



THE SENATE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 15th November, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:53 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 14th November, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Appreciation:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Mohammed D. Goje (*Gombe Central*) as follows:



SENATOR MOHAMMED DANJUMA GOJE
(SARKIN YAKIN GOMBE)
GOMBE CENTRAL SENATORIAL DISTRICT

*His Excellency,
Senator Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria.*

14th November, 2017

Your Excellency,

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of myself and members of my family, I wish to express my profound and sincere appreciation to His Excellency, the President of the Senate, Senator Abubakar Bukola Saraki for the tremendous sympathy and support rendered to us during our trying period following the death of my dear wife, Hajiya Yelwa Danjuma Goje.

Your Excellency sir, we also urge you to extend our appreciation to all my colleagues for their prayers and support.

We pray to Almighty Allah(SWA) to reward you all, Amin.

We also pray to Almighty Allah(SWA) to grant my dear wife, Hajiya Yelwa Danjuma Goje, al Jannatul Firdausi, Amin.

(Signed)

Senator Mohammed Danjuma Goje
(Sarkin Yakin Gombe)

(b) North Central Caucus Meeting:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Barnabas A. I. Gemade (*Benue North-East*) as follows:



SENATOR DR. BARNABAS A. I. GEMADE OFR, FNSE
(Nom Iyange u Tiv)
Benue North East Senatorial District

15th November, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a meeting of Senators of the North Central Zone immediately after Plenary on Wednesday, 15th November, 2017 in Hearing Room 1, Senate Wing, White House.

Please be punctual.

(Signed)

Senator Barnabas A. I. Gemade

(c) Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Staff and Students of Solid Foundation Private Schools, Maitama, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of Pedmax Excellence Academy Limited, Federal Housing Authority Lugbe, Abuja; and
- (iii) Staff and Students of Wisdom International School, Suleja, Niger State.

4. Petitions:

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Solomon O. Adeola (*Lagos West*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Tope S. A. Fadare, against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), over wrongful termination of his appointment. 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 Ovie A. Omo-Agege (*Delta Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to two (2) petitions from:
 - (a) ZA Entertainment International, against the Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation, over Nigerian Football Fans Village Project; and
 - (b) PC Ozoagu & Co. on behalf of LCPL. Stanley Onvwerou, against the Nigerian Army, over his wrongful dismissal.

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.

- (iii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Samuel N. Ayanwu (*Imo West*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Rasheed Temitope of Arise Network of Nigeria, against the Federal Ministry of Transportation, over contracting the security patrol of Nigerian Coastal Waterways to an Israeli firm. 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.

- (iv) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Philip T. Aduda (*FCT*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Barr. Christopher Dada of Coalition of Federal Capital Territory Indigenous Associations, against the Nigerian Military and the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), over forceful seizure of their land. 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.

5. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) drew the attention of the Senate to yesterday's victory of the Super Eagles of Nigeria against the Argentina National football team. He commended Nigerians for their support for the national team and congratulated the players for their victory and making the country proud. He further urged the players to sustain the winning spirit at upcoming 2018 World Cup in Russia.

The Senate accordingly commends the triumph of the Super Eagles.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Biodun C. Olujimi (*Ekiti South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the reported withdrawal of Police Aides to His Excellency, Willie Obiano, Governor of Anambra State by the Inspector-General of Police. She stated that the act is unacceptable and unjust to Nigerian democracy and therefore urged for the restoration of the Security Aides and appealed to the Chairman, Committee on Police Affairs to ensure compliance.

Debates:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Inspector-General of Police to restore the Aides to the Governor, His Excellency, Willie Obiano, — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do mandate the Chairman, Committee on Police Affairs to ensure the restoration of the Governor's Aides, and report to the Senate the next Legislative Day — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to restore the Aides to the Governor, His Excellency, Willie Obiano; and
- (ii) mandate the Chairman, Committee on Police Affairs to ensure the restoration of the Governor's Security Aides, and report to the Senate the next Legislative Day (*S/Res/117/03/17*).

7. Motions:**(a) Fire Disaster in Central Market Nguru, Yobe State: A Call for Urgent Intervention:**

Motion made: That the Senate notes that on Saturday, 10th November, 2017, there was a fire outbreak at the Central Market, Nguru in Yobe State;

also notes that the fire outbreak in Central Market Nguru was severe and possibly the worst of its kind in the recent history of fire disasters in Yobe State; where over 60% of the market was razed down;

concerned that the fire out break destroyed shop properties worth hundreds of millions of Naira;

also concerned that the adverse effects of the aftermath of the inferno have caused the economic activity to be grounded completely in the market;

disturbed that the affected traders and shop owners are suffering untold hardships due to the disaster; and

worried that the victims of this disaster require urgent intervention to reconstruct and rehabilitate their shops and other necessary intervention.

Accordingly resolves to:

urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide the necessary interventions to the affected traders (*Senator Ahmad I. Lawan — Yobe North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide the necessary interventions to the affected traders — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

“(i) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other Agencies to urgently provide the necessary intervention to other markets affected across the country” (*Senator Rabi'u M. Musa — Kano Central*).

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

“(ii) That the Senate do urge the Market Authorities to take-up Insurance Policy against frequent fire disasters in markets” (*Senator Joshua C. Dariye — Plateau Central*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do

(i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide the necessary interventions to the affected traders;

(ii) urge the Federal Government through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other Agencies to urgently provide the necessary intervention to other markets affected across the country; and

(iii) urge the Market Authorities to take-up Insurance Policy against frequent fire disasters in markets (*S/Res/118/03/17*).

(b) *The Alarming Upsurge of Malaria Incidents:*

Motion made: That the Senate notes with grave concern that in recent times the outbreak of malaria incidence has exponentially increased in Nigeria particularly Northern Nigeria to an epidemic level;

observes that the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 212 million cases of malaria and 429,000 deaths are recorded annually, and that Sub-Saharan Africa carries 90% of the global malaria burden and 92% of malaria deaths, globally;

notes with serious concern how 97% of the Nigerian population is at risk of being infected with malaria parasite, while Nigerian institute of medical research reported that 50 million people tested positively annually;

further notes that Nigeria accounted for up to 25 percent of the global cases and deaths as a result of malaria endemic. The disease has been adjudged to be the 3rd leading cause of death for children less than five years, taking the life of a child every two minutes. Now this data was even before the recent prevalence of outbreak of malaria parasite that has developed resistance to the first-line antimalaria drugs in Nigeria;

observes that Nigeria's population as at 2017 is estimated at about 180 million people but the country's health facilities as at 2017 stood at a total of 34,173 health facilities comprising of 30,098 Primary Healthcare Centres, 3,992 Secondary Healthcare and 83 Tertiaries Healthcare Facilities across the country;

further observes that Malaria accounts for 60% of out-patient visits and 30% of hospitalization among children under 5 years of age in all these health facilities in the country;

worried that poor funding has been one of the major challenges for health care delivery in Nigeria;

concerned that budgetary allocation for healthcare delivery has been on the decline since 2012, as against the 15% recommended by "African Union (AU) during its meeting in 2001 tagged THE ABUJA DECLARATION". For instance, allocation for the health sector was 4.23 percent in 2016 and 4.7 percent in 2017 and 3.9 percent in the 2018 proposed appropriation bill respectively;

aware that the National Health Act 2014 recommends a grant of not less than 1 percent from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to be set aside for the Basic Health Care in the country, and this law has never been implemented; and

convinced that the main bane of health care delivery in Nigeria is due to the following:

1. Collapse of public sanitation institutions due to neglect by State and Local Government Authorities;
2. Breakdown of public health infrastructure that has led to the absence of vector control programmes arising from the apparent abandonment of Federal Epidemiology unit;
3. Decline in annual budgetary provisions in the funding of the health sector;
4. The poor efficacy of antimalarial drugs due to the prevalence of fake drugs has also led to the virus developing resistance; and
5. Lack of implementation and enforcement of urban planning regulations, which has led to increase of shanties and slums that harbor mosquitoes and other injurious pests and disease vectors.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to as a matter of urgency, procure sufficient quantity of effective antimalaria drugs and distribute them free of charge to all Public Health Facilities across the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to embark on mass mobilization that will provide adequate information to all Nigerians on how to take appropriate and effective malaria preventive and treatment measures;
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to effectively partner with States; Local Government Authorities; and Development Partners with a view to scaling up Integrated Vector Management and Control as well as streamline all malaria programmes across the country; and
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to increase the annual funding of the Federal Ministry of Health that will meet the "ABUJA DECLARATION by African Union (AU) IN 2001" as well as ensure full implementation of the National Health Act 2014 and the 1 percent Consolidated Revenue Fund provision for the take off of the Basic Health Care provision Fund (*Senator Rabiu M. Musa — Kano Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Health to as a matter of urgency, procure sufficient quantity of effective antimalaria drugs and distribute them free of charge to all Public Health Facilities across the country — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government, States and Local Government to embark on mass mobilization that will provide adequate information to all Nigerians on how to take appropriate and effective malaria preventive and treatment measures.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "Government" *insert* the words ", States and Local Government Areas" (*Senator Mao A. Oluwabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Proposed Resolution(iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Health to effectively partner with States; Local Government Authorities; and Development Partners with a view to scaling up Integrated Vector Management and Control as well as streamline all malaria programmes across the country; and — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(iv):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to increase the annual funding of the Federal Ministry of Health that will meet the "ABUJA DECLARATION by African Union (AU) IN 2001" as well as ensure full implementation of the National Health Act 2014 and the 1 percent Consolidated Revenue Fund provision for the take off of the Basic Health Care provision Fund — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolutions:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolutions as follows:

- "(i) That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Appropriations to ensure that it effect 1% Consolidated Revenue Fund of the National Health Act 2014 in 2018 Appropriation" (*Senator Mao A. Oluwabunwa — Abia North*).

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

- “(ii) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to revive and strengthen the Federal Epidemiology Unit of the Federal Ministry of Health by providing it with the necessary funding for the conduct of effective insect pest and vector control programme”
(*Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi — Kebbi North*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to as a matter of urgency, procure sufficient quantity of effective antimalaria drugs and distribute them free of charge to all Public Health Facilities across the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government, States and Local Government Areas to embark on mass mobilization that will provide adequate information to all Nigerians on how to take appropriate and effective malaria preventive and treatment measures;
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to effectively partner with States; Local Government Authorities; and Development Partners with a view to scaling up Integrated Vector Management and Control as well as streamline all malaria programmes across the country;
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to increase the annual funding of the Federal Ministry of Health that will meet the “ABUJA DECLARATION by African Union (AU) IN 2001” as well as ensure full implementation of the National Health Act 2014 and the 1 percent Consolidated Revenue Fund provision for the take off of the Basic Health Care provision Fund;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Appropriations to ensure that it effect 1% Consolidated Revenue Fund of the National Health Act 2014 in 2018 Appropriation” and
- (vi) urge the Federal Government to revive and strengthen the Federal Epidemiology Unit of the Federal Ministry of Health by providing it with the necessary funding for the conduct of effective insect pest and vector control programme (*S/Res/119/03/17*).

8. Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Borderline Communities Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 235):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Borderline Communities Development Commission charged with the responsibilities to among other things prepare, coordinate and execute a comprehensive programme of actions for housing development and for Other Related Matters, 2017 (*Senator David Umaru — Niger East*).

Debate:

Further consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. National Students Financial Aid Scheme (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.114):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the National Students Financial Aid Scheme to provide for the granting of loans to eligible students at higher institution and repeal the provisions of the Nigerian Education Bank Act CAP E104 LFN 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Isah H. Misau — Bauchi Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

10. Resolutions Passed by both Houses of the National Assembly Bill, 2017 (SB.24):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. Abuja Metropolitan Management Council (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.58):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. National Library Act CAP N56 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.46):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Library Act CAP N56 LFN 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Biodun C. Olujimi — Ekiti South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

13. National Planning Process Bill, 2017 (SB.73):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the National Planning Process and Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Theodore A. Orji — Abia Central*).

Debate:

Further consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. National Institute for Sports, CAP N52 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.75):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. Finance (Control and Management) Act, No. 33 1958 (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB.84):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Finance (Control and Management) Act, No. 33 1958 and Enact the Finance (Control and Management) 2017 and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Joshua C. Dariye — Plateau Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

16. Ward Security Watches Nationwide (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.80):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Provide the Establishment of Ward Security Watches Nationwide and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Ben Murray-Bruce — Bayelsa East*).

Debate:

Question put and Negatived.

17. Office of the Federal and State Independent Prosecutor (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.82):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

18. National Social Integration in Nigeria Bill, 2017 (SB.313):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to make provision for National Social Integration in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Isah H. Misau — Bauchi Central*).

Debate:

Further consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

19. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 16th November, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:40 p.m.

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