



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 5th April, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:32 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 4th April, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**
(a) **Meeting:**
The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) as follows:



THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
Committee on the Review of the 1999 Constitution
National Assembly Complex,

5th April, 2017

*His Excellency
The Senate President
Senate Chamber
National Assembly Complex
Abuja*

Your Excellency,

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Senate Committee on the Review of the 1999 Constitution will meet today, Wednesday, 5th April, 2017, immediately after Plenary, at the Senate President's Meeting Room 301, Senate Building.

*(Signed)
Senator Ike Ekweremadu
Deputy Senate President/Chairman*

(b) **Acknowledgment:**

The Deputy Senate President acknowledged the presence of the Staff and Students of Pathrep Educational Centre, Koroduma, Nasarawa State who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

4. **Petitions:**

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa (*Abia North*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Nnochiri A. Igbokaike, over wrongful dismissal from the Service of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

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

- (ii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Babajide C. Omoworare (*Osun East*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituents, Messrs. Moses O. Ekenimoh and Bernard O. Omisore, over withdrawal of implementation of 65 years retirement age policy by the Centre for Management Development (CMD). He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

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

- (iii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Hope O. Uzodimma (*Imo West*) drew the attention of the Senate to three petitions from:

- (a) Mr. Nathaniel C. U. Okoro, over discrimination in pension emolument by the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC);
- (b) Mrs. Onyekwere C. I., over appeal for his reinstatement by the Nigeria Customs Service; and
- (c) Obinugwu Development Union, for reinstatement of their traditional ruler HRM, Eze (Dr) Cletus Ikechukwu Ilomuanya, over wrongful removal by the Imo State Government.

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. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Peter O. Nwaoboshi (*Delta North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the decline in Amnesty Programme over inadequate financial remittance to beneficiary students studying abroad. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter.

Matter to stand over to the next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

6. **Motions:**

- (i) **Recommittal of the National Assembly Budget and Research Office Bill, 2017 and the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria Bill, 2017:**

Motion made: That the Senate recalls that the National Assembly Budget and Research Office Bill, 2017 and the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 were passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives, and transmitted to the Clerk, National Assembly for further legislative action;

observes that the Directorate of Legal Services scrutinized the Bills in line with its mandate and raised fundamental issues that needed to be addressed before the Bills could be transmitted for Presidential assent;

aware that there is no defined procedure on the reconsideration of Bills passed by the National Assembly that have not been transmitted to the President for assent; and

notes that Order 1(b) of the Senate Standing Orders states that “in all cases not provided for herein after, or by Session or Order practice of the Senate, the Senate shall by Resolution regulate its procedure”.

Accordingly resolves to:

invoke Order 1(b) of the Senate Standing Orders as amended, 2015 to refer the Bills to the respective Conference Committees that had earlier worked on them to consider the observations raised by the Directorate of Legal Services and report to the Senate within one week (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do invoke Order 1(b) of the Senate Standing Order as amended, 2015 to refer the Bills to the respective Conference Committees that had earlier worked on them to consider the observations raised by the Directorate of Legal Services and report to the Senate within one (1) week — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do invoke Order 1(b) of the Senate Standing Order as amended, 2015 to refer the Bills to the respective Conference Committees that had earlier worked on them to consider the observations raised by the Directorate of Legal Services and report to the Senate within one (1) week (*S/Res/132/02/17*).

(ii) ***Recommittal of the Dangerous Drugs Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 and Currency Conversion (Freezing) orders Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017:***

Motion made: That the Senate recalls that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria had signified the withholding of his Assent on:

- i. Dangerous Drugs Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017; and
- ii. Currency Conversion (Freezing) orders Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017;

observes that Mr. President withheld Assent to the Dangerous Drugs Act (Amendment) Bill based on the concerns regarding certain words and phrases reflected in the Bill that may be inconsistent with the Principal Act in Sections 6 and 21 respectively; and

observes also that Mr. President withheld Assent to the Currency Conversion (Freezing) orders Act (Amendment) Bill on the concern regarding modalities for the communication of Asset forfeiture.

Accordingly resolves to:

constitute Conference Committee on the respective Bills to consider the observations of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the Bills (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do constitute Conference Committee on the respective Bills to consider the observations of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the Bills — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do constitute Conference Committee on the respective Bills to consider the observations of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the Bills (*S/Res/133/02/17*).

7. Suppression of Piracy Bill, 2017 (SB.254):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to make provisions for suppression of Piracy and to provide for punishment for the offence of piracy and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Nelson A. Efiang — Akwa Ibom South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Navy; Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters; and Marine Transport to report within Four (4) weeks.

8. Nigeria Postal Services Act CAP N127 LFN, 2004, (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB.437):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to repeal the Nigeria Postal Service Act CAP N127 LFN 2004, to provide for the operations and development of postal services, the establishment of the Nigerian Postal Commission and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa — Lagos East*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Communications to report within Four (4) weeks.

9. Arbitration and Reconciliation Act CAP A18 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.362):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Arbitration and Reconciliation Act CAP A18 LFN 2004 and for Other Matters Related Thereto, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Monsurat J. A. Sunmonu — Oyo Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within Four (4) weeks.

10. Arbitration and Conciliation Act CAP A18 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB.427):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Arbitration and Conciliation Act CAP A18 LFN 2004 and Re-Enact the Arbitration and Conciliation 2017 for the modern regulation of Arbitration and Conciliation processes and recognition and enforcement of Arbitral Awards in International Commercial Arbitration and for Connected Purposes be read the Second Time (*Senator Andy E. Uba — Anambra South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within Four (4) weeks.

11. Insurance Act 2003 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.275):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Insurance Act 2003 to set minimum limit of compensation in the event of death, injury or loss of property of third party in respect to Insurance of Public Buildings and Buildings under Construction and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Umaru I. Kurfi — Katsina Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions to report within Four (4) weeks.

12. Armed Forces (Restriction on the use of Arms in certain Internal Security Operations, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.341):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of the Armed Forces (Restriction on the use of Arms in certain Internal Security Operations, etc.) and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator David Umaru — Niger East*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Defence to report within Four (4) weeks.

13. National Youth Service Corps Act CAP N84 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.147):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. Sickle Cell Anaemia (Prevention, Control and Management) Bill, 2017 (SB.128):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the Prevention, Control and Management of Sickle Cell Anaemia and for Other Purposes Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Sam O. Egwu — Ebonyi North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Health to report within Four (4) weeks.

15. Chartered Institute of Fraud Examiners (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.167):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Chartered Institute of Fraud Examiners and for Other Matters Connected Thereto, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Foster Ogola — Bayelsa West*).

Debate:

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

16. **Correction, Reformation and Reintegration Centre (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.308):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

17. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 6th April, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:52 p.m.

Ike Ekweremadu, CFR
*Deputy Senate President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*