

# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 6th February, 2024

- 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. Federal College of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 297) First Reading Sen. Siyako, Yaro Anthony (Gombe South).
- 2. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 327) First Reading Sen. Nwoye, Tony (Anambra North).
- 3. Inflation Reduction Programme (Special Provisions) Bill, 2024 (SB. 336) First Reading Sen. Abiru, Mukhail Adetokunbo (Lagos East).
- 4. Child Right Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 337) First Reading Sen. Ya'u, Sahabi Alhaji (Zamfara North).
- 5. Agricultural Research Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 338) First Reading Sen. Etim, Bassey Aniekan (Akwa-Ibom Northeast).

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

## **CONSIDERATION OF BILLS**

- 1. A Bill for an Act to Establish the North West Development Commission to serve as a catalyst to develop the arrays of potentials of the North West as well as address the gap in infrastructural development of the region and for related matters, 2024 (SB. 90) Second Reading Sen. Barau, Jibrin (Kano North).
- 2. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Youth Service Corps Trust Fund to provide a sustainable source of funds for the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), skill acquisition, training and empowerment of Corps members, training and retraining of the personnel of the NYSC, development of camps and NYSC formations and facilities; and for related matters, 2024 (SB. 260) Second Reading Sen. Adaramodu, Adeyemi Raphael (Ekiti South).
- 3. A Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of the Federal University of Education Numan, Adamawa State and for other matters connected therewith, 2024 (SB. 270) Second Reading Sen. Yaroe, Binos Dauda (Adamawa South).

#### PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT

1. Report of the Committees on Gas and Petroleum Resources (Downstream)

Confirmation of the Nomination of Mr. Adama Oluwole Oladapo for Appointment as Executive Director, Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Gas Infrastructure Fund Board (NMDGIFB)

Sen. Jarigbe, Agom Jarigbe (Cross River North)

- That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committees on Gas and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Adama Oluwole Oladapo for appointment as Executive Director, Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Gas Infrastructure Fund Board (NMDGIFB).

# **MOTIONS**

1. Compelling Need to tackle the challenge of Out of School Children in Nigeria

Sponsor: Sen. Adebule, Idiat Oluranti (Lagos West)

The Senate:

*Notes* that the issue of out of school children has become worrisome, given the 2022 report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) that about 20 million Nigerian children are out of school which represent 10 percent of the estimated Nigerian population of 200 million people and also represents the highest number of Out of School Children from any country globally;

Also notes that though the Ministry of Education disputed the figure but it is generally agreed that whatever the real figures, the issue of Out of School Children has become an albatross on the neck of the Nigerian State that must be dealt with as a matter of urgency;

Further notes that the social impacts of having about 20 million Out of School Children on the Nigerian State will include:

- Impediment to achieving some of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal (4) which is to ensure inclusiveness and equitable quality of education and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all;
- Providing easy pool for recruitment into criminal gangs, banditry and terrorism which are the biggest security issues the Nigerian State has been dealing with for many years;
- Achievement of national economic justice and inclusiveness will further be jeopardized, and many more Nigerians may become ill-equipped to climb out of the poverty bracket; and
- Other social problems that might arise from this condition are gender inequality, early/child marriage, general socio-political instability.

Aware that the past successive administrations made several efforts to deal with the Out of School Children problem and the last being the deployment of home-grown school feeding programs by the Muhammadu Buhari administration and supported with other programmes by development partners like the World Bank's sponsored "Better Education Service Delivery For All" programme. However, all these efforts have had little impact on the surging number of Out of School Children, and we therefore need new thinking and more aggressive strategy to deal with this menace.

*Convinced* that when all the institutions concerned are committed to their responsibilities, the menace of out of school children would be overcome because the situation is of concern to the Federal Government of Nigeria,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* the Committee on Education (Basic & Secondary) to engage the Federal Ministry of Education with a view to paying special attention to the issue of Out of School Children with the ultimate objective of drastically reducing the number;
- ii. *Urge* the Ministry of Education, its related parastatals and agencies such as the Universal Basic Education stakeholders including non-governmental organisations to:
  - a. severally and jointly bring up new strategy to effectively deal with Out of School Children problem as well as rekindle the national consciousness through sensitization and advocacy on the importance of education to the growth and development of our country and the benefits of having majority educated population;
  - b. set a time limit of two years for the diligent implementation of the UBE Act as stipulated in section 2 (2).
- iii. *Urge* governments at all levels to implement targeted intervention programmes that will address all the factors militating against free access to quality and basic education particularly, multidimensional poverty and insecurity;
- iv. Equally urge the Judiciary in the 36 States of the Federation to take steps towards setting up mobile courts for the enforcement of the UBE ACT.
- 2. Discrimination against medical graduants from Ukraine by Nigerian Medical and Dental Council.

Sponsor: Sen. Oyewumi, Kamorudeen Olalere (Osun West)

The Senate:

Aware that the issue of Medical Graduates from Ukraine Universities have drawn the attention of National Assembly since 2022. In 2023, the House of Representatives and the Ministry of Health concluded with the Medical and Dental Council to allow the students that graduated from Medical Schools in Ukraine to participate in the qualifying exam like other students, or at best, organise a makeup programme for them before the exam;

Further aware that the Medical and Dental Council has slated a referral programme for the 2022 graduates alone at Federal Medical Centre Gwagwalada at the cost of 1.5 million per student to be paid in one and half weeks;

Concerned that the parents of the affected students visited the National Assembly Complex to lodge their complain during our vacation, for the extension of the deadline for payment to one month from one and half week;

Confirmed that the war in Ukraine only affected the Eastern part of Ukraine and KIV, the Capital; and that the Western Ukraine were not affected and that students were in Campus doing their programme unhindered as confirmed by the Ukrainian Ambassador to Nigeria; and

Convinced that since the war in Ukraine did not affect all the Universities, especially, those on the Western parts of Ukraine, Students who graduated from those Universities in 2023 should be allowed to sit for the MDCN exams henceforth without any hindrance,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Nigerian Medical and Dental Council to extend the payment of 1.5 million dead-lines to one Month;
- ii. *Also urge* the council to allow any other students who graduated before or after 2022 and are interested in the training to be allowed after paying the prescribed fee;

- iii. Equally urge the Council to allow all students who graduated from Ukraine in 2023, especially where the war did not affect the University activities, to sit for the MDCN exams coming up in July and November, 2024 without any discrimination; and
- iv. Finally urge the Council to, in no distant time, work toward the conduct of the MDCN Exams in each Geo-political Zone of the country like the Law Schools, to reduce the cost on the students and their parents.

| COMMITTEE MEETINGS |   |   |        |  |
|--------------------|---|---|--------|--|
| No.                | Committee   | Date  | Time   | Venue                                      |
| 1.                 | Joint Committees on Health<br>(Secondary & Tertiary); Police<br>Affairs and FCT | Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024<br>(Investigative Hearing)                   | 2.00pm | Conference Room 231<br>Senate New Building |
| 2.                 | National ID Card and<br>Population  | Tuesday 6th February, 2024<br>(Screening Exercise)                                  | 2.00pm | Hearing Room 117<br>Senate New Building    |
| 3.                 | Banking, Insurance and<br>Other Financial Institutions                          | Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024<br>(Interactive Meeting)                     | 2.00pm | Meeting Room 204<br>Senate New Building    |
| 4.                 | <b>Public Accounts</b>  | Tue. 6 <sup>th</sup> & Wed. 7 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024<br>(Public Hearing)      | 2.00pm | Hearing Room 4<br>White House              |
| 5.                 | Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND   | Tue. 6 <sup>th</sup> & Wed. 7 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024<br>(Interactive Meeting) | 2.00pm | Hearing Room 221<br>Senate New Building    |
| 6.                 | Local Content   | Wednesday, 7th February, 2024   | 4.00pm | Hearing Room 204<br>Senate New Building    |