure North Local Government Area of Ondo Central Senatorial District, Ondo State;

also aware that the incident occurred in the early hours of 28th March, 2020 at the about 1:15am while people of Eleyowo Community were far asleep. However, through the mercy of God, no life was lost though, many people sustained various degrees of injuries and many are still currently receiving treatment in various hospitals in the State, while many properties were damaged by the incidence of the explosions ranging to several millions of Naira loss to the victims including Possibilities Church of All Nations and Aina Auta Secondary School in Eleyowo Community along Akure-Owo express road in Ondo State;

notes that the cause of the explosions was due to the negligence of Nigerian Police Force who without proper checks and certification, chose to escort a faulty and unserviceable truck loaded with bomb Explosives from Lagos and heading to a Quarry company in Edo State. The vehicle developed technical faults along the way and smoke came out of the engine which eventually led to the explosion causing serious damages to several properties of individuals, corporate bodies and church organizations ranging to several millions of Naira loss to the people of Ondo Central and Nigeria in general;

deeply concerned that though no life was lost, the explosion however, left not less than fifty people with various degrees of injuries with the injured receiving treatment at Federal Medical Center Owo and other private hospitals and Clinics in Akure, Ondo State.

further aware that the Ondo Police Command through the State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Undie Adie had since confirmed the incidence that led to the explosions which was due to a breakdown of Police piloted truck conveying the explosives bombs (dynamites) to an authorized quarry location in Edo State under the instructions of the Police Authority and that the movement was well authorized, piloted and guided by experienced Police experts from Police Explosive Ordinance Department trained in the field of explosives and weapon management.

notes that under normal conditions such movements of Bombs explosives should be conveyed by a Police standardized vehicle with all gadgets for detonation, in case of occurrence of fire on the way, but in this case non-existence of such standardized Police vehicles has led to compromise of standards by Police authorities to escort explosives conveyed in old public vehicles without fire extinguishers, detonation equipment etc, which then led to this disaster of high magnitude.

also aware that no life was lost in the incidence but several properties worth millions of Naira belonging Possibilities Church of All Nation and a Secondary School opposite the Church and several properties of individuals, poor farmers and Civil Servants were completely destroyed by the explosions due to negligence of Nigeria Police Force for compromising standard of vehicles and rendered them homeless as we speak and therefore needs Federal Government accelerated action to intervene on how to provide relief materials, and financial support for renovation and reconstruction of their properties.

concerned that this is a clear tort of negligence jointly committed by Nigerian Police Force and its officials against the affected innocent Nigerians whose properties have been destroyed by this bomb explosions;

note that under normal conditions such ammunition like bomb should be conveyed from one location to another with vehicles that are new and tested to be road-worthy that cannot develop such engine problems like the old, used and unserviceable vehicle of the kind that led to outbreaks of fire which now cause such explosions that has led to such significant damages to properties of innocent Nigerians in Eleyowo Community in Ondo Central Senatorial District of Ondo State; and

further aware that many Nigerians as a result of this explosions will be deprived of their livelihood, displaced from home. Many injured are currently receiving treatment in various private and Public hospitals with huge payment of hospital bills to be made during their discharge from the hospitals and many secondary school students from damaged school classrooms and laboratories will have no place to continue their studies as a result of the damages caused by this explosions. Thousands of Christian worshipers at Possibilities Church of All Nations ground whose properties have been destroyed will be denied their place of worship for the time being unless Government comes to their aid to accelerate reconstruction of damaged church and school buildings etc.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to carry out investigation on the level of contributory negligence of not ensuring standards on the part of Police Authority and prescribed standards, required by Police for conveying bombs explosives around the country to henceforth prevent future occurrence;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government of Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected victims whose houses and churches have been destroyed as a result of the explosions;
- (iii) urge the Police Authority to particularly provide financial support to Possibilities Church of All Nations to commence renovation and rebuilding of its over 18 Church buildings submerged and damaged academic block buildings of a private secondary caused by the negligence of its officers during the course of their official duties;
- (iv) urge the Government of Ondo State to graciously come to the aids of all victims whose roof has been destroyed by the explosions to renovate them with accelerated action, now that rainy season have set in;
- (v) urge all well-meaning private and public organizations and well meaning individuals in Nigeria to support the reconstruction of the School and Church organizations affected by these explosions;
- (vi) urge owners of the explosives to immediately set up all machineries in motion for assessment and payment of adequate compensation package to the victims of the disaster caused by the explosions; and

- (vii) urge Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to provide immediate intervention for reconstruction of damaged part of Akure-Owo road caused by the explosions to ease and restore movements and transportation of goods along the road.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to carry out investigation on the level of contributory negligence of not ensuring standards on the part of Police Authority and prescribe standards, required by Police for conveying bombs explosives around the country to henceforth prevent future occurrence of these kind of bomb explosives — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government of Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected victims whose houses and churches have been destroyed as a result of the explosions — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Police Authority to particularly provide financial support to Possibilities Church of All Nations to commence renovation and rebuilding of its over 18 Church buildings submerged and damaged academic block buildings of a private secondary caused by the negligence of its officers during the course of their official duties — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Government of Ondo State to graciously come to the aids of all victims whose roof has been destroyed by the explosions to renovate them with accelerated action, now that rainy season have set in — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):

Question: That the Senate do urge all well-meaning private and public organizations and well meaning individuals in Nigeria to support the reconstruction of the School and Church organizations affected by these explosions — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vi):

Question: That the Senate do urge owners of the explosives to immediately set up all machineries in motion for assessment and payment of adequate compensation package to the victims of the disaster caused by the explosions — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vii):

Question: That the Senate do urge Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to provide immediate intervention for reconstruction of damaged part of Akure-Owo road caused by the explosions to ease and restore movements and transportation of goods along the road — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to carry out investigation on the level of contributory negligence of not ensuring standards on the part of Police Authority and prescribe standards, required by Police for conveying bombs explosives around the country to henceforth prevent future occurrence of these kind of bomb explosives;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government of Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected victims whose houses and churches have been destroyed as a result of the explosions;

- (iii) urge the Police Authority to particularly provide financial support to Possibilities Church of All Nations to commence renovation and rebuilding of its over 18 Church buildings submerged and damaged academic block buildings of a private secondary caused by the negligence of its officers during the course of their official duties;
- (iv) urge the Government of Ondo State to graciously come to the aids of all victims whose roof has been destroyed by the explosions to renovate them with accelerated action, now that rainy season have set in;
- (v) urge all well-meaning private and public organizations and well meaning individuals in Nigeria to support the reconstruction of the School and Church organizations affected by these explosions;
- (vi) urge owners of the explosives to immediately set up all machineries in motion for assessment and payment of adequate compensation package to the victims of the disaster caused by the explosions; and
- (vii) urge Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to provide immediate intervention for reconstruction of damaged part of Akure-Owo road caused by the explosions to ease and restore movements and transportation of goods along the road (*S/Res/146/01/20*).

7. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Ifeanyi P. Ubah (*Anambra South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the indiscriminate high Customs duties charged on the importation of medical drugs and equipment by the Nigeria Customs disregarding the Federal Government waiver on importation of essential items during the COVID-19 pandemic. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter.

Matter to stand over to the next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

8. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Kola A. Balogun (*Oyo South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the demise of Chief Richard Osulolale Akinjide (SAN) on 21st April, 2020 at the age of 85. He stated that he was born in Ibadan, Oyo State and attended the Oduduwa College, Ile-Ife before moving to the United Kingdom for his Higher Education. He stressed that he rose to become a Minister of Education in the Second Republic and one time Legal Adviser to the National Party of Nigeria (NPN) in 1978 before being appointed as a Hon. Minister of Justice/Attorney-General of the Federation during the Shehu Shagari led Administration. He urged the Senate to observe a minute silence in his honour.

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased

9. 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 Cushion the Devastating Effect of Rain/wind Storm Disaster on Ai-fam Community of Owukpa District in Ogbadibo Local Government Area in Benue South Senatorial District of Benue State. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes with great sadness that on April 25, 2020, there was an all night rain fall in Ai-fam community of Owukpa district of Ogbadibo local government area in the Benue South Senatorial District of Benue State;

also notes with grave pain that the heavy downpour was accompanied with a tornadious windstorm which brought down over 150 buildings, valuables and several means of livelihood worth millions of naira;

further notes with great concern that over two hundred people in that community have been injured and rendered homeless;

further notes that the roofs of the 1000 capacity Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, the Ahor market and the LGEA Primary school were all blown off; and

deeply worried that full blown rainy season is approaching and scores of people have no roofs over their heads.

Accordingly resolves to:

urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency to quickly mobilize focal persons to supply relief and rehabilitation materials to the community to mitigate the sufferings of the affected by the windstorm.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency to quickly mobilize focal persons to supply relief and rehabilitation materials to the community to mitigate the sufferings of the affected by the windstorm — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through National Emergency Management Agency to quickly mobilize focal persons to supply relief and rehabilitation materials to the community to mitigate the sufferings of the affected by the windstorm (*S/Res/147/01/20*).

10. Executive Communications:

Rising on Rule 1(b):

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of appointments and referred same to relevant Committees as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|---|
| (i) | Career Ambassadorial-Designate
Nominees | — | Committee on Foreign Affairs to report within two(2) weeks. |
| (ii) | Nigerian Law Reform
Commission Nominees | — | Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within two(2) weeks. |
| (iii) | Members of Nigeria Deposit
Insurance Corporation (NDIC)
Nominees | — | Committee on Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions to report within two(2) weeks. |
| (iv) | Members of Federal Character
Commission Nominees | — | Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs to report within two(2) weeks. |

(Senate Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

11. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act CAP B3 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 178) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 415) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Allocation of Revenue (Federation Account, etc) Act CAP A15 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 416) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 417) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 418) — *Read the First Time.*

12. Sickle Cell Anaemia (Control and Prevention) Bill, 2020 (SB. 166):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the prevention, control and management of Sickle Cell Anaemia and for other Purposes Connected Therewith, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Samuel O. Egwu — Ebonyi North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

13. Advanced Healthcare Development Fund (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (SB. 371):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Advanced Healthcare Development Fund and Other Related Matters, 2020 be read the Second Time (*Senator Sandy O. Onor — Cross River Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

14. Motions:**(a) Need to Enforce Presidential Order Banning Interstate Movement:**

Motion made: That the Senate alarmed at the spike in the number of COVID-19 cases in the country, which currently stands at 4,641 cases and 150 deaths;

also alarmed that confirmed daily cases of COVID-19 by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, NCDC is now in hundreds;

aware that the President, in his wisdom and relying on advisories by relevant authorities and powers conferred on him by Section 3 of the Quarantine Act, CAP Q2 Laws of the Federation 2004 issued the Proclamation Order on the General Management of COVID-19 banning non-essential inter-state passenger travels until further notice in order to contain the deadly novel Coronavirus;

also aware of the Presidential Order declaring dusk to dawn curfew all over the country;

seriously worried by the numerous reports and trending videos on the flagrant breach of the curfew and interstate travel;

aware that the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 has raised alarm over what it described as "Increased level of interstate movement, worsened by the dubious concealment of people in food-carrying vehicles";

further aware that the Nigeria Governors' Forum has equally raised serious concerns over the way Nigerians crisscross the country in their numbers despite the subsisting order to the contrary;

conscious of the very grave implications of the brazen breach of the Presidential Order restricting interstate movements;

equally conscious of the fact that the nation's security agencies, particularly the Police, have the responsibility to enforce law and order, including the presidential ban on interstate movement; and

very worried about reports of alleged complicity in the said breaches by those who are supposed to enforce compliance with the directives of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) condemn in strongest terms the barefaced breach of the Presidential Order on interstate movements;
- (ii) urge Nigerians to strictly comply with these orders for their own safety and to quicken the nation's victory over the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (iii) urge the Inspector-General of Police, Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and heads of all Security Agencies charged with enforcing the ban on interstate travel to investigate the alleged complicity of their officers in the breach of the curfew and ban non-essential interstate travels and bring to book anyone found wanting; and
- (iv) urge the Inspector-General of Police and the Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to fully enforce Presidential Orders on curfew and ban on non-essential interstate travel as well as ensure that their various commands cooperate with respective State authorities in enforcing the Presidential Orders and other protocols aimed at rolling back the COVID-19 pandemic (*Senator Ike Eweremadu — Enugu West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do condemn in strongest terms the barefaced breach of the Presidential Order on interstate movements — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge Nigerians to strictly comply with these orders for their own safety and to quicken the nation's victory over the COVID-19 pandemic — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Inspector-General of Police, Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and heads of all Security Agencies charged with enforcing the ban on interstate travel to investigate the alleged complicity of their officers in the breach of the curfew and ban non-essential interstate travels and bring to book anyone found wanting — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Inspector-General of Police and the Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to fully enforce presidential orders on curfew and ban on non-essential interstate travel as well as ensure that their various commands cooperate with respective State authorities in enforcing the presidential orders and other protocols aimed at rolling back the COVID-19 pandemic — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) condemn in strongest terms the barefaced breach of the Presidential Order on interstate movements;
 - (ii) urge Nigerians to strictly comply with these orders for their own safety and to quicken the nation's victory over the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (iii) urge the Inspector-General of Police, Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and heads of all Security Agencies charged with enforcing the ban on interstate travel to investigate the alleged complicity of their officers in the breach of the curfew and ban non-essential interstate travels and bring to book anyone found wanting; and
 - (iv) urge the Inspector-General of Police and the Commandant-General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to fully enforce presidential orders on curfew and ban on non-essential interstate travel as well as ensure that their various commands cooperate with respective State authorities in enforcing the presidential orders and other protocols aimed at rolling back the COVID-19 pandemic (*S/Res/148/01/20*).
- (b) ***Urgent Need for the Federal Government to Take Drastic Actions to Bring an End the Act of Banditry and Kidnapping in Niger East Senatorial District:***

Motion made: That the Senate do note that the act of banditry and kidnapping has become a daily incidence now in Katsina, Kebbi, Kaduna, Niger and Zamfara States for sometimes now with huge consequence of loss of lives, means of livelihood and displacement of communities. Despite the present COVID-19 pandemic the attacks have continued;

further notes that on 22nd April this year bandits struck communities of Madaka, Bakacin Hatsi, Tunga Bako, Uregi, Ushama, Sambuga, Ufaka, Pangu Gari Maguga in Rafi Local Government Area of Niger State where some members of the communities including 9 Vigilantes were killed, kidnapped and valuables including cows, farm produce, motorcycles and money carted away;

recalls that on the 25th April, 2020 communities in Shiroro Local Government have been under consistent attacks, and these communities include Zongoro, Kwaki, Magami, Masuku, Galadiman Kogo, Yinakpa, Kapna, Aleyin, Rafin Senyin, Amuko, Farin Doki, Gape and Gangagi all in Erena Ward and many other villages in Gurmana Ward were

all recently invaded such as Kokki, Sarkin Zama, Jabuki among others killing, raping and carted away with herds of cattle and other valuables these areas have been the epic center of banditry activities in Niger State;

notes that exactly on the 6th to 10th of May, 2020 Rafi Local Government came under siege again for almost five days stretch by these same bandits where they attacked residents of Godaro, Karaya, Makaranta, Kagara low cost communities and its environs in Rafi Local Government of Niger State and rustled several cows and kidnapped almost about 10 people including a five months old baby and killed a retired Secretary of Kagara General Hospital;

further recalls that almost at the same time the people of Beni and Katarma and Hayin Dogo communities in Munya Local Government were attacked with one man killed, while his wife and grandson were kidnapped. In Adunu ward of Paikoro Local Government able youths were kidnapped and 3 others were killed, the same attacks in Tufa in Gurara LGA and Tafa LGA all of Niger State, and which all shares border with the Federal Capital Territory and its environs witnessed the biggest callous attack ever in their communities by these bandits killing almost 50 people including soldiers, the police and civilians including a little girl and burning houses as well as rustled several cows and kidnapped many that till today have not returned;

aware that sometimes ago Federal Government had made frantic effort in curbing the menace by setting up Operation Sharan Daji and inter-agency task force to tackle cases of banditry, cattle rustling and kidnapping in Kaduna, Katsina and Zamfara States then, but unfortunately that Operation Sharan Daji has not reached Niger State;

further aware that the five States Governors who shared borders with Kamuku forest, which for long became the hub of armed bandits that terrorise Kaduna, Niger, Katsina, Kebbi and Zamfara States met with the Securities Agencies Chiefs sometime last year to find a common solution to the scourge of banditry, cattle rustling and kidnapping but up till now the menace continue by the bandits with bigot;

worried by the rise in banditry in parts of the State in the last two months, Niger State Governor has declared an all-out war on the armed criminals terrorizing the State. The governor said the dialogue and amnesty offered the bandits in some of the States mentioned seems to have failed and that therefore the government needs to take drastic action because, as government, we cannot fold our hands and see criminals take over the State;

cognizance that inspite the of intense military and other securities operations and surveillance in Niger, Kaduna, Kastina and Zamfara, negotiation and granting of amnesty to the bandits by Zamfara and Kastina States, these bandits continue to unleash their callous act of kidnap, destructions of properties and killing of innocent people in both States and Niger State unabated;

worried that the continuous security challenges and related attacks by bandits on towns, villages and communities in Rafi, Shiroro and Munya as well as other villages in Niger East Senatorial District have meted untold hardship on the people and subjected the affected areas under serious survival threat; and

further worried that if this menace is not drastically and promptly addressed now, these communities who are mostly farmers chased out of their homes and deserted their farms with no hope of returning soon with the current raining season, the consequence is going to be huge and it will negatively affect the food sufficiency, the fight against COVID-19 infection, economic diversification policy and recent border closures of the Federal Government which can cause food insecurity in the land.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to establish a permanent military base at the boundary between Alawa and Uregi areas of Shiroro and Rafi Local Government areas of Niger State to restore confidence in the security and safety of the affected communities including commuters flying Kaduna - Mokwa Trunk 'A' route to Lagos; and
- (ii) urge the Chief of Army Staff to form a military operation similar to Operation Sharan Daji to mop up these bandits in their safe new abode at Bakacin Hatsi along Madaka town and Uregi, the Alawa axis as well as Kamuku forest in Niger State and order the military base and Operation Sharan Daji to mop up bandits operating within entire Niger East Senatorial District and its environs in Niger State (*Senator Mohammed S. Musa — Niger East*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to establish a permanent military base at the boundary between Alawa and Uregi areas of Shiroro and Rafi Local Government areas of Niger State to restore confidence in the security and safety of the affected communities including commuters flying Kaduna - Mokwa Trunk 'A' route to Lagos — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Chief of Army Staff to form a military operation similar to Operation Sharan Daji to mop up these bandits in their safe new abode at Bakacin Hatsi along Madaka town and Uregi, the Alawa axis as well as Kamuku forest in Niger State and order the military base and Operation Sharan Daji to mop up bandits operating within entire Niger East Senatorial District and its environs in Niger State — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to establish a permanent military base at the boundary between Alawa and Uregi areas of Shiroro and Rafi Local Government areas of Niger State to restore confidence in the security and safety of the affected communities including commuters flying Kaduna - Mokwa Trunk 'A' route to Lagos; and
 - (ii) urge the Chief of Army Staff to form a military operation similar to Operation Sharan Daji to mop up these bandits in their safe new abode at Bakacin Hatsi along Madaka town and Uregi, the Alawa axis as well as Kamuku forest in Niger State and order the military base and Operation Sharan Daji to mop up bandits operating within entire Niger East Senatorial District and its environs in Niger State (*S/Res/149/01/20*).
- (c) ***The Rising Spate of Armed Banditry Attacks and Persistent Killings in Katsina State:***
Motion made: That the Senate do note with dismay and disapproval, the rising wave of coordinated armed attacks in several parts of Katsina State by murderous bandits which have led to mass killings of persons, in addition to other heinous criminal acts including cattle rustling, kidnapping and mass displacement of people from their ancestral lands;

concerned that even while Katsina State, like the rest of the country is groaning under the current plight of the Coronavirus pandemic, the plight of the indigenes of the State is daily being compounded by the devastating activities of the marauding bandits which have left many people in complete fear and despair;

recalls that apart from the attacks that have been going on for months which were mostly unreported, very recently, between Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th May, 2020, armed bandits carried out multiple attacks on several communities in Faskari, Kankara, Sabuwa, Dandume, Batsari and Jibia Local Government Areas of the State during which the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Aminu Abdulkareem, was shot and the Head of Administration of Danmusa was kidnapped together with his son to an unknown location. The DPO is yet to recover from the serious gunshot injuries inflicted on him by the bandits;

further recalls that about the same period, armed bandits invaded several communities in Kankara Local Government of Katsina State killing so many people, while carrying out other heinous crimes including cattle rustling, kidnapping, and also causing forced displacement of the villagers from their ancestral homes;

aware that in the last two weeks, so many people have been killed and more livestock rustled by the bandits across the State;

aware also that during the same period, armed bandits launched more attacks on several villages during which several people were killed, others injured and cattle rustled. The bandits used sophisticated weapons including AK 47 during the deadly operations; in fact they are so emboldened that they now carry out their operations on a daily basis even in broad daylight;

concerned that these communities are becoming desperate and may resort to self-help leading eventually to state of anarchy;

previously alarmed by the rising wave of insecurity and upsurge of criminal activities across the country, on Wednesday, 29th January, 2020, resolved and set up an Ad-hoc Committee on Nigerian Security Challenges, highlighting the urgent need to restructure, review, and reorganize the current security architecture; and

convinced that there is an urgent need to once again draw the attention of the Federal Government, particularly security agencies comprising the Nigerian Police, the Nigerian Army and other relevant security agencies to the grave security situation in Katsina State.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to direct the Nigeria Police; and Nigerian Army to beef up personnel and equipment deployment to flashpoints of armed banditry in Katsina State in order to flush out the bandits and restore peace in the State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to direct the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the victims of these attacks as many of them have lost their livelihoods habitats, and are in dire need of humanitarian assistance; and

- (iii) urge the Federal Government to immediately begin the implementation of the recommendations of the "Report of the Senate Ad hoc Committee on Nigeria Security Challenges: Need to Restructure, Review, and Re-Organize the Current Security Architecture" as a way of addressing holistically the current security challenges confronting the nation (*Senator Bello Mandiya — Katsina South*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to direct the Nigeria Police and Nigeria Army to beef up personnel and equipment deployment to flashpoints of armed banditry in Katsina State in order to flush out the bandits and restore peace in the State — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to direct the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the victims of these attacks as many of them have lost their livelihoods habitats, and are in dire need of humanitarian assistance — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to immediately begin the implementation of the recommendations of the "Report of the Senate Ad hoc Committee on Nigeria Security Challenges: Need to Restructure, Review, and Re-Organize the Current Security Architecture" as a way of addressing holistically the current security challenges confronting the nation — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

"That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to assist the State to station a formidable military base, Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to provide security surveillance in the affected Local Government Area to ensure safety in the area" (*Senator Abdullahi K. Barkiya — Katsina Central*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to direct the Nigeria Police and Nigeria Army to beef up personnel and equipment deployment to flashpoints of armed banditry in Katsina State in order to flush out the bandits and restore peace in the State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to direct the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian, Disaster Management and Social Development through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the victims of these attacks as many of them have lost their livelihoods habitats, and are in dire need of humanitarian assistance;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to immediately begin the implementation of the recommendations of the "Report of the Senate Ad hoc Committee on Nigeria Security Challenges: Need to Restructure, Review, and Re-Organize the Current Security Architecture" as a way of addressing holistically the current security challenges confronting the nation; and

- (iv) urge the Federal Government to assist the State to station a formidable military base, Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to provide security surveillance in the affected Local Government Area to ensure safety. (S/Res/150/01/20).

15. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 19th May, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 2:00 p.m.

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