

(Mr

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 10th July, 2007

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

- 1. **The Growing Occurrence of Collapsed Buildings in Nigeria:**
Senator Chris Anyanwu:- (Imo East) Senator
Ayodele S. Arise:- (Ekiti North) Senator A.O.
Mamora:- (Lagos East) Senator Gbemi R.
Saraki:- (Kwara Central)

The Senate,
Observes that Nigeria is at present experiencing a rise in the incidence of collapsed buildings all over the Country. In fact, never in the History of Nigeria has the situation been as grave as it is at the moment, as could be seen in the cases captured hereunder:

- Recently four buildings collapsed in Lagos within one week ;
- On June 29th, 2007 a bungalow collapsed at Ifako/Ijaiye area of Lagos.
- In May, 2007 two buildings collapsed in quick succession, killing and causing injuries on innocent tenants including a 19 year old boy, a 9 year old boy and 2 year old child.
- Also in June, 2007 a five-storey building at 31/32 Egerton Street, Oke-Arin, a major market in Lagos island collapsed, killing a young pregnant woman, a month old baby and 2 others.
- In January 2006, a four-storey building housing a hospital collapsed and killed both patients and staff at Amukoko, Lagos

Concerned, Mr. President and Distinguished Colleagues, that the problem of collapsed buildings has become a daily national occurrence which brings to the fore the large scale violations of town planning regulations and building codes nationwide.

Observes that one common feature, irrespective of where the incident happens in the Country is that it is not the property owners who die but innocent Nigerians who have rented spaces in the building.

Advocates that it is time the relevant Government Agencies awaken to the fact that the primary responsibility of Government is to protect the lives and property of its citizens and that there must be a way of holding officials who renege on their supervisory duties accountable.

Notes that there is need for a properly articulated and enforceable uniform policy governing this sector since more people will continue to build as the economy improves.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) **condemn** the increasing cases of collapsed buildings in all parts of the country.
- (ii) *Sympathize* with the families and relatives of casualties of recent collapsed buildings in Lagos and other parts of the Country.
- (iii) *Urge* the 3-tiers of Government to review their building codes and adopt drastic measures and strict standard quality control mechanism to stem further occurrences, in conformity with best practices in the industry.
- (iv) *Urge* the Federal Government to address the spiraling cost of building materials which induces developers to resort to sub-standard materials at the expense of public safety.
- (vi) *Urge* the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other relevant Agencies to improve on their intervention in the event of such occurrences.

A Trust Fund for Public Office Holders:

Senator Ayogu Eze - (Enugu North)
Senator Teslim Folarin - (Oyo Central)
Senator Ehigie Uzamere - (Edo south)
Senator Osita Izunaso - (Imo West)
Senator Ahmed Lawan - (Yobe North)
Senator Anthony Agbo - (Ebonyi North)
Senator Chris Anyanwu - (Imo East)
Senator Grace Bent - (Adamawa South)
Senator A.O. Mamora:- (Lagos East)
Senator Anyinchuku Ude:- (Ebonyi South)
Senator James E Manager:- (Delta South)

Senator Ikechukwu Obiora; (Anambra South)
Senator T.U. Wada:- (Gombe South) Senator A.D. Sodangi:- (Nasarawa West) Senator Ibrahim Mohammed Ida:- (Katsina Central) Senator Erne U. Ekaette:- (Akwa Ibom North South) Senator Isiaka A. Adeleke:- (Osun West) Senator Manzo G. Anthony:- (Taraba North) Senator Nimi Barigha-Amange:- (Baylsa East) Senator Aloysius A. Etok:- (Akwa-Ibom N/West) Senator Abubakar U. Gada:- (Sokoto East)

The Senate,

Observes with dismay and utter discomfiture the poor condition of former public office holders, senators inclusive, after leaving office, such that these men and women of honour and respect of yesterday hastily descend into odium and public humiliation;

Notes that Nigeria must be one of the few countries around the globe with very scant regard for the welfare of its statesmen, evidenced by the raw deal to which these patriots are exposed on leaving office;

Notes further that this hopeless situation has forced these erstwhile respectable men and women to dabble into jobs, ventures and conducts that call not just their own integrity but that of those currently serving the country in various capacities into question;

Observes also that the fall-out of this state of affairs is a situation where former national assembly members and other public office holders descend to the level of scrambling for the job of councilors at the local government level, while others, including of course ministers, take on very degrading trades, all as part of the rat-race to make ends meet;

Convinced that there is an abiding need for people who have served the nation at these heights, being a club of accomplished senior citizens, to carry themselves in a manner that would not create the impression that they are petty and dishonourable;

Convinced further that a mechanism to stem this trend and restore the honour and dignity of this reservoir of experienced, respectable and revered men and women, a veritable pantheon of leadership models, is urgently needed;

Accordingly resolves to.

- (i) *urge* the Federal Government to initiate, as a matter of urgency, the establishment of a National Trust Fund Scheme, solely for the benefit of public office holders and to which all such office holders shall make mandatory contributions, to cushion the hardship that confront them on leaving office; ,
- (ii) *urge* the government to include, as a condition of service for public office holders, a compulsory financial and investment advisory to assist them go into investments that bring recompense in and out of office:
- (iii) *urge* the senate committee on establishment matters, when constituted, to liaise with the mover of this motion to initiate the process of bringing a bill to give effect to the subject of this motion.

Investigative Powers of the Senate: *(Section 88 And 89 of the 1999 Constitution)*

Senator Gbenga Babalola:- *(Oyo North)*

Senator Iyiola Omisore:- *(Osun East)*

The Senate,

Notes that in recent days this hallowed Chamber has been compelled to debate and pass motions labouring on inefficiency in the education sector warranting Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASSU) to go on strike, inefficiency in the communication sector with regard to drop calls and GSM operators, inefficiency in the financial sector bordering on NDIC refusal to meet payment timetable to Nigerian victims of failed banks, and lack of modern landing system in our major airports etc;

Notes that the cardinal duty/functions of the National Assembly particularly in all modern democracies across the world is to enact laws that will affect the lives of the common man in the society positively.

Notes that this constitutional assignment does not only involve the process of law making but also includes that of monitoring their implementations as it affects individuals, authorities, ministries and parastatals with a view to ensure that the purpose of law making is not jettisoned or ridiculed by a few .

Notes that the Sixth Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is bound by virtue of the oath of office undertaken by its members to defend the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. This implies that we live up to expectation in performing our oversight functions as enshrined in the provisions of section 88 of 1999 constitution;

Accordingly Resolves to:

- (i) *Urge* this Sixth Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to note that the oversight function assigned to it by virtue of section 88 of the 1999 constitution starts with the screening and approval of ministerial and head of parastatals nominees
- (ii) *Urge* President Umar Musa Ya'adua to compel appointees whose appointment requires Senate confirmation to resign such appointment if in course of the said appointment the Senate has reason to believe that the public institution under the supervision of such individual is not living up to expectations.
- (iii) *Urge* that a bill seeking to compel any public office holder confirmed by this upper chamber to resign his or her appointment if adjudged inefficient in the discharge of their public duties, be sponsored by the relevant committee of the Senate when constituted.

Confirmation of Nominations:

Senator Teslim Folarin:- (*Senate Majority leader*)

"that the Senate do consider the request of Mr President, Commander in Chief, for the confirmation of the nominations of the following persons as Ministers of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in accordance with Section 147 (2) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria".

S/N	Name	State
	Dr. Aliyu Idi Hong	Adamawa
	Sen John James Akpanudoedehe	Akwa Ibom
	Prince John Okechukwu Emeka Ojo	Anambra
5.	Maduekwe Mahmud Yayale Ahmed	Abia
6.	Mrs. Diezani K. Alisou-Madueke	Bauchi
7.	Sen. Muhammed Sanusi Daggash	Bayelsa
8.	John Ogar Odey Mrs. Ikpiwhre	Borno
9.	Grace	Cross River
	Igwe Aja-Nwachukwu	Delta
	Major-Gen. Godwin Abbe (Rtd)	Ebonyi
	Prince Hayo Adeveye	Edo
	Fidelia Akubata, Njeze (Mrs.)	Ekiti
	Aishatu Jibril Dukku	Enugu
	Chief Charles Chukwuemeka Ugwu	Gombe
	Alhaji Ahmed Garba Biehi	Imo
	Abba Sayyadi Ruma	Kano
	Gabriel Yakuka Aduku	Katsina
	Halima Tayo Alao	Kogi
	Bode Augusto	Kwara
	Dr. Hassan Muhammad Lawal	Lagos
	Abdulrahman Hassan Gimba	Nasarawa
	Chief Sarala Tunji Isola	Niger
	Prince Adetokunbo Kayode	Ogun
	Sen. Akinlabi Oluksunkanmi	Ondo
	Aderemi W. Babalola	Osun
	Amb. Bagudu M. Hirse	Oyo
	II Odein Ajumogobia	Plateau
	Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed	Rivers
	Barrister Ibrahim	Sokoto
	Adamu Mama Waziri	Taraba
	Tijani Yahaya Kaura Dr.	Yobe
	Shamsuddin Usman Dr.	Zamfara
	Aliyu Modibbo Umar	kano
		Gombe