

SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 4th July, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:37 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Closed Session:**

Closed Session — 10:41 a.m.

Open Session — 11:29 a.m.

The Senate President reported that the Senate in a Closed Session deliberated on issues bordering on the workings of the Senate in particular and the National Assembly in general.

3. **Votes and Proceedings:**

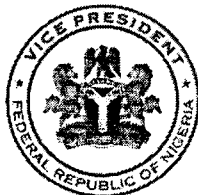
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 15th June, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

4. **Message from Acting President:**

The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from Acting President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, which he read as follows:

Confirmation of Appointment:



**VICE PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/02/9

12th June, 2017

*His Excellency
Distinguished Senator (Dr.) Bukola Saraki, CON
President
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja.*

Dear Senate President,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. LANRE GBAJABIAMILA AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL NATIONAL LOTTERY REGULATORY COMMISSION

In compliance with the provision of Section 8(1)(a) of the National Lottery Act, 2005, I write to forward the name of Mr. Lanre Gbajabiamila as a nominee for the position of Director-General, National Lottery Commission for the consideration and confirmation of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. If confirmed, Mr. Lanre Gbajabiamila will serve for an initial period of four (4) years and may be re-appointed for a further term of four (4) years and no more.

2. *The Curriculum Vitae of Mr. Lanre Gbajabiamila is attached for your perusal.*
3. *It is, therefore, my hope that the Distinguished Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will consider and confirm the appointment of the nominee in the usual expeditious manner.*
4. *Please accept, Mr. Senate President the assurances of my highest regards, always.*

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

5. Announcements:

(a) Appreciation:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Hope O. Uzodinma (*Imo West*) as follows:



Senator Hope Uzodinma
Imo West Senatorial District
Chairman, Senate Committee on Customs, Excise and Tarrif

3rd July, 2017

*Mr. President
Leadership and
Distinguished Senators*

Your Excellency,

A SINCERE NOTE OF GRATITUDE

On behalf of the entire Uzodinma Royal family of Ozu Omuma in Oru East LGA of Imo State. I write to thank you for your esteemed presence, solidarity and good wishes at the wedding of my daughters.

1. *Sandra Nkechi Uzodinma and Adeola Adewoye*
2. *Sophie Nkem Uzodinma and David Onovo*

You my colleagues have granted my wishes and I bask in your individual and collective contribution towards making the day a memorable one for this I will remain indebted to your kindness.

I pray that God in his infinite mercy and kindness would look with favour on you and satisfy your needs, and may he abundantly reward your kind disposition to my family.

In all things do please accept the assurances of my esteemed regards.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Sen. Hope Uzodinma

Imo West District

(b) Special Invitation:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Godswill O. Akpabio (Akwa Ibom North-West) as follows:



Senator (Dr) Godswill O. Akpabio, CON
Senate Minority Leader
Akwa Ibom North-West Senatorial District

Senate President
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja

June 30, 2017

Dear Sir,

SPECIAL INVITATION TO MY CONSTITUENCY BRIEFING AND EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME - AKWA IBOM NORTH WEST SENATORIAL DISTRICT

I feel honoured to request the pleasure of your esteemed presence as SPECIAL GUEST at my Constituency Briefing and Empowerment Programme where I shall give account of my stewardship to my constituents so far.

The event which shall witness the empowerment of citizens from the 106 wards across the Senatorial District is scheduled to take place as follows:

Date: Thursday, July 6, 2017
Venue: Ikot Ekpene Township Stadium, Akwa Ibom State
Time: 10 am

We shall be honoured to have you participate in the occasion.

Thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

SENATOR GODSWILL O. AKPABIO, CON
SENATE MINORITY LEADER

(c) Wedding Notification:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe (Abia South) as follows:



Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe
Chairman, Senate Committee on Power, Steel Development & Metallurgy

4th July, 2017

*Distinguished Senators
Senate Chambers*

*C/o Senate President
The Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria
Three Arms Zone
Abuja*

My dear President,

NOTIFICATION OF WEDDING

I wish to with pleasure notify you and all my distinguished colleagues of the impending wedding ceremony of my son Dr. Obinna Abaribe to his heartthrob Ibuchim Chinemerem Okoli on the Friday 1st of September, 2017.

This notification is to implore my esteemed colleagues to block the date in your diaries, Ipads, iPhones, Samsungs, Blackberries, Tecnos, Gionee's and even Thurayas.

Further information will be communicated to everyone in due course.

*(Signed)
Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe*

(d) Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Staff and Students of Kingdom Heritage Model Schools, AMAC Housing Estate, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of Lizdav Academy, Mararaba, Nasarawa State; and
- (iii) Staff and Students of Jimmik Surestart School, Gaduwa Estate, Abuja.

6. Privileges:

Rising on Rule 14, 15 and 16 of the Senator Standing Order, Senator Ahmad R. Sani (*Zamfara West*) drew the attention of the Senate to the earlier announced Executive Communication from the Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, requesting for confirmation of appointment of Mr. Lanre Gbajabiamila, Director-General, National Lottery Commission. He recalled that relying on Section 171 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as Amended), The Acting President informed the nation that the Senate confirmation was not required in certain appointments, even when it is explicitly stated in the Act setting up the Institutions. He therefore sought to know as his privilege, why the Executives will decide who should be confirmed by the Senate for appointment instead of following the constitution and Law of the Federation of Nigeria:

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do suspend all issues relating to confirmation of nominees from the Executive until the issues of confirmation as contained in the Constitution and Laws of the Federation of Nigeria are adhered to — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Acting President must respect the Constitution and Laws enacted by the National

Assembly as they relate to confirmation of appointments — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Acting President, should immediately swear-in all Electoral Resident Commissioners confirmed by the Senate — *Negatived.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Acting President should immediately respect the rejection of nominee(s) by the Senate — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:

Insert additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

That the Acting President should withdraw without further delay, the statement credited to him, "That the Senate has no powers for confirmation of appointment of certain nominees" (*Senator Kabiru G. Marafa — Zamfara Central*).

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

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do suspend all issues relating to confirmation of nominees from the Executive until the issues of confirmation as contained in the Constitution and Laws of the Federation of Nigeria are adhered to;
- (ii) That the Acting President must respect the Constitution and Laws enacted by the National Assembly as they relate to confirmation of appointments;
- (iii) That the Acting President should immediately respect the rejection of nominee(s) by the Senate; and
- (iv) That the Acting President should withdraw without further delay, the statement credited to him, "That the Senate has no powers for confirmation of appointment of certain nominees" (*S/Res/005/03/17*).

7. Privileges:

Rising on Rule 14, Senator Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) drew the attention of the Senate to the recall exercise orchestrated by the Government of Kogi State using forged One Hundred and Eighty-One Thousand (181,000) signatures as against One Hundred and Eighteen Thousand (118,000) Votes that brought him to the Senate. He informed the Senate that among the signatories were the names of over One Hundred and Twenty (120) dead constituents, evidence by Death Certificates issued by the National Population Commission (NPC) and further supported by affidavits sworn by the relatives of the deceased. He alerted the Senate that his only sin was calling on his Governor to pay Kogi State workers their 18 months salary arrears. The recall, according to him, was not initiated by his Constituents but by the Governor of Kogi State, therefore, he urged the Senate to intervene with the view to stopping this injustice and impunity.

8. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Rabi'u M. Musa (*Kano Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to demise of a leader, mentor and great son of Kano State, Alhaji Maitama Sule (Dan Masanin Kano) on Sunday, 2nd July, 2017. 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)].

9. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator George T. Sekibo (*Rivers East*) drew the attention of the Senate to the poor state of East-West Road linking the Refinery and Petrol Chemical Companies in Rivers State

which causes rampant accidents leading to the death of innocent lives. 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)].

10. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Rose O. Oko (*Cross River North*) drew the attention of the Senate to a communal clash with great consequence which occurred on 26th June, 2017 between Wanilade and Wanihem communities of North Ukelle, Yala Local Government Area, Cross River State, which left many people dead and over 3,000 persons displaced. She sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter.

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

11. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf (*Taraba Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to a crisis of an unprecedented magnitude which spontaneously took place in Sardauna Local Government Area of Taraba State between 16th to 25th June, 2017. The crisis left many people dead, some displaced and cattle killed. 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)].

12. Presentation of Bills:

(i) Private Investigators Bill, 2017 (SB. 314).

Presentation of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

(ii) College of Information and Technology, Oyo (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 492).

Presentation of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

(iii) Digital Rights Bill, 2017 (SB. 516).

Presentation of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

(iv) Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria Act CAP F18 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 517).

Presentation of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

(v) Nigerian Academy of Science (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (HB. 917).

Presentation of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. Confirmation of Nomination of Appointment of Abdullahi Oteh Attah:

Consideration of request deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. Conference Committee:

Report on the National Lottery Act 2005 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 227):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND:

Report on the National Open University of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 066):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

16. **Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND:**
Report on the Federal University of Maritime Studies, Oron Bill, 2017 (SB. 309):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
17. **Committee on Establishment and Public Service:**
Report on the National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.359):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
18. **Committee on Environment:**
Report on the Erosion Control and Prevention Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.32):
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
19. **Animal Health and Husbandry Technologies (Registration, etc.) Bill, 2017 (HB. 320) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
20. **Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HBs.99 & 118) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
21. **Compulsory Treatment and Care of Victims of Gunshots Bill, 2017 (HB. 119) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
22. **Corporate Manslaughter Bill, 2017 (HB. 273) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
23. **National Child Protection and Enforcement Agency Bill, 2017 (HB. 127) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
24. **National Intelligence Agency Pension Board (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (HB. 842) - Concurrence:**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
25. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 5th July, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (Deputy Chief Whip).
Adjourned accordingly at 1:12 p.m.

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