



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

Wednesday, 12th 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. Congratulating President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR on his recent emergence as the Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Sponsor: Sen. Barau, Jibrin (*Kano North*)

The Senate:

Notes with great felicitations, the emergence of the President and Commander in-chief of Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Bola Tinubu, GCFR as the Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) at the recently concluded 63rd Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS held in Bissau, capital of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau;

Observes that by clinching this influential and strategic position on his very first participation at such high level meeting of ECOWAS barely 2 months after his inauguration as President, the sub-regional body has reposed great confidence in the leadership qualities of President Bola Tinubu GCFR and reaffirms Nigeria's leadership role on the African continent generally and the sub-region in particular;

Delighted that as the Chairman of ECOWAS, President Bola Tinubu GCFR is in a strategic and vantage position to uphold the charter of ECOWAS which is to promote peace and conflict resolution within the West African Sub-region, promote democracy and good governance, strengthen collective response to security threats within the sub-region, and generally foster economic cooperation amongst ECOWAS member states;

Observes that as a master strategist, mobilizer and globally respected politician, ECOWAS is blessed to have him in the position of Chairman and his wealth of experience will be brought to bear on the implementation of policies of ECOWAS to bring lasting peace and economic prosperity within the west African sub-region;

Notes that the emergence of President Bola Tinubu as the Chairman of ECOWAS is a testimony of his avowed commitment to good governance promised Nigeria which the policies and decisions taken so far are yielding results and beginning to reposition our economy; and

Notes also that since the establishment of ECOWAS in 1975, Nigeria has played key leadership roles particularly in the promotion of sub-regional security, defence to democracy and human rights, economic integration and collective response to security within the sub-region and ECOWAS is even better placed

under the chairmanship of President Bola Tinubu, GCFR in the discharge of the above mandates amongst others,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Join* other Heads of Government of ECOWAS member states and in particular parliaments of member states of ECOWAS to congratulate President Bola Tinubu on his emergence as the Chairman of ECOWAS at the recently concluded 63rd Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS held in Bissau, capital of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau; and
 - ii. *Felicitate* with all Nigerians and allies of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on this great honour and privilege position of Chairman of ECOWAS cinched by President Bola Tinubu recently.
2. The Need to Holistically Investigate the Disbursement of Loans by Development Bank of Nigeria, NIRSAL and related Banks to Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (MSMEs) in Nigeria from 2015 to date.

Sponsor: Sen. Ndume, Mohammed Ali (*Borno South*)

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Bomai, Ibrahim Mohammed (*Yobe South*)
 Sen. Goje, Mohammed Danjuma (*Gombe Central*)
 Sen. Ya'u, Sahabi Alhaji (*Zamfara North*)
 Sen. Mwakwon, Simon Davou (*Plateau North*)
 Sen. Onyewuchi, Ezenwa Francis (*Imo East*)
 Sen. Ahmed, Abdul Ningi (*Bauchi Central*)
 Sen. Abbas, Aminu Iya (*Adamawa Central*)
 Sen. Umeh, Victor Chukwunonyelu (*Anambra Central*)
 Sen. Katung, Sunday Marshall (*Kaduna South*)
 Sen. Agadaga, Benson Sunday (*Bayelsa East*)
 Sen. Kaila, Samaila Dahuwa (*Bauchi North*)
 Sen. Etim, Bassey Aniekan (*Akwa-Ibom Northeast*)
 Sen. Konbowel, Benson Friday (*Bayelsa Central*)
 Sen. Napoleon, Binkap Bali (*Plateau South*)
 Sen. Sampson, Akpan Ekong (*Akwa-Ibom South*)
 Sen. Olubiyi, Fadeyi Oluwole (*Osun Central*)
 Sen. Ogoshi, Onawo Mohammed (*Nasarawa South*)
 Sen. Zam, Titus Tartenger (*Benue North West*)
 Sen. Akintunde, Yunus Abiodun (*Oyo Central*)
 Sen. Yar'adua, Abdulaziz Musa (*Katsina Central*)
 Sen. Hussaini, Babagida Uba (*Jigawa Northwest*)
 Sen. Jonah, Williams Eteng (*Cross River Central*)
 Sen. Emmanuel, Udende Memga (*Benue North East*)
 Sen. Joel, Onowakpo Thomas (*Delta South*)
 Sen. Asuquo, Ekpenyong (*Cross River South*)
 Sen. Adebule, Idiat Oluranti (*Lagos West*)
 Sen. Adegbonmire, Adeniyi Ayodele (*Ondo Central*)
 Sen. Adaramodu, Adeyemi Raphael (*Ekiti South*)
 Sen. Mohammed, Dandutse Muntari (*Katsina South*)
 Sen. Monguno, Mohammed Tahir (*Borno North*)
 Sen. Musa, Mohammed Sani (*Niger East*)
 Sen. Diket, Satso Plang (*Plateau Central*)

Sen. Alhaji, Ya'u Sahabi (*Zamfara North*)
 Sen. Nwokocha, Darlington (*Abia Central*)
 Sen. Rufa'i, Sani Hanga (*Kano Central*)
 Sen. Akwashiki, Godiya (*Nasarawa North*)
 Sen. Moro, Abba Patrick (*Benue South*)
 Sen. Khabeeb, Mustapha (*Jigawa Central*)
 Sen. Aliyu, Wadada Ahmed (*Nasarawa West*)
 Sen. Nwoye, Tony (*Anambra North*)
 Sen. Siyako, Yaro Anthony (*Gombe South*)
 Sen. Nwoko, Chinedu Munir (*Delta North*)
 Sen. Banigo, Ipalibo Harry (*Rivers West*)
 Sen. Jiya, Peter Ndalikali (*Niger South*)
 Sen. Okechukwu, Ezea (*Enugu North*)
 Sen. Imasuen, Neda Bernards (*Edo South*)
 Sen. Osita, Ngwu (*Enugu West*)
 Sen. Onyesoh, Allwel Heacho (*Rivers East*)
 Sen. Bello, Sani Abubakar (*Niger North*)
 Sen. Oshiomole, Adams Aliyu (*Edo North*)
 Sen. Salisu, Shuaib Afolabi (*Ogun Central*)
 Sen. Oluwole, Fasuyi Cyril (*Ekiti North*)
 Sen. Bilbis, Aliyu Ikra (*Zamfara Central*)
 Sen. Eze, Kenneth Emeka (*Ebonyi Central*)
 Sen. Okpebholo, Monday (*Edo Central*)
 Sen. Ede, Dafinone Omueya (*Delta Central*)
 Sen. David, S. U Jimkuta (*Taraba South*)
 Sen. Buba, Umar Shehu (*Bauchi South*)
 Sen. Karimi, Sunday Steve (*Kogi West*)
 Sen. Ndubueze, Patrick Chiwuba (*Imo East*)
 Sen. Ohere, Sadiku Abubakar (*Kogi Central*)
 Sen. Mohammed, Bomai Ibrahim (*Yobe South*)
 Sen. Suleiman, Umar Sadiq (*Kwara North*)
 Sen. Ibrahim, Lamido (*Sokoto East*)

The Senate:

Notes the huge disparity and un-even disbursement of half a trillion Naira loan to states the Six Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria and the States in the country in 2021 by the Development Bank of Nigeria;

Aware that the Bank's Annual Integrated Statutory Report 2021 obtained on 13th July, 2022 from the organization's website showed that the bank disbursed a loan worth Four Hundred and Eighty Three Billion Naira (₦483, 000, 000, 000) only out of which only 11% went to the 19 states of Northern Nigeria, while 47% went to Lagos State alone;

Also aware that the 11% of the loan that went to the North totals about Fifty Three Billion, One Hundred and Thirty Million Naira (₦53, 130, 000, 000) while the 47 percent that went to Lagos State alone totals Two Hundred and Twenty Seven Billion and Ten Million Naira (₦227, 010, 000, 000) only;

Observes that the loans were given out to the Six Geopolitical Zones as follows:

NO.	GEO-POLITICAL ZONE	PERCENTAGE	AMOUNT
1.	South-West	57%	(₦274, 740, 000,000)
2.	South-South	17%	(₦81, 940, 000, 000)
3.	North-Central	11%	(₦53, 020, 000, 000);
4.	South-East	9%	(₦43, 380, 000, 000)
5.	North-West	5%	(₦24, 100, 000, 000)
6.	North-East	1%	(₦4, 820, 000, 000)
		100%	(₦483, 000, 000, 000)

Recalls that the Development Bank of Nigeria exists to alleviate financing constraints being faced by Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (MSMEs) in Nigeria through providing finance, partial credit guarantees, and technical assistance to eligible financial intermediaries on a market-conforming and fully financially sustainable basis; and

Also notes that the top five sectors considered for the loan were oil and gas (42.0%), manufacturing (16.0%), agriculture, forestry and fishery (7.2%), trade and commerce (6.3%), and transportation and storage (3.5%),

Accordingly resolves to:

Set up an Ad-hoc Committee to carry out a holistic investigation into the matter and report back to the Senate in Four Weeks for further legislative action.

3. **Call to Address the Low Level of Awareness and Preparedness to Prevent the Outbreak of Anthrax in Nigeria.**

Sponsor: Sen. Onyewuchi, Ezenwa Francis (*Imo East*)

The Senate:

Notes that there is an outbreak of anthrax disease, a deadly zoonotic bacterium, in countries across the ECOWAS region, including Ghana and Togo;

Also notes that on the 12th of June 2023, the federal government, amidst the democracy day celebration, raised an alarm over the outbreak of the deadly anthrax disease.

Further notes that in the public health advisory jointly signed by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, Nigeria was said to be at high risk of importing the deadly anthrax disease from Ghana, where it was confirmed both in humans and animals.

Aware of a report by Citi Newsroom that 30 animals have died, three human deaths have been recorded, and 13 cases have tested positive for the anthrax disease in Ghana as at June 2023.

Cognizant of the fact that though anthrax is primarily a disease of animals, non-vaccinated animals with anthrax can easily transmit it to man through the inhalation of anthrax spores or consumption of contaminated/infected animal products such as hides and skin, meat or milk.

Worried that although Nigeria is yet to record any suspected or confirmed case, the outbreak in Ghana poses a great public health risk to Nigeria due to the highly transmissible nature of the disease.

Also worried by Nigeria's low level of preparedness and awareness as a good number of Nigerians are ignorant of the outbreak of the anthrax disease, how it is transmitted, or the risk it portends; and

Further worried that no nationwide livestock vaccination exercise against anthrax disease, as a means to prevent this disease from infiltrating the country, has been announced by the federal government,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Federal Ministry of Health to embark on nationwide vaccination of livestock with the anthrax spore vaccine, most especially, in the border states of the country;
 - ii. *Also urge* the Federal Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism to begin intensive awareness campaigns to sensitize Nigerians on the outbreak of the anthrax disease, symptoms for early detection, and prevention guidelines; and
 - iii. *Mandate* the Committee on Legislative Compliance (when constituted) to ensure compliance.
4. **Urgent Need for the Federal Government to Mobilise Contractors to Site and Stem further Deploation State of Benin--Auchi- Lokoja Road.**

Sponsor: Sen. Oshiomhole, Adams Aliyu (Edo North)

The Senate:

Notes the deplorable and dangerous state of the Benin--Auchi--Lokoja Road that links the South East and South South States to the Northern parts of the country. The contract for the reconstruction of the road was awarded to Dantata and Sawoe, Reynold Construction Company, Mother Cat and GIG company in 2012 by the Goodluck Jonathan Administration, following cries and complaints by commuters about the hardship they encounter daily on the road;

Also notes that certain portions of the road have failed completely, especially around Ekpoma to Agbede axis, and this development is causing sufferings to the many Nigerians who rely on this route for their socio-economic activity, despite the over 200 billion Naira that had been budgeted since the award of the contract for the reconstruction of the road.

Aware that the federal government, in January 2023, as part of the Infrastructure Development and Refurbishment Investment Tax Credit Scheme Phase, further approved the sum of N75 Billion to hasten the reconstruction of the road, specifically extending from Obajana Junction in Kogi State to Benin City in Edo State.

Disturbed that the pace of work on the road has been very slow and certain portions of the road have failed completely. This has become a nightmare to motorists, especially because heavy duty trucks spend days on the same spot without movement, thereby preventing smaller vehicles from navigating their way through the road. This situation, now sadly compels smaller vehicles to opt for longer alternative routes through Ondo State, totally out of their normal direction, in order to avoid the many kilometers of gridlocks and sometimes inability to maneuver through the failed portions.

Also disturbed that transporters now hike their fares due to increased hours of time it takes for them to arrive at a journey that they would otherwise spend less time to arrive at, thereby passing the buck to the

passengers and travelers who now pay astronomically high fares to their destinations. This situation is disheartening, considering the current high cost of living that Nigerians are already grappling with.

Worried that the deplorable state of the road has caused damage to properties and led to the death of numerous innocent commuters through accidents.

Also worried that the road passes through the sites of two major cement factories in Okpella, Edo State which attracts heavy duty vehicular movement 24 hours of the day, throughout the year, making it a very strategic route for the country's development.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to grant approval for the augmentation of costs on the road through the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing pending the constitution of the Federal Executive Council for ratification and;
- ii. *Urge* the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to, as a matter of urgency:-
 - *Commence* repairs on the failed portions of the Road;
 - *Provide* adequate funding to complete the reconstruction of this road; and
 - *Come up* with a plan to settle all lingering issues bordering on the dualisation of the Road with contractors and also review the terms and conditions of the contract to meet current realities of inflation.

5. Urgent Need to Rescue Nigeria's Rail Project from Collapse.

Sponsor: Sen. Olubiyi, Fadeyi Oluwole (*Osun Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that the Railways infrastructure in Nigeria dates back to the 19th century when the first railroad was constructed in 1898 under British colonial rule before the Amalgamation of 1914. The Nigeria Railway Modernisation Project is meant to deliver the dividends of democracy to millions of Nigerians and the management of Nigeria rail projects is duty bound to deliver value for money;

Also notes that Nigeria possesses a well-established rail infrastructure, including a rail line from Abuja to Kaduna, Lagos to Ibadan and a light rail system connecting Abuja city center to Abuja airport; yet alarming information in the public domain reveals that Railway-related debt service cost the Federal Government \$62.66 million in the first quarter of this year 2023;

Further notes that in 2021, the former Minister of Transportation claimed that the Abuja-Kaduna train service was generating at least N300 million naira for the country every month. While in another report, Nigeria Rail Corporation claimed it has lost over N531 million in estimated ticket revenue on the Abuja-Kaduna Standard Gauge Train service in five months. Observes that recently, the Nigeria Railway Corporation claimed that it lost N113 million to the shutdown of the Abuja-Kaduna route which started operations again after the bandits attack on the route and that is not the only rail route that is currently under attacks by criminals. They have different figures which need to be investigated;

Aware that attacks on trains conveying passengers and rail infrastructure is taking a toll on Nigeria's rail sector, which has recorded a decline of 125.6 percent in passenger movement in the second quarter of 2022, the National Bureau of Statistics' Rail Transportation data has shown;

Also aware that huge sums of funds were deployed for Nigeria rail project, including loans, and alarming statistics confirm that N768.44 million was received from passengers over the period, lower by 63.02% relative to N2.08 billion in the same quarter of the previous year, 2021;

Further aware that the 156-kilometer Lagos-Ibadan rail line is costing the Federal Government about \$2.5billion to build by the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) whilst the 186-kilometer Abuja-Kaduna project cost \$874 million (N317. 3 billion). The 45-kilometer Abuja Light Rail (Phase I) linking the International Airport contract was awarded at the cost of US\$824million with 60 per cent to be funded with loans from the Exim Bank of China. The Abuja Light Rail (Phase I) has been totally neglected by the passengers and this has made it impossible to generate the revenue and pay for the maintenance, operational costs and the loan. It is good to note that the 326-kilometer Warri-Itakpe rail resumed operations after a three-month hiatus due to derailment;

Equally aware that the total debt service on the railway projects rose by 1.50 percent or \$930,000 year-on-year as the \$62.66 million reported in Q1 2023 surpassed the \$61.73 million spent on debt service during the same period in 2022; and

Believes that effective utilization of these rail systems can contribute significantly to the reduction of traffic congestion, environmental pollution, and travel time,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* the committee on Land Transport (when constituted) to carry out an oversight to determine the viability of the nation's rail project and ensure that the revenue generation structure is fit for purpose; and
 - ii. *Urge* the Ministry of Transportation to Review the Nigeria Railway Modernization Project to enhance passenger's safety and security, increase revenue generation and boost passengers' patronage.
6. **Urgent Need to Investigate the Alarming Cases of Delays in Paymet and Allegations of Corruption associated with the Capturing and Payment of newly recruited University Staff under the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS).**

Sponsor: Sen. Ubah, Patrick Ifeanyi (*Anambra South*)

The Senate:

Notes that the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) was introduced by the Federal Government sometime in 2007 as a reform measure aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness in the storage of federal government employee records and administration of their monthly payroll in such a manner as to guarantee confidence in staff emolument costs and budgeting;

Also notes that the primary motive for the introduction of IPPIS was to take advantage of existing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on personnel and payroll management in other parts of the world to ensure that ghost workers are eliminated while bona fide Federal Government employees are paid accurately and timely;

Observes that since its introduction in 2007, over two million federal government employees across 696 Ministries, Departments and Agencies, including some staff of Federal Government-owned universities and other tertiary institutions, have been reportedly captured on the IPPIS platform;

Recalls that the use of IPPIS for storage of personnel records and management of staff payroll in Federal Government-owned universities was a thorny issue between the Federal Government and the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) during the recently suspended strike embarked upon by ASUU;

Further notes that while the Federal Government insisted that IPPIS remains the best personnel records and payroll management system to be used for storage of records and management of payroll of university

staff, ASUU took a different position, recommending the University Transparency and Accountability Solution (UTAS) as an alternative that is most suitable for universities particularly;

Concerned that while the Federal Government and ASUU were unable to reach an agreement regarding which of the two payment platforms to be adopted for management of university staff payroll, recent allegations of bribery, corruption and delayed capturing and payment of some university staff recruited as far back as in 2020 through the IPPIS has called for urgent investigation of those irregularities because of untold hardship caused to affected university staff and their families;

Informed that in many Federal Government Universities, staff employed as far back as 2020 are yet to be captured on the IPPIS platform and therefore are not being paid their salaries since they were recruited about three years ago;

Also informed that some of the affected staff cutting across many universities have been alleged to bribe IPPIS officials for the purpose of getting captured on the platform; and

Concerned that the allegations of bribery, corruption, delayed capturing and payment of salaries of newly recruited staff of federal government-owned universities have cast serious doubt on the credibility and suitability of IPPIS as a platform for managing the payroll of university staff as institutions clothed with autonomy for the purposes of teaching, learning and research,

Accordingly resolves:

- i. *Set up* an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate allegations of bribery and corruption of IPPIS officials at various Universities across the Federation, delayed capturing and payment of staff of Federal Government -owned Universities who were recruited as far back as 2020 and to make a report on the status of the disagreement between the Federal Government and ASUU on the use of either IPPIS or UTAS as the preferred payment platform for Nigerian university staff; and
- ii. *Mandate* the Ad-hoc Committee to interact with the Head of Service, National President of ASUU, the Chairman of Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities and other relevant stakeholders in carrying out its mandate, and to report back within two (2) weeks for further legislative action.