



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

Tuesday, 18th July, 2023

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Urgent Need to Control the Erosion Ravaging Onitsha-Oba Section of the Onitsha-Owerri Federal Highway in Anambra State.

Sponsor: Sen. Umeh, Victor Chukwunonyelu (*Anambra Central*)

The Senate:

Notes with dismay the devastating effects of ravaging gully erosion and landslide on Onitsha-Owerri Federal Road, between Electrical Parts Market and Metallurgical Training Institute, Obosi (Idemili North L.G.A) and Oba Junction near Rojenny Games Village in Idemili South L.G.A - along Onitsha-Owerri Federal Highway, all within Anambra Central Senatorial District of Anambra State;

Also notes that one lane of the affected road has been cut off by the gully erosion at the Oba junction with the second lane under serious threat of imminent collapse while buildings and factories within the vicinity are on the verge of collapsing into the gully;

Worried that the erosion and landslide are creating traffic gridlock along the sections of the Onitsha-Owerri Highway;

Concerned that if the menace of gully erosion and landslide is not urgently controlled, those sections of the road will completely cave in, thus leading to total disconnection of the highway with attendant severe consequences and cutting off of vehicular movement to Imo, Abia, Akwa Ibom, Rivers and Cross River States;

Further notes that Onitsha- Owerri federal highway is a gateway to business activities and other relationships between the Western States and South East and South-South States; and

Equally notes that the magnitude of the menace is beyond the control of the State Government,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Federal Government to direct the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to commence repairs and re-construction of the affected parts of the Onitsha-Owerri Federal

road and particularly, the sections between Upper Iweka Round about in Onitsha and Oba in Idemili South L.G.A. of Anambra State which span about 6 kilometers;

- ii. *Also urge* the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to ensure regular surveillance of Federal high ways to identify and nip erosion threats to federal roads in the bud; and
- iii. *Further urge* the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to join in the detection and prevention of erosion menace on the highways.

2. Urgent Need for Erosion Control in Edo Central Senatorial District to Save Lives and Properties.

Sponsor: Sen. Okpebholo, Monday (*Edo Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that the peculiar nature of the topography of Edo central senatorial district has put many communities under the constant threat of erosion devastation, resulting in massive gully erosions, flooding and road devastations, which is one major reason why most roads quickly fail leading in communities and homes being damaged and abandoned;

Also notes that the Okene-Auchi-Benin expressway, a major road infrastructure in Nigeria began to fail at the Ekpoma axis owing to several gully erosions. The Ewu-Uromi-Agbor Road corridor has also experienced similar fate in Uromi axis. Nigerians in Irrua, Ekpoma, Uromi, Ewu and other communities have fled their homes or got their access roads damaged owing to the erosion problems. In June, two persons died after being swept away from their homes in Ujoelen, Ekpoma. A school girl died two years ago in Efandion, Uromi, on her way to school due to the uncontrollable flooding. It is difficult to construct roads to Udo community because of the wild erosion gullies. This trend is all over the area;

Worried that infrastructure like roads and electricity will be grievously affected by the devastation of gully erosion if the situation is not arrested as government institutions like schools and hospitals will also be damaged and more Nigerians may lose their homes as it is already being experienced; and

Also worried that ongoing highway road projects in Edo central face the risk of being damaged even before they are completed, as a result of which the country may just be losing hundreds of millions of naira because of the natural disaster. The cost of interventions in erosion disaster is too weighty for local and state governments to bear,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* for the collaboration of federal agencies, namely; the Federal Ministry of Environment, Ecological Fund Office and the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing towards tackling the menace of erosion devastation in Edo Central Senatorial District;
- ii. *Also urge* the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency, FERMA, and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to collaborate and carry out emergency works on Ekpoma (Uhiele, Ujoelen, Ukpenu, Borehole Road & Emuhi), Irrua (Uwesun and Ikekato), Ewu (Eguare and Uzogholo), Uromi (Efandion, Eguare & Uzegwa), Udo and Illushi;
- iii. *Mandate* the Committees on Environment, Ecology, Works, Special Duties, FERMA (when constituted) and Legislative Compliance to;
 - *Engage* the Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, NEMA and Ecological Fund Office to come up with a durable and lasting workplan to arrest the devastation;
 - *Involve* FERMA to prevent the expressways and other roads in the area from further degradation; and

- *Set up* NEMA stations in Edo central to assist residents in the event of emergency that could lead to loss of lives and properties.

3. **Urgent Need to Reconstruct/Rehabilitate the Onitsha-33-Otuocho-Adani Road Boundary to Enugu State.**

Sponsor: Sen. Nwoye, Tony (*Anambra North*)

The Senate:

Recalls the decision of government to seek alternative sources for funding critical national projects to increase the stock of infrastructure, through initiatives such as private sector partnership, SUKUK funds and the FIRS/NNPCL Road Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme, without which we cannot grow our nation;

Notes that the 48km stretch of the Federal Government Trunk 'A' Road, a major economic artery in the Onitsha and Omambala region of Anambra and Kogi States which traverses the GRA, Onitsha, 33-Otuocho-Adani-Enugu State and Kogi State has dilapidated, thus leading to loss of lives and properties;

Also notes that this very important federal road connects many agrarian communities and is also a major food basket of the South east region known for rice farming and other arable crops like yam, cassava, potato and corn; such critical national project if allowed to dilapidate, can lead to food scarcity, bring untold hardship, neglect and exacerbate the sufferings and pain on the people and the attendant loss of revenue that would have accrued to the government;

Further notes the presence of critical infrastructure like the cooking gas extractive industry/refinery at Ponti Nkponando, Aguleri, many industries located along that Anambra, Enugu and Kogi States corridor and many other businesses, which contribute huge sums of needed revenue for the nation;

Equally notes that this road will be segmented into two sections, the first section is dualization from GRA Onitsha to Aguleri/Otuocho junction (about 10km); and the second section will remain a single carriage way from Otuocho/Aguleri junction to Adani, Enugu and Kogi States; and

Aware that the project is under the Federal Ministry of Works & Housing but has not been awarded due to paucity of funds, hence the need for placement of funding to be financed through the NNPCL Road Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme, under which it is the financier that selects the road they want to invest in,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i.* **Urge** the NNPCL and FIRS under the Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme to include this important road as a project to be prioritized, funded; and to be executed through the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing;
- ii.* **Also urge** the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to urgently commence design for the road and subsequent award (once NNPCL/FIRS captures the road and provides funding) of this economically important road as part of measures to guarantee food security and enhance security of lives and properties; and
- iii.* **Further urge** the Committees on Petroleum Resources Upstream and Works (when constituted) and Legislative Compliance to ensure implementation.

4. **Urgent Need for Intervention to Arrest the Incessant Sea Incursion Ravaging Ayetoro Community in Ondo State.**

Sponsor: Sen. Jimoh, Ibrahim Folorunsho (*Ondo South*)

The Senate:

Notes that the oil producing Ayetoro is a phenomenal historical and cultural settlement along the coastal stretch of Ilaje Local Government Area of Ondo State and is also a major source of revenue for the nation;

Also notes that Ayetoro community used to be one of the most prosperous riverine settlements in Nigeria due to its thriving trade in fish;

Further notes that Ayetoro community and its environs account for 5.4% of the 60,000 barrel per day of Ondo State's crude oil production output amounting to about 3.7% of Nigeria's total oil production and this ranks Ondo State as the 5th, among Nigeria's oil producing States, under the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Act;

Disturbed that devastating sea incursions and ocean surges have been the albatross of the Ayetoro community for over two decades with hundreds of homes and properties being destroyed annually, resulting in the displacement of indigenes of the community and consequently, in the disruption of oil exploration in the area;

Also disturbed that the surges have become an annual occurrence that successive governments have failed to attend to and serving as daily reminder to the indigenes of Ayetoro that the community is gradually slipping into the belly of the Atlantic Ocean;

Aware that a concerned interventionist agency, the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) as early as 2004, just four years after its creation, made a commendable attempt to stem the slide by awarding the contract for the construction of a shoreline protective wall designed with a geo-tube technology in Ayetoro to Gallet Nigeria Limited at an original contract sum of N6.4 billion, of which 25 per cent was reportedly paid;

Also aware that the said contract was revoked in 2009 for alleged lack of capacity and re-awarded to Dredging Atlantic Limited at an undisclosed cost; however eleven years after the new contractor took over, and sixteen years after the contract was first awarded, there is nothing on ground to show any intervention by the government, thereby creating the wrong impression of an unconcerned Federal Government;

Worried that Ayetoro is on the verge of being completely lost to the sea if nothing is done urgently, and this is more poignant because residents are gradually losing hope that their abodes of many years have not receive desired attention from relevant authorities; and

Also worried that the utopian community, where communism once fully held sway may soon be an illusion of history following the incessant sea incursion ravaging the community,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* the Committees on NDDC, Environment and Ecology (when constituted), to interface with relevant Ministries to work out modalities for instant intervention in the disaster; and
- ii. *Also mandate* the Committee on NDDC (when constituted) to conduct an investigation into the N6.5 billion-shoreline protection contract awarded by the NDDC in 2006 with a view to finding an alternative solution where necessary, to stem the dangerous slide and report back within four weeks for further legislative action.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Disbursement of Loans by Development Bank of Nigeria	Tuesday, 18 th July, 2023	2.00pm	Chairman's Office, Suite 4.27 Senate New Building