



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

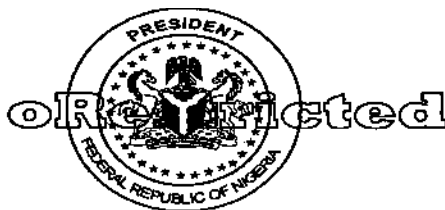
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 16th December, 2008

1. The Senate met at 10.15 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday 11th December, 2008 and approved same

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Message from Mr President:**
The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from the President Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which he read as follows:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134/NASS/SEN/I-19

December 11th 2008

*The President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.*

Dear Brother,

CONFIRMATION OF MINISTERIAL NOMINEES

In accordance with Section 147(2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, I have the honour to forward the under-listed Ministerial nominees for consideration for Senate confirmation.

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>State</i>
1.	Chief Ufot Ekaette	Akwa Ibom
2.	Chief Achike Udenwa	Imo
3.	Mr. Rilwan Olanrewaju Babalola	Osun

Copies of their Curriculum Vitae are attached herewith.

It is my hope that this exercise will receive the usual kind expeditious consideration of the Distinguished Members of the Senate of the Federal Republic.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed:

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

4. Committee on Aviation:

Report on the Utilization of N19.5 Billion Intervention Fund:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Aviation, on the Utilization of N19.5 Billion Intervention Fund Released in 2006 by the Federal Government for the Development of the Aviation Industry (*Senator Anyim Ude*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

5. Privileges of the Floor:

(i) *Admission of Special Advisers on National Assembly Matters to Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces:*

Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit the Special Advisers on National Assembly Matters to Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Senator Abba Aji and Hon. Cairo Ojugbana, to the floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(ii) *Admission of Ministerial Nominees:*

Motion made: That the Senate do suspend Rule 17(1) to admit the ministerial nominees to the floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

6. Confirmation of Nominations:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief, for the confirmation of the nominations of the following persons for appointment as Ministers of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria {(Rule 40(2))}:

S/No	Name	State
1.	Chief Achike Udenwa	Imo
2.	Chief Ufot Ekaette	Akwa Ibom
3.	Mr. Rilwan Olanrewaju Babalola	Osun

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to screen the Ministerial Nominees. (*Senate Leader*)

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

(Screening of Ministerial Nominee)

Nominee screened:

S/No	Name	State
1.	Chief Joseph Ufot Ekaette	Akwa Ibom

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole conducted public screening on Chief Joseph Ufot Ekaette from Akwa Ibom State for appointment as Minister of Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and deferred the screening of Chief Achike Udenwa (Imo State) and Mr Rilwan Olanrewaju Babalola (Osun State) to another legislative day.

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

7. State of the Economy:

Naira Depreciation and its Implications on the Nigeria Economy:

Privileges of the Floor:

- (i) *Admission of Special Advisers on National Assembly Matters to Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces:*

Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit the Special Advisers on National Assembly Matters to Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Senator Abba Aji and Hon. Cairo Ojugbana, to the Floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

- (ii) *Admission of Invitees:*

Motion made: That the Senate do suspend Rule 17(1) to admit the Honourable Minister of Finance, Chief Economic Adviser to Mr. President and the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria to the Floor of the Senate to brief the Senate on the depreciating value of the Naira and its implications on the Nigerian economy (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Honourable Minister of Finance, Dr. Shamsudeen Usman; Chief Economic Adviser to Mr. President, Dr. Tanimu Yakubu Kurfi and the Governor of Central Bank, Prof. Charles Soludo were admitted to the Floor of the Senate.

Extension of Time of Sitting:

Motion made: That the Senate this day do sit beyond the appointed time for the termination of the sitting of the Senate (Rule 13) (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to receive briefings from the Honourable Minister of Finance, Chief Economic Adviser to Mr. President and the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)**Briefings:**

Briefing by the Governor of Central Bank (CBN) on the depreciating value of the Naira and its implications on the Nigerian Economy.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole received briefings from the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on the depreciating value of the Naira and its implications on the Nigerian Economy.

The Session involved questions and answers while other related issues were also raised, addressed and discussed.

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

8. Adjournment:

And it being 3.45 p.m. the Senate President adjourned the Senate till Wednesday, 17th December, 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 3.45 p.m

David A. B. Mark, GCON

President,

Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.