



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 18th July, 2019

1. The Senate met at 10:25 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 17th July, 2019.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Appreciation:**

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) as follows:



Senator Dino Melaye
Kogi West Senatorial District

July 15, 2019

*His Excellency,
Sen. Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan
The President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,
Three Arms Zone, National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.*

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

We are still in a fervid quest for appropriate words and expressions to appreciate Your Excellency and my Distinguished colleagues for honouring us by sending your representative at the programmes and activities commemorating the final rites of passage of our beloved mother, Deaconess Comfort Oni Melaye, during the weekend of Friday, July 12 through Saturday, July 13, 2019. Yet we must find a way to convey our gratitude.

Despite the competing demands of your typically busy schedule, you graciously prioritised participation in our event and unquantifiable support. We thank you for commuting to our humble homestead in Aiyetoro-Gbede, Ijumu Local Government Area of Kogi State, despite the multifarious challenges of accessing our hinterlands, no thanks to the condition of our roadways and for restoring hope in our people that even leaders share their challenges.

We thank you for the pleasure of your company and for adding depth and colour to the programme. We cannot repay your kindness in any way, other than pray to God to reward your labour of affection and friendship.

God bless you.

(Signed)

Sen. Dino Melaye

CC: All Distinguished Senators

(b) Acknowledgment:

The President of the Senate acknowledged the presence of the Staff and Students of City of Hope Model Legacy Academy, Karu Local Government Area, Nasarawa State who were at the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

4. Ad hoc Committee on the 9th Senate Legislative Agenda:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the 9th Senate Legislative Agenda (*Senator Muhammad A. Adamu — Kebbi Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

5. Ad hoc Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS):

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of the following Members of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as Executive Commissioner and Non-Executive Commissioners:

S/No	Name	Position	Geo-Political Zone	Remarks
(i)	Engr. Uba A. S. Maska	Executive Commissioner	North West	Re-Appointment
(ii)	Aliyu Sa'idu Abubakar	Non-Executive Commissioner	North East	Fresh Appointment
(iii)	Prof. Millionaire Abowei	Non-Executive Commissioner	South South	Fresh Appointment
(iv)	Abdulazeez Mohammed Salman	Non-Executive Commissioner	North Central	Fresh Appointment

(Senator Teslim K. Folarin — Oyo Central).

Question put and agreed to.

Report 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 *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of Members of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as Executive Commissioner and Non-Executive Commissioners:

Nominees recommended for confirmation:

- | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|
| (i) | Engr. Uba A. S. Maska (Executive Commissioner) (North West) | — Agreed to. |
| (ii) | Aliyu Sa'idu Abubakar (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North East) | — Agreed to. |
| (iii) | Prof. Millionaire Abowei (Non-Executive Commissioner) (South South) | — Agreed to. |
| (iv) | Abdulazeez Mohammed Salman (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North Central) | — Agreed to. |

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the *Ad hoc* Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of the Members of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as Executive Commissioner and Non-Executive Commissioners and approved the nominations.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of nominations:*Question:*

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Engr. Uba A. S. Maska (Executive Commissioner) (North West) for Appointment as Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) ?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Engr. Uba A. S. Maska (Executive Commissioner) (North West) for Appointment as Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Aliyu Sa'idu Abubakar (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North East) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) ?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Aliyu Sa'idu Abubakar (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North East) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Prof. Millionaire Abowei (Non-Executive Commissioner) (South South) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) ?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Prof. Millionaire Abowei (Non-Executive Commissioner) (South South) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Abdulazeez Mohammed Salman (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North Central) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) ?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Abdulazeez Mohammed Salman (Non-Executive Commissioner) (North Central) for Appointment as Non-Executive Commissioner for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) accordingly confirmed.

6. *Ad hoc Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS):*

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of Professor Habu S. Galadima for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) (*Senator Teslim K. Folarin — Oyo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report 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 *Ad hoc* Report of the Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of Professor Habu S. Galadima for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS).

Nominee recommended for confirmation:

Professor Habu S. Galadima

—

Agreed to.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) and approved the nomination.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of nomination:

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Professor Habu S. Galadima for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) ?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Professor Habu S. Galadima for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) accordingly confirmed.

7. **Motions:**

- (a) *Devastating Storm in Obosi, Nkpor and Oraukwu Communities of Anambra State:*
Motion made: That the Senate notes with deep concern, the devastating storm that took place during the weekend at Obosi, Nkpor Oraukwu Communities in Idemili North LGA of Anambra State, which destroyed a lot of homes and rendered the residents of that area homeless.

Shops, Markets, and Roads were not also spared, as they are all in a state of great devastation. The residents were forced to flee and take refuge in neighbouring towns and villages. Properties and goods worth billions of Naira were destroyed. This worsened the state of erosion sites that were already ravaging the area;

notes also that Obosi, the home town of the former Commonwealth Secretary General, Emeka Anyaoku, and one of our colleagues Senator Mike Ajaegbo and also another important commercial town which deals on Auto Spare Parts with a land Mass of 16.973sq.km, and more than 14 active erosion sites, has lost about 4.02sq.km of their land mass, that is 23.7% of its total land mass to the erosion;

notes that unless immediate steps are taken to control the widening erosion gullies, the residents of these communities will continue to be exposed to greater risk of loss of life and properties;

concerned that these gully erosion sites, which usually cover more than 1 sq.km and ranges in size from 10-15 meters wide to 15-30 meters deep, are posing a great threat to the economic activities of the Nkpor and Obosi communities, and the safety of the people living in the area;

aware that of all the states in the Southeast zone, Anambra State has been identified as the worst hit by the erosion menace, with over 1000 active erosion sites existing in the State;

further aware of recent reports and studies indicating that over 20% of the total land mass of Anambra State is being devastated by different stages of flooding and gully erosion;

worried that Nkpor, which is a major commercial town in Anambra State with a landmass of 13.88sq.km has lost about 2.09sq.km, which is 15% of the total land mass to gully erosion, affecting about 16,023 people some of whom have been rendered homeless;

notes further that the worst incidents of these erosion menace occur during the rainy season between the months of March and October of every year, and constitute a major disruption to the social and economic activities of these communities; and

desirous of taking immediate remedial measures to check the scourge of this erosion menace in these communities and provide immediate relief to the affected communities.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ecological Funds Office to immediately visit the affected areas, provide remedy and advance solutions to this erosion menace; and
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials and all other support as may be necessary to mitigate the damages suffered by these communities (*Senator Uche L. Ekwunife — Anambra Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Ecological Funds Office to immediately visit the affected areas, provide remedy and advance solutions to this erosion menace — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials and all other support as may be necessary to mitigate the damages suffered by these communities — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

- (i) That the Senate do urge the Ecological Fund Office to extend its activities to Anambra State (*Senator Stella A. Oduah — Anambra North*).

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

- (ii) That the Senate do urge the Ecological Fund Office to institute a study on the devastating effect in Anambra State in order to find lasting solutions to this menace (*Senator Stella A. Oduah — Anambra North*).

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

- (iii) That the Senate do urge for ecological study to be extended to the entire South East zone to create a permanent solution (*Senator Anayo R. Okorochoa — Imo West*).

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

- (iv) That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Planning Commission to designate the South-Eastern States as special development zones in view of the fragility of soil in the region. This will require the compulsory conduct of environmental impact assessment before development intention is undertaken (*Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi — Kebbi North*).

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

- (v) That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Ecological Fund to extend their operations to cover the entire Southern States of the country with the issue of erosion control (*Senator James E. Manager — Delta South*).

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

- (vi) That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Planning Commission to look into all affected States in the country with the issue of erosion (*Senator Kabir I. Gaya — Kano South*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Ecological Funds Office to immediately visit the affected areas, provide remedy and advance solutions to this erosion menace;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials and all other support as may be necessary to mitigate the damages suffered by these communities;

- (iii) urge the Ecological Fund Office to extend its activities to Anambra State;
- (iv) urge the Ecological Fund Office to institute a study on the devastating effect in Anambra State in order to find lasting solutions to this menace
- (v) urge for ecological study to be extended to the entire South East zone to create a permanent solution;
- (vi) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Planning Commission to designate the South-Eastern States as special development zones in view of the fragility of soil in the region. This will require the compulsory conduct of environmental impact assessment before development intention is undertaken;
- (vii) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Ecological Fund to extend their operations to cover the entire Southern States of the country with the issue of erosion control; and
- (viii) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Planning Commission to look into all affected States in the country with the issue of erosion (*S/Res/027/01/19*).

(b) *Urgent need to ascertain the status of the Nigerian Extended Continental Shelf Project:*

Motion made: That the Senate notes that on 7th May, 2009, Nigeria made a formal submission to the United Nation's Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) stating its intention for an extension of her Continental Shelf beyond the 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured;

notes further that the submission is sequel to the provision of Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) which allows coastal states to make additional claim of between 200 nautical miles to a maximum of 350 nautical miles (650 miles) beyond their Exclusive Economic Zone of 200 Nautical miles (about 370km), if the coastal state is able to prove through scientific data and information that the seabed and the subsoil of the marine area of its territorial sea is a natural prolongation of its land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin;

aware that every coastal state has a seaward delimitation of its territorial waters and for the purpose of insight, it is as follows:

- Territorial Waters: This is the breadth of a coastal state territorial sea not exceeding 12 nautical miles, measured from the baseline of the coastal state as provided by the Convention;
- The Contiguous Zone: This is adjacent to the territorial waters and does not extend beyond 24 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured;
- The Exclusive Economic Zone: This is beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea and shall not extend beyond 200 nautical miles measured from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured and is only claimable if the coastal state's seaward boundary is not encumbered by another coastal state; and

- Extended Continental Shelf: This is a prolongation of the seabed and the subsoil of the marine area beyond the exclusive economic zone of a coastal state and is only claimable if the state is able to prove through scientific information backed by data and argument that the seabed and the subsoil of the marine area of its territorial sea extends beyond the 200 nautical miles exclusive economic zone. The United Nation's Convention allows such additional claim to a maximum of 350 nautical miles;

notes also that Nigeria's claim for an extension of her continental shelf from 200 to 350 nautical miles is achievable and thus set up an inter-ministerial Technical Committee in the year 2000 which has been coordinated by the National Boundary Commission and has been in the forefront of the project;

aware that on the submission of her claim, Nigeria set up an office in the United Nation's office with some Nigerian experts trained for that purpose and foreign consultants engaged for overseeing the day to day activities of the project;

Understands also that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Muhammadu Buhari set up a High Powered Presidential Committee (HPPC) on 5th November, 2015, being chaired by the Attorney General of the Federation for the purpose of a proper follow up to the successful claim of the submission. This is as recommended by the Senate in 2013. The Senate had, in its Order Paper of 14th February, 2013, "urged the Federal Government to urgently fund the Project, as the officers in the UN had not received their allowances for about two years at that time; so the Project went dormant. Thus the Project suffered hiccups of funding from Government, first for about eighteen months, then for about three years, till November 2015, when President Muhammadu Buhari constituted the above committee and defrayed the outstanding financial commitments;

observes that Nigeria has already invested a lot of taxpayers money in the project for the collection of geological, geophysical and hydrographic data but has not yet completed the process from its commencement in 2000 after the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in 1997, and it will be economically unwise for the Federal Government to foot-drag on the Project at this time, as this will also portray Nigeria in a bad light at the UN;

notes further that Nigeria laid a claim of 8,000Km² (approximately twice the size of Lagos State) in her first submission made in 2009 which could be improved upon if Nigeria's submission was based on morphology supported by geology as against the evidence to the contrary used in gathering her technical data that was submitted in 2009;

knows that the Extended Continental Shelf when achieved would be an additional seaward territory beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone of 200 nautical miles over which the country already has sovereignty rights;

knows further that Article 77 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea has given exclusive rights with regard to exploration and exploitation of such resources to the coastal State that has been able to claim the territory as prescribed by the Convention, as given below:

- The coastal State exercises over the continental shelf sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring it and exploiting its natural resources;

- The rights referred to in paragraph 1 are exclusive in this sense that if the coastal State does not explore the continental shelf or exploit its natural resources, no one may undertake these activities without the express consent of the coastal State;
- The right of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation; and
- The natural resources referred to in this part consist of the mineral and other non-living resources of the seabed and subsoil together with living organisms belonging to sedentary species, that is to say, organism which, at the harvestable stage, either are immobile on or under the seabed or are unable to move except in constant physical contact with the seabed or the subsoil;

Similarly, Article 81 also gives an exclusive drilling right to the coastal state that has been able to claim its Extended Continental Shelf, see below:

- The coastal state shall have the exclusive right to authorize and regulate drilling on the continental shelf for all purposes;

recalls that in 2013, the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria expressed its displeasure on the failure of the Federal Government to defray her financial commitment which had delayed the review and approval process after a lot of tax-payers money has been invested into the projects;

notes that the Extended Continental Shelf is strategically important to any coastal state that is able to go through the rigorous process of approval. The importance among other things include naval activities and national security both on the sea, the seabed and the airspace, as well as valuable resources as Sedentary fisheries, Bio-prospecting of deep ocean diversity, diverse types of minerals, including diamonds, phosphorite, Sulphur, coal, iron and hydrocarbons. These are in addition to abundant Energy Resources of oil and gas which have been estimated to account for about 90% of exploited seabed minerals;

understands that Nigeria would gain more as offshore oil well produced about 30% of the 85 million barrels of oil output per day in 2010. This means that with enough oil and gas prospecting infrastructure on offshore exploration and exploitation, the country would harvest more oil and gas than what it currently being produced onshore;

believes that offshore Oil and Gas production when fully established would drastically reduce militancy incursion on oil pipelines, kidnapping of oil and gas workers, as well as eradicate illegal bunkering, thus further reduce environmental pollution as it is today;

informed that between August and September 2015, the United Nations Commission's Subcommittee - Commission on the Limit of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) met about twelve times in New York for the review of Nigeria's submission and made certain recommendations that need to be rigorously followed up to conclusion;

understands that after the release of the funds in 2016, Nigeria made an amended submission to the UN, based on the 'General Rule' of morphology backed by geology and geophysics, and that the amended submission contained increased outer limits, making a claim for far much bigger area (about 19km² or 5 times the size of Lagos State) than the submission in 2009; and

believes that the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which has helped push the Project forward all along need to as a matter of urgency ascertain the status of the submission of the Extended Continental Shelf Project and make further deliberate effort for its completion before it is time barred.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) commend the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for setting up the High Power Presidential Committee with the mandate to coordinate the activities of the Extended Continental Shelf Project;*
- (ii) urge the President not to relent in his efforts to fully support the project to its conclusion by defraying the outstanding financial commitment to the Nigerian office (the United Nation residents' team) Set up for the Project at the United Nations and the foreign consultants to enable them concentrate effort to obtain a positive recommendation from the United Nations body (The UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf);*
- (iii) invite the United Nations Resident Team to brief the Senate in four weeks on the Status of Nigeria's claim of her Extended Continental Shelf; and*
- (iv) mandate its Committee on Marine Transport which functions includes Marine Resources Development, Inland Water Ways and International Marine Agreements when constituted, to diligently follow up activities of the Nigerian Extended Continental Shelf Project and regularly brief the Senate (Senator George T. Sekibo — Rivers East).*

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do commend the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for setting up the High Power Presidential Committee with the mandate to coordinate the activities of the Extended Continental Shelf Project.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "Nigeria" in line 1, *insert* the words "President, Muhammadu Buhari" (*Senator Kabir I. Gaya — Kano South*).

Question that amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the President not to relent in his efforts to fully support the project to its conclusion by defraying the outstanding financial commitment to the Nigerian office (the United Nation residents' team) Set up for the Project at the United Nations and the foreign consultants to enable them concentrate effort to obtain a positive recommendation from the United Nations body (The UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do invite the United Nations Resident Team to brief the Senate in four weeks on the Status of Nigeria's claim of her Extended Continental Shelf.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "team" in line 1, *insert* the words "and leadership of National Boundary Commission (NBC)" (*Senator Kabir I. Gaya — Kano South*).

Question that amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Marine Transport which functions includes Marine Resources Development, Inland Water Ways and International Marine Agreements when constituted, to diligently follow up activities of the Nigerian Extended Continental Shelf Project and regularly brief the Senate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "Committee on" in line 1, *insert* the words "Committees on States and Local Governments; and" (*Senator Kabir I. Gaya — Kano South*).

Question that amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) commend the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President, Muhammadu Buhari for setting up the High Power Presidential Committee with the mandate to coordinate the activities of the Extended Continental Shelf Project;
- (ii) urge the President not to relent in his efforts to fully support the project to its conclusion by defraying the outstanding financial commitment to the Nigerian office (the United Nations residents team) Set up for the Project at the United Nations and the foreign consultants to enable them concentrate effort to obtain a positive recommendation from the United Nations body (The UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf);
- (iii) invite the United Nations Resident Team and leadership of National Boundary Commission (NBC) to brief the Senate in four weeks on the Status of Nigeria's claim of her Extended Continental Shelf; and
- (iv) mandate Committees on States and Local Governments; and Marine Transport which functions includes Marine Resources Development, Inland Water Ways and International Marine Agreements when constituted, to diligently follow up activities of the Nigerian Extended Continental Shelf Project and regularly brief the Senate (*S/Res/028/01/19*).

(c) ***The Dire State of Humanitarian Crises in Nigeria especially Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) States:***

Motion made: That the Senate commends the efforts of President Muhammadu Buhari in confronting the menace of Boko Haram and ISWA in the North-East, farmers/herders clashes in the North-Central and banditry and kidnapping in the North-West;

notes with great concern the humanitarian crises all over the country caused by Boko Haram and ISWA in the North/East, Farmers-Herders clashes in the North/Central region and rampant cases of banditry and kidnapping activities in the North/West, and other parts of the country;

worried that the recent escalated attacks in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe, by Boko Haram and ISWA have forced over 134,000 people to flee from their homes. As a result, more people are displaced and sought refuge in the neighboring local governments and towns that are already host to hitherto displaced persons. According to UNOCHA, there are already more than 1.8 IDPs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. More than 1.6 million returnees have been recorded since 2015;

observes that from April to date Bo' o Haram and ISWA have attacked more than ten different towns and villages in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe. Some are as follows:

- 29th April Kuda Kaya near Madagali Killing at least 25 people;
- 7th May Molai near Maiduguri. Many people were killed;
- 10th May Gajiganna was attacked killing some soldiers and civilians;
- 03rd June Dikwa which hosts over 70,000 IDPs was attacked;
- 9th June Marte Town was attacked, and the soldiers displaced;
- 12th June Kareto town in Mobbar Local Government of Borno. The CO and unspecified number of troops were killed;
- 15th June Damasak town was attacked where unconfirmed people were killed and wounded;
- 16th June Monguno attack was repelled but some soldiers were killed;
- 19th June Gajiram in Nganzai was attacked and soldiers were killed;
- 27th June Goniri in Yobe was attacked; and
- June Izge in Gwoza Local Government was attacked;

also worried that already more than 7.1 million people need humanitarian assistance in the North East; 2.7 million need Food and 1.1 million malnourished children need nutritional support in 2019;

concerned that the violence continues to disrupt livelihoods and deepen the impact of chronic vulnerabilities such as food insecurity, malnutrition and epidemics in affected communities;

worried that the rainy season is on but there are threats to the farming activities, which will result, to serious food insecurity;

notes that according to UNOCHA office in Nigeria about \$1.2 billion (₦420 Billion) is required to address the humanitarian crises this year. While the total amount allocated to NEDC including the takeoff grant is ₦55 Billion which is equivalent to about \$157.14 million only. This is less than 14% of the total annual requirement of \$1.2 billion;

appreciates that in late 2016, public partners, relief organizations and other key stakeholders involved in the humanitarian response in Nigeria, collectively expressed support for the establishment of the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) as a strategic and vital tool to deliver the most urgent humanitarian relief;

notes that to date, the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund has raised US \$70 million from 17 donor countries namely Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Norway, Ireland, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, Iceland, Canada, Spain, Luxembourg, Arab Gulf Program for Development, Malta, Azerbaijan and Sri Lanka. From the private sector in Nigeria, the Nigerian Economic Summit Group, Zenith Bank, and Oando have supported the initiative;

notes and appreciates the efforts of Victim Support Fund; Dangote Foundation and Indimi Foundation for their humanitarian relief support;

worried that the efforts of International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO's) and the Nigerian Humanitarian Fund (NHF) are over stretched and donor fatigue has started setting in. For example, Donations by International donor countries continue to reduce from \$730m in 2017 to \$712m in 2018 and \$275million (₦96.25 Billion) in 2019;

also observed that the North East Development Commission (NEDC); which was graciously established by the Bill sponsored by the 8th National Assembly and signed into law by PMB to address the issues relating to the humanitarian crisis caused by the activities of the insurgents is not adequately funded. Out of the ₦10 billion takeoff grant approved by the President and the ₦45 Billion allocated in the 2019 Appropriation Act nothing has so far been released to the organization; and

concerned that the affected states especially Borno which is the epicenter of the insurgency is adjudged to be part of the poorest region on earth by the UN HDI has suffered an estimated destruction of about \$9.2 Billion (₦3.22tr). With an estimated budget of slightly above ₦100 billion annually and insignificant amount of Internally Generated Revenue (IGR), the State cannot handle the humanitarian crisis alone.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to in addition to fighting the security threats in the affected states, pay attention to the humanitarian crises caused by the Boko Haram/ISWA, Farmer-Herders' clashes and banditry activities;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Finance to release all monies due to North-East Development Commission (NEDC); National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the National Refugees Commission to enable them to address the humanitarian crises;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to submit to the National Assembly Supplementary budget to meet the funding gap that is required to address the humanitarian crises in the country; and
- (iv) constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to visit the affected States in order to have first-hand information of the issues raised and report to the Senate (*Senator Mohammed A. Ndume — Borno South*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to in addition to fighting the security threats in the affected states, pay attention to the humanitarian crises caused by the Boko Haram/ISWA, Farmer-Herders' clashes and Banditry activities — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Finance to release all monies due to North-East Development Commission (NEDC); National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the National Refugees Commission to enable them to address the humanitarian crises — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to submit to the National Assembly Supplementary budget to meet the funding gap that is required to address the humanitarian crises in the country.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "Federal" in line 1, *insert* the words "Executive Arm of" instead thereof (*Senator James E. Manager — Delta South*).

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

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to visit the affected States in order to have first-hand information of the issues raised and report to the Senate.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the words "Committee to" in line 1. *insert* the words "be led by the President of the Senate" instead thereof (*Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi — Kebbi North*).

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

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

- (i) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Finance to release the intervention fund appropriated to Zamfara State in 2019 Budget (*Senator Ya'u S. Alhaji — Zamfara North*).

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

- (ii) That the Senate do convene a summit on the Humanitarian Crisis in the North East, North Central and North West for appropriate legislative intervention and durable solutions (*Senator Istifanus D. Gyang — Plateau North*).

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

- (iii) That the Senate do urge all affected agencies and Secretary to Government of the Federation (SGF) office to formulate a robust and sustainable road map that is implementable and must capture all donor inflows (*Senator Stella A. Oduah — Anambra North*).

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

- (iv) That the Senate do urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to maintain standing presence in the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp pending the resettlement of the IDPs to their communities (*Senator Elisha C. Ishaku — Adamawa North*).

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

- (v) That the Senate do constitute a Standing Committee to thoroughly carry out oversight on the North East Development Commission and other matters related to the development of the area (*Senator George T. Sekibo — Rivers East*).

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

- (vi) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to also as a matter of urgency revisit the humanitarian crisis amongst the Bakassi people of Cross River State (*Senator Sandy O. Onor — Cross River Central*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to in addition to fighting the security threats in the affected states, pay attention to the humanitarian crises caused by the Boko Haram/ISWA, Farmer-Herders' clashes and banditry activities;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Finance to release all monies due to North-East Development Commission (NEDC); National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the National Refugees Commission to enable them to address the humanitarian crises;
- (iii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to submit to the National Assembly Supplementary budget to meet the funding gap that is required to address the humanitarian crises in the country;
- (iv) constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to be led by the President of the Senate visit the affected States in order to have first-hand information of the issues raised and report to the Senate
- (v) urge the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Finance to release the intervention fund appropriated to Zamfara State in 2019 Budget;
- (vi) convene a summit on the Humanitarian Crisis in the North East, North Central and North West for appropriate legislative intervention and durable solutions;
- (vii) urge all affected agencies and Secretary to Government of the Federation (SGF) office to formulate a robust and sustainable road map that is implementable and must capture all donor inflows;
- (viii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to maintain standing presence in the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp pending the resettlement of the IDPs to their communities;
- (ix) constitute a Standing Committee to thoroughly carry out oversight on the North East Development Commission and other matters related to the development of the area; and
- (x) urge the Federal Government to also as a matter of urgency revisit the humanitarian crisis amongst the Bakassi people of Cross River State (S/Res/028/01/19).

- (d) *Urgent need for the Senate's intervention on the militia attack on Okokolo in Agatu Local Government of Benue State:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

- (e) *The deplorable conditions of Ikot Ekpene-Umuahia and Aba-Ikot Ekepenne Highways linking Akwa Ibom and Abia States:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

- (f) *Exiting Petroleum Subsidy: Ensuring Self-Sufficiency in Domestic Refining of Petroleum Products:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

8. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 23rd July, 2019 at 10.00 a.m.
(Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:53 p.m.

Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.