



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 1st December, 2020

1. The Senate met at 11:01 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.

2. **Closed Session:**

Closed Session — 11:08 a.m.

Open Session — 11:40 a.m.

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in a Closed Session deliberated on issues bordering on the workings of the Senate in particular and the National Assembly in general.

3. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 25th November, 2020.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

4. **Messages from Mr. President:**

The President of the Senate announced that he had received two (2) letters from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

(a) ***Transmission of Finance Bill, 2020:***



PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

25th November, 2020

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

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

**TRANSMISSION OF THE FINANCE BILL, 2020 TO THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY FOR CONSIDERATION AND PASSAGE INTO LAW IN
SUPPORT OF THE 2021 BUDGET**

Pursuant to Sections 58 and 59 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I formally request that the Finance Bill, be considered by the Senate, for passage into law.

2. The Finance Bill, 2020 seeks to support the implementation of the 2021 Budget by proposing key reforms to specific taxation, customs, excise, fiscal and other laws. Specifically, this Bill's provisions:

- a. Adopt appropriate counter-cyclical fiscal policies to respond to the economic and revenue challenges precipitated by the decline in international oil prices, as well as the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Nigerian economy;
- b. Reform extant Fiscal Policies to prioritise job creation, economic growth, socio-economic development, domestic revenue mobilisation, as well as to foster closer coordination with Monetary and Trade Policies;
- c. Provide fiscal relief for taxpayers by reducing the applicable minimum tax rate for two (2) consecutive years of assessment, as well as reforming the commencement and cessation rules for small businesses;
- d. Propose measures to fund the Federal Government's COVID-19 Pandemic response and introduce provisions to enhance the recovery of corporate donations towards responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic, as well as any similar crises in the future;
- e. Amend certain aspects of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, to align this Act with the 1999 Constitution (as amended), as well as to enhance fiscal efficiencies by controlling the cost-to-revenue ratios of key State and Government-Owned Enterprises; and
- f. Amend the Public Procurement Act, to implement key procurement reforms previously proposed by the National Assembly, in 2019, to extend the scope of the Act to the Federal Judiciary and Legislature, accelerate procurement processes, increase mobilisation fee thresholds and provide for essential e-procurement reforms.

3. I trust that this Bill will be favourably considered by the National Assembly, to accelerate its passage into law, so as to support the implementation of the 2021 Federal Budget.

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

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

(b) Confirmation of Appointment:

PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA



27th November, 2020

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

**CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)**

Pursuant to Paragraph 14 of Part I(F) of the Third Schedule to the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, as amended, I hereby forward for confirmation by the Senate, the following two (2) nominees, as National Commissioners in the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). Their CVs are hereby attached.

S/No.	Name	Position	Zone
(i)	Prof. Sani Muhammad Adam	Commissioner	North Central
(ii)	Dr. Baba Bila	Commissioner	North East

2. The Senate is invited to note that this request is sequel to the expiration of tenure of Prof. Antonia Taiye Okoosi-Simbine Representing North Central and Alh. Saba Shettima Arfo Representing North East respectively.

3. While I trust that the Senate will consider and confirm the nominees in the usual expeditious manner, please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

5. Petition:

Rising on Order 41, Senator Gershom H. Bassey (*Cross River South*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Dunobene R. Perekeme, Esq., on behalf of Ogboinbiri Community, Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, against Nigeria Agip Oil Company (NAOC) for failure to pay compensation and provide palliatives to the community affected by the crude oil spillage. He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Order 41(3)] to report within four (4) weeks.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Order 42 and 52, Senator Kashim Shettima (*Borno Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the beheading of 67 farmers in Borno by Boko Haram Insurgents: Need for Urgent Decisive Action. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes that Borno State has been the epicenter of the despicable activities of Boko Haram for over a decade during which a conservative estimate of 40,000 people - mostly unarmed civilians - were brutally murdered, 2.5 million people displaced from their homes and farms, property worth trillions of naira wantonly destroyed and over 7 million people - mostly women and children - plunged into dire humanitarian needs;

notes also that the fight to control the border axis of the North-Eastern part of this country has claimed thousands of lives (military and civilian alike). That the fallen men and women of our Military, Police and Civilian JTF are our national heroes whom we must remember, pray for and care for their loved ones till the end of time;

harvest from their rice plantation at Kwashabe village in Zabarmari District of Jere Local Government Area, 20 kilometres north of Maiduguri, Borno State Capital and destroyed the farm;

observes that this attack is one of the major attacks perpetrated by this devilish group in addition to the February attack in Auno that killed 40 people, the assault in Foduma Koloram village of Gubio that killed almost 100 civilians in June while another attack in Usman Lawanti left another 40 dead;

observes also that last month, Boko Haram fighters killed 22 farmers working on irrigation fields near Maiduguri in two separate incidents;

further observes that while Nigerian Army's Super Camp strategy has commendably helped in reducing military fatalities, it has left rural areas, farms and roads acutely exposed to attacks;

concerned that, as the Wall Street Journal documented in a recent report and as supported by the testimonies of victims and survivors, while Maiduguri and other major cities are relatively safe, thanks to the efforts of this administration, Boko Haram insurgents are literally ruling our rural areas and farms such as the Damaturu-Maiduguri road especially around Jakana, Damboa-Maiduguri and Damaturu-Dapchi road where they mount checkpoints, rob, kill, destroy and abduct at will;

further concerned that the recent spike in deliberate, persistent and systematic targeting of herders, fishermen, loggers and now farmers will exacerbate the major food crisis in the North, lead an unprecedented surge in food prices across Nigeria and seriously damage our country's economy;

worried that we have watched verifiable footages of Nigerian soldiers struggling to quench thirst or feed themselves while trying hard to contain deadly advances of the insurgents. A case study in this is the lamentation on record last year of the former Commandant of Operation Lafiya Dole, General Olusegun Adeniyi, that his men lack the basic weapons and equipment to successfully fight Boko Haram;

disheartened that more than 67 citizens were beheaded while they were working in their farmland without any form of resistance or challenge from the Security Agencies stationed a few kilometres away;

worried also that the Nigerian military in conjunction with other Security Agencies up till today have not been able to quell the insurgency affecting the region despite the slogan by Government officials that the insurgents have been technically defeated; and

concludes that we cannot as a nation move forward until the lives of every Nigerian is protected and secured as the primary objective of government is the security and the protection of its citizens. Protecting the lives and property of citizens is the primary obligation of government and any government that cannot discharge this basic obligation loses any iota of legitimacy.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to immediately initiate a transitional process of phasing out the current over-stayed security chiefs and replacing them with new ones with new ideas and solutions;
- (ii) urge the President to take immediate steps to restructure, remodel and revamp the country's entire security architecture and provide enough state-of-the-art weapons and equipment to effectively combat the belligerent power of the insurgents;

- (iii) urge the President to immediately initiate probe into widespread allegations of corruption and leakages within the security structure and put mechanisms in place to foster transparency and ensure all resources meant and deployed for security are actually spent

on the needs on ground;

- (iv) urge the Federal Government to aggressively explore multilateral and bilateral options of partnership with the neighbouring countries of Chad, Niger and Cameroun towards reviving and strengthening the Multinational Joint Task Force and finding a lasting solution to the scourge of insurgency in the Lake Chad region;
- (v) urge the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency, recruit at least 10,000 Civilian JTF, versatile with the local terrain in Borno as Agro-Rangers under the aegis of the NCDSC to complement the efforts of the Nigerian Armed Forces;
- (vi) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and North-East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide succour and psychological support to the bereaved families;
- (vii) urge the Federal Government to provide proper welfare for security personnel fighting in the frontlines and give prime attention to the compensation and welfare of fallen soldiers as that would boost the soldiers morale and aid their concentration; and
- (viii) urge the Federal and State Governments to proffer long term solution to Nigeria's existential security challenges, and adequately address all immediate and remote causes of insecurity in the nation. This must include comprehensive packages on education, employment and other social vices.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to immediately initiate a transitionary process of phasing out the current over-stayed security chiefs and replacing them with new ones with new ideas and solutions — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the President to take immediate steps to restructure, remodel and revamp the country's entire security architecture and provide enough state-of-the-art weapons and equipment to effectively combat the belligerent power of the insurgents — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the President to immediately initiate probe into widespread allegations of corruption and leakages within the security structure and put mechanisms in place to foster transparency and ensure all resources meant and deployed for security are actually spent on the needs on ground — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to aggressively explore multilateral and bilateral options of partnership with the neighbouring countries of Chad, Niger and Camerouns towards reviving and strengthening the Multinational Joint Task Force and finding a lasting solution to the scourge of insurgency in the Lake Chad region — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency, recruit at least 10,000 Civilian JTF, versatile with the local terrain in Borno as Agro-Rangers under the aegis of the NCDSC to complement the efforts of the Nigerian Armed Forces — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vi):

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and North-East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide succour and psychological support to the bereaved families.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word “(NEDC)” insert the words “Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management” (*Senator Mohammed A. Ndume — Borno South*).

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

Proposed Resolution (vii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to provide proper welfare for security personnel fighting in the frontlines and give prime attention to the compensation and welfare of fallen soldiers as that would boost the soldiers morale and aid their concentration — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (viii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal and State Governments to proffer long term solution to Nigeria's existential security challenges, and adequately address all immediate and remote causes of insecurity in the nation. This must include comprehensive packages on education, employment and other social vices — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to massively recruit personnel into the Army and Police to fight the insurgents and restore law and order internally in the country” (*Senator Ibrahim A. Gobir — Sokoto East*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to immediately initiate a transitionary process of phasing out the current over-stayed security chiefs and replacing them with new ones with new ideas and solutions;
- (ii) urge the President to take immediate steps to restructure, remodel and revamp the country's entire security architecture and provide enough state-of-the-art weapons and equipment to effectively combat the belligerent power of the insurgents;
- (iii) urge the President to immediately initiate probe into widespread allegations of corruption and leakages within the security structure and put mechanisms in place to foster transparency and ensure all resources meant and deployed for security are actually spent on the needs on ground;
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to aggressively explore multilateral and bilateral options of partnership with the neighbouring countries of Chad, Niger and Cameroons towards reviving and strengthening the Multinational Joint Task Force and finding a lasting solution to the scourge of insurgency in the Lake Chad region;
- (v) urge the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency, recruit at least 10,000 Civilian JTF, versatile with the local terrain in Borno as Agro-Rangers under the aegis of the NCDSC to complement the efforts of the Nigerian Armed Forces;

- (vi) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA); and North East Development Commission (NEDC); and Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management to provide succour and psychological support to the bereaved families;
- (vii) urge the Federal Government to provide proper welfare for security personnel fighting in the frontlines and give prime attention to the compensation and welfare of fallen soldiers

as that would boost the soldiers morale and aid their concentration;

- (viii) urge the Federal and State Governments to proffer long term solution to Nigeria's existential security challenges, and adequately address all immediate and remote causes of insecurity in the nation. This must include comprehensive packages on education, employment and other social vices; and
- (ix) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to massively recruit personnel into the Army and Police to fight the insurgents and restore law and order internally in the country *(S/Res/042/02/20)*.

7. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Counselling Practitioners (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 409) — *Read the First Time*.
- (ii) Police Service Commission (Establishment) Act 2001 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 580) — *Read the First Time*.
- (iii) Corporate Affairs Commission Act No.3 2020 (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 552) — *Read the First Time*.
- (iv) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2020 (SB. 548) — *Read the First Time*.
- (v) Nigerian Research Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Bakassi (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 116) — *Read the First Time*.

8. Committee on Aviation:

Report on the Motion “Unfair Competition: Urgent Need to Protect Nigeria's Indigenous Airlines from Extinction due to Multiple Designations and Multiple Frequencies granted Foreign Airlines in Nigeria”:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Aviation on the Motion “Unfair Competition: Urgent Need to Protect Nigeria's Indigenous Airlines from Extinction due to Multiple Designations and Multiple Frequencies granted Foreign Airlines in Nigeria” (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

9. Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC):

Report on the Confirmation of the Nomination of Professor Mahmood Yakubu for Appointment as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC):

Motion made: 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) (*Senator Kabiru I. Gaya — Kano South*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

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 (Order 13) (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of 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).

Nominee recommended for confirmation:

Professor Mahmood Yakubu

—

Agreed to.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered 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) and approved the nomination.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of nomination:

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Professor Mahmood Yakubu for appointment as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative. Nomination of Professor Mahmood Yakubu for appointment as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) accordingly confirmed.*

10. Committee on Power:

Report on the Confirmation of the Nominations for Appointment as Chairman; Vice Chairman; and Commissioner for the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC):

Motion made: 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
(i)	Engineer Sanusi Garba	Chairman
(ii)	Dr. Musiliu Olalekan Oseni	Vice Chairman
(iii)	Aisha Mahmud	Commissioner

(Senator Gabriel T. Suswam — Benue North East).

No. 25

Tuesday, 1st December, 2020

903

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Power on the confirmation of the nomination for appointment as Chairman; Vice Chairman; and Commissioner for the Nigeria Electricity

Regulatory Commission (NERC).

Nominees recommended for confirmation:

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (i) | Engineer Sanusi Garba (<i>Chairman</i>) | — | <i>Agreed to.</i> |
| (ii) | Dr. Musiliu Olalekan Oseni (<i>Vice Chairman</i>) | — | <i>Agreed to.</i> |
| (iii) | Aisha Mahmud (<i>Commissioner</i>) | — | <i>Agreed to.</i> |

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Power on the confirmation of the nomination for appointment as Chairman; Vice Chairman; and Commissioner for the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and approved their nominations.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of nominations:

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Engineer Sanusi Garba for appointment as Chairman, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Engineer Sanusi Garba for appointment as Chairman, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Musiliu Olalekan Oseni for appointment as Vice Chairman, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Dr. Musiliu Olalekan Oseni for appointment as Vice Chairman, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Aisha Mahmud for appointment as Commissioner, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Aisha Mahmud for appointment as Commissioner, Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

11. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of five (5) petitions (*Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure — Ondo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

- a. Captain Diamond Onoberhie, against the Nigerian Navy for unjust treatment and refusal to promote him:

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Nigerian Navy be mandated to immediately promote Captain Diamond

Onoberhie from the rank of Captain to Commodore and retire him in the new rank with benefits because he proved his case beyond reasonable doubt to the Committee that he was 51 years and not 52 years old as claimed by the Nigerian Navy in 2016 when he should have been promoted — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: The Senate do mandate the Commandant of Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre to release the properties of Captain Diamond Onoherhie in their custody on demand by the petitioner — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That the Nigerian Navy be mandated to immediately promote Captain Diamond Onoherhie from the rank of Captain to Commodore and retire him in the new rank with benefits because he proved his case beyond reasonable doubt to the Committee that he was 51 years and not 52 years old as claimed by the Nigerian Navy in 2016 when he should have been promoted; and
 - (ii) The Senate do mandate the Commandant of Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre to release the properties of Captain Diamond Onoherhie in their custody on demand by the petitioner ***(S/Res/043/02/20)***.
- b. 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:

Report presented.

Debate:

By Leave of the Senate, the matter is recomitted to the Joint Committee on Communications; and Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to report within two (2) weeks.

- c. Ahmed Tijjani Yusuf, Esq. on behalf of Akwa-Ibom Co-operative Fisheries Association Limited, against Mobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited for alleged refusal to pay the sum of ₦11,063,916,000 (Eleven Billion, Sixty-Three Million, Nine Hundred and Sixteen Thousand Naira) compensation for Oil Spillage caused by its facilities from 1998-2012:

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do strike out the petition as it has been withdrawn by the petitioner, Ahmed Tijjani Yusuf, Esq., due to irreconcilable differences with members of the Association — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do strike out the petition since it has been withdrawn by the petitioner, Ahmed Tijjani Yusuf, Esq., due to irreconcilable differences with members of the Association ***(S/Res/044/02/20)***.

- d. Mr. John Z. Tumba, against the National Examinations Council (NECO) for alleged unlawful dismissal from the service of the Council:

Report presented.

Debate:

Consideration of report deferred and recommitted to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges and Public Petitions for further legislative action.

- e. CSP Ebereuche Mike (rtd.), against the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) for the poor retirement benefits/pension of retired Nigeria Police Officers:

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do commend the petitioner, Ebereuche Mike (rtd.) and other members of the Association of Retired Police Officers of Nigeria (ARPON) for dropping their initial proposal for the exemption of the Retirees of the Nigeria Police Force from the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) on the ground that the issues suggested by the proponents of the exemption could be sufficiently addressed within the framework of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words “Senate do comment” in line 1, and insert the words “Committee notes the action of” (Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe — Abia South).

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

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to graciously approve the demands of ARPON for enhanced retirement benefits/pension that have been sent to him by the Association — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) should synergize with the Association of Retired Police Officers of Nigeria (ARPON) to implement the outcome of the Presidential approval when released since benefits already in place before June 2004 could, in the case of the Police and other paramilitary agencies, still be provided by their employer (FGN) under the CPS as enshrined in Section 117(3)(a) of the PRA 2014, which allows for continuation of any additional fringe benefits enjoyable upon retirement before the commencement of the Pension Reform in 2004 — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That the Committee notes the action of the petitioner, Ebereuche Mike (rtd.) and other members of the Association of Retired Police Officers of Nigeria (ARPON) for dropping their initial proposal for the exemption of the Retirees of the Nigeria Police Force from the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) on the ground that the issues suggested by the proponents of the exemption could be sufficiently addressed within the framework of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS);
- (ii) That the Senate do urge Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to graciously approve the demands of ARPON for enhanced retirement benefits/pension that have been sent to him by the Association; and
- (iii) That the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) should synergize with the Association of Retired Police Officers of Nigeria (ARPON) to implement the outcome of the Presidential approval when released since benefits already in place before June 2004 could, in the case of the Police and other paramilitary agencies, still be provided by their employer (FGN) under the CPS as enshrined in Section 117(3)(a) of the PRA 2014, which allows for continuation of any additional fringe benefits enjoyable upon retirement before the commencement of the Pension Reform in 2004 (*S/Res/045/02/20*).

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. Federal Medical Centre Owuta Edda (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (SB. 295):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. National Integrated Community Development Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2020 (SB.199):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. Motions:

(a) *Need for the Re-Construction and Dualization of Kano - Dambatta - Kazaure - Daura - Niger Border Road:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(b) *Approval for the restoration of Two (2) State Constituencies from Ushongo State Constituency of Benue State and further approve the restoration Agasha State Constituency from Guma State Constituency in compliance with the decisions of the Courts and Section 115 of the Constitution:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(c) *The Urgent Need for Priority Attention and Completion of the Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road in Bayelsa State:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(d) *Urgent need to deal with the outbreak of a strange ailment said to be Yellow Fever, ravaging Epeilo-Otukpa and Itabono-Owukpa communities in Ogbadigbo Local Government Area of Benue State:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

No. 25

Tuesday, 1st December, 2020

907

16. Adjournment:

And it being 3:18 p.m. the President of the Senate adjourned the Senate till Wednesday, 2nd December, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 3:18 p.m.

Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan, Ph.D, CON

President,

Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.