



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Wednesday 23rd April, 2008

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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Nigeria Anti-Trust (Enforcement, Miscellaneous Provisions, etc) Bill, 2008 (SB. 87) - *First Reading*
Sen. Heineken Lokpobiri
Sen. Felix K. Bajomo
Sen. Ahmed Makarfi
2. Nigeria Trade and Competition Bill, 2008 (SB. 80) - *First Reading*
Sen. Joel Danlami

PRESENTATION OF A REPORT

1. **Report of the Committee on Education on the Resolutions referred it by the Senate on the 27th of June, 2007**
Senator Joy Emodi
"That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Education, on the Resolutions referred to it by the Senate on the 27th of June, 2007 and approve the recommendation(s)" (*To be laid only*).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

2. **Armed Robbery and Violent Attacks on Nigerians in South Africa: Time for Decisive Action**
Senator Grace F. Bent
CO - SPONSORS
Senator Umaru Dahiru
Senator Nicholas Ugbane
Senator Nimi B. Amange
Senator Zainab Kure
Senator Awaisu Kuta

Senator Nuhu Aliyu
Senator Kolawole Bajomo
Senator George A. Manzo
Senator Andrew Babalola

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The Senate,

Notes with serious concern the protracted and unabated intimidation, brutalization and cases of robbery and sundry attacks on Nigerians both high and low in South Africa;

Notes that these cases are rampant with Nigerians arriving by the South African Airways, Virgin Nigeria, Kenya Airways and in which cases hoodlums usually dispossess them of their valuables after trailing them from the airport to their respective destinations;

Notes also that the South African immigration amongst others are being alleged of complicity in such robberies that have taken familiar trends. Worst still, Nigerians are being painted as criminals, fraudsters etc forgetting that a sizeable percentage of Nigerians go about their business legitimately;

Alarmed that the situation has deteriorated to the extent that a week ago, the South African Minister for interior & Security announced on air, ordering the South African Police to "**Shoot the bastards**" referring to the South African armed robbers. This is evident to an extent that even the South African Government is getting helpless about the situation;

Notes that even if the South African Government have become helpless on the situation, Nigerian Government should not watch hopelessly as its citizens are being harassed, molested and robbed on daily basis;

Notes that available statistics showed that FOUR out of EIGHT of the robbery attacks are Nigerians in South Africa perhaps due to their habit of travelling with huge sums of money rather than carrying credit cards;

Aware that this situation has been officially communicated to the Federal Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Nigerian Embassy in South Africa during our exhaustive discussions with the Nigerian Embassy officials- in Cape Town;

Further aware that the centre piece of Nigerian's foreign policy is "**CITIZEN DIPLOMACY**" which makes a Nigerian citizen, wherever he or she may be the focal point of Nigeria's interest, but the reverse is the case on this issue as the Federal Government has refuse to react;

Further aware of the leadership role that Nigeria played during the struggle for emancipation of South Africa and after the apartheid regime and the resultant spirit of camaraderie and mutual respect between the two countries until late.

Accordingly Resolves-

- (i) *Urge* the Federal Government to officially convey the strong displeasure of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on these unwarranted attacks to South African Government and demand cogent explanation as well as assurances of security of the lives and properties of Nigerians in South Africa;
- (ii) *Urge* the Federal Government to meet with the South African Government with a view to finding a lasting solution to these problems;
- (iii) **Direct** that the Committee on Foreign Affairs invite the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Consular General who is presently the acting Nigerian Ambassador in South Africa to come and explain to the Senate, why despite official notes to the Minister from the Nigerian Embassy in South Africa, the Nigerian Government has not deemed it fit to sanitize Nigerians and issue to them travel alerts;
- (iv) *Urge* the Federal Government as a matter of urgency to issue an official statement of warning to intending travellers on the level of hostilities in South Africa against Nigerians.

2. **Tribute to Late Renowned** Mathematician, Professor Chike Obi:

Senator Joy Emodi***The Senate,***

Recalls that on the 13th of March 2008 the death was announced of one of the world's foremost Mathematicians, Professor Chike Obi at the age of 87 years;

Notes that the Late Chike Obi was a National Icon, a renowned writer, social activist, famous scholar, a ranking Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science, Elder Statesman and a universally acclaimed Mathematician;

Notes the great **and** giant strides recorded by the Late Professor Chike **Obi** in winning the Echlund Prize from the International Centre for Theoretical Physics for original work in Differential Equations and Pioneering works in mathematics in Africa;

Notes the outstanding unique effort of Professor Chike Obi in August, 1999 when he solved a 360 year old mathematical puzzle known as Fermat's Last Theorem posed by the Frenchman Fermat;

Notes that Professor Chike Obi's academic brilliance and life depicted the triumph of the human spirit over daunting obstacles and was a source of tremendous pride to not only Nigerians, but Africans and blacks in the Diaspora;

Observes that Professor Chike Obi, a recipient of the Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON) National Honour for meritorious service to Nigeria founded the Nanna Institute for Scientific Studies in Onitsha from where he professed his ideas;

Concerned of the need to ensure that the labour and legacies of our National Icons be preserved and recorded for posterity.

Accordingly resolved to:

- (i) **Urge** this Hallowed Chamber to observe a one minute silence in respect of this departed National Icon;
- (ii) **Urge** the Federal Government of Nigeria to as a matter of national importance in recognition of the Late Sage's contributions to the development of mathematics and science education in Nigeria, nay Africa and the black World rename the National Mathematical Centre, Abuja to Professor Chike Obi Mathematical Centre, Abuja;
- (iii) **Urge** me Federal Ministry of Education to partner with the Nnamdi Azikiwe University to ensure the affiliation of Nanna Institute for Scientific Studies, Onitsha as a referral Centre for Scientific studies.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT

1. **Report of the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation:**
Screening of Nominees:
Senator Zaynab A. Kure
"That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, on the Screening of ALHAJI UMAR ABBA GANA, as a Member of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) and approve the recommendation".
Recommendation:
"That the Senate do confirm the nomination of ALHAJI UMAR ABBA GANA, as a Member of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC)".

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rule and Business	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	3. 00 p.m	Committee Room 15 Assembly Complex
2.	Works	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	1.00 p.m	Committee Room 313 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
	Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
	Finance	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	3.00 p.m	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building Assembly Complex

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5.	Gas	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 3.01 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
6.	National Security and Intelligence	Wednesday, 23rd April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 312 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
7.	Interior	Thursday, 24th April, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 117 Senate New Building Assembly Complex
8.	Information and Media	Thursday, 24th April, 2008	3.00 p.m	Committee Room 304 Senate New Building Assembly Complex