10th National Assembly
Fourth Session
No. 23

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 3rd November, 2026

1. The Senate met at 11:24 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 Wednesday, 28th October, 2026.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Presentation of Bills:**
(i) Federal Institute of Mining and Geosciences, Umuahia, Abia State (Establishment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 1659) — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) Multi-Skill Development Centre, Ubiaja Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2026 (SB.1088) — *Read the First Time.*

4. **Agriculture Revolution Bill, 2026 (SB. 1082):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide a comprehensive legal framework for the Transformation and Modernization of Agriculture in Nigeria; Promote Food Security, Agricultural Productivity, Mechanization, Irrigation, Agricultural Financing, Agro-Industrialization, Rural Development, and Climate-resilient Farming and for Related Matters, 2026 be read the Second Time *(Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North)*.

Debate:

By the Leave of the Senate, Bill accordingly withdrawn.

5. **Proceeds of Crime (Recovery & Management) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2447) — Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

6. **Money Laundering (Prevention & Prohibition) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2450) — Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

7. **Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2775) — Concurrence:**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 to Designate Bende as the Host Community; and for Related Matters, 2026 be read the Second Time *(Senate Leader)*.

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole to report forthwith.

Motion made: Pursuant to Order 78(3) 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 ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES, ITEM, BENDE (ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, 2025 TO DESIGNATE BENDE AS THE HOST COMMUNITY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2026

Clause 1: **Amendment of Act No. 11, 2025**
Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 1 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 2: **Amendment of long title**
The long title of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the word "Item".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 2 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 2do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3: **Amendment of Part I**
Part I of the Principal Act is amended in the Heading by deleting the word "Item".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 3 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 4: **Amendment of section 1**
Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection 1 and the marginal note by deleting the word "Item".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 4 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: **Amendment of section 30**
Section 30 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the word "Item".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 5 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 5 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 6: **Citation**
This Bill may be cited as the Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 6 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 6 do stand part of the Bill, put and 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 on a Bill for An Act to Amend the Federal University of Medical and Health Sciences, Item, Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 to Designate Bende As the Host Community; and for Related Matters, 2026 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1 - 6 — 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. **Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB.2776) — Concurrence:**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 to Designate Item, Bende as the Host Community; be read the Second Time *(Senate Leader).*

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole to report forthwith.

Motion made: Pursuant to Order 78(3) 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 ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, BENDE (ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, 2025 TO DESIGNATE ITEM, BENDE AS THE HOST COMMUNITY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2026

Clause 1: **Amendment of Act No. 10, 2025**
Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 1 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 2: **Amendment of Long Title**
The long title of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the word "Item" before the word "Bende".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 2 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3: **Amendment of section 1**
Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended (b) in subsection (1) by inserting the word "Item" before the word "Bende".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 3 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 4: **Amendment of section 23**
Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the word "Item" before the word "Bende".

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 4 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: **Citation**
This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

Committee's Recommendation:
That the provision in Clause 5 be retained *(Senate Leader) — Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 5 do stand part of the Bill, put and 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 on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal College of Education, Bende (Establishment) Act, 2025 to Designate Item, Bende as the Host Community; and for Related Matters, 2026 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1 - 5 — 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. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2026 (HB. 2406) — Concurrence:

Consideration of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

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

Consideration of Bills deferred to another legislative day.

11. Motion:
Enforcing the Bilateral Air Service Agreement (BASA):
Motion made: The Senate notes that during the Administration of late former President Muhmmadu Buhari, Nigeria-China signed a Bilateral Air Service Agreement (BASA) to establish direct commercial air link and govern flight frequencies;

also notes that the volume of trade between Nigeria and China reached $18 billion in the first half of 2025, a 35% increase year-on-year building on a total of $28 billion recorded in 2026;

aware that BASA instrument is intended to establish direct scheduled Nigeria-China flight that would transform Murtala Mohammed International Airport, Lagos and the Nnamdi Azikwe International Airport, Abuja from mere origin/destination points into the primary gateway linking West and Central Africa to East Asia;

also aware that the population of Nigerians in China is more than 100,000 people, while that of China in Nigeria is more than 500,000 and this has generated the interest of China in Nigeria because it is Africa's most populous nation and largest economy, offering massive markets on African continent;

further aware that the benefits of enforcing such Bilateral agreement will reduce drastically travel time and increase supply chain velocity, retention of Foreign Exchange (capital flight reduction), aeronautical revenues for Nigerian gateways, increase commercial SME Growth, non-oil export expansion and accelerated perishable exports among other benefits;

appreciates that the utilization of BASA between Nigeria-China will actualize the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Ahmed Bola Tinubu in facilitating the ease of doing business in Nigeria, enhance Bilateral and Diplomatic relationships, create massive employment-both direct and indirect jobs and, open up export opportunity;

acknowledges that what is urgently required to enforce such a fantastic Air Agreement lies across Executive Policy Instrument from the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development, the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the Nigeria Customs Service; and

notes that enforcing the BASA instrument between Nigeria-China, the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development, and the NCAA holds direct regulatory levers by enforcing strict BASA reciprocity, rationalize sixth-freedom competition, Bilateral code-share mandates, temporary Airport fee waivers, and direct Naira settlement window using the existing Bilateral currency Swap framework, by-passing US dollar, among other enforcing mechanism.

Accordingly resolves to:

(i) urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development to renegotiate the commercial terms and operational schedules of the existing Nigeria-China BASA;

(ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to initiate diplomatic discussions with China regarding business visa facilitation for Nigerian traders and reciprocal slot allocations to China Airports; and

(iii) mandate its Committees on Aviation; and Foreign Affairs to ensure compliance and report to the Senate within 4 weeks *(Senator Monguno, Mohammed Tahir — Borno North)*.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):
Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development to renegotiate the commercial terms and operational schedules of the existing Nigeria-China BASA — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):
Question: That the Senate do also urge the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to initiate diplomatic discussions with China regarding business visa facilitation for Nigerian traders and reciprocal slot allocations to China Airports — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):
Question: That the Senate do mandate its Committees on Aviation; and Foreign Affairs to ensure compliance and report to the Senate within 4 weeks — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:
Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:
"That the Senate do urge the Nigerian Government to review the Bilateral Air Service Agreement (BASA) to allow Nigeria Air Services fly directly to China" *(Senator Ahmed, Abdul Ningi — Bauchi North)*.

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

Resolved:
That the Senate do:

(i) urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development to renegotiate the commercial terms and operational schedules of the existing Nigeria-China BASA;

(ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to initiate diplomatic discussions with China regarding business visa facilitation for Nigerian traders and reciprocal slot allocations to China Airports;

(iii) mandate the Committees on Aviation; and Foreign Affairs to ensure compliance and report to the Senate within 4 weeks; and

(iv) urge the Nigerian Government to review the Bilateral Air Service Agreement (BASA) to allow Nigeria Air Services fly directly to China **(S/Res/43/04/2026).**

12. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Wednesday, 4th November, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. *(Senate Leader).*

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly at 1:38 p.m.

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

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