



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 19th March, 2019

1. The Senate met at 10:58 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 13th March, 2019.
Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Presentation of Bills:**
 - (i) Electric Power Sector Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 1384) — *Read the First Time.*
 - (ii) National Institute for Security Studies (NISS) (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2019 (HB. 1583) — *Read the First Time.*
 - (iii) Interpretation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 137) — *Read the First Time.*
4. **Ad hoc Committee on the National Minimum Wage:**
Report on the National Minimum Wage Act CAP N61 LFN (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2019 (SB.722):
Motion made: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the National Minimum Wage on the National Minimum Wage Act CAP N61 LFN (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2019 (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*).
Question put and agreed to.
Report Laid and presented.
Debate:
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 A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE ACT, NO.6, 1981 AS AMENDED, CAP. N61, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND ENACT THE NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE BILL, 2019 TO PRESCRIBE A NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE FOR WORKERS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2019

Clause 1: Objective of this Bill.

The objective of this Bill is to prescribe the National Minimum Wage and provide for a legal framework for a seamless review of the National Minimum Wage within the period specified under this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 1 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 2: Application.

The provisions of this Bill shall apply throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 3: Employer to Pay Minimum Wage.

- (1) As from the commencement of this Bill, every employer, except as provided for under this Bill, shall pay a wage not less than a National Minimum Wage of ₦30,000.00 per month to every worker under his establishment.
- (2) The National Minimum Wage as prescribed in Subclause (1) of this Clause shall be the minimum total amount of money an employer of labour is required to pay the lowest paid worker or employee monthly in his establishment.
- (3) Any agreement for the payment of wages less than the National Minimum Wage as prescribed in Subclause (1) of this Clause, shall be void and of no effect whatsoever.
- (4) The National Minimum Wage shall be for duration of five (5) years, after which it shall be reviewed in line with the provisions of this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 4: Exemptions.

- (1) The provisions of Clause 3 (1) of this Bill shall not apply to-
 - (a) an establishment in which workers are employed on part-time basis;

- (b) an establishment at which workers are paid on commission or on piece-rate;
 - (c) an establishment employing less than 25 persons;
 - (d) workers in seasonal employment such as agriculture; and
 - (e) any person employed in a vessel or aircraft to which the laws regulating merchant shipping or civil aviation apply.
- (2) The Minister of Labour and Employment shall, through the National Labour Advisory Council and by Order Published in the Federal Government Gazette grant other exemptions as he deems necessary in the interest of the national economy, taking into consideration reports from National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission or such other body that may make representation for exemption.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 4 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 5: Establishment of Tripartite Committee on National Minimum Wage.

- (1) There is established, a Tripartite Committee on National Minimum Wage (in this Bill referred to as the Tripartite Committee") consisting of representatives of Government; Organised Labour and Organised Private Sector, on equal representation.
- (2) The Secretariat of the Committee shall be domiciled in the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 5 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 6: Composition of the Tripartite Committee.

- (1) The Tripartite Committee which shall be appointed by the President shall be composed as follows:
 - (a) a Chairman;
 - (b) a Secretary;
 - (c) Government's representatives consisting of the following:
 - (i) the Secretary to the Government of the Federation,
 - (ii) Head of Civil Service of the Federation,
 - (iii) Minister of Labour and Employment,
 - (iv) Minister of Finance,

- (v) Minister of Budget and National Planning,
 - (vi) the Executive Chairman, National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission, and
 - (vii) a Governor from each of the six Geo-Political Zones to be nominated by the Governors from that Zone;
- (d) Organised Labour consisting of representatives from:
- (i) Nigerian Labour Congress,
 - (ii) Trade Union Congress,
 - (iii) any such labour Centre that may be registered in accordance with the Labour Laws;
- (e) Organised Private Sector consisting of representative from:
- (i) Nigeria Employer' Consultative Association,
 - (ii) Manufacturers Association of Nigeria,
 - (iii) Nigeria Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture,
 - (iv) Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises, and
 - (v) any such employers group that may be registered in accordance with the Labour Laws.
- (2) Without prejudice to the membership listed under Subclause (1) of this Clause, the Minister of Labour and Employment may, make recommendation for the appointment of additional members to the President.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 6 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 6 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 7: Powers of Tripartite Committee.

Pursuant to the provisions of Clause 3 (4) of this Bill, the Tripartite Committee shall have the power to make recommendation on the National Minimum Wage.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 7 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 8: Meetings of the Tripartite Committee.

The Tripartite Committee shall be convened by the Chairman as may be expedient, but not later than six months to the expiration of the existing National Minimum Wage, to consider a new National Minimum Wage, provided that, the proceedings and other supplementary provisions relating to the Committee shall be decided by the members.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 8 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 9: Employer's Obligations in Respect of Minimum Wage.

- (1) An employer shall pay to the workers a wage not less than the national minimum wage subject to statutory deductions.
- (2) Any employer who fails to comply with the provisions of Subclause (1) of this Clause commits an offence and is liable on conviction to:
 - (a) pay a fine not exceeding 5% of the offenders monthly wage;
 - (b) pay all outstanding arrears of the workers' wages; and
 - (c) pay an additional penalty of not less than the prevailing Central Bank of Nigeria lending rate on the wages owed, for each month of continuing violation, provided that the power to order payment on account of wages under Subclause (2) of this Clause, shall not be in derogation of the right of the worker to recover wages due to him by any other proceeding in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 9 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 10: Employers to Keep Records.

- (1) An employer shall keep such records of wages or conditions of employment as are necessary to show that the provisions of this Bill are being complied with in respect of workers in his employment and to retain the records for a period of three years after the period to which they refer,
- (2) Any employer who fails to comply with the provisions of Subclause (1) of this Clause commits an offence and is liable on conviction to:
 - (a) a fine not exceeding ₦75,000.00; and
 - (b) an additional penalty not exceeding ₦10,000.00 for each day the offence continues.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 11: Officers and their Powers.

- (1) The Minister of Labour and Employment may authorise any officer in the civil service of the Federation to act for the purpose of this Bill, and every authorised labour officer within the meaning of the Labour Act shall be deemed to have been so authorised.
- (2) Every authorised officer shall be furnished with a letter of his authority and identification when visiting an employer's premises for the purposes of this Bill and shall, if so required, produce both documents to the employer or other person holding a responsible position of management at the said premises.
- (3) An authorised officer may —
 - (a) require the production by an employer of wages sheets pay roll or other records of wages and records of conditions of employment , inspect and examine them and copy any' part;
 - (b) order any person or body of persons found to have contravened any of the provisions of this Bill to take remedial action within a specified period of time; and
 - (c) make recommendation for the prosecution of any person who contravenes the provisions of this Bill.
- (4) An officer who is authorised in that behalf by general or special directions of the Minister may, if it appears to him that a sum is due from an employer to a worker to whom this Bill applies or to a person who has been such a worker on account of the payment to him of wages less than the national minimum wage, may institute on behalf and in the name of that worker or person, civil proceedings for the recovery of that sum and in any such proceedings, the court may make an order for the payment of costs by the authorised officer as if he were a party to the proceedings.
- (5) The power given under Subclause (4) of this section for the recovery of a sum due from an employer to a worker or other person, shall not be in derogation of any right of a worker or a person who has been a worker to recover that sum by civil proceedings.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 11 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 11 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 12: Monitoring and Compliance.

- (1) The Federal Ministry of Labour and employment and the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission shall collaborate to monitor the implementation of the national minimum wage in line with the provisions of the Labour Act and the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission Act.
- (2) Any report of non-compliance with the provisions of this Bill discovered by he authorized officer upon routine inspection shall be forwarded to the Minister of Labour and Employment and copied to Labour Centres and employment Associations.

- (3) The Minister of Labour and Employment shall upon receipt of such report activate the machinery for enforcing compliance within 30 working days.
- (4) Monitoring of compliance with this Bill shall commence 6 months after' the effective date of the commencement of this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 12 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 12 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 13: Enforcement.

The national minimum wage may be enforced by the aggrieved worker, Trade Unions and Minister of Labour and Employment as follows:

- (a) a worker who is paid an amount less than the national minimum wage shall be contractually entitled to whichever is the higher amount of the different between his pay and the amount of the national minimum wage that he should have been paid;
- (b) without prejudice to the right of the worker to take his case directly to the National Industrial Court of Nigeria, the worker may file a formal complaint with the Minister of Labour and Employment;
- (c) Trade Unions may demand for compliances with the provisions of this Bill on behalf of their members, provided that, the Trade Unions shall not later than 30 days from the receipt of the workers complaint bring the claim to the National Industrial Court of Nigeria;
- (d) where an employer failed to pay the national minimum wage to a worker or a group of worker, an authorised officer from the Minister of Labour and Employment shall serve a notice of Enforcement requiring the employer to pay the arrears of the wage to the worker(s) named on the notice within 30 days, provided that, the employer shall be entitled to appeal the notice to the Minister of Labour and Employment who shall resolve the matter within 30 days of the receipt of the appeal;
- (e) the notice of enforcement shall state the following, the:
 - (i) amount owed the worker,
 - (ii) period to which the payment applies, and
 - (iii) time limit for the payment;
- (f) where an employer served with an enforcement notice fails, in whole or in part, to comply with the notice, the matter shall be referred to the National Industrial Court of Nigeria.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 13 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 13 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 14: Offences by the Agent.

- (1) Where an offence under this Bill is committed by an agent of the employer or by some other person, that agent or other person shall be liable to be proceeded against for the offence in the same manner as if he were the employer.
- (2) An employer who is charged with an offence under this Bill, he shall be entitled to prove that:
 - (a) the offence was due to the act or default of another person; or
 - (b) he has used all due diligence to ensure that this Bill is complied with.
- (3) Where a defendant seeks to avail himself of the provisions of Subclause (2) of this Clause —
 - (a) the prosecution as well as the person whom the defendant charges with the offence shall have the right to cross-examine him if he gives evidence and any witness called by him in support of his plea, and to call rebutting evidence; and
 - (b) the court may make such order as it thinks fit for the payment of the costs by any party to the proceedings, other than the prosecution, to any other party thereto.
- (4) Where it appears to an authorised officer that an offence has been committed in respect of which proceedings might be taken under this Bill against an employer, and the officer is reasonably satisfied that the offence of which complaint is made was due to an act or default of some other person and that the employer could establish a defence under Subclause (2) of this Clause, the officer may make recommendation for a proceedings to be taken against that other person, and in any such proceedings the defendant may be charged with the offence and on proof that the offence was due to his act or default, be convicted for the offence for which the employer might have been charged.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 14 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 14 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15: Other Offences and Penalties.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill, a person, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ₦250,000.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both, where the person:

- (a) refuses or neglects to furnish the means required by an authorised officer as being necessary for any entry in the exercise of his powers under this Bill;
- (b) hinders any authorised officer in the exercise of his powers under this Bill;
- (c) refuses or neglects to produce any document or to give any information which any authorised officer in the exercise of his powers under this Bill requires him to produce or give;
- (d) makes, or causes to be made, or knowingly allows to be made, any wage sheet, record of wages or record of conditions of employment which is false;

- (e) produces or causes to be produced, or knowingly allows to be produced, any such wages sheet or record to an authorised officer in the exercise of his powers under this Bill, knowing the wage sheet or record to be false; or
- (f) furnishes any information to any authorised officer in the exercise of his powers under this Bill, knowing the information to be false.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 15 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 15 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 16: Repeal and Savings Provisions.

- (1) The National Minimum Wage Act No. 6, 1981 as amended, Cap. N61, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 is repealed.
- (2) Without prejudice to Section 6 of the Interpretation Act and notwithstanding the repeal of the enactment specified under Subclause (1) of this Clause:
 - (a) proceedings may be taken on any offence committed under the repealed Act, in same manner as if the offence has been committed under the corresponding provisions of this Bill;
 - (b) any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill, by or against any person or body arising from the repealed Act in respect of rights, interest, obligations or liabilities of the person or body aforesaid may be continued or, as the case may be, commenced and any determination of a court of law tribunal or other authority or person may be enforced to the same extent that any such proceedings, cause of action or determination would have been continued, commenced or enforced if this Bill had not been made.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 16 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 16 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 17: Interpretation.

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires —

"authorised officer" means an officer in the Public Service of the Federation authorized or deemed to have been authorized to act for the purpose of this Bill.

"authorised Labour Officer" means any Public Officer serving in a Ministry or Department for which the Minister of Labour and Employment is responsible; and with the consent of the state authority, any officer in the public service of the state, for the purposes of this Bill.

"Employer" means any person who has entered into a contract of employment to employ any other person as a worker either for himself or for the service of any other person, and includes the agent, manager or factor of that first mentioned person and the personal representative of a deceased employer.

"Minister of Labour and Employment" means the Minister responsible for labour matters.

"Minister of Finance" means the Minister responsible for finance.

"Minister of Budget and National Planning" means the Minister responsible for budget.

"national minimum wage" means the national minimum wage prescribed under by Clause 3 of this Bill.

"part-time work" means work of a duration shorter than those for comparable full-time work in a sector or occupation.

"Piece-rate" means any type of employment in which a worker is paid according to the quantity produced regardless of time.

"wage" means remuneration or earnings (however designated or calculated) capable of being expressed in terms of money fixed by mutual agreement or by law which is payable by virtue of a contract by an employer for work done or to be done for service rendered; and

"worker" means any person who has entered into or works under a contract with an employer whether contract is for manual labour or clerical work or is expressed or implied or oral or written, and whether it is a contract of service or a contract personally to execute any work or labour, but excludes the exemption contained in this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 17 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 17 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 18: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the National Minimum Wage Bill, 2019.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 18 be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 18 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

(This note does not form part of this Bill but intends to explain its purports)

This Bill repeals the National Minimum Wage Act, No.6, 1981 as amended, Cap. N61, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the National Minimum Wage Bill, 2019 to prescribe a National Minimum Wage and provide a legal framework for seamless review of the National Minimum Wage.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Explanatory memorandum be retained (*Senator Francis A. Alimikhena — Edo North*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Explanatory memorandum do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the National Minimum Wage on the National Minimum Wage Act CAP N61 LFN (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2019 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1- 18 — As Recommended

Explanatory Memorandum — 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.

5. Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nomination of the following persons for Appointment as Chairman and Commissioners for the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission:

S/N	State	Name	Position
1.	Ebonyi	Engr. Elias Mbam	Chairman
2.	Abia	Chris Alozie Akomas	Commissioner
3.	Akwa Ibom	Ayang Sunday Okon	Commissioner
4.	Anambra	Chima Philip Okafor	Commissioner
5.	Bauchi	Prof. Isa B. Mohammed	Commissioner
6.	Benue	Samuel Adaa Maagbe	Commissioner
7.	Cross River	Ntufam Eyo Nsa Whiley	Commissioner
8.	Delta	Mr. Andrew Ogheneovo Agbaga	Commissioner
9.	Ebonyi	Barr. Patrick Nworu Mgbebu	Commissioner
10.	Edo	Mr. Victor Eboigbe	Commissioner
11.	Ekiti	Amujo Philip Ajayi	Commissioner
12.	Enugu	Mrs. Maria Chinyere Aniobi	Commissioner
13.	FCT	Hon. Musa Tanko Abari	Commissioner
14.	Gombe	Mohammed Kabeer Usman	Commissioner
15.	Jigawa	Alhaji Ahmed Mahmoud Gumel	Commissioner
16.	Katsina	Alh. Kabir Muhammad Mashi	Commissioner
17.	Kano	Barr. Umar Farouk Abdullahi	Commissioner
18.	Kebbi	Rilwan Hussein Abarshi	Commissioner
19.	Kogi	Hon. Suleiman Kokori Abdul	Commissioner
20.	Kwara	Abdullahi Shuaibu Yaman	Commissioner
21.	Lagos	Dr. Wright Olusegun Adekunle	Commissioner
22.	Nassarawa	Aliyu A. Abdulkadir	Commissioner
23.	Niger	Alhaji Ibrahim Bako Bagudu Shettima	Commissioner
24.	Ogun	Mr. Fari Adebayo	Commissioner
25.	Ondo	Mr. Tokunbo Ajasin	Commissioner
26.	Oyo	Kolade Daniel Abimbola	Commissioner
27.	Plateau	Mr. Alexander Shaiyen	Commissioner
28.	Rivers	Wenah, Asundu Temple	Commissioner
29.	Yobe	Alhaji Modu Aji Juluri	Commissioner
30.	Zamfara	Abubakar Sadiq A. Gusau	Commissioner (<i>Senate Leader</i>).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on National Planning to report within two (2) weeks.

6. Motion:

The sad demise of two illustrious Nigerians in the recent Ethiopian Airline crash of 10th March, 2019 and the need for Nigeria to protect its airspace from the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series pending the determination of its air worthiness:

Motion made: That the Senate notes with great sadness that two illustrious Nigerians were among the 157 people who lost their lives in the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines flight ET - 302, which went down near Bishoftu a community roughly 60 kilometers southeast of the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa;

notes that the said late distinguished Nigerians aboard the flight were Ambassador Abiodun Bashua, a former United Nations and African Union, Deputy Joint Special Representative in Darfur, Sudan and Professor Pius Adesanmi, a Professor of Literary Arts in Carleton University, Ottawa Canada, and a popular advocate for good governance;

observes that both Nigerians that lost their lives in this unfortunate air disaster, are individuals that have distinguished themselves in their fields and till their deaths remained worthy ambassadors of the country in the Diaspora;

further observes that sometime in October, 2018 a brand new Lion Air Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 flight went down over the Java Sea killing 189 people and that the Ethiopian Airlines flight that killed 157 people including 2 illustrious Nigerians was equally a Boeing 737 Max 8 Series;

notes that the pilots have reportedly complained about the anti-stall system installed on the aircraft models Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series;

further notes that the Honourable Minister for Transportation (Aviation) Senator Hadi Sirika has assured Nigerians that no Nigerian airline operator currently operates the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 Series aircraft stating that: "As we continue to mourn the ET-302 crash in Addis, and pray for the victims, we wish to reassure Nigerians that we do not have any Boeing 737 Max on Nigeria's register to worry about"; and

notes even further that the Hon. Minister also stated that Nigeria has joined other countries including Ethiopia, USA, United Kingdom and China in banning the operation of the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series within the Nigerian airspace stating that the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority has already issued an advisory statement saying: "that nobody should fly out of Nigeria or into Nigeria using the 737 Max 8 and 9 pending the determination of the actual cause of the crash in Ethiopia and also pending the outcome of the response of the manufacturer themselves which is Messrs Boeing".

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) observe one-minute silence in honour of the two distinguished Nigerians who passed away in the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines flight ET - 302 on Sunday, 10th March, 2019;
- (ii) commend the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority for moving swiftly to restrict the operations of the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series aircraft within the Nigerian Airspace in order to ensure the safety of all Nigerians; and
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority to ensure that all aircrafts operating within Nigeria are air worthy in order to keep Nigerians safe at all times (*Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa — Lagos East*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe one-minute silence in honour of the two distinguished Nigerians who passed away in the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines flight ET - 302 on Sunday, 10th March, 2019 — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do commend the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority for moving swiftly to restrict the operations of the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series aircraft within the Nigerian Airspace in order to ensure the safety of all Nigerians — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority to ensure that all aircrafts operating within Nigeria are air worthy in order to keep Nigerians safe at all times — *Agreed to.*

Resolved to.

- (i) observe one-minute silence in honour of the two distinguished Nigerians who passed away in the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines flight ET - 302 on Sunday 10th March, 2019;
- (ii) commend the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority for moving swiftly to restrict the operations of the Boeing 737 Max 8 and 9 series aircraft within the Nigerian Airspace in order to ensure the safety of all Nigerians; and
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority to ensure that all aircrafts operating within Nigeria are air worthy in order to keep Nigerians safe at all times

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

7. 2019 Appropriation Bill, 2019:

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦8,826,636,578,915 (Eight Trillion, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Six Billion, Six Hundred and Thirty-Six Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred and Fifteen Naira) only, of which ₦492,360,342,965 (Four Hundred and Ninety-Two Billion, Three Hundred and Sixty Million, Three Hundred and Forty-Two Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Five Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦2,264,014,113,092 (Two Trillion, Two Hundred and Sixty-Four Billion, Fourteen Million, One Hundred and Thirteen Thousand, Ninety-Two Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦4,038,557,664,767 (Four Trillion, Thirty-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Fifty-Seven Million, Six Hundred and Sixty-Four Thousand, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Seven Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,031,754,458,902 (Two Trillion, Thirty-One Billion, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Four Million, Four Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred and Two Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2019 be read the Second Time (2nd Allotted day) (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

The following Senators made contributions:

- (i) Senator Suleiman A. Adokwe
- (ii) Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe
- (iii) Senator Mao A. Oluabunwa
- (iv) Senator Joshua M. Lidani
- (v) Senator Ben Murray-Bruce
- (vi) Senator Samuel O. Egwu
- (vii) Senator Sabo Mohammed
- (viii) Senator Matthew A. Urhohide
- (ix) Senator Robert A. Boroffice

- (x) Senator Danjuma Laah
- (xi) Senator Babajide C. Omoworare
- (xii) Senator Emmanuel I. Paulker

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Appropriations to report within two (2) weeks.

8. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 20th March, 2019 at 10:00 a.m (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:12 p.m.

Abubakar Olubukola Saraki, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.