



# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 8th July, 2020

1. The Senate met at 10:40 am. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**  
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 7th July, 2020.

*Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.*

3. **Message from Mr. President:**  
The President of the Senate announced that he had received a letter from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

**Confirmation of Appointment:**



**PRESIDENT  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

6<sup>th</sup> July, 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 NON-CAREER AMBASSADOR-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 appointment of Mr. John J. Usanga and Air Commodore Peter Ndabake Gana (Rtd) from Akwa Ibom and Niger States respectively, as Non-Career Ambassadors Designate. Copies of their Curriculum Vitae are attached herewith.*

*The Senate is kindly requested to recall my earlier submission of Mr. Oboro Effiong Akpabio and Brig. Gen. Bwala Yusuf Bukar from Akwa Ibom and Borno States respectively, vide letter dated 17th June, 2020, and substitute Mr. Oboro Effiong Akpabio with Mr. John J. Usanga, Akwa Ibom State and replace Brig. Gen. Bwala Yusuf Bukar, Borno State with Air Commodore Peter Ndabake Gana (Rtd), Niger State.*

*While hoping that this request will receive the usual expeditious consideration of the Senate. Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*(Signed)*

**Muhammadu Buhari**

**4. Petitions:**

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Mohammed A. Ndume (*Borno South*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Chike Onyali Chambers, on of behalf DC. Idris Aloma Zamdai, Service No. 37083, against the Nigeria Customs Service over his dismissal. 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 four (4) weeks.*

- (ii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Gershom H. Bassey (*Cross River South*) drew the attention of the Senate to petitions from the following:
- (a) Micheal Amadi Orwu, on behalf of Well and Stream Oil and Gas Limited, against Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), over DPR portal failure for their documents submission;
- (b) Mr. Maxwell Odum, on behalf of Capital DSE Diamond Subs Exploration Limited, against Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) over Website closure, which prevented the company from submitting their documents; and
- (c) Mr. Gabriel Chindah, on behalf of Multi-Tech Oil Field Services Limited, against Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), over the failure of the DPR website which prevented the company from uploading their documents.

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 four (4) weeks.*

**5. Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Philip A. Tanimu (*FCT*) drew the attention of the Senate to his persistent appeals for the inclusion of FCT indigenes on the Non-Career Ambassadorial list. He stated further that the fate of Mr. Habbis Ogbede's withdrawal from Sierra Leonean High Commission be determined. He urged the Senate to intervene in order to assist the FCT indigenes.

**6. Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Ifeanyi P. Ubah (*Anambra South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the numerous security check points between Ijebu-Ode, Ogun State and Onitsha bridge in Anambra State. He urged the relevant security authorities to reduce the number of check points to facilitate the smooth movement of goods and services across the eastern zone of Nigeria.

**7. Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Michael O. Bamidele (*Ekiti Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to Section 256[1&2] of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended). He stated that while Section 1 gave the Senate the constitutional power to confirm the appointment of the Chief Judge of the High Court of FCT upon the recommendation of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Section 2 states that the appointment of Judges of the same court shall be the prerogative of Mr. President upon the recommendation of the National Judicial Council (NJC) without recourse to the Senate for confirmation.

He therefore stated that the Senate should consider the correspondence from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, on the appointment of eleven (11) new Judges as information rather than a request for confirmation by the Senate, as no such legislative action is required by the Constitution.

**8. Valedictory Session:**

*Motion made:* That the Senate do now pay tributes in honour of Late Senator Adebayo Sikiru Osinowo (Lagos East) (28<sup>th</sup> November, 1955 - 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2020) (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**(i) Admission of former Senators, former and serving Members of the House of Representatives:**

*Motion made:* That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit former Senators, former and serving Members of the House of Representatives to the Floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Former Senators, former and serving Members of the House of Representatives accordingly admitted.*

**(ii) Admission of the family members, friends and dignitaries of the deceased:**

*Motion made:* That the Senate do suspend Rule 17(1) to admit the family members, friends and dignitaries of the deceased to the Floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Family members, friends and dignitaries of the deceased accordingly admitted.*

The following Senators paid tribute:

- (i) Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi
- (ii) Senator Eyinnaya H. Abaribe
- (iii) Senator Robert A. Boroffice
- (iv) Senator Orji Uzor Kalu
- (v) Senator Aliyu S. Abdullahi
- (vi) Senator Philip A. Tanimu
- (vii) Senator Ovie A. Omo-Agege
- (viii) Senator Solomon O. Adeola
- (ix) Senator Ibikunle O. Amosun
- (x) Senator Tolulope A. Odebiyi
- (xi) Senator Teslim K. Folarin
- (xii) Senator Mohammed D. Goje
- (xiii) Senator Samuel O. Egwu
- (xiv) Senator Biodun C. Olujimi
- (xv) Senator Saidu A. Alkali
- (xvi) Senator Godiya Akwashiki
- (xvii) Senator Francis A. Fadahunsi
- (xviii) Senator Kola A. Balogun
- (xix) Senator Anayo R. Okorochoa
- (xx) Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi
- (xxi) Senator Micheal O. Bamidele
- (xxii) Senator Ibrahim A. Gobir
- (xxiii) Senator Wangagha B. Degi-Eremienyo
- (xxiv) Senator Aishatu A. Dahiru
- (xxv) Senator Surajudeen A. Basiru

**Extension of Time:**

*Motion made:* That the Senate do sit this day beyond the time appointed for the termination of the Sitting of the Senate (Rule 13) (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

- (xxvi) Senator Yahaya I. Oloriegbe
- (xxvii) Senator Jibrin Isah
- (xxviii) Senator Olalekan R. Mustapha
- (xxix) Senator Nicholas O. Tofowomo
- (xxx) Senator Adelere A. Oriolowo
- (xxxi) Senator Ahmad I. Lawan

*Motion made:* That the Senate do:

- (i) offer prayers for the repose of his soul;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in his honour; and
- (iii) send a condolence delegation to the family, people and Government of Lagos State (*Senate Leader*).

**Proposed Resolution (i):**

*Question:* That the Senate do offer prayers for the repose of his soul — *Agreed to.*

**Proposed Resolution (ii):**

*Question:* That the Senate do observe a minute silence in his honour — *Agreed to.*

**Proposed Resolution (iii):**

*Question:* That the Senate do send a condolence delegation to the family, people and Government of Lagos State — *Agreed to.*

**Resolved:**

That the Senate do

- (i) offer prayers for the repose of his soul;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in his honour; and
- (iii) send a condolence delegation to the family, people and Government of Lagos State

*Senator Surajudeen A. Basiru led the Senate in prayers for the deceased.*

*One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.*

**9. Adjournment:**

And it being 2:33 p.m. the Senate adjourned sitting to Tuesday, 14th July, 2020 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

*Adjourned accordingly at 2:33 p.m.*

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