



Tuesday 29th April, 2008

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1 Collapse the Transport Sector in the Face of Monumental Waste of Public Funds:

Sen. Avogu Eze	Sen. Ike Ekweremadu	Sen. Teslim Folarin
Sen. Gbemi Saraki	Sen. Smart Adeyemi	Sen. M.K. Jibril
Sen. Erne Ufot-Ekaette	Sen. Ehigie Uzamere	Sen. Adego Eferakeya
Sen. Kanti Bello	Sen. O.A. Mnmora	Sen. Nuhu Aliyu
Sen. Sati Gogwin	Sen. Nicholas Ugbane	Sen. Umaru Dahiru
Sen. Dahiru Kuta	Sen. Julius Ucha	Sen. Anthony Agbo.
Sen. Ikechukwu Obiora	Sen. Ositn Izunaso	Sen. Chris Anyanwu
Sen. Bala Mohammed	Sen. Felix K. Bajomo	Sen. Lee Maeba
Sen. Annie Okonkwo	Sen. Joy Emodi	Sen. Ahmad Lawan
Sen. Sahabi Ya'u	Sen. Ahmed Sani Yerima	Sen. Aloysius Etok
Sen. Anthony Mimzo	Sen. Joe! Danlami	Sen. Zaynab Kure
Sen. Effiong Bob	Sen. Joseph Akaagerger	Sen. Mohammed Muhammed
Sen. Sylvester Anyanwu	Sen. Eyinnaya Abaribe	Sen. K. Adedibu
Sen. Anyim Ude	Sen. Suleiman Adokwe	Sen. Caleb Zagi
Sen. Ibrahim Ida	Sen. Abubakar Gada	Sen. Umar Argungu
Sen. Munirudeen A. Muse	Sen. Ganiyu Solomon	Sen. Buka Abba Ibrahim
Sen. Suleiman Nazif	Sen. Patrick Osakwe	Sen. George Sekibo
Sen. Seif. Emmanuel PaulKer	Sen. Garba Y. Lado	Sen. Aminu Garo
Sen. Otaru S. Ohize		

The Senate,

Responding to mounting concerns by Nigerians on the deplorable condition of our roads and the discouraging state of the transport sector, sequel to motion moved on the floor of this Senate on Thursday .July 5th 2007 on the collapse of the road infrastructure in Nigeria, notwithstanding the huge expenditure in the sector within the past 12 years, and the continuing deteriorating of our roads;

Worried that this development has continued to fuel growing clamour by Nigerians for a probe of what went wrong in that crucial sector of our nation's life, with Senators' desks brimming with requests and queries on why we are reticent on what went wrong in that sector;

Sensitized by contributions of my colleagues during the debate on a bill seeking to repeal the Nigerian Inland Waterways Act and to replace it with the Nigerian Inland Water Agency on Tuesday April 22, 2007 about the depth of anxiety and concern of nearly every member of this Senate about the decay in that sector;

Convinced that the mood of the Senate during that debate has obviously highlighted the painful fact that our transport policy is bereft of focus and consistency;

Considering that trillions of naira have been spent in the sector in the last 12 years, including but not limited to the over N100 billion spend on the rail sub sector, the near N500 billion spent on roads maintenance and construction and the consequent need to train more attention on what happened or did not happen in that sector during the period in question;

Recalling that not too long ago, a former governor of one of the South East States accused a former Minister of works of squandering over N300 billion on Nigerian roads in one year with noting to show for the money whereupon the affected Minister himself admitted that the amount was approved but that the actual draw-down was about N200 billion plus;

Aware that this is just one of the indices of the quantum of money sunk in that sector in the recent past, considering that there was so much extra budgetary spending in the immediate and not too immediate past administrations, coupled, of course, with money spent on the Federal Road Maintenance Agency, FERMA, an expenditure profile capable of boggling the mind;

Satisfied that is obvious from the foregoing that, as the representatives of the people, there is a need to create an opportunity to satisfy the yearnings of Nigerians to know exactly how much was spent on our roads and why in the face of this lavish expenditure neither the road nor the rail system is working;

Appalled by statistical data from the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC, showing that because of the shameful state of our roads, we lose about 13 lives on our roads daily, a yearly average of 17,000 people whose contribution to the economy of this nation can only at this time be better imagined;

SHU convinced, as pointed out in the motion of last year referenced above, that this is too much a price to pay for the failure of governance and the selfishness and greed of an uncaring ruling elite;

Knowing that a functional rail system in this country would have spared our roads the heavy punishment it currently takes from huge haulage trucks while carnage on our roads could have been halted or reduced considerably;

Aware that section 14(b) of the Nigerian Constitution (1999) emphatically states that "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government," and that this can only be guaranteed by providing amenities that enhance rather than inhibit the flourishing of the freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution and other statutes in the land;

Accordingly resolves to;

- i. *Probe* without delay the gross mismanagement of funds appropriated for our transport sector in the last 12 years, in partial response to rising demands by our constituents and concerned Nigerians and in fulfillment of our oath of office to defend and promote the integrity of our dear fatherland;
- ii. *Ascertain* why the transport sector has failed to fly inspite of the huge resources channeled into it within the past 12 years
- iii. *Empanel* a multi-disciplinary ad hoc committee with members drawn from the country's six geo-political zones, to conduct a full scale inquiry, including public hearing, into what took place in the administration of our transport policy in the past 12 years;
- iv. *Mandate* the ad hoc committee to conduct its assignment diligently without witch-hunting any person(s) or body (ies) and report back to the Senate within two months.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT

1. **Conference Report on the Certain Political, Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries and Allowances etc) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2008 (SB. 14)**
Senator Zaynab A. Kure (Niger South)
 "That the Senate do receive and adopt the Conference Report on the Certain Political, Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries and Allowances etc) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2008 (SB. 14)

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Licensing and Regulation of Private Detectives and Investigators and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 (SB. 63) - *Second Reading*
Senator Ike Ekweremadu (Enugu West)
2. A Bill for an Act to Establish a National Centre for Elderly Persons for the General Purpose of Providing Welfare and recreational Facilities for the Elderly and the Designing of Developmental Programmes and Activities for the Advancement of Elderly Persons in Nigeria, 2008 (SB. 15) - *Second Reading*
Senator Ganiyu O. Solomon (Lagos West)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Rule and Business	Tuesday, 29th April, 2008	3. 00 p.m	Committee Room 15 Assembly Complex
2.	Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy	Tuesday, 29th April, 2009	2.00 pm	Committee Room 301 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
3	Communication	Tuesday, 29th April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 221 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
	National Security and Intelligence	Tuesday, 29th April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 312 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
	Interior	Wednesday, 30th April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 221 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
	Public Accounts	Wednesday, 30th April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Hearing Room 4 Assembly Complex