



# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Friday, 4th August, 2023

1. The Senate met at 11:46 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**  
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2023.

*Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.*

3. **Messages from Mr. President:**

(a) **Implementation of Resolutions:**

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:



**PRESIDENT,  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023

*Distinguished Senator Godswill O. Akpabio  
President of the Senate,  
Senate Chambers,  
National Assembly Complex,  
Three Arms Zone,  
Abuja.*

**REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF  
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) ON THE POLITICAL  
SITUATION IN NIGER REPUBLIC**

*I present my modest compliments to the Distinguished Senate President and have honour to inform you that, following the unfortunate political situation in Niger Republic, culminating in the overthrow of the administration of His Excellency, President Mohammed Bazoum on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) under my leadership, condemned the Coup in its entirety and resolved; alongside other members of the international community, to seek the return of the democratically elected government in Niger.*

2. Consequently, and in a bid to broker peace and restore democracy in the country, the ECOWAS convened an Extra-Ordinary Summit of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 in Abuja. The body, consistent with African Union and ECOWAS Protocols on unconstitutional changes of Government, thereafter, issued a Communique (copy attached) on the line of action decided upon by member States. As chair of ECOWAS, Nigeria has the obligation to lead in the implementation of the directives outlined in the Communique and, as such, steps have been taken to give effect to the resolutions, therein.

3. Accordingly, the Distinguished Senate is invited to note the foregoing and the following actions expected of Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies, including Military and Para-Military Agencies. These actions include:

- (a) Closure and monitoring of all land borders with Niger Republic and reactivation of the Border Drill Exercise.
- (b) Cutting off Electricity supply to Niger Republic.
- (c) Mobilizing international support for the implementation of the provisions of the ECOWAS Communique.
- (d) Preventing the operation of commercial and Special flights into and from Niger Republic.
- (e) Blockade of goods in transit to Niger Republic especially, from Lagos and Eastern Sea Ports.
- (f) Embarking on the sensitization of Nigerians and Nigeriens on the imperative of the action by ECOWAS particularly, via social media.
- (g) Military build-up and deployment of personnel for military intervention to enforce compliance of the Military Junta in Niger Republic should they remain recalcitrant.
- (h) Freezing assets of state enterprises and parastatals in commercial banks.

4. In the light of the foregoing, I wish to respectfully solicit the support of the National Assembly in the successful implementation of the ECOWAS Resolution as outlined in the attached Communique.

5. While looking forward to your usual cooperation, kindly accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

**Bola Ahmed Tinubu**

By the Leave of the Senate, this Executive Communication's consideration is deferred to the next legislative day.

(b) Replacement of Nominees:



**PRESIDENT,  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023

Distinguished Senator Godswill O. Akpabio  
President of the Senate,  
Senate Chambers,

National Assembly Complex,  
Three Arms Zone,  
Abuja.

**REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL AND REPLACEMENT OF MINISTERIAL NOMINEE**

*In compliance with the provisions of Section 147(2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), and sequel to my earlier correspondence dated 2nd August, 2023, I have resolved to withdraw the nomination of Dr. Maryam Shetty.*

*Furthermore, I am pleased to nominate Dr. Mariga Mahmoud Bunkure and Festus Keyamo, SAN for consideration and, if deemed fit, confirmation by the Senate as Ministers.*

*Whilst hoping that the above requests will receive the kind consideration and approval of the Senate, please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest regards.*

*Yours sincerely,  
(Signed)  
Bola Ahmed Tinubu*

**4. Announcements:**

**(a) Congratulatory Letter:**

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Godswill Obot Akpabio, CON (Akwa Ibom North West) as follows:



President of the Senate  
Federal Republic of Nigeria

4<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

*His Excellency  
Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, OFR  
National Chairman, All Progressives Congress  
APC National Secretariat  
Abuja, FCT.*

**CONGRATULATORY LETTER**

*May I, on behalf of all APC Senators of the 10th Senate, extend to you, the Honorable Chairman of our great Party, the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), a hearty congratulations on your emergence as the 5th National Chairman of the APC.*

*Your nomination to this exalted position, occurred at a time when the Nigerian political ecosystem and Nigerians in general, are agitating for courageous, dynamic, people-oriented, and experienced Leaders, who are armed with requisite skills and experience that will aid the realization and fulfillment of President Tinubu's 'Renewed Hope' agenda.*

*Honorable Chairman Sir, your unanimous nomination as APC's National Chairman was a clear demonstration of our unfettered believe in your capacity to restructure our party internally and externally, by mobilizing support of our Party members and Nigerians, geared towards engendering mutual trust and exponential National growth.*

*We strongly believe sir, that under your noble leadership, our Party will inspire mass followership and witness record breaking transformations, effective management and speedy resolution of complex issues and challenges.*

*On your resumption of official duties, I look forward to welcoming you to my office to exchange ideas on how your office can collaborate with the National Assembly to reposition our party and Country, to the benefit of all Nigerians.*

*Once again, please accept my heartfelt congratulations and the best wishes of all APC Senators of the 10<sup>th</sup> Senate and APC members of the National Assembly.*

*(Signed)*

**Sen. Godswill Obot Akpabio, CON**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE**  
**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

**(b) Wedding Notification:**

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Mohammed Sani Musa, CON (Niger East) as follows:



**SENATOR MOHAMMED SANI MUSA, CON**  
(DAN DURBIN MINNA)  
**NIGER EAST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

*4th August, 2023*

*His Excellency*  
*Senator Godswill Obot Akpabio*  
*President of the Senate*  
*National Assembly*  
*Abuja.*

**WEDDING NOTIFICATION AND INVITATION**

*This is to convey to your notice and formally invite you to the Wedding Fatiha of my daughter, Zainab Sani Musa (Anisa) and her groom Hamman Bakari, which is scheduled to take place Insha Allah as follows:*

**Event:** Wedding Fatiha  
**Date:** Friday, 11th August, 2023  
**Venue:** National Mosque Abuja  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. (Immediately After Jumma'at Prayers)

**Event:** Wedding reception and dinner  
**Date:** Saturday, 12th August, 2023  
**Venue:** African Hall, International Conference Center Abuja  
**Time:** 4pm

*I will be honored to have your esteemed presence and of all Distinguished Senators at the occasions. However, if for any reason you may not be able to grace the event, your prayers for the couple to achieve a blissful union would be most appreciated.*

*While I appreciate your kind acceptance and prayers, please accept the assurance of my esteemed regards.*

*(Signed)*  
**Mohammed Sani Musa, CON**  
**SENATOR**  
**Federal Republic of Nigeria**

**5. Ministerial Screening:*****Confirmation of Appointments as Ministers of the Government of the Federation:***

*Motion made:* That the Senate do resume consideration of the Request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation for the confirmation of the following nominees for appointments as Ministers of the Government of the Federation: (4<sup>th</sup> Allotted Day).

S/No.	Names	State
1.	H.E. Adegboyega Oyetola	Osun
2.	Dr. Tunji Alausa	Lagos
3.	H.E. Ibrahim Geidam	Yobe
4.	Lola Ade-John	Lagos
5.	Sen. Aliyu Sabi Abdullahi	Niger
6.	Sen. Heineken Lokpobiri	Bayelsa
7.	Sen. Aikali Ahmed Said	Gombe
8.	H.E. Simon Bako Lalong	Plateau
9.	H.E. Atiku Bagudu	Kebbi
10.	H.E. Bello Matawalle	Zamfara
11.	Dr. Yusuf Tanko Sununu	Kebbi
12.	Zephaniah Jisalo	FCT
13.	Prince Shuaibu Abubakar Audu	Kogi
14.	Abdullahi Tijjani Mohammed Gwarzo	Kano
15.	Bosun Tijani	Ogun
16.	Dr. Isiak Salako	Ogun
17.	Prof. Tahir Mamman	Adamawa
18.	Uba Maigari Ahmadu	Taraba
19.	Dr. Mariga Mahmoud Bunkutre	Kano
20.	Festus Keyamo, SAN	Delta

(Senate Leader).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**Privileges of the Floor:**

- (i) ***Admission of the Special Adviser to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate), Senator Abdullahi Gumel; Non-Serving Senators; former Hon. Members and Government Officials:***

*Motion made:* That the Senate do invoke Rule 12 to admit the Special Adviser to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate), Senator Abdullahi Gumel; Non-Serving Senators; Hon. Members; former Hon. Members and Government Officials to the Floor of the Senate (Senate Leader).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Special Adviser to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate), Senator Abdullahi Gumel; Non-Serving Senators; Hon. Members; former Hon. Members and Government Officials accordingly admitted to the Floor of the Senate.*

- (ii) ***Admission of Ministerial nominees:***

*Motion made:* That the Senate do suspend Rule 12 to admit the Ministerial nominees and their entourage to the Floor of the Senate (Senate Leader).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Ministerial nominees and their entourage accordingly admitted to the Floor of the Senate.*

*Motion made:* That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to resume consideration of the Request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation for the confirmation of the nominees for appointments as Ministers of the Government of the Federation.

*Question put and agreed to.*

**(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)**  
**(Screening of Ministerial Nominees)**

**Nominees screened:**

- (i) H.E. Adegboyega Oyetola (*Osun*)
- (ii) H.E. Ibrahim Geidam (*Yobe*)
- (iii) Sen. Aliyu Sabi Abdullahi (*Niger*)
- (iv) Sen. Heincken Lokpobiri (*Bayelsa*)

**Suspension of Sitting:**

*Motion made:* Pursuant to Order 1 (a) and (b), that the Senate do suspend sitting for one hour thirty (1:30) minutes (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**Suspension of Sitting:** 1:09 p.m.

**Resumption of Sitting:** 2:30 p.m.

- (v) Dr. Tunji Alausa (*Lagos*)
- (vi) Sen. Alkali Ahmed Said (*Gombe*)
- (vii) H.E. Simon Bako Lalong (*Plateau*)
- (viii) H.E. Atiku Bagudu (*Kebbi*)
- (ix) H.E. Bello Matawalle (*Zamfara*)
- (x) Dr. Yusuf Tanko Sununu (*Kebbi*)
- (xi) Zephaniah Jisalo (*FCT*)
- (xii) Prince Shuaibu Abubakar Audu (*Kogi*)
- (xiii) Abdullahi Tijjani Mohammad Gwarzo (*Kano*)

Chairman to report progress.

**(SENATE IN PLENARY)**

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate, in the Committee of the Whole, resumed consideration of the Request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, for the confirmation of nominees for appointments as Ministers of the Government of the Federation. The following Nominees were screened and they answered questions on topical issues:

- (i) H.E. Adegboyega Oyetola (*Osun*)
- (ii) H.E. Ibrahim Geidam (*Yobe*)
- (iii) Sen. Aliyu Sabi Abdullahi (*Niger*)
- (iv) Sen. Heincken Lokpobiri (*Bayelsa*)
- (v) Dr. Tunji Alausa (*Lagos*)
- (vi) Sen. Alkali Ahmed Said (*Gombe*)
- (vii) H.E. Simon Bako Lalong (*Plateau*)
- (viii) H.E. Atiku Bagudu (*Kebbi*)
- (ix) H.E. Bello Matawalle (*Zamfara*)
- (x) Dr. Yusuf Tanko Sununu (*Kebbi*)
- (xi) Zephaniah Jisalo (*FCT*)
- (xii) Prince Shuaibu Abubakar Audu (*Kogi*)
- (xiii) Abdullahi Tijjani Mohammad Gwarzo (*Kano*)

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

**6. Saturday Plenary:**

*Motion made:* Pursuant to Order 8(2) that the Senate do sit on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 to resume consideration of the Request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation for the confirmation of nominees for appointments as Ministers of the Government of the Federation (*Senate Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**7. Adjournment:**

And it being 6:55 *p.m.* the President of the Senate adjourned the Senate till Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 at 11:00 *a.m.*

*Adjourned accordingly at 6:55 p.m.*

Godswill Obot Akpabio, CON  
*President,*  
*Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*

