SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 27th October, 2026

1. The Senate met at 11:38 a.m; recited the National Anthem and thereafter, the President of the Senate read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 22nd October, 2026.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

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

(i) 2026-2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Plan:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134/100/S/BP

Distinguished Senator Godswill O. Akpabio, GCON — *2nd October, 2026*
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT 2026-2027 SUPPLEMENTARY EXTERNAL BORROWING PLAN

I write in reference to the above subject and to submit the attached Federal Government 2026-2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Rolling Plan for consideration and early approval of the National Assembly to ensure prompt implementation of the projects.

The 2026-2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Plan cut across all sectors with specific emphasis on infrastructure, agriculture, health, education, water supply, growth, security, and employment generation, as well as Financial Management Reforms, amongst others. The total facility for the projects and programmes under the Borrowing (Rolling) Plan is US$20,517,755,901 (Twenty Billion, Five Hundred and Seventeen Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand, Nine Hundred and One US Dollars) and €1,045,083,643 (One Billion, Forty-Five Million, Eighty-Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Forty-Three Euros) respectively, and the summary of the breakdown is attached.

Distinguished Senate President, in light of the removal of the critical reforms of my administration and the need to accelerate growth of the national economy, approval is sought for the External Borrowing Plan, which amounts to US$20,517,755,901 (Twenty Billion, Five Hundred and Seventeen Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand, Nine Hundred and One US Dollars) and €1,045,083,643 (One Billion, Forty-Five Million, Eighty-Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Forty-Three Euros).

I want to emphasize that the projects and programmes included in the Borrowing Plan were selected based on thorough technical and economic evaluation, as well as their anticipated contribution to the socio-economic development of the country. These initiatives aim to generate employment, promote skill acquisition, foster entrepreneurship, reduce poverty, and enhance food security, all of which improve the livelihood of the average Nigerian. The majority of these projects and programmes will be implemented across all 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory.

In light of the need for significant infrastructure investment in the country and the vast financial resources needed to address this gap, it has become essential to pursue prudent external borrowing to close the financing shortfall. These funds will primarily be directed towards critical infrastructure projects, in various sectors including power, transportation and healthcare, among others.

Given the urgent nature of these needs and the importance of stabilizing the country, it is crucial to seek the consideration and approval of the National Assembly leadership for the 2026-2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Rolling Plan. This will enable the government to fulfill its obligations to the Nigerian people through timely disbursement and effective project implementation.

Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my warm personal regards.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)
Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Pursuant to Order 39(2), the President of the Senate referred the 2026-2027 Supplementary External Borrowing Plan to the Committee on Local and Foreign Debts to report within one (1) week.

(ii) Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Enactment and Enforcement) (Amendment) Bill, 2026:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134/S/105/EB

Distinguished Senator Godswill O. Akpabio, GCON *24th June, 2025*
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

TRANSMISSION OF THE TRANSFER OF CONVICTED OFFENDERS (ENACTMENT AND ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026 FOR CONSIDERATION

Pursuant to Section 58(2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I forward, herewith, the Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Enactment and Enforcement) (Amendment) Bill, 2026 for the kind consideration of the Senate.

2. The Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Enactment and Enforcement) (Amendment) Bill, 2026 seeks to amend the Transfer of Convicted Offenders (Enactment and Enforcement) Act, Cap. T16, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to give effect to the provisions of any Scheme or Agreement for the transfer of convicted offenders between the Federal Government of Nigeria and the Government of any other country, and to empower the President, by Order published in the Federal Gazette, to apply the Act to any country with which such an Agreement has been made, so as to enable the implementation of agreements concluded with non-Commonwealth countries.

3. While it is my hope that the Senate will consider this submission expeditiously, please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)
Bola Ahmed Tinubu

4. ***Announcement:***
Acknowledgment:
The President of the Senate acknowledged the presence of the Staff and Students of Peculiar Treasures School, Lugbe, Abuja who were at the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Rising on Orders 41 and 51, Senator Izunaso, Osita Bonaventure — *(Imo West)* drew the attention of the Senate to the Demise of Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, former Member of the Second Republic House of Representatives. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes, with profound sadness the passing of Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, Okpuruisizuruoha II of Arondizuogu, a distinguished Nigerian statesman, former Member of the Second Republic House of Representatives and prominent figure in Nigeria's pro-democracy struggle, who died on Saturday, 3rd October, 2026, at the age of 80;

further notes, that the passing of Chief Obioha represents the loss of an elder statesman whose life intersected with significant chapters in Nigeria's political history, including the struggle to establish and sustain democratic governance, constitutional order and accountable leadership;

acknowledges, his service as a Member of the Second Republic House of Representatives, where he participated in the legislative process at a defining period in Nigeria's political development, contributing to the representation of the people and the advancement of parliamentary democracy;

further acknowledges, that the sacrifices, convictions and courage of those who participated in Nigeria's pro-democracy struggle remain an important part of the country's democratic heritage and serve as a reminder that constitutional government, civil liberties and the right of citizens to choose their leaders must never be taken for granted;

notes, that his transition at the age of 80 is not merely the departure of an individual but also a moment of reflection on the legacy of a generation of political leaders whose experiences, convictions and contributions helped shape Nigeria's evolving democratic journey;

regrets, that the death of such an experienced statesman deprives the nation of an elder whose life offers lessons in political participation, public service, democratic engagement and the responsibilities of leadership; and

pays tribute, to the memory of Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, Okpuruisizuruoha II of Arondizuogu, and affirms that the contributions of individuals who have served their communities and participated in the defence of democratic ideals deserve to be remembered with dignity and gratitude.

Accordingly, resolves to:

(i) observe one minute silence in honour of the late Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, in recognition of his service to Nigeria as a former Federal Legislator, Statesman and participant in the pro-democracy struggle;

(ii) commiserate with the Obioha family, particularly his children and other relatives, and extend the Senate's heartfelt condolences to the people of Arondizuogu, Ideato North Local Government Area, Imo State, and all those affected by his passing;

(iii) pay tribute to his contributions to Nigeria's democratic development, particularly his service in the Second Republic House of Representatives and his association with the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO); and

(iv) direct the Clerk of the Senate to transmit a formal letter of condolence to the Obioha family and convey the Senate's sympathy to the Traditional Institution and people of Arondizuogu.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That the Senate do observe one minute silence in honour of the late Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, in recognition of his service to Nigeria as a former Federal Legislator, Statesman and participant in the pro-democracy struggle — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do commiserate with the Obioha family, particularly his children and other relatives, and extend the Senate's heartfelt condolences to the people of Arondizuogu, Ideato North Local Government Area, Imo State, and all those affected by his passing — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That the Senate do pay tribute to his contributions to Nigeria's democratic development, particularly his service in the Second Republic House of Representatives and his association with the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: That the Senate do direct the Clerk of the Senate to transmit a formal letter of condolence to the Obioha family and convey the Senate's sympathy to the Traditional Institution and people of Arondizuogu — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(i) observe one minute silence in honour of the late Chief Ralph Kanu Obioha, in recognition of his service to Nigeria as a former Federal Legislator, Statesman and participant in the pro-democracy struggle;

(ii) commiserate with the Obioha family, particularly his children and other relatives, and extend the Senate's heartfelt condolences to the people of Arondizuogu, Ideato North Local Government Area, Imo State, and all those affected by his passing;

(iii) pay tribute to his contributions to Nigeria's democratic development, particularly his service in the Second Republic House of Representatives and his association with the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO); and

(iv) direct the Clerk of the Senate to transmit a formal letter of condolence to the Obioha family and convey the Senate's sympathy to the Traditional Institution and people of Arondizuogu **(S/Res/39/04/2026).**

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Presentation of Bills:

(i) Institute of Actuarial Professionals of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2026 (SB. 1085) — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2775) — *Read the First Time.*

(iii) Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2776) — *Read the First Time.*

7. Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made: That the Senate do Consider the Nomination of Mr. Akinyele Akintola (LMNATS) for Appointment as a Commissioner, representing Osun State in the Public Complaints Commission (PCC) *(Senate Leader).*

By the Leave of the Senate, the Nomination of the Appointment of Mr. Akinyele Akintola (LMNATS) is referred to the Committee on Ethics, Code of Conduct and Public Petitions to report within one (1) week.

8. National Postgraduate Medical College Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (SB. 1068):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Postgraduate Medical College Act Cap N59, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to reflect the change of the institutional name, expand the mandate of the College to include the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) Degrees in Clinical Medicine, Dentistry and Related Fields; and for Related Matters, 2026 be read the Second Time *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

Debate:

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND to report within four (4) weeks.

9. Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau Act (Amendment), Bill, 2026 (SB. 1078):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (Establishment) Act to reposition the Bureau as an Independent Multimodal Safety Investigation Authority, Strengthen its Institutional, Operational and Administrative Mandates; and for Related Matters, 2026 be read the Second Time *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

Debate:

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Aviation to report within four (4) weeks.

10. Joint Committee on Diaspora and Non-Governmental Organisations; Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters; Foreign Affairs; and Special Duties:
Report on the Urgent Need to Protect Nigerians from Trafficking, Slavery and Human Rights Abuses in Libya:
Motion made: That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committees on Diaspora and Non-Governmental Organisations; Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters; Foreign Affairs; and Special Duties in respect of a Motion on the Urgent Need to Protect Nigerians from Trafficking, Slavery and Human Rights Abuses in Libya *(Senator Siyako, Yaro Anthony — Gombe South).*

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and thereafter, presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That existing anti-trafficking laws be strengthened, through more effective enforcement mechanisms and enhanced rehabilitation frameworks for returning victims, and this should include comprehensive review of extant laws, such as the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act, 2015; the Child Rights Act, 2003 and other related legislation, addressing human trafficking and allied offences — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), in collaboration with the Nigeria Police, the Nigeria Immigration Service, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant regulatory and law enforcement agencies, undertake a comprehensive investigation of the activities of the identified travel agencies, which should also include their Directors, Officers, Agents and affiliated entities, with a view to tracing recruitment networks, financial transactions, travel arrangements and other relevant evidence connected to the alleged trafficking and exploitation of Nigerian citizens abroad — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That increased funding for the effective discharge of the statutory mandate of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and other related agencies be increased in order to strengthen their institutional capacities to investigate and prosecute offenders, support victims and address the existing operational and institutional gaps — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):
Question: That the Federal Government should, as a matter of priority, establish a National Re-integration and Protection Programme to be coordinated by the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in collaboration with NAPTIP, with clearly defined institutional mandate and sustainable funding framework — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):
Question: That the Nigerian Government, through the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, should intensify diplomatic engagement with the Libyan Government, through bilateral and multilateral channels with a view to developing coordinated strategies for combating human trafficking, modern-day slavery and irregular migration, which should focus on intelligence sharing, enhancing border management cooperation, dismantling trafficking networks, ensuring the protection and repatriation of vulnerable migrants and promoting the prosecution of perpetrators — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (vi):
Question: That the Nigerian Government should also collaborate with relevant international organisations to address the root causes of irregular migration, through awareness campaigns, economic empowerment initiatives and promotion of safe, orderly and legal migration pathways — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

(i) That existing anti-trafficking laws be strengthened, through more effective enforcement mechanisms and enhanced rehabilitation frameworks for returning victims, and this should include comprehensive review of extant laws, such as the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act, 2015; the Child Rights Act, 2003 and other related legislation, addressing human trafficking and allied offences;

(ii) That the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), in collaboration with the Nigeria Police, the Nigeria Immigration Service, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant regulatory and law enforcement agencies, undertake a comprehensive investigation of the activities of the identified travel agencies, which should also include their Directors, Officers, Agents and affiliated entities, with a view to tracing recruitment networks, financial transactions, travel arrangements and other relevant evidence connected to the alleged trafficking and exploitation of Nigerian citizens abroad;

(iii) That increased funding for the effective discharge of the statutory mandate of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and other related agencies be increased in order to strengthen their institutional capacities to investigate and prosecute offenders, support victims and address the existing operational and institutional gaps;

(iv) That the Federal Government should, as a matter of priority, establish a National Re-integration and Protection Programme to be coordinated by the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in collaboration with NAPTIP, with clearly defined institutional mandate and sustainable funding framework;

(v) That the Nigerian Government, through the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, should intensify diplomatic engagement with the Libyan Government, through bilateral and multilateral channels with a view to developing coordinated strategies for combating human trafficking, modern-day slavery and irregular migration, which should focus on intelligence sharing, enhancing border management cooperation, dismantling trafficking networks, ensuring the protection and repatriation of vulnerable migrants and promoting the prosecution of perpetrators; and

(vi) That the Nigerian Government should also collaborate with relevant international organisations to address the root causes of irregular migration, through awareness campaigns, economic empowerment initiatives and promotion of safe, orderly and legal migration pathways **(S/Res/40/04/2026).**

11. Committee on Environment:

Report on the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (SB. 74):

Motion made: That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on Environment on a Bill for An Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment) Act, No.15, 2006, to Provide Statutory Power for the Agency to Charge Adequate Fines, Introduce Criminal Offences and Penalties to Ensure Compliance with Existing Environmental Legislation in the Petroleum Sector; and for Related Matters, 2026 *(Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North).*

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY (ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, NO.15, 2006, TO PROVIDE STATUTORY POWER FOR THE AGENCY TO CHARGE ADEQUATE FINES, INTRODUCE CRIMINAL OFFENCES AND PENALTIES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION IN THE PETROLEUM SECTOR; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2026.

Clause 1: **Amendment of Act No. 15, 2006**
The National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment) Act, (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 1 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 2: **Amendment of section 2**
Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by substituting for paragraph "(b)", a new paragraph "(b)" -

"(b) one representative each of the following Federal Ministries and Agencies not below the rank of Director and Heads of the Organisations:

(i) Environment;

(ii) Petroleum Resources;

(iii) Defence;

(iv) Water Resources;

(v) Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA);

(vi) Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA);

(vii) National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA);

(viii) Ecological Fund Office;

(ix) Nigerian Environmental Society (NES);

(x) Oil Producers Trade Section of Lagos Chambers of Commerce (OPTS); and

(xi) Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN).

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 3: **Amendment of section 5**
Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended by -
(a) substituting for the opening paragraph, a new opening paragraph -
"5. The objectives of the Agency are to monitor and regulate Tiers 1 and 2 oil spills, coordinate, implement and activate the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for Nigeria (in this Bill referred to as "the Plan") in the event of a Tier 3 oil spill and to-"and

(b) substituting for paragraph (a), a new paragraph "(a)"-
"(a) establish a viable national operational organisation that ensures a safe, timely, effective and appropriate response to all oil spills as well as other hazardous substances in the petroleum sector".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 4: **Amendment of section 6**
Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by -
(a) substituting for subsections (2) - (4), new subsections "(2)" "(4)" -

"(2) A facility owner or operator shall notify the Agency of an oil spill by reporting to the Agency in writing, or by electronic mail not later than 24 hours after the occurrence of an oil spill in default of which the failure to report constitute an offence and on conviction shall attract penalty of not less than ₦2,000,000 for each day of failure to report the occurrence.

(3) The failure to commence clean-up operations on the impacted site within two weeks after the completion of the Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) in accordance with the polluter-pays principle, shall constitute an offence and on conviction, the facility owner or operator shall be liable to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) Failure to submit an action plan for remediation and restoration within two weeks after the completion of post clean up assessment shall constitute an offence, and on conviction, the facility owner or operator shall be liable to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment."; and

(b) inserting after subsection (4), a new subsection "(5)"-

"(5) The notice required under subsection (2) of this section shall be deemed to have been made, if sent in writing, or by electronic mail and delivered to the nearest zonal or field office of the Agency closer to the impacted site or the National Control and Response Centre within the time stipulated in subsection (2) of this section."

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 4 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 5: **Insertion of sections 7A and 7B**
Insert after section 7 of the Principal Act, new sections "7A" and "7B"-

"7A. (1) Where oil spill occurs in the course of decommissioning or abandonment of facilities specified in subsection (1), to ensure that it is cleaned up to all practical extent, in accordance with the procedure and guidelines issued by the Agency.

(2) The facility owner shall notify the Agency in writing at least two months prior to the commencement of decommissioning or abandonment of any facility or installations within its area of operation.

(3) Failure to notify the Agency prior to the commencement of such activities as specified in subsection (3) shall attract penalty of at least ₦2,000,000.

7B. (1) The Agency, pursuant to section 1 (1) of this Bill, shall periodically inspect the records of assets and integrity tests conducted by facility owners to ensure that such assets are safe to store or convey crude oil or petroleum products effectively to minimize potential for oil spills.

(2) The Agency shall provide a programme for periodic inspection and compliance monitoring of the oil facilities in the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors in accordance with its Regulations, Guidelines and Standards."

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 5 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 5 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 6: **Amendment of section 11**
Section 11 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (b), paragraphs "(ba)" and "(bb) -

"(ba) 2.5% of the Ecological Fund annually for the procurement of oil spill response equipment and materials, management of oil spill disasters, clean up and remediation of oil impacted sites arising from third party interference;

(bb) penalties, permits, and certification fees prescribed in the Regulations, Guidelines and Standards".

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 6 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 6 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 7: **Amendment of section 19**
Section 19 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) in subsection (1) by inserting after paragraph (b), a new paragraph "(ba)" -

"(ba) inspect oil facilities with a view to ensuring full compliance with existing environmental legislation on oil pollution;"

(b) in subsection (1) (g), by inserting after the word "spillage", the words "and ensure the payment of adequate compensation to impacted party or parties"; and

(c) by deleting subsection (3) (d).

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 7 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 8: **Amendment of section 20**
Section 20 of the Principal Act is amended by -

(a) substituting for subsection (3), a new subsection "(3)" -

"(3) No suit shall be commenced against the Agency before the expiration of a period of three months after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the Agency by the intending plaintiff or his agent."; and

(b) inserting after subsection (3), a new subsection "(4)" -

"(4) Such notice shall clearly and explicitly state the cause of action, particulars of the claim, name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he claims."

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 8 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 9: **Amendment of section 26**

Section 26 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting new subsections "(2)" - "(4)"-

"(2) The Agency shall under subsection (1), make regulations setting specifications and standards relating to the -

(a) use of dispersant;

(b) engagement or invitation of any oil spill responder by oil companies;

(c) establishment of a benchmark for oil spill contingency planning;

(d) development of framework to guide operators in oil spill contingency planning;

(e) most appropriate means of preventing and combating oil spills and its attendant oil pollution; and

(f) development of benchmarks for remediation threshold for different land surfaces and uses.

(3) Any person who contravenes the regulations made under subsection (2), commits an offence and is, on conviction, liable to a fine not less than ₦2,000,000 or imprisonment for a term not less than two years or both and additional fine not less than ₦500,000 for every day the offence subsists.

(4) Where an offence under subsection (2) is committed by a body corporate, the body corporate shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000 and additional fine not less than ₦2,000,000 for every day the offence subsists."

***Committee's Recommendation*:**

That the provisions in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 9 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 10: **Insertion of new sections 26A and 26D**

Insert after section 26 of the Principal Act, new sections "26A" - "26D" -

26A. (1) An officer of the Agency may, in the course of his duty at any reasonable time and on presentation of his official identification, if so required -

(a) in collaboration with relevant agencies, enter and search with a warrant issued by a court, any premises including land, vehicle, tent, vessel, floating craft including Maritime Tankers, Barges or Floating Production, Storage, Offloading (FPSO) and oil facilities or any inland waters and other structures, at all times, for the purposes of conducting inspection, searching and taking samples for analysis which he reasonably believes carries out activities or stores goods which contravene environmental standards or legislation relating to oil pollution;

(b) examine any article found pursuant to paragraph (a), which appears to him to be an article to which this Bill or the regulations made under this Bill apply or anything which he reasonably believes is capable of being used to the detriment of the environment in the petroleum sector;

(c) take a sample or specimen of any article to which this Bill or regulations apply or which he has power to examine under paragraph (b);

(d) open and examine, pursuant to paragraph (a), any container or package which he reasonably believes may contain anything to which this Bill or its regulations apply or which may help in his investigations;

(e) examine any book, document or other record found pursuant to paragraph (a), which he reasonably believes may contain any information relevant to the enforcement of this Bill or regulations and make copies or extracts therefrom;

(f) seize and detain for such time as may be necessary, any article by means of or in relation to which he reasonably believes any provision of this Bill or regulations has been contravened; and

(g) obtain an order of a court to suspend activities, seal and close down premises including land, vehicle, tent, well head, vessel, floating craft, oil facilities or any inland waters and other structures.

(2) A written receipt shall be given for any article or thing seized under subsection (I) and the reasons for such seizure shall be stated on such receipt.

(3) An article seized under this Bill shall be kept or stored in such a place as the officer of the Agency may direct and shall be returned to the owner or the person from whom it was seized if the article, upon analysis or examination, is found to conform with the requirements of this Bill or regulations made under it.

(4) An article seized by an officer of the Agency under this Bill or regulations made under it, may be submitted to an analyst for analysis or examination and the analyst upon making such analysis or examination shall, issue a certificate or report in the prescribed form, setting forth the result of such analysis or examination and the officer of the Agency shall, on demand, deliver a copy of such certificate or report to the owner of the article if the article is to be subject of a proceeding under this Bill or regulations made under it.

(5) In this section, the word "article" to which this Bill or regulations made under it apply are -

(a) liquid, soil, vegetation;

(b) biological and chemical samples; and

(c) such other articles or samples as may be determined.

26B. (1) A person who obstructs an officer of the Agency in the discharge or performance of his duties under sections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this Bill, commits an offence and is liable on conviction -

(a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not less than ₦300,000 or to imprisonment for a term not less than two years or both, and an additional fine not less than ₦30,000 for each day the offence subsists; and

(b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000 and an additional fine not less than ₦500,000 for each day the offence subsists.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provision of any regulations made under this Bill commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the penalties specified in the regulations and as may be reviewed from time to time.

(3) Any person who engages in any activity that causes the spillage of crude oil or petroleum products commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not less than ₦2,000,000 or imprisonment for a term not less than two years or both.

26C. (1) Subject to section 174 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, which relates to the power of the Attorney-General of the Federation to institute, continue or discontinue criminal proceedings against any person in a court of law, the Agency may, with the consent of the Attorney-General of the Federation-

(a) institute criminal proceedings against offenders in respect of offences under this Bill or regulations made under it; and

(b) conduct such proceedings as may be necessary for the enforcement and due administration of this Bill.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), a staff of the Agency who is a Legal Officer within the meaning of the Legal Practitioners Act, shall, while in the employment of the Agency be entitled to represent the Agency as a Legal Practitioner for the purpose and in the course of his employment.

(3) In a judicial proceeding for an offence under this Bill or any regulation made under it, the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act or depending on the venue, the Criminal Procedure Code shall, with such modification as the circumstance may require, apply in respect of such matter to the same extent as they apply to the trial of offences generally.

26D. The Agency shall ensure that the polluter provides reasonable compensation for loss or damage arising from the use of any equipment, facility or personnel required under this Bill".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 11: **Substitution of section 27**
Substitute for section 27 of the Principal Act, a new section "27"-
"27. In this Bill -

"Agency" means the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency established under section 1 of this Bill;

"Centre" means the National Control and Response Centre established under section 18 of this Bill;

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Agency;

"Court" means Federal High Court;

"facility owner" means a registered entity given the authority to operate in the oil and gas industry;

"Governing Board" means the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Governing Board of the Agency established under section 2 (1) of this Bill;

"member" means a member of the Governing Board of the Agency and includes the Chairman;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibilities for matters relating to environment and Ministry shall be construed accordingly;

"officer" means any employee of the Agency;

"oil" means mineral oil (or any related hydrocarbon) or natural gas as it exists in its natural state in strata, and does not include coal or bituminous shade or other stratified deposits from which oil can be extracted by destructive distillation but including premium motor spirit, automotive gas oil, low or high pour, fuel oil, aviation fuel, kerosene ,liquefied petroleum gases and any lubrication oil or grease or other lubricant oil in its natural state before it has been refined or treated;

"operator" means a person operating an oil facility whether as registered owner or on rent or lease or by any other arrangement;

"oil spill responder" includes Clean Nigeria Associates, Oil Companies Cooperative, Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) or any other oil spill response contractors;

"polluter" means owner or operator of a facility through which oil, oily waste or hazardous substances are released or discharged into the environment;

"release" means any spilling, leaking, pump Leaking, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, discarding or disposing into the environment;

"remediation" means the process of remedying or restoring an area or situation to its natural (or as close to natural as possible) state;

"Tier 1" means a minor oil spill of 0-5 barrels to inland waters, or 0-250 barrels to land or coastal or offshore waters;

"Tier 2" means a medium oil spill of 25-250 barrels to inland waters, or 250-2,500 barrels to land or coastal or offshore waters; and

"Tier 3" means a major oil spill above 250 barrels to inland waters, or above 2,500 barrels to land or coastal or offshore waters.

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 11 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 11 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 12: **Amendment of the First Schedule**
The First Schedule to the Principal Act is amended in paragraph 3 by substituting for the word "six" in line three, the word "five".

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 12 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 12 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 13: **Citation**
This Bill may be cited as the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment) (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

***Committee's Recommendation*:**
That the provisions in Clause 13 be retained (*Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North*).

Question that Clause 13 do stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Environment on a Bill for An Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment) Act, No.15, 2006, to Provide Statutory Power for the Agency to Charge Adequate Fines, Introduce Criminal Offences and Penalties to Ensure Compliance with Existing Environmental Legislation in the Petroleum Sector; and for Related Matters, 2026 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1 - 13 — As Recommended

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

Motion made: That the Bill be now Read the Third Time *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly Read the Third Time and Passed.

12. State Security Service Research and Development Bureau (Establishment) Bill, 2026 (HB.2716) — Concurrence:

Presentation of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

13. National Sugar Development Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HBs. 2022 & 2030) — Concurrence:

Presentation of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

14. Motion:
Urgent Need for Comprehensive Aircraft Safety Inspections and Strengthened Aviation Regulatory Oversight in Nigeria:

Presentation of Motion deferred to another legislative day.

15. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Wednesday, 28th October, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly at 2:02 p.m.

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