



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 28th January, 2009

1. The Senate met at 10.20 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 27th January, 2009 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Oath of Membership and Oath of Allegiance:**
Senator-Elect, Ikechukwu Obiorah subscribed to the Oath of Membership and Oath of Allegiance to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senate Minority Leader, Senator Maina Ma'aji Lawan, drew the attention of the Senate to the sudden demise of Senator Mamman Bello Ali, the Executive Governor of Yobe State. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present a Motion on the matter.

Question that the Matter be debated forthwith, put and agreed to.

Motion:

Demise of Senator Mamman Ali (1958 - 2009):

Motion made : That the Senate notes with grief the demise of Senator Mamman Bello Ali, the Executive Governor of Yobe State, on Tuesday, 27th January, 2009 in a Florida Hospital, United States of America;

Notes that the Late Senator Mamman Bello Ali was born in Jimeta in 1958. He had his Primary and Secondary Education in Jimeta and Numan Crafts School and later attended the Kaduna Polytechnic where he acquired the Higher National Diploma (HND) and later bagged two degrees in Construction and Extension from Tuskegee University, Alabama, USA;

Notes Further that late Senator Mamman Bello Ali worked as a Senior Engineer with the then Borno State Ministry of Works and retired voluntarily in 1990 and ventured into private business as Executive Director, SDC Joint Venture and Managing Director, MAL Limited before he was elected as a Senator in 1990; and

Observes that late Senator Mamman Bello Ali, a Senator of the All Nigerian Peoples Party and Chairman of FCT and the Public Accounts Committees between 1999 to 2007, demonstrated intelligence, hard work and commitment in the advancement of the legislative process.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) Observe a minute in silence in honour of our departed colleague, Senator Mamman Bello Ali; and
- (ii) Send a high powered delegation to represent the Senate at the burial and to condole and commiserate with the family, people and Government of Yobe State (*Senator Maina Ma'aji Lawan*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe a minute in silence in honour of our departed colleague, Senator Mamman Bello Ali — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (ii):

Question: That the Senate do send a high powered delegation to represent the Senate at the burial and to condole and commiserate with the family, people and Government of Yobe State — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do observe a minute in silence in honour of our departed colleague, Senator Mamman Bello Ali; and
- (ii) That the Senate do send a high powered delegation to represent the Senate at the burial and to condole and commiserate with the family, people and Government of Yobe State (*S. Res/023/2/09*).

A minute silence accordingly observed.

5. Committee on National Security and Intelligence:

Report on the Private Detectives and Investigators Bill 2009 (SB. 63):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence on the Private Detectives and Investigators Bill 2009 (*Senator Nuhu Aliyu*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report accordingly Laid.

6. Committee on Gas:

Report on the Investigation into the Escravos Gas-to-Liquid (EGTL) Project:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Gas, on the Public Inquiry and Investigation in respect of a Motion on Escravos Gas-to-Liquid (EGTL) Project (*Senator Osita Izunaso*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report accordingly Laid.

7. Motion:

Auto Crash involving Officials and Footballers of the Jimeta United Football Club, Adamawa State:

Motion made: That the Senate notes with serious concern the tragic death of 14 players and officials of Jimeta United Football Club, Adamawa State Club in a ghastly motor accident at Riyom, Plateau State on Sunday, 25th January, 2009;

Notes also that the footballers and officials were on their way to Abuja to play a match against the Voice of Nigeria Football Club;

Further notes that they were rushing desperately so as not to miss the match in Abuja having passed the night at Jos as a result of the night-time curfew imposed on the city since last November bloody sectarian clash;

Alarmed that automobile accidents involving football clubs is ridding the country of talented sports men and women, as only recently 9 female footballers from Jos North LGA were burnt beyond recognition along Pankshin - Mangu Road in Plateau State, while 4 of the Kaduna Queens Club also perished along the same Jos Road;

Worried that lack of management, proper funding and welfare of our local league, and the poor state of Nigerian Roads has made the roads become death traps to motorists; and

Worried also that club owners take the issue of welfare for granted at the expense of the life of the footballers as they seem to be more concerned about the money the matches will generate into their pockets.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) Observe a minute silence in honour of the departed 14 footballers and officials of the Jimeta United Football Club;
- (ii) Express its grief over the incident and send a letter of condolence to the Government and people of Adamawa State; and
- (iii) Urge the Minister of Sports and Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) to establish a regulatory, monitoring and enforcement body that will regulate the activities of all Football Clubs across the country (*Senator Grace F. Bent*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

That the Senate do observe a minute silence in honour of the departed 14 footballers and officials of the Jimeta United Football Club — *Agreed to*.

Prayer (ii):

That the Senate do express its grief over the incident and send a letter of condolence to the Government and people of Adamawa State

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words “express its grief over the incident and” in line 1 (*Senator Heineken Lokpobiri*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Question on the prayer as amended, put and agreed to.

Prayer (iii):

That the Senate do urge the Minister of Sports and Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) to establish a regulatory, monitoring and enforcement body that will regulate the activities of all Football Clubs across the country.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out prayer (iii) (Senator Heineken Lokpobiri).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do observe a minute silence in honour of the departed 14 footballers and officials of the Jimeta United Football Club; and
- (ii) That the Senate do send a letter of condolence to the Government and people of Adamawa State (*S. Res/24/2/09*).

A minute silence in honour of the departed 14 footballers and officials of the Jimeta United Football Club accordingly observed.

8. Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the confirmation of the nomination of Mr. Humphrey Enemakwu Abah (Kogi State) as a Minister of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the request of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the request of Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the confirmation of the nomination of the Mr. Humphrey Enemakwu Abah (Kogi State) as a Minister of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the request and approved the nomination of the Mr. Humphrey Enemakwu Abah (Kogi State) as a Minister of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Question, that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be approved — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Confirmation of Nominee:**Question:**

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Humphrey Enemakwu Abah (Kogi State) as a Minister of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Humphrey Enemakwu Abah (Kogi State) as a Minister of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

9. Committee on Environment and Ecology:

Report on the National Climate Change Bill 2009 (SB. 24):

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Environment and Ecology, on the National Climate Change Bill 2009 (*Senator Grace F. Bent*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Environment and Ecology on the National Climate Change Bill 2009.

Debate:

Motion made: That the Senate do recommitte the Bill to the Committee on Environment and Ecology for further legislative action (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Chair to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Environment and Ecology on the National Climate Change Bill 2009 and directed that the Bill be recommitted to the Committee for further legislative action.

Question, that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be approved — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Bill accordingly recommitted to the Committee on Environment and Ecology for further legislative action.

10. **Committee on Aviation:**
Report of the Investigative Public hearing into the disbursement and utilization of the ₦19.5 Billion Intervention Fund:

Consideration of Report deferred to another legislative day.

11. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 29th January, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.15 p.m.

Dr. David A. B. Mark, GCON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.