

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 26th March, 2025

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

BUSINESS OF THE DAY

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

- 1. National Roads Fund Bill, 2025 (SB. 747) First Reading Sen. Karimi, Sunday Steve (Kogi West).
- 2. Crypto Currency Regulation Bill, 2025 (SB. 751) First Reading Sen. Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt (Abia South).
- 3. Yusuf Maitama Sule Federal University of Education Kano (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 760) First Reading Sen. Barau, Jibrin (Kano North).
- 4. Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 756) First Reading Sen. David, S. U Jimkuta (Taraba South).
- 5. Federal Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation Obusa, Benue State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 757) First Reading Sen. Moro, Abba Patrick (Benue South).
- 6. National Health Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 759) First Reading Sen. Yar'adua, Abdulaziz Musa (Katsina Central).

MOTIONS

1. Recommital of the Police Institutions Bill, 2025.

Sponsor: Senate Leader

The Senate:

Recalls that the Police Institutions Bill, 2025 was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives, and forwarded to the Clerk to the National Assembly for further legislative action;

Observes that the Directorate of Legal Services scrutinized the Bill in line with its mandate and raised fundamental issues that needed to be addressed before the Bill could be transmitted for Presidential assent;

Notes that the observations of the Legal Department have been worked on extensively; and

Relying on order 1(b) and 52(6) of the Senate Standing Order,

Accordingly resolves to:

- *i.* Rescind its earlier decision on the Police Institutions Bill, 2025 and refer same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage.
- 2. Recommital of the Federal University of Education Numan, Adamawa State.

Sponsor: Senate Leader

The Senate:

Recalls that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria had signified the withholding of his Assent on the Federal University of Education Numan, Adamawa State;

Observes that Mr. President's withholding of Assent to the Bill is based on the concerns regarding certain words and phrases reflected in the Bill that may be inconsistent with other Acts establishing Federal Universities;

Among such are:

- a. Misspelling of "statutes" as "statues" in item 13 and 15 under arrangement of sections;
- b. Section 22 which conferred the disposal of land to the Governor instead of the President;
- c. Omission of preposition "of" between the word "award" and "degree" in section 25(4)(b); and
- d. Misspelling of the phrase "one-third" as "on-third" in article 4(3) of the third schedule;

Concludes that the observations as itemized by Mr. President have been effectively corrected,

Accordingly resolves to:

Refer the President's observations on the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions

Confirmation of the Nominations

Sen. Abiru, Mukhail Adetokunbo (Lagos East)

- That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions on the confirmation of the nominations of the following persons for appointment as Part-Time Chairman and Non-Executive Directors of the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON).

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	GEO-POLITICAL ZONE
1.	Dr. Bala Bello	Part-Time Chairman	North-East
2.	Yusuf Tegina Sule	Non-Executive Director	North-Central
3.	Mr. Adeyemo Adeoye Stephen	Non-Executive Director	South-West
4.	Mr. Yahaya Ibrahim	Non-Executive Director	North-West
5.	Mr. Odion Charles Iyare	Non-Executive Director	South-South
6.	Mrs. Emily Chidinma Osuji	Non-Executive Director	South-East

2. Report of the Committee on National Identity Card and Population

National Identity Management Commission (Repeal & Enactment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 472)

Sen. Umeh, Victor Chukwunonyelu (Anambra Central)

-That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on National Identity Card and Population on the National Identity Management Commission (Repeal & Enactment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 472).

3. Report of the Committee on Health

Orthopaedic Hospitals Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 582)

Sen. Banigo, Ipalibo Harry (Rivers West)

-That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on Health on the Orthopaedic Hospitals Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 582).

BILL FOR CONCURRENCE

1. Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences Bida, Niger State (Establishment) Bill, 2025 (HB. 411) - Concurrence

Sen. Bamidele, Michael Opeyemi (Ekiti Central-Senate Leader).

MOTION

1. Urgent Need to address the increased cost of Data Services in Nigeria.

Sponsor: Sen. Asuquo, Ekpenyong (Cross River South)

The Senate:

Notes that telecommunications providers in Nigeria have recently increased the cost of data services by as much as 200%, a move that has placed significant financial strain on millions of Nigerians, especially young people who rely on the internet for their livelihood;

Also notes that young Nigerians have embraced the digital economy, leveraging the internet for various incomegenerating activities, including Freelancing and remote work, Digital marketing and social media management, e-commerce and online trading, software development, web design, and mobile app creation, content creation on YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram, online education and professional skill development, cryptocurrency trading and financial technology innovations, and customer support services amongst others;

Concerned that fiber-optic internet services remain unaffordable for the average young Nigerian, leaving them heavily dependent on mobile telecommunications companies for internet access, and that the sudden and substantial increase in data costs threatens their economic survival and limits access to critical digital services;

Also concerned that the reasons provided by Telecom providers for the data price hike, including high operational costs, and unfavorable exchange rates are untenable and appears that instead of addressing the root causes of the high cost of doing business in Nigeria, the burden is being unfairly transferred to end users;

Aware that the high cost of doing business in Nigeria is driven by multiple challenges, including poor infrastructure, unreliable power supply and road networks, high import duties on ICT equipment and other essential business tools, multiple taxation and excessive regulatory charges on telecom operators, security concerns that increase operational risks and insurance costs, bureaucratic bottlenecks that slow down business operations and innovation, and the high cost of diesel and alternative energy sources due to unreliable national grid power supply; and

Believes that urgent government intervention is required to ensure that affordable internet access remains available to all Nigerians, particularly the youth, who are the backbone of Nigeria's digital economy,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal Government to engage with telecommunications providers to review the recent increase in data costs and ensure that pricing remains fair and affordable for all Nigerians;
- ii. *Call* on the Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation, and Digital Economy to develop a policy framework for affordable internet services in Nigeria;
- iii. Encourage the Federal Government to establish and support tech hubs across the country, providing free or subsidized internet access to young entrepreneurs, students, and innovators; and

- iv. *Mandate* the Committee on Communications to conduct an investigation into the factors driving the high cost of data and proffer solutions for a sustainable and business-friendly telecommunications sector;
- v. Also call for immediate government action to address the challenges of doing business in Nigeria, particularly in the ICT and telecommunications sector, to prevent further cost increases that negatively impact economic growth.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS							
No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue			
1.	FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters	Wednesday, 26 th March, 2025 (Interactive Meeting)	2.00pm	Meeting Room 107 Senate New Building			