



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

Tuesday, 23rd July, 2019

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION

1. Approval of Appointment

Approval of Appointment of Fifteen (15) Special Advisers

Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (*Kebbi North-Senate Leader*)

-That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, C-in-C for the Approval of the appointment of Fifteen (15) Persons as Special Advisers to Mr. President, C-IN-C.

MOTIONS

1. Exiting Petroleum Subsidy: Ensuring Self-Sufficiency in Domestic Refining of Petroleum Products.

Sponsor: Sen. Oko, Rose Okoji (*Cross River North*)

Co- Sponsors:

Sen. Egwu, Samuel Ominyi (*Ebonyi North*)
Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua (*Benue North East*)
Sen. Oloriegbe, Yahaya Ibrahim (*Kwara Central*)
Sen. Ubah, Ifeanyi Patrick (*Anambra South*)
Sen. Ekpenyong, C.Stephen (*Akwa-Ibom North West*)
Sen. Umar, Sadiq Suleiman (*Kwara North*)
Sen. Onyewuchi, Ezenwa Francis (*Imo East*)
Sen. Wamakko, Aliyu Magatakarda (*Sokoto North*)
Sen. Osinowo, Sikiru Adebayo (*Lagos East*)
Sen. Akwashiki, Godiya (*Nasarawa North*)
Sen. Bulkachuwa, Adamu Muhammad (*Bauchi North*)
Sen. Dahiru, Aishatu Ahmed (*Adamawa Central*)
Sen. Tinubu, Oluremi Shade (*Lagos Central*)
Sen. Alkali, Saidu Ahmed (*Gombe North*)
Sen. Bassey, Gershon Henry (*Cross River South*)
Sen. La'ah, Danjuma Tella (*Kaduna South*)
Sen. Yusuf, Abubakar Yusuf (*Taraba Central*)
Sen. Ordia, Akhimienmona Clifford (*Edo Central*)
Sen. Akpan, Albert Bassey (*Akwa-Ibom North East*)

Sen. Akinyelure, Patrick Ayo (*Ondo Central*)
Sen. Eyakenyi, Akon Etim (*Akwa-Ibom South*)
Sen. Nnachi, Michael Ama (*Ebonyi South*)
Sen. Alimikhena, Francis Asekhome (*Edo North*)
Sen. Adetunmbi, Olubunmi Ayodeji (*Ekiti North*)
Sen. Nnamani, Chimaroke Ogbonnia (*Enugu East*)
Sen. Amosun, Ibikunle Oyelaja (*Ogun Central*)
Sen. Shehu, Tambuwal Abubakar (*Sokoto South*)
Sen. Boroffice, Robert Ajayi (*Ondo North*)
Sen. Utazi, Chukwuka Godfrey (*Enugu North*)
Sen. Sekibo, George Thompson (*Rivers East*)
Sen. Alhaji, Ya'u Sahabi (*Zamfara North*)
Sen. Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt (*Abia South*)
Sen. Adamu, Muhammad Aliero (*Kebbi Central*)
Sen. Isa, Shuaibu Lau (*Taraba North*)
Sen. Tanimu, Philip Aduda (*F.C.T Senate*)
Sen. Manager, James Ebiowou (*Delta South*)
Sen. Ogba, Joseph Obinna (*Ebonyi Central*)
Sen. Oduah, Stella Adaeze (*Anambra North*)

Sen. Ekwunife, Uche Lilian (*Anambra Central*)
Sen. Urhohide, M. Aisagbonriodion (*Edo South*)

Sen. Apiafi, Betty Jocelyn (*Rivers West*)
Sen. Kalu, Orji Uzor (*Abia North*)

The Senate:

Notes that although Nigeria produces 1.7m barrels of crude per day, its moribund refineries have very little refining capacity and imports roughly 90 per cent of its fuel, negating much of the benefits accruing to oil-producing nations from high crude prices;

Further notes that according to Petroleum Products Pricing and Regulatory Agency, PPPRA, and Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, between 2006 (when the Petroleum Support Fund, PSF, was set up) and 2018, at least N10 trillion has been spent on petrol import subsidy - while the Senate in May 2019 criticized the payment of N11 Trillion to oil marketers as subsidy in the last six years as it (the Senate) also approved the payment of additional N129 Billion subsidy claims to 67 petroleum marketers;

Aware that even though the President removed subsidy in May 2016 amid falling crude oil price and an economic recession, more than \$160 million was spent on subsidy in early 2017 as the national oil company absorbed costs due to an increase in crude oil price;

Aware also that although Nigeria introduced petroleum subsidies in the 1980s as a temporary measure aimed at strengthening the local refining industry and improving product affordability and domestic consumption, it has however become a permanent feature of our economic life and has not only continued unabated, but has skyrocketed over the years as successive administrations have failed to make Nigeria self-sufficient in domestic production of refined petroleum products;

Further aware that research by the Council on Foreign Relations' Program on Energy Security and Climate Change has shown that in countries where subsidies account for a substantial portion of government budgets or national GDP, they can be fiscally debilitating and economically damaging. For instance, when subsidies constrain government budgets, they can displace necessary public investment in critical infrastructures and the confluence of fuel subsidies and state ownership in the energy sector often results in corruption, smuggling, and the emergence of black markets;

Notes that the NNPC has four major refineries with a combined installed capacity of 445,000 barrels per day and despite the huge resources expended on Turn Around Maintenance, none of the four refineries currently works up to 50 per cent of their capacity according to official figures from the NNPC;

Further notes that despite promises and plans by government to bridge shortages in downstream infrastructure and specifically fix Nigeria's moribund refineries and make them work to optimal capacity by 2019, the former Oil Minister admitted while speaking last year in Lagos at the 18th edition of the International Biennial Health Safety and Environmental (HSE) Conference on the oil and gas industry in Nigeria that those plans will not materialize until 2020 when Dangote Petrochemical refinery's 650,000 barrels per day, Nigeria's four refineries of 450,000bpd capacity and three modular refineries come on stream;

Also notes that in an exclusive interview with the Guardian Newspaper in May 2019, the Senior Technical Adviser to the erstwhile Minister of Petroleum on Refineries and Downstream Infrastructure disclosed that about 43 refineries, including large scale and modular refineries have been granted licenses to refine petroleum products across the country; that two of those modular refineries would be inaugurated soon in the Niger Delta region;

Cognizance of the fact that the overriding objective of modular refineries is to overcome the huge capital requirement that impedes the establishment and maintenance of large-scale refineries thereby ensuring self sufficiency in the production and supply of petroleum products;

Worried that according to Business Day Newspaper reports based on data obtained from the Department of Petroleum Resources' website, a total of potential 633,000 barrels per day refining capacity has already been lost due to the expiration of licenses of both conventional and modular refinery projects; and

Disturbed that despite the dire need to exit petroleum importation/subsidy and boost local refining capacity to reduce the current 91% exposure to petrol importation, there is neither a comprehensive plan/roadmap to that end and for mobilizing technical and financial aid for refinery license holders to ensure refineries under construction become operational, nor proactive information system on the status of existing refineries and licenses as well as details of subsidy payments. An open data principle would undoubtedly enhance transparency and accountability and ultimately build trust between citizens and government.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* an Ad Hoc Committee to invite the Minister/Minister of state for Petroleum and the Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to brief the Committee on the status of existing refineries including private and modular refineries and licenses; provide a robust plan/roadmap for exiting importation of refined petroleum products and payment of subsidy; and, apprise the Committee on a plan for domestic refining with specific timeframes; and
 - ii. *Report* back to the Senate in eight weeks.
2. Urgent need for the Senate's intervention on the militia attack on Okokolo in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State.

Sponsor: Sen. Moro, Patrick Abba (*Benue South*)

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua (*Benue North East*)
Sen. Balogun, Kola Ademola (*Oyo South*)

Sen. Orker-Jev, Emmanuel Yisa (*Benue North West*)
Sen. Ekwunife, Uche Lilian (*Anambra Central*)

The Senate:

Notes that the people of Benue South Senatorial District are peace loving people and the state from its inception has been a fertile land. The state is a good ground for Agricultural activities. Most of the inhabitants are Agrarian by nature and owing to the agricultural potential of the state; it is usually referred to as the food basket of the Nation;

Concerned that Agatu Local Government Area which happens to be one of the local Governments within my senatorial district has continuously suffered untold hardships due to persistent clashes between Herdsmen and farmers;

Further notes that the attack on armless, helpless, and innocent people of Okokolo in Agatu Local Government Area and its environs by armed militia is unfortunate;

Worried with deep concern that on the 30th of June, 2019 there was an attack on my constituents in a church in Okokolo town in Agatu Local Government Area which led to the death of over 25 persons/worshippers and this has created fears, anxieties, and agonies among the settlers leading them to desert their homes;

Regrets that the illegal proliferation of small arms and light weapons has contributed in no small measure to the attacks on Okokolo town;

Notes with sympathy that this dastardly acts are being perpetrated against innocent persons of the Benue South Senatorial District despite several peace agreements/accords entered into by the parties;

Concerned that the protracted crisis within these Agrarian settlements presently will result in food shortage across the nation since farmers are finding it increasingly unsafe to go to their farms for the fears of being attacked; and

Acknowledging and noting the danger inherent in the continuous deterioration of the security situation across the Nation which has already led to massive refugee crisis, it has become absolutely necessary for us in the Senate to act immediately to forestall further loss of lives and properties.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Strongly condemn* the attacks in Agatu communities and observe a minute silence for the departed;
 - ii. *Direct* the National Emergency Management Agency to immediately intervene to provide relief materials to the people of Okokolo in Agatu Local Government Area;
 - iii. *Urge* the Federal Government to take proactive measures to curtail insecurity and malicious killings ravaging states of the Federation;
 - iv. *Urge* the relevant security agencies to be proactive in order to forestall future occurrence; and
 - v. *Urge* all relevant security agencies to intensify the mop up of small arms and light weapons in circulation across the states of the Federation.
3. The deplorable conditions of Ikot-Ekpene-Umuahia and Aba-Ikot-Ekepepe Highways linking Akwa-Ibom and Abia States.

Sponsor: Sen. Ekpenyong, C. Stephen (*Akwa-Ibom North West*)

Co-sponsor:

Sen. Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt (<i>Abia South</i>)	Sen. Kalu, Orji Uzor (<i>Abia North</i>)
Sen. Orji, Theodore Ahamefule (<i>Abia Central</i>)	Sen. Apiafi, Betty Jocelyn (<i>Rivers West</i>)
Sen. Abdullahi, Yahaya Abubakar (<i>Kebbi North</i>)	Sen. Yakubu, Oseni (<i>Kogi Central</i>)
Sen. Bulkachuwa, Adamu Muhammad (<i>Bauchi North</i>)	Sen. Eyakenyi, Akon Etim (<i>Akwa-Ibom South</i>)
Sen. Ekwunife, Uche Lilian (<i>Anambra Central</i>)	Sen. Ekwunife, Uche Lilian (<i>Anambra Central</i>)
Sen. Suswam, Gabriel Torwua (<i>Benue North East</i>)	Sen. Moro, Abba Patrick (<i>Benue South</i>)
Sen. Shettima, Kashim (<i>Borno Central</i>)	Sen. Onor, Sandy Ojang (<i>Cross River Central</i>)
Sen. Oko, Rose Okoji (<i>Cross River North</i>)	Sen. Bassey, Gershom Henry (<i>Cross River South</i>)
Sen. Manager, James Ebiowou (<i>Delta South</i>)	Sen. Omo-Agege, Ovie Augustine (<i>Delta Central</i>)
Sen. Adeyeye, Adedayo (<i>Ekiti South</i>)	Sen. Nnamani, Chimaroke Ogbonnia (<i>Enugu East</i>)
Sen. Okorocha, Anayo Rochas (<i>Imo West</i>)	Sen. Hadeja, Hassan Ibrahim (<i>Jigawa North-East</i>)
Sen. Dahiru, Aishatu Ahmed (<i>Adamawa Central</i>)	Sen. Shekarau, Ibrahim (<i>Kano Central</i>)
Sen. Gaya, Kabiru Ibrahim (<i>Kano South</i>)	Sen. Tinubu, Oluremi Shade (<i>Lagos Central</i>)
Sen. Amosun, Ibikunle Oyelaja (<i>Ogun Central</i>)	Sen. Tofowomo, Nicholas Olubukola (<i>Ondo South</i>)
Sen. Fadahunsi, Francis Adenigba (<i>Osun East</i>)	Sen. Balogun, Kola Ademola (<i>Oyo South</i>)
Sen. Dimka, Hezekiah Ayuba (<i>Plateau Central</i>)	Sen. Sekibo, George Thompson (<i>Rivers East</i>)
Sen. Akpan, Albert Bassey (<i>Akwa-Ibom North East</i>)	Sen. Sani, Uba (<i>Kaduna Central</i>)

The Senate:

Notes with serious concern the deplorable conditions of Ikot Ekpene-Umuahia and Aba-Ikot Ekepepe Highway linking Akwa Ibom and Abia States;

Observes that the Umuahia-Ikot Ekpene road was first constructed in the early 60's shortly after Nigeria's Independence, and since then subsequent Governments have not done significant developments on the road in terms of expansion and even routine maintenance. The Two States have tried within their limited resources to keep the road motor-able by carrying-out temporal maintenance work which to a large extent does not stand the test of time;

Aware that these roads are major roads connecting the South-West, North Central, South-East and the South-South States of Edo and Delta to Akwa-Ibom and Cross River States, in the Northern flank. Hence, the rehabilitation/reconstruction of these roads are of great concern to me, my people and indeed Nigerians of goodwill;

Aware that the situation of the roads are worst during raining seasons, especially the Umuahia-Ikot Ekpene road. As a matter of fact, the road presently is not passable. Most of the broken portions have become rivers and waterlogs. It's now a safe haven for hoodlums as they have taken advantage of these bad sections to operate freely especially at nights;

Worried that as an alternative, passengers and travelers on that road now ply an interior road through Umuahia-Ikwarazu Road, in Obot Akara Local Government Area to get to Ikot Ekpene, then continue their journey;

Worried also that this alternative route is so fragile and not capable of carrying heavy duty vehicles which it's presently subjected to, and no sooner or later, might get dilapidated. The road was constructed by Akwa Ibom State Government to ease movements of children to schools and farm produce to the City Centre of Ikot Ekpene and other rural areas of Akwa Ibom State and beyond;

Regrets that the contract for the reconstruction of Aba-Ikot Ekpene road was awarded by the Federal Ministry of Works to NIGERCAT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY since 2008, and had been abandoned since then; and

Further worried that if construction work is not expedited to salvage the situation, the two states may be completely ousted and my people will not only be denied passable roads to travel back home, but will also be taken back to the 'Aged Long Days', while Nigeria as at today is making efforts to move to the NEXT LEVEL.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal Government through Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to expedite action on intervention measures to salvage the road from total collapse;
- ii. *Urge* the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Works to commence construction of the ABA-IKOT EKPENE road as a lasting solution, and possibly make it a dual carriage road;
- iii. *Urge* this Senate to investigate the delay in the construction of Aba-Ikot Ekpene road, which was awarded to NIGERCAT Construction Company since 2008; and
- iv. *Urge* the Security Agencies, especially the Police to deploy their personnel to those grey spots, where hoodlums have found solace and made it their habitable abode mostly at odd hours.

4. Urgent need to revive the Palm Oil Industry in Nigeria.

Sponsor: Sen. Onyewuchi, Ezenwa Francis (*Imo East*)

Co- Sponsors

Sen. Mpigi, Barinada (<i>Rivers South-East</i>)	Sen. Onor, Sandy Ojang (<i>Cross River Central</i>)
Sen. Adeola, Solomon Olamilekan (<i>Lagos West</i>)	Sen. Nnachi, Michael Ama (<i>Ebonyi South</i>)
Sen. Nwaoboshi, Peter Onyeluka (<i>Delta North</i>)	Sen. Abaribe, Enyinnaya Harcourt (<i>Abia South</i>)
Sen. Oduah, Stella Adaeze (<i>Anambra North</i>)	Sen. Oko, Rose Okoji (<i>Cross River North</i>)
Sen. Sekibo, George Thompson (<i>Rivers East</i>)	Sen. Bassey, Gershom Henry (<i>Cross River South</i>)
Sen. Ordia, Akhimienmona Clifford (<i>Edo Central</i>)	Sen. Orji, Theodore Ahamefule (<i>Abia Central</i>)
Sen. Nnamani, Chimaroke Ogbonnia (<i>Enugu East</i>)	Sen. Ogba, Joseph Obinna (<i>Ebonyi Central</i>)

The Senate:

Notes that before the oil boom in the mid-1970s, agriculture was the mainstay of Nigeria's economy. In fact, in the 1950s and 1960s, Nigeria was the largest producer and exporter of palm oil, controlling close to 40 per cent of the global market share;

Also Notes that the discovery of crude oil in commercial quantity paved the way for the gradual neglect of agriculture by successive governments. As a result of this neglect, palm oil production has fallen to a meagre 1.7 per cent, which is inadequate for local consumption. As of today, Countries like Malaysia and Indonesia

are now the top producers of palm oil after getting their seeds and learning how to cultivate oil palm from Nigeria;

Observes that the importance of palm oil in cooking and as an industrial raw material cannot be over-emphasized. The commodity continues to be in very high demand in Nigeria and beyond. While the current domestic production stands at 970,000 metric tonnes per annum, the demand is put at 2.7 million metric tonnes yearly. This means that, despite the scarcity of foreign exchange, the country has to get the shortfall through import;

Recalls that as far back as 1964, the government had established a flag-ship research institute – the Nigerian Institute for Oil Palm Research (NIFOR) to expand the frontiers of research and practice in oil palm production and utilization. The institute has the mandate to conduct research into improved varieties of oil palm seedling for commercial production. Sadly, NIFOR, is being limited in its effort to revolutionize the oil palm sector due to poor funding and obsolete infrastructure;

Also Recalls that in the 1950s and 1960s up to the 70s, the then Michael Okpara administration of Eastern Region, took palm oil production business seriously. Back then, the government invested in Adapalm Plantation, and Oil Mills with thousands of hectares of palm estate. The late Sam Mbakwe's administration of 1979 also managed to keep the palm oil mill afloat but this was not sustained by successive military administrations which took over the state. Today, the palm oil industry in Imo State is comatose despite its huge potentials to the state and country as a whole;

Aware that several stakeholders and agricultural experts have identified the development of palm oil as one way the country could diversify the economy and generate foreign exchange for development. They stress that investments in production and processing of palm oil is proven to be a veritable tool to move the economy from oil to non-oil sectors as obtained in advanced countries;

Worried that Nigeria spends \$500 million on oil palm importation annually despite being the largest producer and exporter of the product in the 50's and 60's. The country is now the net importer of palm oil, importing 400,000-600,000 MT of palm oil in order to meet its local demand. This is indefensible since she has the right weather and soil conditions suited for the growth of oil palm;

Also Worried that the neglect of palm produce in Nigeria brings to mind the fate suffered by other cash crops, which has made it difficult for the country to achieve her set target of diversifying the economy from the current oil-reliant status; and

Concerned that if Nigeria refuses to harness the full potentials of the oil palm industry as an economic opportunity, it will continue to fall behind other global economies.

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Urge* the Federal government to accelerate its policies on diversification and support improved production of palm oil to meet not only domestic needs of the market but also increase exports in order to improve forex earnings;
- ii. *Urge* the Federal Government to revive the moribund Nigerian Institute for Oil Palm Research (NIFOR), in Benin to improve investment in research and production of quality oil palm seeds;
- iii. *Urge* the Federal Government to give grants and provide seedlings to local farmers who are engaged in palm produce and plantation;
- iv. *Urge* the Federal Government and other relevant MDAs to encourage private sector investment in palm oil production by providing certain incentives, tax breaks and soft loans to ease their business;

- v. *Urge* the Ministries of Agriculture at the Federal and State levels to set up production bases that can sustain high-yielding palm seedlings through the Presidential Initiatives to drive accelerated revival of oil palm products and exports trades; and
- vi. Mandate the Senate Committee on Agriculture to investigate the challenges of developing the palm oil industry and report to the Senate within 2 weeks.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No.	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Ad-hoc Committee on Alleged Assault by Senator Elisha C. Isiaku	Tuesday, 23 rd July, 2019	2.00pm	Suite 3.24, 3 rd Floor Senate New Building
2.	Ad-hoc Committee on Investigation of the use of Avastin Injection for Eye Treatment by Hospitals in Nigeria	Tuesday, 23 rd July, 2019	12.00noon	Committee Room 327 Senate New Building
3.	Ad-hoc Committee on Pipeline Explosion in Komkom, Rivers State	Tuesday, 23 rd July, 2019	2.00pm	Committee Room 430 Senate New Building