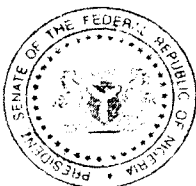




SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 10th January, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:14 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings (2) of Thursday, 15th December, 2016.
Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Oaths:**
Senator-Elect, Atai Aidoko Ali (*Kogi East*) took and subscribed to Oaths of Allegiance and Membership as required by law.
4. **Remarks by Senate President:**



President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria

WELCOME BACK SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, HIS EXCELLENCY, SENATOR (DR) ABUBAKAR BUKOLA SARAHI (CON) TO SENATORS OF THE 8TH SENATE ON RESUMPTION FROM 2016 END OF THE YEAR RECESS ON TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY, 2017.

Protocol:

1. *Distinguished colleagues, it is heartwarming for me to see you back in good health, refreshed and energised for the work ahead. Let me on behalf of myself and the entire leadership wish you and all Nigerians a very happy new year.*

2. 2016, was a very challenging year for all of us. But I assure you that the work we have done so far is gradually setting the stage for a greater and better 2017. Let me therefore, begin this address by thanking every one of you for the hard work and dedication exhibited in the last quarter of last year to keep the promise we made to all Nigerians that we would pass laws that would make the difference in their lives.
3. It is already historic that within the last quarter, which incidentally is the second quarter of this session, we all rolled up our sleeves, with sweat on our brows and successfully passed 49 bills through 3rd reading and 68 bills through second reading. This is a record setting feat, which has never been matched in the history of the National Assembly. That within a period of 4 months in the middle of the term of any past National Assembly, 49 bills are passed in a single quarter.
4. I want to especially thank all the committees who worked tirelessly to help us achieve this milestone. Let me also thank our President Muhammadu Buhari for showing faith with the work we are doing here at the National Assembly as he has already as at today signed into law 16 of the bills we have passed.
5. Distinguished colleagues, as long as our economy is still in recession, our work is not done. Because our people are still being laid off; so long as factories are closing shop; for as the hardship in the land continues to bite harder, investment continues to dwindle and the foreign exchange market remains fragmented, I will be demanding even much more from us to get all our economic reform bills passed. Ideally we would like to see them passed together with the 2017 budget. Let me therefore urge all our committees involved with our priority bills to double efforts to ensure that by the end of the first quarter of this year we will have these bills ready.
6. We promise to pass our priority economic reform bills to help aid our economic recovery. This is a promise we must keep. There are already, new NASSBER research findings projecting that our priority bills, will have an output impact equivalent to an average of 6.87% of GDP over a 5-year period on the economy. The average annual growth in jobs is estimated at approximately 7.55 million additional employments as well as an average of 16.42% reduction in Nigeria's poverty rate. Over the projected 5-year period, it is suggested that the reforms, which these bills would engender, may add an average of N3.76 Trillion to National incomes (National Disposable Income was N85.62 trillion in 2014), equivalent to 4.39% of 2014 figures.
7. These statistics make the delivery of these bills vital and confirm evidently that we have got our priorities right so far. It is hoped that as we begin to turn our focus now towards the passage of the 2017 budget, these bills will be implemented simultaneously with the budget to enable us exit the recession quickly.
8. It is therefore imperative that we immediately begin work earnestly on the MTEF to ensure passage by the end of the week. In this way, consideration and debate on the 2017 budget will immediately follow in the 3 "sitting days" of the next week. It is our hope that we will with this budget begin the implementation of the report of the Committee on Budget Reforms, which has since submitted its report. This will enable more Nigerians participate in the budget consideration process, deepen the review and create the necessary efficiencies we expect from our budget implementation.

9. Distinguished colleagues, there is hardly a point reiterating the importance of making the 2017 budget the most successful budget we have ever passed, neither is it important to emphasise the need to have this budget back on the desk of the executive on time for implementation. As you may be aware, based on the recommendations of the Budget Reform Committee, we are working towards ensuring that budgets are prepared and submitted timely, so that implementation will follow a regular fiscal cycle. In this regard, the National Assembly will not tolerate agencies of government not submitting their budgets within the budget period. This is why I urge all agencies yet to submit their budgets to do so quickly as budgets not received within time may have to wait for the next budget cycle.
10. The budget is the most critical instrument within our public context for economic reordering. It is an effective tool to stimulate the economy, ensure an even distribution of development across the country; and give the "Made In Nigeria" initiative the impetus to survive and in the long term, sustain itself. In this particular regard, the Senate has played its part by passing the amendment to the Procurement Act for which we are awaiting concurrence by the House and for the immediate assent of the President. Once this happens, we will not rest at simply assigning it back to the relevant committee but rather, we all will play our part to ensure that all government agencies comply with the law. I for one, intend to put the full weight of my Office behind this initiative to build the trust and ensuing patronage of Nigerians in goods and products made by our own people. I truly believe that this is the singular policy that can play a key role in getting us out of this recession, provide the needed jobs; and keep the economy going.
11. The issue of policy inconsistencies remains an issue that continues to challenge our business environment. I have in the past argued and still hold the view that for a private sector-led economy to thrive, we need to reform our policy environment to give investors and our businessmen and women ample adjustment time to make informed investment decisions rather than have uncertainties. This is especially important in the agriculture and solid mineral sectors where we have significant economies of scale and opportunities for diversification of our economy. In view of this we shall, in consultation with stakeholders across board be looking at legislative measures that could increase the potential for a more stable policy environment starting with the agricultural businesses and solid mineral resources sectors of our economy.
12. Distinguished Colleagues, before we left for the break, myself, a select few of us and stakeholders in the power sector met to get an understanding of why no progress has been made thus far despite the best intention; and the revelations were mind-boggling. There had been errors in the privatisation process and the model by which the power sector is being operated; whether at generation or distribution, will never take us where we need to be. It has failed and nobody appears willing to tackle the issue head-on towards a permanent resolution. I have mandated the Senate Committee on Power to continue the consultation with the relevant parties to forge a path to solving our crippling power deficit. After all, if we are going to drive Nigerian industry, we need to resolve this and fast.
13. My dear colleagues, while we have our attention on the economy and are working with sweat on our brows to improve it for the betterment of our people, we cannot lose sight of the callous and growing circle of violence across the country, especially now in Southern Kaduna. We condemn in totality the depravity being exhibited on the streets of Kafanchan. This Senate will not pay lip service to it neither will it sit idly by and watch innocent Nigerians being slaughtered on the basis of their religion, ethnic group or political persuasion. No, we will not stand aloof. Let me therefore; use this opportunity to call on

the leadership in the State to use its authority and constitutional mandate to bring to immediate halt the growing orgy of violence that has enveloped Southern Kaduna. This new theatre of conflict is one too many and must be nipped in the bud. Thankfully, a motion to this effect is already before us. We will ensure a thorough investigation is carried out to unravel the issues and advise government appropriately on the matter in order to ensure that all those found culpable are severely dealt with irrespective of who may be behind them. This will ensure there is no repeat of this madness and assure the people of Kaduna that injustice and impunity will not be allowed to triumph over our collective will to maintain our national unity and coherence.

14. The Petroleum Industry continues to be critical to the health of our economy. This is why the Senate is urging the Executive to take positive steps to begin pen and meaningful dialogue with those aggrieved in the Niger Delta to proffer lasting solutions that will help us take advantage of the emerging international oil market outlook to revamp our economic fortunes. The proposed engagement we suggest must be sincere, constructive, open, and confidence building. This Senate is willing to assist and play whatever role necessary to facilitate a successful agreement that would help us see to the end of the lingering conflict.

15. Distinguished colleagues, I would want us during this session to also pay attention to the protection and preservation of consumer rights. The current situation where consumers' rights are violated and treated with indignity must stop. We are prepared to defend the right of the Nigerians to receive a superior quality of product or service purchased with their hard-earned resources. We will not stand for the exploitation of consumers and we have already shown that we are unafraid to tackle such an issue whether perpetrated by public or private sector service-providers; as was the case of the intended data tariff hike proposed by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) which we moved swiftly to prevent. We want people to know that they can run to us and we will in turn rise in defense of the Nigerian consumer who should be respected as a driving force in the economy.

16. I cannot end this brief remark of mine without emphasising on the need for us to pursue and conclude the ongoing constitutional review process which we will conclude by the end of this session. We must do this to ensure that our people begin to enjoy the benefits of the intended reforms which will help strengthen our unity, increase our prosperity and opportunity as we expand our liberty and happiness across the country.

17. Finally, distinguished colleagues, let me thank you all for your unflinching focus and perseverance in the way you have conducted yourself as we march towards the attainment of most of our laid priorities. Though there have been many distractions on the way and unmerited traducers unleashed at you to weaken your resolve, you have remained resolute and un-detachable to our collective goal. This is a reflection of what can be achieved if we keep the focus before the end of our tenure. Like I said when we started this journey, history beckons and we cannot afford to lose sight of the goal.

18. Thank you for your attention and God bless Nigeria.

(Signed)

Senator (Dr.) Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria.

5. **Announcements:**(a) **Obituary:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Abdullahi A. Sabi (*Niger North*) as follows:

**COMMITTEE ON MEDIA AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS****OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Senate Committee on Media and Public Affairs announced with deep feelings the untimely demise of one of its Senate Press Corp members, Aishatu Helen Avosuahi Ogendegbe. She was an AIT female Video Camera Operator, and the only Female Video Operator in this hallow chamber.

She covered the Senate for the past four (4) years and did so cheerfully with dedication and high sense of duty and professionalism.

Aishatu died on Friday, 6th january, 2017 in Abuja after being ill for over four months.

She is survived by children and siblings. She hails from Kogi State.

We pray that the Almighty God will grant her eternal grace and the family the fortitude to bear the loss.

(Signed)

Senator Dr. Sabi Aliyu Abdullahi
Chairman

(b) **Public Hearing:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Donald O. Alasoadura (*Ondo Central*) as follows:

**Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)**

National Assembly Complex
Three-Arms Zone P.M.B. 141 Garki,
Abuja-Nigeria.

10th January, 2017

*His Excellency,
Sen. Abubakar Bukola Saraki,
President of the Senate,
Federal Republic of Nigeria,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.*

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE UNLAWFUL AND WILLFUL MISAPPROPRIATION AND CRIMINAL WITHHOLDING OF PUBLIC REVENUE BY THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION AND NIGERIAN PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (NPDC) FROM 2013 TO DATE

I write to invite Your Excellency, to declare open the Public Hearing Sessions scheduled as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 11th January, 2017

Time: 12 noon

Venue: Conference Room 0.22 Senate New Building, National Assembly Complex, Abuja.

Please, accept the assurances of my warmest regards.

(Signed)

Senator Omotayo D. Alasoadura
Chairman

(c) Vote of No Confidence/Notice of Change of Leadership:

This is to inform Your Excellency and the Senate that, after several meetings held on Monday, 9th January, 2017, and upon due deliberations and consultations, the All Progressives Party (APC) Caucus of the Senate hereby wishes to notify you of our Resolution of VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE on the Senate Leader and the immediate change in the Leadership of the Senate; that the new Senate Leader be and is now SENATOR AHMAD I. LAWAN representing Yobe North Senatorial District of Yobe State.

Accept our esteemed regards and best assurances.

Your faithfully,

(Signed)

- i. Senator Dino Melaye
- ii. Senator Ibrahim D. Abdullahi
- iii. Senator Francis A. Alimikhena
- iv. Senator Suleiman N. Nazif
- v. Senator Donald O. Alasoadura
- vi. Senator Benjamin C. Uwajumogu
- vii. Senator Mustapha Bukar
- viii. Senator Rafiu A. Adebayo
- ix. Senator Jibrin I. Barau
- x. Senator Baba Kaka B. Garbai
- xi. Senator Usman B. Nafada
- xii. Senator Kabiru G. Marafa
- xiii. Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa
- xiv. Senator Tijjani Y. Kaura
- xv. Senator Suleiman O. Hunkuyi
- xvi. Senator Ubali M. Shitu
- xvii. Senator Shehu Sani
- xviii. Senator Magnus N. Abe
- xix. Senator Aliyu S. Abdullahi
- xx. Senator Umar I. Kurfi
- xxi. Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf
- xxii. Senator Joshua C. Dariye
- xxiii. Senator Ibrahim A. Gobir
- xxiv. Senator Shaba M. Lafiagi
- xxv. Senator Danjuma M. Goje
- xxvi. Senator Isah H. Misau
- xxvii. Senator Babajide C. Omoworare
- xxviii. Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi

- xxix. Senator Kabiru I. Gaya
- xxx. Senator Mallam A. Wakili
- xxxi. Senator Ahmad R. Sani
- xxxii. Senator Sabo Mohammed
- xxxiii. Senator Ahmad I. Lawan
- xxxiv. Senator Olarenwaju A. Tejuoso
- xxxv. Senator Rabiu M. Musa
- xxxvi. Senator David Umaru
- xxxvii. Senator Abdullahi A. Gumel
- xxxviii. Senator Binta M. Garba

6. **Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator George T. Sekibo (*Rivers East*) drew the attention of the Senate to the recently concluded re-run elections of National Assembly Members in Rivers State. He thanked Senators of the 8th Assembly for their interventions in ensuring that the re-run elections were held against all odds without which, he and the other National Assembly representatives from Rivers State would not have been here today.

7. **Committee on Public Accounts:**

Report on the Screening of a Nominee:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Account on the screening of the nomination of Mr. Anthony Mkpe Ayine for appointment as the Auditor-General of the Federation (*Senator Andy E. Uba — Anambra South*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. **Committee on Marine Transport:**

Reports on the following Agencies:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Reports of the Committee on Marine Transport on

- a. National Inland Water Ways Authority Act CAP N47 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2016 (SB. 240); and
- b. Nigerian Ports and Harbours Bill, 2016 (SB. 243) (*Senator Suleiman M. Nazif — Bauchi North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Reports Laid.

9. **Committee on Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy:**

Report on the Screening of Chairman and Commissioners for the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy on the Screening of Chairman and Commissioners for Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC):

S/N	Name	Position	Zone
1.	Prof. Akintunde I. Akinwande	Chairman	South West
2.	Sanusi Garba	Vice Chairman	North West
3.	Nathan Rogers Shatti	Commissioner	North East
4.	Dr. Moses Arigu	Commissioner	North Central
5.	Dafe C. Akpeneve	Commissioner	South-South
6.	Prof. Frank Okafor	Commissioner	South East
7.	Dr. Musilliu O. Oseni	Commissioner	South West

(*Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe — Abia South*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

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

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy on the Screening of Chairman and Commissioners for Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).

Nominees recommended for confirmation:

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|------------|
| 1. | Prof. Akintunde I. Akinwande (<i>Chairman</i>) (<i>South West</i>) | — | Negated. |
| 2. | Sanusi Garba (<i>Vice Chairman</i>) (<i>North West</i>) | — | Agreed to. |
| 3. | Nathan Rogers Shatti (<i>Commissioner</i>) (<i>North East</i>) | — | Agreed to. |
| 4. | Dr. Moses Arigu (<i>Commissioner</i>) (<i>North Central</i>) | — | Agreed to. |
| 5. | Dafe C. Akpeneve (<i>Commissioner</i>) (<i>South-South</i>) | — | Agreed to. |
| 6. | Prof. Frank Okafor (<i>Commissioner</i>) (<i>South East</i>) | — | Agreed to. |
| 7. | Dr. Musilliu O. Oseni (<i>Commissioner</i>) (<i>South West</i>) | — | Agreed to. |

Chairman 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 Power, Steel Development and Metallurgy on the Screening of Chairman and Commissioners for Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and approved the nominations of:

1. Sanusi Garba (*Vice Chairman*) (*North West*)
2. Nathan Rogers Shatti (*Commissioner*) (*North East*)
3. Dr. Moses Arigu (*Commissioner*) (*North Central*)
4. Dafe C. Akpeneve (*Commissioner*) (*South-South*)
5. Prof. Frank Okafor (*Commissioner*) (*South East*)
6. Dr. Musilliu O. Oseni (*Commissioner*) (*South West*)

The Committee of the Whole rejected the nomination of Prof. Akintunde I. Akinwande (*South West*) as Chairman for Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).

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

Confirmation of nominations:

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Sanusi Garba (*North West*) for appointment as a Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Sanusi Garba (North West) for appointment as a Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Nathan Rogers Shatti (*North East*) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Nathan Rogers Shatti (North East) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Moses Arigu (North Central) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Dr. Moses Arigu (North Central) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dafe C. Akpeneve (South-South) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Dafe C. Akpeneve (South-South) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Prof. Frank Okafor (South East) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Prof. Frank Okafor (South East) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Musilliu O. Oseni (South West) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC)?” — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Dr. Musilliu O. Oseni (South West) for appointment as a Commissioner of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) accordingly confirmed.

10. Motions:

(a) *The Planned Closure of the Abuja Airport:*

Motion made: That the Senate notes with concern the decision of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria, (FAAN) to close the NNAMDI AZIKWE International Airport, Abuja for Six Weeks, beginning from March 6, 2017;

informed that the essence of the said closure is to carry out repairs on the only runway at the airport which is reported to be in a deplorable state;

worried that a six weeks outright closure of a major and the only airport in the nation's Federal Capital can trigger untold hardships on International and Local air travelers and consequently dent the nation's image;

concerned that a complete shut-down of the airport will impact negatively on international trade and related activities, with a multiplier effect that can exert further pressure on an already recessed national economy;

aware of the logistics and security challenges the diversion of Abuja bound flights to Kaduna will throw up, including endangering the lives and properties of international and local air travelers who will be forced to travel by land from Kaduna to Abuja;

satisfied that all the options have not been exhausted to avoid the shutdown of the only airport at our nation's capital for six weeks, including the option of a technical package to allow skeletal air operations at the airport, while most repairs on the runway are executed at night;

aware that major repairs in the past have been carried out without closure of the airport, one more major repair without closure will afford the government the needed time for the construction of a second runway as a permanent solution; and

determined to explore all other possible options that can avert the planned total closure of a strategic national port as Nnamdi Azikwe Airport for six weeks with all its attendant consequences, including breach of international conventions and treaties.

Accordingly resolves to:

invite the Minister of Transportation, Minister of State, Aviation, Minister of Works, Power and Housing, Minister of Federal Capital Territory, the Chief of Air staff and the Managing Director, FAAN and NAMA to meet with this Distinguished Senate and provide details on the planned closure as well as to explore other options that can avoid a total closure of the Airport (*Senator Hope O. Uzodinma — Imo West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do invite the Minister of Transportation, Minister of State, Aviation, Minister of Works, Power and Housing, Minister of Federal Capital Territory, the Chief of Air staff and the Managing Director, FAAN and NAMA to meet with this Distinguished Senate and provide details on the planned closure as well as to explore other options that can avoid a total closure of the Airport — *Agreed to*.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words “and provide details on the planned closure as well as” and *insert* the words “within two days” instead thereof (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

Resolved:

That the Senate do invite the Minister of Transportation, Minister of State, Aviation, Minister of Works, Power and Housing, Minister of Federal Capital Territory, the Chief of Air staff and the Managing Director, FAAN and NAMA to meet with this Distinguished Senate within two days to explore other options that can avoid a total closure of the Airport (*S/Res/078/02/17*).

(b) *The Recent Killings in Southern Kaduna:*

Motion made: That the Senate notes that since 2011 various communities in Southern Kaduna Senatorial District of Kaduna State have been consistently attacked by Herdsmen resulting in deaths, injuries, loss of properties and displacements of the communities;

further notes that Southern Kaduna Senatorial District is a zone of peaceful communities that accommodate all Nigerians and foreigners alike and not hostile to anyone or groups;

aware that on the 23rd December, 2016 and even as we speak, communities of Ambam, Gaska, Dangoma, Tsonje, Pasankori, Gidan Waya and Farin Gada of Jama'a and Kaura Local Government Area have been under serious attack by the herdsmen resulting in several deaths, injuries, and wanton destruction of properties worth billions of naira;

concerned that the killings of citizens of Southern Kaduna amount to serious violations of the right to life, right to security of human persons, to the respect of the dignity inherent in human being and right to property not only guaranteed by the 1999 Constitutions as Amended but also of the African Charter on Human and People's Right and the International Convention on Civil and Political Right, to which Nigeria is a party;

aware that a total number of eight hundred and eight (808) persons were killed in 53 villages across the four Local Government Areas in the affected areas while 57 people were injured, farm produce estimated at 5.5 Billion Naira was destroyed and a total of 1,422 houses and 16 churches were burnt during the attack;

aware also that the last one year has witnessed a harvest of killings by these marauding herdsmen with several cases of massacre in Agatu in Benue State, Uzo Uwani in Enugu State, with several attacks in Taraba, Delta and Edo States to mention but a few;

observes that this deliberate systematic killing demands the awakening of Nigerians across the country to avoid a repeat of what happened-in Darfur Region of Sudan; and

worried that Nigerian collective humanity is being debased as exemplified by the killings in Southern Kaduna.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the deceased victims of the attacks;
- (ii) call on the Federal Government to take urgent measures to secure the right to life, right to security and dignity of human persons and right to property of citizens of Southern Kaduna and to prevent further attacks by herdsmen and other unknown perpetrators;
- (iii) urge the Federal Government to carry out an effective investigation into the circumstances surrounding the killings and to identify the perpetrators and bring them to justice, and to provide reparation to victims;
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to provide a frame of security for the protection of life to protect the life of those individuals at risk from unwarranted attacks;
- (v) call on the Federal Government to rebuild the ravaged city of Southern Kaduna; and
- (vi) urge the Federal Government to establish a Joint Security Patrol of Military, Police, Civil Defence and Civilian JTF for constant Patrol and surveillance of the affected areas (*Senator Danjuma La'ah — Kaduna South*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the deceased victims of the attacks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to take urgent measures to secure the right to life, right to security and dignity of human persons and right to property of citizens of Southern Kaduna and to prevent further attacks by herdsmen and other unknown perpetrators.

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to carry out an effective investigation into the circumstances surrounding the killings and to identify the perpetrators and bring them to justice, and to provide reparation to victims.

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to provide a frame of security for the protection of life to protect the life of those individuals at risk from unwarranted attacks.

Proposed Resolution (v):

Question: That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to rebuild the ravaged city of Southern Kaduna.

Proposed Resolution (vi):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to establish a Joint Security' Patrol of Military, Police, Civil Defence and Civilian JTF for constant Patrol and surveillance of the affected areas.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Proposed Resolutions (ii),(iii),(iv),(v) and (vi) and *insert* the following instead thereof: "Constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to look into the remote and immediate causes surrounding the crisis in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the country" (*Senator Ike Ekweremadu — Enugu West*).

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

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

"Condemn in strong terms the destruction of lives and properties in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the country" (*Senator Godswill O. Akpabio — Akwa Ibom North-West*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the deceased victims of the attacks;
- (ii) constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to look into the remote and immediate causes surrounding the crisis in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the country
- (iii) condemn in strong terms the destruction of lives and properties in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the country (*S/Res/079/02/17*).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

(c) Urgent need to halt the Incessant Flight Cancellations, Delays and ill Treatment of Passengers by Airline Operators in the country:

Motion made: That the Senate notes with deep concern the rising level of flight delays and cancellations that have become prevalent in the aviation industry lately;

observes with dismay that this practice is bringing untold hardship on the ordinary aviation consumer with very little compensation or consequential restitution for lost man-hours and the impact on the overall health of the economy;

observes that in some instances passengers have been made to wait for 9 hours and more at the airport only to be informed that their flights have been cancelled;

further observes that a lot of the hardship and economic losses go unquestioned, with some of the largest domestic airline operators as the biggest offenders;

dismayed that it has become a norm for flights to be cancelled or delayed and when a flight is on schedule it is celebrated. The airline carriers due to this norm are no longer apologetic for their actions but will rather treat passengers with perfunctory apology;

aware that some of the reasons that have been given for this problem include; the lack of some basic equipment and facilities are faulty instrument landing system, landing aids, airfield lighting, perimeter fencing, adequate fire cover, screening machines, CCTV and even passenger facilitation equipment like flight information display system and seats for departing passengers;

also aware that investigations have revealed that only five airports have efficient and well-lit airfield lighting which include Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt, Abuja and Katsina. Without airfield lighting, airplanes cannot land in an airport in the night;

mindful of the current aviation fuel scarcity which has forced airlines to cancel 50 per cent of their flights as the product is rationed by oil marketers. For months now, airlines have experienced disruptions in their flights due to inadequate supply of Jet A1. This has adversely affected the airlines, the passengers and the nation's economy in general;

conscious that other reasons may be exacerbating the challenges which includes poor management, lack of enough aircrafts in their fleet lack of maintenance facilities, inability to access funds for expansion of their airlines, lack of feasibility study before embarking on airline business, lack of financial management, indiscipline, introducing charges that cannot be explained and government policies, which often time somersault thereby affecting the operations of airlines; and

observes that failure to arrest and put a stop to this problem brings about dwindling confidence of passengers on domestic airlines which leads to limited business travels and harm severely the already struggling Nigerian economy.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Aviation to thoroughly investigate the root causes of these challenges in the aviation industry with a view to halting the observed inimical practices in the industry;
- (ii) urge the Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria to immediately put in place the necessary regulatory mechanisms to arrest the dwindling fortunes in the industry; and
- (iii) urge the Consumer Protection Commission (CPC) to take necessary steps to protect the rights and privileges of Nigerian consumers in the economy as a whole (*Senator Bala Ibn Na'Allah — Kebbi South*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Aviation to thoroughly investigate the root causes of these challenges in the aviation industry with a view to halting the observed inimical practices in the industry — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria to immediately put in place the necessary regulatory mechanisms to arrest the dwindling fortunes in the industry — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Consumer Protection Commission (CPC) to take necessary steps to protect the rights and privileges of Nigerian consumers in the economy as a whole --- *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Aviation to thoroughly investigate the root causes of these challenges in the aviation industry with a view to halting the observed inimical practices in the industry;
- (ii) urge the Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria to immediately put in place the necessary regulatory mechanisms to arrest the dwindling fortunes in the industry; and
- (iii) urge the Consumer Protection Commission (CPC) to take necessary steps to protect the rights and privileges of Nigerian consumers in the economy as a whole (S/Res/080/02/17).

(d) ***Ban on the Importation of Vehicles through the Land Borders into the Country:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(e) ***Urgent need to Resolve Ladoke Akintola University Strike:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(f) ***Deplorable State of the National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(g) ***Cancer Treatment Infrastructure Crisis:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(h) ***Need for the Re-construction and Dualization of the Makurdi-9th Mile Trunk "A" Federal Highway:***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

(i) ***Urgent need to Re-organise Pension Transitional Arrangements Directorate (PTAD):***

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 11th January, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
(Deputy Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:10 p.m.

Abubakar Olubukola Saraki, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.