



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 26th January, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10 39 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 25th January, 2017.
Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Announcements:**
 - (a) **Northern Senators' Forum:**
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Abdullahi Adamu (Nasarawa West) as follows:



NORTHERN SENATORS FORUM

26th January, 2017

Your Excellency,
The President of the Senate,

NOTICE OF MEETING

This is to inform the members of the Northern Senators' Forum that the meeting of its members that was cancelled yesterday due to the Budget's Debate is rescheduled to take place as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 1st February, 2017
Venue: Room 231, New Senate Wing
Time: 2pm prompt (Immediately after plenary)

Yours faithfully,
(Signed)
Chairman
Senator Abdullahi Adamu

(b) Leadership Meeting with Committee Chairmen:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) as follows:



THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

This is to inform all Standing Committee Chairmen that there will be a meeting with the Leadership of the Senate scheduled as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 31st January, 2017

Venue: Conference Room 022 (Zero Floor) Senate New Building

Time: 2:00 pm

Attendance is mandatory.

(Signed)

SENATOR IKE EKWEREMADU
DEPUTY SENATE PRESIDENT

(c) Chairmen of Standing Committees:

The Senate President named the following Senators as Chairmen of the following Standing Committees:

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|-------|---------------------------|---|--|
| (i) | Senator Atai A. Aidoko | — | Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) |
| (ii) | Senator George T. Sekibo | — | Interior |
| (iii) | Senator Mohammed A. Ndume | — | Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) |
| (iv) | Senator Magnus N. Abe | — | Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) |
| (v) | Senator Abubakar Kyari | — | Defence |

4. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator David Umaru (*Niger East*) drew the attention of the Senate to the Personal Explanation of Tuesday, 17th January, 2017 by Senator Bala Ibn Na'Allah (*Kebbi South*) on the non-payment of four months salaries of Judges by the Federal Government. The matter was referred to the Committees on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters; and Finance. This led the Joint Committee to visit the National Judicial Council and the Federal Ministry of Finance to investigate the issue raised. He stated that the Committee discovered that as at 17th January, 2017 there was no outstanding unpaid salaries in the Judicial Arm of Government.

5. Committee on Anti-Corruption and Financial Crime:

Report on the Confirmation of Appointment:

Presentation of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

6. Motion:

Irregularities in the Awards of Contracts by the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP):

Motion made: That the Senate notes with serious concern the irregularities in the award of contract by the BPP;

desirous to award contracts for ten (10) and thirteen (13) projects for the construction and rehabilitation projects of roads and bridges in the first and second batch of same projects contained in the Ministry's 2016 budget implementation. The Ministry of Power, Works and Housing requested vide letters dated 7th and 15th November, 2016 respectively, the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) for due process certificate to award contracts for ten (10) and thirteen (13) projects for the construction and rehabilitation under the 2016 Budget Implementation;

observes that the BPP in the exercise of its mandate in accordance with Sections 5 and 6 of the Public Procurement Act 2007, informed the Ministry that there was no objection to their request but later wrote back to the Ministry that due process certificate of "no objection" cannot be granted to the Ministry in award of the said contracts;

observes that the BPP in contravention of the Public Procurement Act went beyond its mandate to award the contracts to companies not recommended by the procuring entity for instance, the procuring entity recommended DEUX PROJECT LTD. for the rehabilitation of Numan - Jalingo Road for ₦11.7 billion, the BPP awarded the contract to ROCK Bridge Construction Ltd at ₦12.8 billion, whereas the Ministry recommended the rehabilitation of Nenwe - Nomhe - Nburubu Nara Road Project spur to Obeagu Oduma to DON - MACHRIS Global resources Ltd at ₦5.1 billion the BPP awarded it to Arab Contractors Nig. Ltd at ₦6.4 billion; and

aware that the recommended contract sums by the Ministry were already high, and which ought to have been ordinarily reviewed downwards, but BPP went ahead and reviewed the contracts upward and subsequently awarded the contracts to companies not recommended by the procuring entity in strict violation of Section 19 of the Public Procurement Act.

Accordingly resolves to:

direct the Committee on Public Procurement to carry out a comprehensive investigation into the matter (*Senator Dino Melaye — Kogi West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do direct the Committee on Public Procurement to carry out a comprehensive investigation into the matter — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do direct the Committee on Public Procurement to carry out a comprehensive investigation into the matter (*S/Res/085/02/17*).

7. 2017 Appropriation Bill, 2017:

Motion made: That the Senate do resume debate on a Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦7,298,507,709,937 (Seven Trillion, Two Hundred and Ninety-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million, Seven Hundred and Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty Seven Naira) only, of which ₦419,020,648,000 (Four Hundred and Nineteen Billion, and Twenty Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand Naira) only is for Statutory Transfers, ₦1,663,885,430,499 (One Trillion, Six Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Five Million, Four Hundred and Thirty Thousand, Four Hundred and Ninety-Nine Naira) only is for Debt Service, ₦177,460,296,707 (One Hundred and Seventy-Seven Billion, Four Hundred and Sixty Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seven Naira) only is for Sinking Fund for maturing bonds, ₦2,979,151,756,196 (Two Trillion, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Billion, One Hundred and Fifty-One Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand, One Hundred and Ninety-Six Naira) only is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,058,989,578,536 (Two Trillion and Fifty-Eight Billion, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Nine Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight

Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Naira) only is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure (exclusive of capital expenditure in Statutory Transfers) for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2017 be read the Second Time (3rd Allotted Day) (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

The following Senators made contributions:

- (i) Senator Baba Kaka B. Garbai
- (ii) Senator Mohammed Hassan
- (iii) Senator Abdullahi Adamu
- (iv) Senator Godswill O. Akpabio
- (v) Senator Ibrahim A. Gobir
- (vi) Senator Binta Masi Garba
- (vii) Senator George Akume
- (viii) Senator Mohammed S. Lafiagi
- (ix) Senator Ben Murray-Bruce
- (x) Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi
- (xi) Senator Abdullahi A. Gumel
- (xii) Senator Bukar Abba Ibrahim
- (xiii) Senator Suleiman M. Nazif
- (xiv) Senator Adesoji R. Akanbi
- (xv) Senator Kabiru I. Gaya
- (xvi) Senator James E. Manager
- (xvii) Senator Hope O. Uzodinma
- (xviii) Senator Benjamin C. Uwajumogu
- (xix) Senator Ovie A. Omo-Agege
- (xx) Senator Ahmad M. Abubakar
- (xxi) Senator Theodore A. Orji
- (xxii) Senator Jonah D. Jang
- (xxiii) Senator Foster Ogola
- (xxiv) Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf

Extension of Time:

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

Question put and agreed to.

- (xxv) Senator Joseph G. Dada
- (xxvi) Senator Ibrahim D. Abdullahi
- (xxvii) Senator Mustapha Bukar
- (xxviii) Senator Danjuma Laah
- (xxix) Senator Isiaka A. Adeleke
- (xxx) Senator Jeremiah T. Useni
- (xxxi) Senator Danladi S. Abubakar
- (xxxii) Senator Gershon O. H. Bassey
- (xxxiii) Senator Ahmed S. Ogembe
- (xxxiv) Senator Obinna J. Ogba
- (xxxv) Senator Abdul-Aziz M. Nyako
- (xxxvi) Senator Isah H. Misau
- (xxxvii) Senator Andy E. Uba

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Appropriations to report within Three (3) weeks.

8. Adjournment:

And it being 2:57 p.m. the Senate President adjourned Plenary till Tuesday, 21st February, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 2:57 p.m.

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