

# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 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. Counselling Practitioners (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 409) *First Reading* Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*).
- 2. Police Service Commission (Establishment) Act 2001 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 580) *First Reading* Sen. Bwacha, Emmanuel (*Taraba South*).
- 3. Corporate Affairs Commission Act No.3 2020 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 552) *First Reading* Sen. Manager, James Ebiowou (*Delta South*).
- 4. Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 548) *-First Reading* Sen. Omo-Agege, Ovie Augustine (*Delta Central*).
- Nigerian Research Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Bakassi (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 116)
    *First Reading* Sen. Bassey, Gershom Henry (*Cross River South*).

### PRESENTATION OF A REPORT

 Report of the Committee on Aviation Unfair Competition: Urgent Need to Protect Nigeria's Indigenous Airlines from Extinction due to Multiple Designations and Multiple Frequencies granted Foreign Airlines in Nigeria. Sen. Adeyemi, Smart (Kogi West)

 That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Aviation on the Unfair Competition: Urgent Need to Protect Nigeria's Indigenous Airlines from Extinction due to Multiple Designations and Multiple Frequencies granted Foreign Airlines in Nigeria - To be Laid.

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

# PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on INEC Confirmation of the Nomination of Professor Mahmood Yakubu for Appointment as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Sen. Gaya, Kabiru Ibrahim (Kano South) -That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on INEC on the Confirmation of the Nomination of Professor Mahmood Yakubu for Appointment as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

2. Report of the Committee on Power

Confirmation of the Nominations for Appointment as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Commissioner for the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)

Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua (Benue North East)

-That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on Power on the Confirmation of the Nomination of the following persons for Appointment as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Commissioner for the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).

NO.	NAMES	POSITION	
1.	Engineer Sanusi Garba	Chairman	
2.	Dr. Musiliu Olalekan Oseni	Vice Chairman	
3.	Aisha Mahmud	Commissioner	

 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 Captain Diamond Onoberhie against the Nigerian Navy for unjust treatment and refusal to promote him;
- b. 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;
- c. Petition from Ahmed Tijani Yusuf, Esq. on behalf of Akwa-Ibom Co-operative Fisheries Association Limited against the Mobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited for alleged refusal to pay the Sum of N11, 063,916, 000 (Eleven Billion, Sixty-Three Million, Nine Hundred & Sixteen Thousand Naira) compensation for Oil Spillage caused by its facilities from 1998-2012;
- d. Petition from Mr. John Z. Tumba against the National Examinations Council (NECO) for alleged unlawful dismissal from the service of the Council; and
- e. Petition from CSP Ebereuche Mike (rtd) Against the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) for the Poor Retirement Benefits/Pension of Retired Nigeria Police Officers

# **CONSIDERATION OF BILLS**

- 1. A Bill for an act to provide for the establishment of University of Aerospace and Aeronautics Oka Akoko and for matters of administration, discipline of students and for other connected matters therewith, 2020 (SB. 409) - Second reading Sen. Boroffice, Robert Ajayi (Ondo North).
- 2. A Bill for an Act to provide for the Legal Framework to establish the Federal Medical Centre Owutu Edda and for related matters, 2020 (SB. 295) *Second reading* Sen. Nnachi, Michael Ama (*Ebonyi South*).
- 3. A Bill for an Act to establish the National Integrated Community Development Agency for the mobilization of rural communities and the development of the rural areas in Nigeria; and to charge the National Integrated Community Development Agency with diverse functions directed towards the improvement of the quality of the life in the rural areas, 2020 (SB. 199) *Second reading* Sen. Oduah, Stella Adaeze (*Anambra North*).

### MOTIONS

1. Need for the Re-Construction and Dualization of Kano – Dambatta – Kazaure – Daura – Niger Boarder Road.

Sponsor: Senator Barau, I. Jibrin (Kano North)

### The Senate:

*Notes* that road infrastructure is very critical for economic and commercial development of any developing economy;

*Further Notes* that the Kano - Dambatta - Kazaure - Daura - road is a very important gateway that connects the North Western part of the country to the neighbouring Niger Republic;

*Observes* that the volume of traffic on the road has led to congestion thereby slowing down the free flow of vehicular movement and has become a source of worry to drivers and commuters alike;

*Concerned* that travel time on the road has tripled owing to the narrow nature of the road with its attendant traffic resulting in a slow-down of commercial activities as well as movement of goods;

*Disturbed* that armed robbers, taking advantage of the narrowness and non-dualization of the road, have become a law unto themselves by ambushing, robbing, dispossessing and killing commuters at will;

*Notes* that the state of the road requires immediate reconstruction and dualization to reduce the unacceptable level of accidents and robbery on the road; and

*Notes* that the importance of the road lies not only in the fact that it is a gateway to our neighbouring country, but also of its importance is the commercial, agricultural and other economic viability, especially the evacuation of agricultural and industrial produce which these cities have in abundance.

Accordingly resolves to:

- *i. Urge* the Federal Ministry of Works to designate the road for immediate Re-Construction and dualization; and
- *ii.* Urge the Federal Government to allocate adequate funds in the 2020 budget, currently being prepared, for the reconstruction and dualization of the Kano Dambatta Kazaure Daura road.
- 2. Approval for the restoration of Two (2) State Constituencies from Ushongo State Constituency of Benue State and the restoration of Agasha State Constituency from Guma State Constituency in compliance with the decisions of the Courts and Section 115 of the Constitution.

Sponsor: Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua (Benue North East)

### The Senate:

*Notes* the decision of the Federal High Court Abuja on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2005 in the case of *Ushongo Local Government v. INEC suit No. FHC/ABJ/CS/562/2004* which ordered the Independent National Electoral Commission to restore the suppressed Mata and Mbagwa State Constituencies in Ushongo Local Government Area of Benue State;

*Further notes* the decision of the Supreme Court on the 10/10/2018 in the case of INEC v. GUMA LGA and 2 Ors suit No. SC/195/2016 wherein the apex court affirmed the decision of the Court of Appeal delivered on 16/06/2015 in suit No.CA/MK/137/2012 on the immediate restoration of Agasha State Constituency in Guma Local Government of Benue State;

*Recalls* that sequel to the said decisions of the Federal High Court and that of the Supreme Court on the restoration of the Mata, Mbagwa and Agasha State Constituencies respectively, and upon the request of INEC, the House of Representatives and the Senate on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019, May 21, 2019 and May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the twilight of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Assembly respectively passed a concurrent resolution unanimously approving the restoration of two State Constituencies of Mata and Mbagwa from Ushongo State, and the restoration of Agasha State Constituency from Guma Local Government Area of Benue State in compliance with the orders of the courts and the provision of Section 115 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended;

*Recalls further* that due to the dissolution of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Assembly, its concurrent resolution on the restoration of the two suppressed state constituencies from Ushongo State Constituency and the restoration of Agasha State Constituency from Guma Local Government could not be transmitted to INEC for implementation hence the need for another resolution to approve the exercise as ordered by the Courts and in compliance with Sections 91 and 115 of the 1999 Nigerian Constitution; and

*Observes* that the delay in complying with the order of the Federal High Court in *Suit No FHC/ABJ/CS/562/2004* and that of the Supreme Court in Suit *No.SC/195/2016* on the restoration of Mata and Mbagwa State constituencies from Ushongo State Constituency and Agasha State Constituency from Guma State constituency of Benue State is a serious constitutional aberration against the spirit of Section 91 and 115 of the 1999 Nigerian constitution and has over the years unjustly denied the people of Mata , Mbagwa and Agasha of their due representation in the Benue State House of Assembly.

## Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Approve* the restoration of Mata State constituency from Ushongo State Constituency as directed by the Federal High Court comprising:
  - i. Ikov (2);
  - *ii. Mbagba* (07);
  - iii. Mbagwaza (08);
  - iv. Mbayegh (10); and
  - v. Uange (11).
- ii. *Approve* the restoration of Mbagwa State Constituency from Ushongo State Constituency as directed by the Federal High Court comprising:
  - i. Artikyese (01);
  - *ii.* Lessel (03);
  - iii. Mbaaka (04);
  - iv. Mbaanyam (05);
  - v. Mbaawe (06); and
  - vi. Mbakuha (09);
- iii. *Approve* the restoration of Agasha State Constituency by altering the boundaries of the current Guma State Constituency to create two State constituencies namely: Agasha State Constituency comprising Saghev, Ndzorov, Kaambe and Abinsi council wards, and Guma State Constituency comprising Uvir, Mbadwem, Mbabai, Mbawa,nyiev and mbayer/yandev council wards;
- iv. *Direct* the Independent National Electoral Commission to comply with this resolution to ensure the restoration of Mata and Mbagwa State Constituencies from Ushongo State and the restoration of Agasha State Constituency from Guma State Constituency, to be effected in the next State Houses of Assembly election after the current life of the Benue State House of Assembly in compliance with Section 115 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended; and
- v. *Seek* the concurrence of the House of Representatives in line with Section 115 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended.

3. The urgent need for priority attention and completion of the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road in Bayelsa State.

Sponsor: Sen. Degi-Eremienyo, W. Biobarakuma (Bayelsa East)

The Senate:

*Notes* that the Federal Government of Nigeria has had the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road project on the drawing board from the colonial era and eventually appropriated funds for its construction in the 1973 Budget proposal coded F227;

Aware that the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road alignment leads to Communities such as Ogbia, Nembe (Bassambiri), Nembe (Ogbolomabiri), Okpoma, Twon Brass, Egwema etc. in Ogbia, Nembe and Brass LGAs respectively;

*Further aware* that these Communities play host to Federal Government oil and gas critical assets of high Strategic National economic interests;

*Reminded* specifically of the presence of Nigeria Agip oil Company multibillion dollars oil export terminal and tank farm as well as Brass LNG project; the multi billion dollars Brass fertilizer and petro chemical project in and around Brass Island besides Oloibiri, Bassambiri-Santa Babara, Nembe Creek SPDC oil fields all located along the main alignment of this road;

*Notes* that Brass oil and gas city project is proposed to position Nigeria as a leading hub for downstream oil and gas industrial and manufacturing activities in Africa and the world; and Brass is the terminal location of the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road;

*Worried* that absence of road in this area had negatively affected our foreign exchange earnings and National revenue. The fluctuations in oil production is attributable among other factors to the complex challenges bordering on surveillance and security of pipelines and other oil installations located in the swampy mangrove terrain with crisscrossing rivulets, tributaries, rivers and large bodies of water which empty into the Atlantic ocean. This situation has implication of threat to our National Security;

*Further worried* that the Federal Government losses several millions of Petro dollars on account of the noncompletion of the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road;

*Disturbed* that over the years, the attention of Government and occasional paltry budgetary provisions had never matched the Socio-Economic value derivable from the road when completed. Apparently, the five hundred and thirty five million, eight hundred thousand naira provided for the project by the Federal Ministry of works in the 2020 budget can be likened to a drop of water in an ocean; and

*Convinced* that if this road is given priority attention and completed it will serve as a main supply route to the Nigerian Naval Base at Egwema and other Military formations on the alignment of this road with the strategic benefits of effectively enforcing coordinated surveillance and security in the Central Niger Delta region where major oil and gas National critical assets are situated.

Accordingly resolve to:

- i. Commend the Federal Government on efforts at building and maintaining critical road infrastructure in various regions of the Country;
- ii. Urge the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Works to make adequate provision in the 2021 Budget to expeditiously execute the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road with the aim of completing it before the end of 2023; and
- iii. Urge the Federal Government to classify the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road as a top priority project deserving possible external funding for National Economic Interest and Security.

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4. Urgent need to deal with the outbreak of a strange ailment said to be Yellow Fever, ravaging Epeilo-Otukpa and Itabono-Owukpa communities in Ogbadibo Local Government Area of Benue State.

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

The Senate:

*Notes* with grave pain the outbreak of a strange ailment said to be yellow fever in Epeilo-Otukpa and Itabono-Owukpa communities of Ogbadibo Local Government Area of Benue South Senatorial District, Benue State, Nigeria;

*Notes further* that the strange ailment has not yet been effectively diagnosed by health authorities, even though, the Benue State Ministry of Health and Human Services has been able to intervene to some extent having collected samples and sent same to National Reference Laboratory to be able to establish the kind of organism that is causing the ailment and is availing victims of interim treatment; and

*Deeply saddened* that people are affected in the rural localities and dying on a daily basis in their numbers with Epeilo and Itabono Communities recording 20 and 25 deaths respectively, while death toll increases hourly and the disease is spreading to Ichama in Okpokwu where three deaths have been recorded.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal Ministry of Health, the National Arbovirus and Vector Research Centre (NAVRC) to investigate each case and respond to outbreaks;
- ii. *Urge* the Federal Ministry of Health to mobilize focal persons to the area to quickly complement the efforts of the Benue State Government to ascertain the nature of the ailment;
- iii. *Urge* the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to promptly put up surveillance to contain the disease and see to the treatment of victims and protect others from further contacting it;
- iv. *Further urge* the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), to synergize and support the people of Benue South Senatorial District and in particular the Epeilo-Otukpa and Itabono -Owukpa Communities, to treat, prevent and or reduce the number of cases and deaths; and
- v. Further urge the Federal Ministry of Health to immediately activate and set up a multiagency yellow fever emergency Operatives Centre (EOC) in Benue South, should the result come out positive for yellow fever, to conduct mass vaccination and awareness campaigns in Benue South Senatorial District, being that yellow fever is a completely vaccine-preventable disease as a single shot of the yellow fever vaccine protects for a lifetime.

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Tue. 15 <sup>th</sup> & Wed. 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2020	1:00pm	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
2.	Agriculture and Rural Development	Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December, 2020 (Executive Session)	11:00am	Committee Room 204 Senate New Building
3.	Public Accounts	Tue. 1 <sup>st</sup> – Thur. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Decmber, 2020 (Public Hearing)	11:00am	Hearing Room 4 White House Building

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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