



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday 5th May, 2009

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

PRESENTATION OF A REPORT

1. Report of the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation:
Screening of Nominee:
Senator Zaynab A. Kure (*Niger South*)
"That the SENATE do RECEIVE the REPORT of the COMMITTEE on NATIONAL PLANNING, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS and POVERTY ALLEVIATION, on the SCREENING of DR. CASMIR I. ANYANWU (IMO STATE), as a COMMISSIONER in the REVENUE MOBILIZATION, ALLOCATION and FISCAL COMMISSION (RMAFC)" (*To be laid*).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. Non-Implementation of the Principle of Federal Character in Government Establishments at Various Levels in Nigeria:

Sen. Smart Adeyemi (*Kogi West*)

Co-sponsors:

Sen. Olorunnimbe A. Mamora
Sen. Ayogu Eze
Sen. Kamorudeen A. Adedibu
Sen. Aloysius A. Etok
Sen. Muhammed I. Ahmed
Sen. Joy Emodi
Sen. Chris N. Anyanwu
Sen. Enyinnaya Abaribe

Sen. Isiaka A. Adeleke
Sen. Ayodele Arise
Sen. Joseph I. Akaagerger
Sen. Andrew A. Babalola
Sen. Dahiru A. Kuta
Sen. George T. Sekibo
Sen. Zaynab A. Kure
Sen. Suleiman Adokwe

Sen. Lee L. Maeba
Sen. Lawan A. Ibrahim
Sen. Anthony O. Agbo
Sen. Bala A. Mohammed
Sen. Nkechi Nwaogu
Sen. Grace F. Bent
Sen. Anthony G. Manzo

The Senate,

Notes that, one of the fundamental objectives and directive principles of state policy as enshrined in Section 14 (3) and (4) of the 1999 Constitution is that, the composition of governments and their agencies at both Federal and State levels, shall reflect the Federal Character of Nigeria, in order to promote national unity;

Notes that, the afore-mentioned provisions were enshrined in the constitution to ensure that there is no predominance of persons from a few states or from a few ethnic or religious groups in the government or in any of its agencies and to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty among all the peoples of Nigeria;

Notes that, towards the realization of the afore-mentioned objectives, the Federal Character Commission was established, under the Third Schedule to the 1999 Constitution, to give effect to Section 14 (3) and (4) of the

Constitution and work out an equitable formula for the distribution of all cadres of posts in the public service of the federation and of the states, and in the armed forces and other security agencies;

Observes that, many federal agencies and parastatals do not comply with the principle of federal character in the composition of their staff and in the recruitment of new ones;

Observes that, many state governments do not observe the principle of Federal Character in the composition of government and recruitment of staff into government establishments, agencies and parastatals;

Observes that, the Senate Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs has received petitions against many federal agencies and many state governments on the failure of the affected agencies, states and their governors, to observe the principle of Federal Character in the composition of their workforce and in making appointments into political and public offices in their states;

Observes that, the continuous neglect of the principle of federal character in the composition and recruitment of staff into government agencies and parastatals at various levels of government is inimical to the unity and corporate existence of the country;

Convinced that, the implementation of the principle of Federal Character at all levels of government in Nigeria is fundamental to the corporate survival of Nigeria as a nation, being a veritable tool for national integration;

Convinced that, the strict implementation of the principle of Federal Character in government establishments would ensure social justice, fairness and equity and engender peace and harmony among different nationalities existing in the country and the various ethnic, religious and sectional groups existing in each state of the federation;

Further convinced that, it is highly necessary for a public hearing to be conducted by the Senate, to investigate the genuineness of the complaints received so far on the non-implementation of the principle of Federal Character in the country and the impediments confronting the Federal Character Commission in the implementation of the principle and recommend ways of halting or minimizing the violation of the principle;

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. *Mandate* the Senate Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs to conduct a public hearing on the complaints received on the non-implementation of the principle of Federal Character at all levels of government in Nigeria, the success so far recorded and the impediments confronting the Federal Character Commission in the enforcement and implementation of the principle and make recommendations on how to stop or minimize the violation of the principle in government establishments at all levels in Nigeria;
- ii. *Direct* the Senate Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs to submit its report to the Senate after concluding the said public hearing.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A BILL for an Act to Provide for the ESTABLISHMENT, PRESERVATION and CONTROL of NATIONAL GRAZING RESERVES and STOCK ROUTES and the CREATION of NATIONAL GRAZING RESERVE COMMISSION and for Purposes Connected Therewith, 2009 (SB.114) – *Second Reading*
Senator Zaynab A. Kure (*Niger South*)

2. A BILL for an Act to **ESTABLISH** the **NATIONAL UNITY AND PEACE CORPS (NUPC)** to **UPHOLD** and **IMPART** the Attributes of the National Ethics for Restituting Diligence and Industry in the Citizenry, and **Render** such other Social Services to enhance the Power, Ideals and Good Name of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 (SB. 194) – *Second Reading*
Senator Nkechi Nwaogu (Abia Central)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Banking, Insurance & other Financial Institutions	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 323 Senate New Building
2.	Commerce	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 312 Senate New Building
3.	Petroleum Resources (Down Stream)	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 107 Senate New Building
4.	Public Accounts	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Hearing Room 4
5.	Finance	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009	10.00 a.m	Committee Room 221 Senate New Building
6.	Public Accounts	Wednesday, 6th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Hearing Room 4
7.	Cooperation, Integration in Africa and NEPAD	Thursday, 7th May, 2009	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 426 Senate New Building