



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

Wednesday, 15th May, 2024

1. **Prayers**
 2. **Approval of the Votes and Proceedings**
 3. **Oaths**
 4. **Announcements (if any)**
 5. **Petitions**
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BUSINESS OF THE DAY

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. **National Food Bank (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 22) - First Reading**
Sen. Orji Kalu (*Abia North*).
 2. **Electoral Act 2022 (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 412) - First Reading**
Sen. Yar'adua, Abdulaziz Musa (*Katsina Central*).
 3. **Federal University of Agriculture Akure, Ondo State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 436) - First Reading**
Sen. Adegbonmire, Adeniyi Ayodele (*Ondo Central*).
 4. **Fruits Juice Processing Zone Wannure, Tarka, Benue State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 437) - First Reading**
Sen. Zam, Titus Tartenger (*Benue North West*).
 5. **Maritime Operations Coordinating Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 438) - First Reading**
Sen. Osita, Ngwu (*Enugu West*).
 6. **Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences Onitsha, (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 441) - First Reading**
Sen. Nwoye, Tony (*Anambra North*).
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ORDERS OF THE DAY

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the establishment of Projects Development Agency (PRODA), Enugu to conduct Scientific, Engineering and Technological Research aimed at facilitating the domestication and industrialization of appropriate technology for socio-economic advancement of Nigeria and for related matters, 2024 (SB. 49) - Second Reading**
Sen. Ndubueze, Patrick Chiwuba (*Imo North*).
2. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Polytechnic Onueke, Ebonyi State to provide full-time courses in technology, applied science, management and other fields of studies and to make provisions for its General Administration and for other related matters, 2024 (SB. 71) - Second Reading**
Sen. Eze, Kenneth Emeka (*Ebonyi Central*).

3. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria, 2006 to involve States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory in the selection of Airline Agencies for Hajj Operations to promote efficiency, accountability and for related matters, 2024 (SB. 344) - *Second Reading*
Sen. Abbas, Aminu Iya (*Adamawa Central*).

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Education (Basic and Secondary)
National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 267)
Sen. Usman, Lawal Adamu (*Kaduna Central*)
-That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on Education (Basic and Secondary) on the National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (SB. 267).
 2. Report of the Committee on Local and Foreign Debts
2022 - 2024 External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan for the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE)
Sen. Wammako, Magatarkada Aliyu (*Sokoto North*)
-That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the of the Committee on Local and Foreign Debts on the 2022 - 2024 External Borrowing (Rolling) Plan for the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).
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MOTIONS

1. Need to Urge the Inspector General of Police and the Chief of Army Staff to urgently curb the senseless killings and maiming of innocent indigenes of Nimbo, Adani and some other communities in Uzo-Uwani L.G.A, Enugu State by suspected herdsmen by ensuring adequate provision of security in the above Local Governemnt Area.

Sponsor: Sen. Okechukwu, Ezea (*Enugu North*)

Co-sponsor: Sen. Chukwu, Chizoba Kelvin (*Enugu East*)

Sen. Osita, Ngwu (*Enugu West*)

The Senate:

Notes that on 7th April, 2024, five (5) innocent farmers in Adani, a popular rice production community in Uzo-Uwani LGA, Enugu State, were callously murdered by some rampaging herdsmen who invaded the community in the wee hours of the morning to commit the dastardly act;

Also notes that on Sunday, 28th April, 2024, at about 14:00hrs, another attack was carried out in the same LGA where four innocent people in the farming village of Nimbo were gruesomely mowed down by herdsmen in an unprovoked attack that is reminiscent of the April 2016 Nimbo killings;

Cognizant that in February 2016, Abbi community was the first to be hit by the same assailants where 2 people were gruesomely killed while 19 others were declared missing;

Also cognizant also that there was a major massacre in Nimbo community in the early hours of April 25th 2016, which left over 46 people dead and 14 persons injured, with their houses and other properties completely razed down;

Concerned that these killings don't seem to be isolated as their persistence indicates a pattern, and worried further that even with the 2016 killings, the authorities - both at the state and federal level - have not taken robust steps to stop these killings;

Also concerned that if nothing very urgent and sustainable was done to put an end to this recurrent menace, people may begin to resort to self-help in order to ward off these criminal elements and this may eventually lead to a complete breakdown of law and order, especially given the already challenging security situation in the region; and

Further concerned that with the strategic location of Uzo-Uwani LGA as a net producer of food in the country, these killings may have a significant impact on the food security of the nation as more and more farmers are now becoming afraid to go to farms for fear of being hacked by murderous herdsmen and in effect abandoning their communities and relocating to the urban areas, thereby exacerbating the rural-urban migration crises in the country,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. Urge the Inspector General of Police, the Chief of Army Staff and the Director General of the Department of State Services to investigate, arrest and prosecute these criminal gangs to serve as a deterrent;*
 - ii. Also urge the Inspector General of Police and the Chief of Army Staff to urgently establish police and military presence in Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area, to put a permanent stop to the incessant killings;*
 - iii. Mandate the Senate Committees on Legislative Compliance, Police Affairs and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance and proffer lasting solutions; and*
 - iv. Further urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the victims to cushion the effects of these unwarranted attacks;*
2. Call on the President, Commander - in - Chief of the Armed Forces to Resuscitate Local Government System in Nigeria.

Sponsor: Sen. Kawu, Suleiman Abdulrahman (*Kano South*).

The Senate:

Notes that in the tapestry of Nigeria's governance system, local governments are meant to be threads weaving development close to the ground. Envisioned as the closest tier of administration to the people, they hold the potential to address local needs directly and shape communities from the inside out. But the story of Nigeria's local government system is one of promise and paradox, woven with threads of hope and frustration;

Also notes that the journey began in 1976 with a local government reform, aiming to decentralize power and empower communities. Envisioned as self-governing entities with elected officials, local governments handled critical aspects of community life - primary education, healthcare, sanitation, local infrastructure and community security. It was a dream of grassroots democracy, where decisions were made closer to the people they impacted;

Aware that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, when He served as Governor of Lagos State from 1999 to 2007, demonstrated sincere passion for the autonomy of the local governments in Lagos State. This can be grasped when he purportedly established 37 LCDAs within LGAs in Lagos State and introduced reforms to strengthen them;

Also aware that the President of the Senate Senator Godswill Akpabio when served as the Governor of Akwa-Ibom State from 2007 to 2015 implemented various initiatives to improve service delivery at the local level, such as rehabilitating infrastructure, investing in healthcare and education, and launching poverty alleviation programmes, as well as deducting 10% of the IGR to LGAs which informed ground breaking achievements by LGA in Akwa-Ibom State Local Government Administration;

Worried that However, the dream of achieving the objectives of the local government system encountered harsh realities. Successive governments often eroded local autonomy, limiting their financial resources and control over decision-making. Corruption scandals and mismanagement tarnished the image of some local governments, fueling public cynicism. Uneven development across the country also meant limited resources were only sometimes distributed fairly, leaving some communities feeling neglected;

Also worried that some governors play a crucial role in frustrating local government autonomy in Nigeria via constitutional alteration processes;

Concerned that with limited financial and operational autonomy, local governments might struggle to effectively address local security concerns like community policing initiatives, intelligence gathering, and infrastructure maintenance;

Also concerned that without genuine control and decision-making power, local governments might be unable to tailor security measures to specific community needs and build trust with residents, hindering cooperation and effectiveness;

Disturbed that without the power to initiate and manage local economic development initiatives, like attracting businesses, investing in skills training, and promoting local entrepreneurship, local governments might be less equipped to address unemployment;

Also disturbed that reliant on higher-level allocations, local governments might lack sufficient resources for essential infrastructure maintenance and development, leading to the deterioration of roads, water systems, and vital services;

Bothered that Nigeria's current security challenges are deeply concerning, and the lack of adequate financial autonomy for local governments poses a significant obstacle to effectively addressing them. Without sufficient resources, local governments are unable to invest in crucial security architecture, including trained personnel, improved infrastructure, and community engagement initiatives. This significantly hinders their ability to participate effectively in national security efforts, leaving communities vulnerable and jeopardizing the overall safety of the nation; and

Also bothered that the proverb "an idle man is a devil's workshop" rings true in the context of Nigeria's security challenges. Local governments, once major employers, are financially constrained and unable to hire the necessary staff. This surge in unemployment creates a pool of vulnerable individuals susceptible to criminal recruitment, further exacerbating the nation's security issues,

Accordingly resolves to:

1. *Urge* the President, Commander - in - Chief to:
 - i. *Champion* the cause of full autonomy for local governments in our nation. The challenges we face - persistent security threats, Rural Urban Migration, decaying infrastructure, and widespread unemployment - demand bold action, and we believe that empowering local governments holds the key to unlocking a brighter future for all Nigerians;
 - ii. *Convene* a national dialogue involving governors, state legislators, local government officials, civil society organizations, and community leaders to discuss the roadmap towards achieving full local government autonomy;
 - iii. *Use* his leadership and influence to persuade the federating units and all critical stakeholders in the constitutional alteration processes and administrative bottlenecks to embrace the vision of full local government autonomy;
 - iv. *Also champion* changes to the Constitution that enshrine and guarantee genuine independence for local governments, granting them control over their resources, decision-making authority, and the power to chart their development paths;
 - v. *Urge* Federal agencies to fully comply with existing legal provisions that empower local governments, ensuring timely release of allocated funds directly to their bank accounts and streamlining administrative processes;

vi. *Unified* electoral system and tenure of office of the Chairmen Councilors of the Local Governments in Nigeria;

vii. *Stop further* with the allocation of fund to Caretaker Committee-led Local Government Area; and

2. *Carryout* any other assignment which in the opinion of the Senate can assist in achieving the objectives of this motion.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Federal Character & Inter-Governmental Affairs	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	2:00pm	Meeting Room 211 Senate New Building
2.	Ethics, Code of Conduct and Public Petition	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 120 Senate New Building
3.	Solid Minerals development	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	3.00pm	Meeting Room 204 Senate New Building
4.	Land Transport	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 431 Senate New Building
5.	Finance	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 302 Senate New Building
6.	National Identity Card & Population	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024 (Screening Exercise)	2.00pm	Meeting Room 117 Senate New Building
7.	Power	Wednesday, 15 th May, 2024	2.30pm	Meeting Room 439 Senate New Building
8.	Public Accounts	Wed. 15 th & Thur. 16 th May, 2024 (Public Hearing)	2.00pm	Hearing Room 4 White House
9.	Education (Basic & Secondary)	Thursday, 16 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 107 Senate New Building
10.	Special Duties	Thursday, 16 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 204 Senate New Building
11.	Joint Committee Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters and Security & Intelligence	Thursday, 16 th May, 2024	2.00pm	Meeting Room 211 Senate New Building
12.	Health (Secondary & Tertiary)	Thur. 16 th - Sat. 18 th May, 2024 (Oversight visit to South West)		
13.	Petroleum Resources (Upstream)	Friday, 17 th May, 2024	11.00am	Meeting Room 204 Senate New Building
14.	Petroleum Resources (Upstream)	Thursday, 23 rd May, 2024	3.00pm	Conference Room 231 Senate New Building