



**SENATE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER**

Wednesday, 20th March, 2019

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

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Diaspora and Non-Governmental Organizations
Sen. Rose O. Oko (*Cross River North*)
That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on Diaspora and Non-Governmental Organizations on the Confirmation of the Nomination of Honourable Abike Dabiri- Erewa for Appointment as Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of Nigerian Diaspora Commission - *To be Laid*.
2. Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions
Sen. Samuel Anyanwu (*Imo East*)
-That the Senate do consider the reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:
 - a. Petition From Miss Monica Okafor Against the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA), Abuja for Alleged Wrongful Termination of Her Appointment By the Agency; and
 - b. Petition From Dr. George A. Omoogun Against the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology and the Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis Research for Non-payment of His Emoluments - *To be Laid*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Withholding of Assent.

Senate Leader

The Senate:

Recalls that the President C-in-C had signified the withholding of his assent of the Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 241) pursuant to section 58(4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended);

Notes that the rationale for withholding the assent borders on the observation of Mr. President on clauses 3 and 16 of the Bill as follows:

- (a) Section 16(1)(2) of the Amendment Bill, which subjects the removal of Governing Council Members and Rectors of Polytechnics to the approval of the Federal Executive Council as a body, instead of the President's approval as is obtained in the Principal Act will make the removal process more administratively cumbersome;
- (b) Section 3(f) of the Amendment Bill which lists membership of the Governing Council of Polytechnics as consisting of representative of the Ministry or a regulatory body is not acceptable as this may ultimately jeopardize the supervisory role of the Ministry on the Council. It is desirable that the Ministry's presence on the Council is clear and unambiguous;

Notes that a Technical Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives has looked into Mr. President C-in-C observations,

Accordingly resolves to:

Refer the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage.

2. The militarization of the Nigerian Electoral Process and the inconsistent application of Electoral Laws by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Sponsor: Sen. Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*)

Co-Sponsors: Sen. Mao Oluabunwa (*Abia North*)
 Sen. Samuel Anyanwu (*Imo East*)
 Sen. Ahmed Ogembe (*Kogi Central*)
 Sen. Obinna Ogba (*Ebonyi Central*)

Sen. Matthew Urhoghide (*Edo South*)
 Sen. Clifford Ordia (*Edo Central*)
 Sen. Biodun Olujimi (*Ekiti South*)

The Senate:

Conscious of the need to grow our nascent democracy through the institutionalization of procedures, application of civil laws and the restriction of excessive use of military force in the civil affairs of the state;

Aware of the growing militarization of our nations electoral process, and the inconsistent application of electoral laws by the institutional umpire – the INEC, especially as witnessed in the recent national election 2019, where the presence of the use of extreme military force akin to a war campaign was applied in electoral polling stations, and the declaration of 'inconclusive elections', as a term. – being used inconsistently, and partially at the whims of electoral officers in occasions that appear solidly as similar cases;

Concerned that this extreme militarization of a democratic electoral process, and the inconsistent application of electoral laws by INEC in matters of national elections – pose serious threats to our democracy, and has security implications that must be nipped in the bud;

Persuaded that the nation is on the edge of a precipice, and our democracy can be saved for future posterity, if only we can build strong institutions that can operate within established laws, and with our military forces restricted to their traditional roles of defending the nation,

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Condemn* the massive use of military forces in the national electoral process of the nation;
- ii. *Urge* the INEC to ensure the unrestricted and consistent application of all electoral laws without bias to a candidate or a party in all elections;
- iii. *Direct* the Senate Committee on INEC to investigate all perceived inconsistent application of electoral laws by INEC in the 2019 Elections; and
- iv. *Urge* the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to give assent to the recent Amendment to the Electoral Act to ensure a level playing field and adoption of equal standards in our national elections for a strong and peaceful democracy in Nigeria.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions
Confirmation of Dr. Abdu Abubakar as a Non-Executive Director CBN
Sen. Rafiu Adebayo (*Kwara South*)
-That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions on the Confirmation of Dr. Abdu Abubakar as a Non-Executive Director of the Board of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).
2. Report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
National Fertilizer Quality (Control) Act Bill, 2019 (SB. 338)
Sen. Abdullahi Adamu (*Nasarawa West*)
-That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development on the National Fertilizer Quality (Control) Bill, 2019 (SB. 338). *Adjourned Consideration, Tuesday, 17th July, 2018 (Clause 18 renumbered as Clause 19).*
3. Report of the Committee on Information and National Orientation
National Orientation Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (SB. 333)
Sen. Suleiman Adokwe (*Nasarawa South*)
-That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Information and National Orientation on the National Orientation Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (SB. 333).
4. Report of the Committee on Establishment & Public Service Matters
Nigerian Council for Psychologists (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 624)
Sen. Emmanuel Paulker (*Bayelsa Central*)
-That the Senate do consider the report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Service Matters on the Nigerian Council for Psychologists (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2018 (SB. 624).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions	Wednesday, 20 th March, 2019	3.00pm	Committee Room 120 Senate New Building
2.	Conference Committee on NASS Condition of Service	Wednesday, 20 th March, 2019	2.00pm	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building