



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 6th April, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:35 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 5th April, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Conference Committee:**

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on National Assembly Budget and Research Office (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017:

(i)	Senator Emmanuel I. Paulker	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator John O. Enoh	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi	—	Member
(v)	Senator Suleiman M. Nazif	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Babajide C. Omoworare	—	Member

(b) **Conference Committee:**

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017:

(i)	Senator Oluremi S. Tinubu	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Bukar Abba Ibrahim	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Suleiman O. Hunkuyi	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Rose O. Oko	—	Member
(v)	Senator Abubakar Kyari	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi	—	Member

(c) **Conference Committee:**

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Dangerous Drugs Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (Concurrence):

(i)	Senator Joshua M. Lidani	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Philip A. Gyunka	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Donald O. Alasoadura	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Kabiru G. Marafa	—	Member
(v)	Senator Ogola Foster	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Suleiman O. Hunkuyi	—	Member

(d) Conference Committee:

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Currency Conversion (Freezing Orders) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (Concurrence):

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|-------|--------------------------------|---|----------|
| (i) | Senator Ibrahim A. Rafiu | — | Chairman |
| (ii) | Senator Umar I. Kurfi | — | Member |
| (iii) | Senator Rilwan A. Adesoji | — | Member |
| (iv) | Senator Abubakar A. Moallayidi | — | Member |
| (v) | Senator Philip A. Gyunka | — | Member |
| (vi) | Senator Stella A. Oduah | — | Member |

(e) Acknowledgment:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the following who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings:

- (i) Members of the National Association of University Students, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State; and
- (ii) Staff and Students of Shekinah International Academy, Mararaba, Nasarawa State.

4. Petition:

Rising on Rule 41, Senator David Umaru (*Niger East*) drew the attention of the Senate to two petitions from:

- (a) Betasha J. Julius, over under payment of his gratuity and pension by the Federal Ministry of Police Affairs; and
- (b) John B. Bawa and others, over arbitrary demolition of houses, farmland, intimidation and harassment at their communities by corporate organisations.

He urged the Senate to look into the matters.

Petitions laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Rule 41(3)] to report within two (2) weeks.

5. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) drew the attention of the Senate to the proposed policy of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to sell and install speed limit devices on vehicles. The device is not necessary now in view of economic hardship faced by Nigerians. He urged the relevant Committee to intervene with FRSC for the purpose of stopping this agitation.

The Senate directed its Committee on Federal Character to intervene and report to the Senate accordingly.

6. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Federal University of Technology, Ilaro (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 460) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Federal University, Gashua (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 459) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Integrated Corporate Data Management Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 461) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria Act CAP A7 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 463) — *Read the First Time.*

(v) Federal University of Technology, Yaba (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 464) — *Read the First Time.*

7. **Joint Committee on Upstream Petroleum Resources; Downstream Petroleum Sector; and Gas: Report on the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill, 2017 (SB. 237):**

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Upstream Petroleum Resources; Downstream Petroleum Sector; and Gas on the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill, 2017 (*Senator Donald O. Alasoadura — Ondo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. **Committee on Tertiary Education and TETFUND:**

Report on the Maritime University of Nigeria, Okerenkoko (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.295):

Presentation of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. **Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:**

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:

- a. Petition from Hyacinth Ahuruonye against the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Force;
- b. Petition from Collins Chinonyerem Udeogu against the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Corporation; and
- c. Petition from Ex-Cpl. Kamal Haruna against the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) for alleged unjust dismissal from the Force (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

10. **Ad hoc Committee on Southern Kaduna Crises and other Parts of the Country:**

Report on the Ad hoc Committee on Southern Kaduna Crises and other Parts of the Country:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Ad hoc Committee on Southern Kaduna Crises and other Parts of the Country (*Senator Mao A. Ohuanbunwa — Abia North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

11. **Motion:**

Monumental Challenges facing the Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP) due to paucity of funds:

Motion made: That the Senate notes with serious concern, the monumental challenges facing the Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP) due to paucity of funds to run the programme arising from delayed and staggered release of funds from the 2016 Appropriation Act by the Federal Ministry of Finance;

concerned that this is already threatening the well-conceived amnesty programme of the Federal Government, as the Amnesty office is finding it extremely difficult to meet its obligation to its workers and beneficiaries of the amnesty programme;

notes that the amnesty programme was conceived by the Federal Government of Nigeria to stem the tide of disaffection, agitation and militancy in the Niger Delta Area, which resulted in loss of lives, properties and oil revenue and the result of the programme has been quite encouraging;

worried that funds appropriated for the programme have been depreciating steadily, leading to adverse impact on the operation of the programme as tension is already building up in the Niger Delta region;

worried also that 30,000 beneficiaries of ₦65,000.00 monthly allowance are being owed 5 months in arrears on the education programme (Onshore). The debt to Universities in the Country is in the sum of ₦1,873,044,700.00 in addition to backlog of unpaid in-Training Allowance amounting to ₦830,500,000. Also the Educational Programme (Offshore) is suffering the same fate as unpaid in-Training allowances for 750 students between 2016 and 2017 amounted to US\$4,200,000.00 equivalent of ₦1,332,000,000.00 and unpaid tuition fee for 350 students amounting to the sum of US\$17,500,000.00 equivalent of ₦512,500,000.00;

notes also that in 2016, the Vocational Training Unit projected to train 1,770 due to lack of fund and worst still, many people are pressurizing to be included in the amnesty programme, failure for which they are threatening to go back into agitation and militancy, which they have earlier renounced;

concerned also that 70% of the 637 students in various institutions in 27 countries who are expected to graduate at the end of the 2016/2017 academic year may not be able to do so for non-payment of tuition fees. Currently, more than 80% have been excluded from studies and if the tuition fees are not promptly settled, this may lead to their repeat of the whole academic session, thus compounding the financial burden. Moreover, about 100 graduates are currently stranded in the United States of America, Malaysia, United Kingdom and South Africa, awaiting their October, 2016 to January, 2017 allowances to enable them settle their bills and return to Nigeria;

worried further that the students in the United Kingdom have planned to protest at the Nigerian High Commission over non-payment of their tuition fees and allowances by the amnesty office, and if the protest is carried out, it will definitely bring Nigeria to ridicule and opprobrium before the comity of nations;

notes further that the fund appropriated in the 2016 Appropriation was about ₦20 Billion and the Senate was magnanimous in appropriating the sum of ₦35 Billion in a Supplementary Appropriation in late 2016, which went a long way in improving the funds appropriated for the programme, whereby the sum of ₦40 Billion has so far been released by the Federal Ministry of Finance, leaving a balance of the sum of ₦15 Billion;

disturbed that the situation is becoming very serious and capable of truncating the lofty programme as tension and threats are already palpable in the Niger Delta Region amongst the beneficiaries of the programme onshore and offshore, which is capable of bringing the Federal Republic of Nigeria into disrepute nationally and internationally and this has to be checked promptly; and

observes that the programme is in dire need of funds and it is absolutely necessary to release the balance sum of ₦15 Billion in the 2016 Appropriation Act so as to provide funds for the smooth running of the amnesty programme.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Honourable Minister of Finance to release the balance sum of ₦15 Billion in the 2016 Appropriation Act for the funding of the amnesty programme; and

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta to investigate the circumstances leading to funding constraints besetting the amnesty programme, with a view to avoiding re-occurrence and report to the Senate within two (2) weeks (*Senator Peter O. Nwaoboshi — Delta North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Honourable Minister of Finance to release the balance sum of ₦15 Billion in the 2016 Appropriation Act for the funding of the amnesty programme — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Niger Delta to investigate the circumstances leading to funding constraints besetting the amnesty programme, with a view to avoiding re-occurrence and report to the Senate within two (2) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Niger Delta to investigate cases of impersonation of beneficiaries from Abia and Akwa Ibom States in the Amnesty Programme” (*Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe — Abia South*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Honourable Minister of Finance to release the balance sum of ₦15 Billion in the 2016 Appropriation Act for the funding of the amnesty programme;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta to investigate the circumstances leading to funding constraints besetting the amnesty programme, with a view to avoiding re-occurrence and report to the Senate within two (2) weeks; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta to investigate cases of impersonation of beneficiaries from Abia and Akwa Ibom States in the Amnesty Programme (*S/Res/134/02/17*).

12. Conference Committee:

Report on the Nigerian Air Force Institute of Technology (SB. 180):

Motion made: That the Senate do adopt the Conference Committee Report on the Nigerian Air Force Institute of Technology Bill, 2017 (*Senator Mallam A. Wakili — Bauchi South*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Report accordingly adopted.

13. Committee on Marine Transport:

Report on the Nigerian Ports and Harbours Bill, 2017 (SB. 243):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. **Committee on Trade and Investment:**
Report on the Consumer Protection Act (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 257):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
15. **Committee on Marine Transport:**
Report on the National Inland Waterways Act CAP N47 LFN (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 240):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
16. **Committee on Establishment and Public Services:**
Report on the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Bill, 2017 (SB. 236):
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Services on the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Bill, 2017 (*Senator Emmanuel I. Paulker — Bayelsa Central*).
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 A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS OF NIGERIA TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL OF ITS MEMBERSHIP AND TO PROMOTE AND FOSTER THE PRACTICE OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANCY IN THE FEDERATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH 2017.

Debate:

By leave of the Senate, Bill accordingly withdrawn (Rule 89).

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 Establishment and Public Services on the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Bill, 2017 and bill withdrawn:

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

17. **Committee on Establishment and Public Services:**
Report on the Environmental Managers Registration Council of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 88):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

18. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:

- a. ***Report on the Petition from Yahaya Ibrahim Shinko against the Nigerian Army over his Wrongful and Abrupt Compulsory Retirement from the Nigerian Army in 1999 without reason:***

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Yahaya Ibrahim Shinko against the Nigerian Army over his wrongful and abrupt compulsory retirement from the Nigerian Army in 1999 without reason (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate should direct the petitioner, Yahaya Ibrahim Shinko, to approach the Federal High Court to enforce the judgement it entered in his favour against the Nigerian Army in 2004 — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate should direct the petitioner, Yahaya Ibrahim Shinko, to approach the Federal High Court to enforce the judgement it entered in his favour against the Nigerian Army in 2004 (*S/Res/135/02/17*).

- b. ***Report on the Petition from Y. B. Aminu on behalf of the Next of Kins of Alh. Haruna Musa (Deceased) of Koko Town, against the Nigerian Army over Extra Judicial Execution of APC Supporters at Koko Besse LGA and Suru LGA, Kebbi State:***

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Y. B. Aminu on behalf of the Next of Kins of Alh. Haruna Musa (Deceased) of Koko Town, against the Nigerian Army over Extra Judicial Execution of APC Supporters at Koko Besse LGA and Suru LGA, Kebbi State (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: The petition was not properly addressed to the Senate President, it should be struck out (Order 41 (5) (a)) — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: The petitioner be asked to re-write the Senate if he was still interested in pursuing the case — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) The petition was not properly addressed to the Senate President, it should be struck out (Order 41 (5) (a)); and
- (ii) The petitioner be asked to re-write the Senate if he was still interested in pursuing the case (*S/Res/136/02/17*).

- c. ***Report on the Petition from War Affected Pioneer Officer Cadets of the Nigerian Air Force against the Nigerian Air Force for Non Payment of Gratuity and Pensions by the Military Pensions Board:***

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from War Affected Pioneer Officer Cadets of the Nigerian Airforce against the Nigerian Air Force for Non Payment of Gratuity and Pensions by the Military Pensions Board (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That though there was overwhelming evidence that Officer Cadets were not entitled to gratuity and pension on separation from the Nigerian Air Force because they only collect allowances and not salaries, the Senate do urge the Federal Government to compel the Air Force Council to sit to take another look at the matter with a humanitarian view to determining whether they qualified to have been commissioned or not — *Negated*.

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: Where they qualified, some form of compensation or the other be approved for them — *Negated*.

Resolved:

- (i) Negated; and
- (ii) Negated (*S/Res/137/02/17*).

- d. ***Report on the Petition from Mr. Anoke Wilson Akuma against the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and the West African Examination Council (WAEC) over Unlawful Termination of his Appointment by the FIRS on False Assumption of Forged Certificate:***

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Mr. Anoke Wilson Akuma against the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and the West African Examination Council (WAEC) over Unlawful Termination of his Appointment by the FIRS on False Assumption of Forged Certificate (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do commend the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and the West African Examination Council (WAEC) for the steps taken and for the prompt resolution of the matter and the subsequent reinstatement of Anoke Wilson Akuma to the service of Federal Inland Revenue Service — *Agreed to*.

Resolved:

That the Senate do commend the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and the West African Examination Council (WAEC) for the steps taken and for the prompt resolution of the matter and the subsequent reinstatement of Anoke Wilson Akuma to the service of Federal Inland Revenue Service (*S/Res/138/02/17*).

e. Report on the Petition from Farouk Umar Ibrahim against the Nigerian Navy for Alleged Wrongful Dismissal from the Navy:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of a Petition from Farouk Umar Ibrahim against the Nigerian Navy for alleged wrongful dismissal from the Navy (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate should sustain the dismissal of Farouk Umar Ibrahim by the Nigerian Navy for desertion — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate should sustain the dismissal of Farouk Umar Ibrahim by the Nigerian Navy for desertion (*S/Res/139/02/17*).

19. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 11th April, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12:08 p.m.

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