



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14th October, 2026

1. The Senate met at 11:05 a.m; recited the National Anthem and thereafter, the Deputy President of the Senate read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 13th October, 2026.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcement:**

Acknowledgments:

The Deputy President of the Senate acknowledged the presence of the following who were at the gallery to observe the Senate proceedings:

- (i) Political Science Students, Bingham University, Karu, Nasarawa State; and
- (ii) Students of Kaduna State University, Kaduna State.

(PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE IN CHAIR)

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Orders 41 and 51, Senator Umeh, Victor Chukwunonyelu (*Anambra Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the Intervention on the devastating flood and erosion menace in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka Communities in Anambra Central Senatorial District of Anambra State. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes that Ogidi, Obosi and Awka Communities in Idemili North and Awka South Local Government Areas, respectively, of Anambra State are currently facing severe Environmental and Humanitarian Crisis arising from perennial and devastating flooding and erosion occasioned by heavy rainfalls;

further notes that the flooding has resulted in the loss of lives and the destruction of homes, farmlands, roads and other critical infrastructure, thereby disrupting economic activities and severely affecting the livelihoods of Residents;

further notes that at least four (4) persons, including a pregnant woman and a six-year-old Master Success Ezenwafor (a pupil of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Primary School, Awka) have reportedly lost their lives, while several families have been displaced and numerous homes submerged, including the Palace of His Royal Majesty, Igwe (Pharm.) Alex Uzo Onyido, Ezechuamagha of Ogidi, among other properties;

aware that large expanses of Agricultural land, economic trees and cash crops worth millions of naira have been destroyed, further aggravating food insecurity, loss of livelihoods and economic hardship among Residents;

further aware that the flooding has disrupted access to Education, as roads and access routes have become impassable, forcing schoolchildren to remain at home due to the risks associated with movement within the affected areas;

concerned that the erosion menace has resulted in a deep and expanding gully erosions in Awka, and another, reportedly exceeding 60 metres in depth, in Ugamuma Community, Obosi, extending towards the axis of the Onitsha Owerri Expressway and posing a serious threat to lives, property and critical Transport Infrastructure;

further concerned that the deplorable condition of roads and other infrastructure in the affected Communities has heightened the vulnerability of residents to criminal activities, including armed robbery and other forms of insecurity, particularly in areas that have become difficult to access;

worried that residents of the affected areas, particularly in Abor and Ire Villages in Ogidi and several communities in Obosi and Awka, are increasingly abandoning their homes and ancestral lands in search of safer places;

further worried that continued displacement of residents, destruction of livelihoods and exposure to insecurity could undermine public safety, social stability and economic activities in the affected communities;

disturbed that the magnitude and recurrence of the flooding and erosion have overwhelmed the coping capacity of the affected communities and require urgent, coordinated and sustained intervention by the Federal Government; and

convinced that immediate Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation of Critical Infrastructure and the implementation of sustainable flood and erosion control measures are necessary to protect lives and property, restore livelihoods and prevent further deterioration of the situation.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government, through the Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation Ecological Fund Office, to recognise the flooding and erosion crisis in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka Communities as requiring urgent National Intervention and to coordinate appropriate federal assistance to the affected communities;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately provide Relief materials, including food, potable water, temporary shelter, medical supplies and other essential assistance to affected and displaced persons;
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, and relevant agencies, to urgently assess, rehabilitate and reconstruct damaged roads, provide adequate drainages on the Federal Road, and access routes in the affected communities to restore mobility and facilitate emergency response and economic activities;
- (iv) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, through the appropriate agencies, to urgently undertake a comprehensive technical assessment of the erosion and flooding sites in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka and implement sustainable flood and erosion-control measures, including the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of appropriate drainage and storm-water management systems;

- (v) urge the Ecological Project Office and other relevant Federal, Government intervention agencies to prioritise the affected erosion sites in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka for immediate remedial and ecological intervention, particularly the gully erosion threatening Ugamuma Community and the Onitsha-Owerri Expressway axis;
- (vi) mandate the Senate Committees on Environment; Works; and Ecology and Climate Change, in collaboration with other relevant Committees of the Senate and agencies, to conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the affected areas in the country and report their findings and recommendations to the Senate within four (4) weeks; and
- (vii) urge the Federal Government, to declare the Idemili North and Awka South Local Government Areas of Anambra State an Environmental Disaster Zone.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government, through the Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation Ecological Fund Office, to recognise the flooding and erosion crisis in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka Communities as requiring urgent National Intervention and to coordinate appropriate federal assistance to the affected communities — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately provide Relief materials, including food, potable water, temporary shelter, medical supplies and other essential assistance to affected and displaced persons — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Works, and relevant agencies, to urgently assess, rehabilitate and reconstruct damaged roads, provide adequate drainages on the Federal Road, and access routes in the affected communities to restore mobility and facilitate emergency response and economic activities — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, through the appropriate agencies, to urgently undertake a comprehensive technical assessment of the erosion and flooding sites in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka and implement sustainable flood and erosion-control measures, including the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of appropriate drainage and storm-water management systems — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (v):

Question: That the Senate do urges the Ecological Project Office and other relevant Federal, Government intervention agencies to prioritise the affected erosion sites in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka for immediate remedial and ecological intervention, particularly the gully erosion threatening Ugamuma Community and the Onitsha-Owerri Expressway axis.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the Proposed Resolution (v) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

“That the Senate do urge the Ecological Project Office, other relevant Federal Government Intervention Agencies, States and Local Governments to prioritise the affected erosion/flooded sites in Anambra, Ebonyi, Imo, Akwa Ibom and other affected States in the country” (*Senator Plang, Diket Satso — Plateau Central*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Proposed Resolution (vi):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Senate Committees on Environment; Works; and Ecology and Climate Change, in collaboration with other relevant Committees of the Senate and agencies, to conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the affected areas in the country and report their findings and recommendations to the Senate within four (4) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do observe a minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives in the flood” (*Senator Osita, Ngwu — Enugu West*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government, through the Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation Ecological Fund Office, to recognise the flooding and erosion crisis in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka Communities as requiring urgent National Intervention and to coordinate appropriate federal assistance to the affected communities;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately provide Relief materials, including food, potable water, temporary shelter, medical supplies and other essential assistance to affected and displaced persons;
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, and relevant agencies, to urgently assess, rehabilitate and reconstruct damaged roads, provide adequate drainages on the Federal Road, and access routes in the affected communities to restore mobility and facilitate emergency response and economic activities;
- (iv) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, through the appropriate agencies, to urgently undertake a comprehensive technical assessment of the erosion and flooding sites in Ogidi, Obosi and Awka and implement sustainable flood and erosion-control measures, including the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of appropriate drainage and storm-water management systems;
- (v) urge the Ecological Project Office, other relevant Federal Government Intervention Agencies, States and Local Governments to prioritise the affected erosion/flooded sites in Anambra, Ebonyi, Imo, Akwa Ibom and other affected States in the country;
- (vi) mandate the Senate Committees on Environment; Works; and Ecology and Climate Change, in collaboration with other relevant Committees of the Senate and agencies, to conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the affected areas in the country and report their findings and recommendations to the Senate within four (4) weeks; and
- (vii) observe a minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives in the flood (*S/Res/27/04/2026*).

One minute silence observed in honour of those who lost their lives.

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Orders 41 and 51, Senator Nwoye, Tony (*Anambra North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the Need for the Rehabilitation of the Ogbaru-Iyiowa Odekpe-Atani-Ogwuikpele-Ndoni Rivers Federal Highway, Ogbaru Local Government Area, Anambra State. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:
The Senate:

notes that the Ogbaru—Iyiowa Odekpe—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni- Rivers Federal Highway is a strategic Federal Road linking the South-East and South-South Geopolitical Zones and was partially constructed in the late 1980s but has since suffered decades of neglect without any major rehabilitation;

also notes that prolonged abandonment, ageing infrastructure, increasing traffic volume and the absence of routine maintenance have reduced the highway to a deplorable state, with extensive pavement failures, deep potholes and severe erosion, thereby constituting a serious danger to the lives and property of commuters and other road users;

further notes that the deteriorating condition of the highway has significantly increased travel time, such that a journey of approximately 70 kilometres from Onitsha to Ogbaru and Ndoni, which ordinarily takes about one hour, now takes nearly two hours, resulting in higher transportation costs, loss of productive man-hours and disruption of commercial activities;

observes that the failed sections of the highway frequently cause vehicles to break down and remain stranded for prolonged periods, thereby exposing commuters to road traffic accidents and heightened security risks;

further observes that the highway serves a vital economic corridor with significant oil and gas exploration and production activities in the Ogbaru oil belt and, therefore, makes substantial contributions to Nigeria's economy and national Gross Domestic Product (GDP);

worried that the continued neglect of this critical federal highway has adversely affected interstate commerce, agricultural value chains, regional integration and investment, thereby undermining the Federal Government's commitment to economic development, national connectivity and safe transportation;

concerned that unless urgent intervention is undertaken, the continued deterioration of the highway will further endanger lives and property, impede economic activities, increase transportation costs, adversely affect oil exploration and production along the Ogbaru corridor, worsen the hardship faced by residents of Anambra and Rivers States, and negatively impact businesses that depend on this strategic transport corridor.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), or alternatively the Federal Ministry of Works, to immediately undertake emergency palliative repairs on the failed and unmotorable sections of the Ogbaru—Ndoni-Rivers Federal Highway pending its comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, as a matter of urgent national importance, to commence the immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Odekpe—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni Federal Highway through a special intervention programme or any other appropriate funding arrangement, in view of its strategic importance as a major link between the South-East and South-South Geopolitical Zones;
- (iii) mandate its Committee on Works to undertake an on-the-spot assessment of the condition of the highway, engage relevant stakeholders, and report back to the Senate within four (4) weeks with appropriate recommendations; and
- (iv) mandate its Committees on Works; and Appropriations to ensure adequate budgetary provision for the comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni-Rivers.

*Debate:****Proposed Resolution (i):***

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), or alternatively the Federal Ministry of Works, to immediately undertake emergency palliative repairs on the failed and unmotorable sections of the Ogbaru—Ndoni-Rivers Federal Highway pending its comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Works, as a matter of urgent national importance, to commence the immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Odekpe—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni Federal Highway through a special intervention programme or any other appropriate funding arrangement, in view of its strategic importance as a major link between the South-East and South-South Geopolitical Zones — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do mandate its Committee on Works to undertake an on-the-spot assessment of the condition of the highway, engage relevant stakeholders, and report back to the Senate within four (4) weeks with appropriate recommendations — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do mandate its Committees on Works; and Appropriations to ensure adequate budgetary provision for the comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni-Rivers — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do mandate its Committee on South East Development Commission to undertake immediate emergency repairs of this Federal Highway linking Anambra to Rivers States to ease the traffic of oil exploration in Ogbaru belt axis and also provide access to residents and commuters” (*Senator Oyewumi, Kamorudeen Olalere — Osun West*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), or alternatively the Federal Ministry of Works, to immediately undertake emergency palliative repairs on the failed and unmotorable sections of the Ogbaru—Ndoni-Rivers Federal Highway pending its comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, as a matter of urgent national importance, to commence the immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Odekpe—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni Federal Highway through a special intervention programme or any other appropriate funding arrangement, in view of its strategic importance as a major link between the South-East and South-South Geopolitical Zones;
- (iii) mandate its Committee on Works to undertake an on-the-spot assessment of the condition of the highway, engage relevant stakeholders, and report back to the Senate within four (4) weeks with appropriate recommendations;
- (iv) mandate its Committees on Works; and Appropriations to ensure adequate budgetary provision for the comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Ogbaru—Iyiowa—Atani—Ogwuikpele—Ndoni-Rivers; and

- (v) mandate its Committee on South East Development Commission to undertake immediate emergency repairs of this Federal Highway linking Anambra State to Rivers State to ease the traffic of oil exploration in Ogbaru belt axis and also provide access to residents and commuters (S/Res/28/04/2026).

6. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) National Senior Secondary Education Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (SB.1075) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) National School of Government (Establishment) Bill, 2026 (SB. 1076) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) National Bio-diversity Protection and Management Agency Bill, 2026 (SB. 1073) — *Read the First Time.*

7. Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary):

Report on University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (SB. 908):

Motion made: That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Reports of the Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary) on the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and thereafter, presented.

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 HEALTH (SECONDARY AND TERTIARY) ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITALS (RECONSTITUTION OF BOARDS, ETC.) ACT, CAP. U15 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004 (AMENDMENT) BILL TO ESTABLISH THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES TEACHING HOSPITAL, OTUKPO BENUE STATE, 2026

Clause 1: **Amendment of University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004.**
The University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (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 Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

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

Clause 2: **Amendment of the Third Schedule to the Principal Act.**

The Third Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting after the existing item "O" new item "P" as follows -

"P". the Federal University of Health Sciences Teaching Hospital, Otukpo, Benue State

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provisions in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

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

Clause 3: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap U15, LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2026

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provisions in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*)

Question that Clause 3 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 Health (Secondary and Tertiary) on a Bill for an Act to Amend the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, Etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (Amendment) Bill to Establish the Federal University of Health Sciences Teaching Hospital, Otukpo Benue State, 2026 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1-3 — 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.

**8. Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary):
Report on University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act (Amendment)
Bill, 2026 (SB. 1058):**

Motion made: That the Senate do Receive and Consider the Reports of the Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary) on the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and thereafter, presented.

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 HEALTH (SECONDARY AND TERTIARY) ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITALS (RECONSTITUTION OF BOARDS, ETC.) ACT, CAP. U15 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA 2004 (AMENDMENT) BILL TO ESTABLISH THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES TEACHING HOSPITAL, KACHIA KADUNA STATE, 2026

Clause 1: **Amendment of University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004.**
The University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 1 be retained (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of the Third Schedule to the Principal Act.
The Third Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting after the existing item "O" new item "Q " as follows -

"Q". the Federal University of Applied Sciences Teaching Hospital, Kachia,
Kaduna State

Committee's Recommendation:

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

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

Clause 3: **Short Title.**
This Bill may be cited as the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, etc.) Act, Cap U15, LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

Committee's Recommendation:

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provisions in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi Central*).

Question that Clause 3 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 Health (Secondary and Tertiary) on a Bill for an Act to Amend the University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Boards, Etc.) Act, Cap. U15 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 (Amendment) Bill to Establish the Federal University of Applied Sciences Teaching Hospital, Kachia Kaduna State, 2026 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1-3 — 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.

9. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 15th October, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.
(*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly at 12:58 p.m.

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