



THE SENATE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 22nd November, 2017

1. The Senate met at 10:59 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 21st November, 2017.
Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Announcements:**
 - (a) **Southern Senators' Forum Meeting:**
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Hope O. Uzodinma (Imo West) as follows:



SOUTHERN SENATORS' FORUM

22nd November, 2017

*His Excellency,
Distinguished Senator Bukola Saraki,
President of the Senate,
Federal Republic of Nigeria,
National Assembly,
Abuja.*

Your Excellency,

ANNOUNCEMENT **NOTICE OF MEETING**

*There will be a meeting of Southern Senators' Forum, today, Wednesday, 22nd of November, 2017.
Immediately after the Plenary Session.*

Venue: Hearing Room 1, National Assembly Complex

Attendance is mandatory.

Do accept the assurances of my highest esteem.

(Signed)
SENATOR HOPE UZODINMA
(Chairman)

(b) **Northern Senators' Forum Meeting:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Abdullahi Adamu (*Nasarawa West*) as follows:



NORTHERN SENATORS' FORUM

November 22, 2017

*The President of the Senate,
National Assembly,
Abuja.*

Your Excellency,

NOTICE OF MEETING

This is to notify Members of the Northern Senators' Forum that a meeting has been scheduled as follows:

Date: *Wednesday, 22nd November, 2017*

Time: *Immediately after Plenary*

Venue: *Committee Room 211, 2nd Floor, Senate New Building.*

Distinguished Senators are urged to attend promptly.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Senator Abdullahi Adamu, CON

(Sarkin Yakin Keffi)

Chairman

(c) **Acknowledgment:**

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

(i) The Clerk and Staff of Gombe State House of Assembly, Gombe, Gombe State;

(ii) Staff and Students of Government Secondary School, Bwari, Abuja;

(iii) Staff and Students of Glorious Destiny Academy, Jikwoyi, Abuja;

(iv) Staff and Students of Zinaria International School, Abuja; and

(v) Staff and Students of Great Immaculate Heart Schools, Suleja, Niger State.

4. Petitions:

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Magnus N. Abe (*Rivers South-East*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Mr. Tanko Y. Hassan and others of Eleme Petrochemicals Company Cooperative Investments and Credit Society Limited, against the Federal Government of Nigeria, over equity shares in Indoroma Eleme Petrochemicals Company Limited. 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 Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Alecorn Legal Solicitors and Advocates on behalf of Col. I. O. Adebunmi and ten (10) others, against the Nigeria Army, over their wrongful dismissal. 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. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Dino Melaye (*Kogi West*) drew the attention of the Senate to the arrest episodes of Tuesday, 21st November, 2017 between Officers of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Nigeria Intelligence Agency (NIA), and Directorate of State Security Service (DSS). In an attempt to arrest of Mr. Ayodele Oke, and Mr. Ita Ekpenyong, former Director-General, (NIA) and former Director-General, (DSS) respectively, the EFCC Officers were prevented by Officers of NIA and DSS guiding their former Principals. He stated that this development embarrassed Nigeria as was widely reported in the social, print and electronic media. He therefore called on the Senate to constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the matter and report within two (2) weeks.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate and report within two (2) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate and report within two (2) weeks (*S/Res/127/03/17*).

6. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Act CAP N123 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 572) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Act 2000 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 578) — *Read the First Time.*

7. Joint Committee on Finance; Appropriations; and National Planning:

Report on the 2018 - 2020 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Finance; Appropriations; and National Planning on the 2018 - 2020 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP) (*Senator John O. Enoh — Cross River Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development:

Report on the Anti-Smuggling and Dumping of Agricultural Commodities in Nigeria:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development on the Anti-Smuggling and Dumping of Agricultural Commodities in Nigeria (*Senator Abdullahi Adamu — Nasarawa West*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

9. **Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission:**

Report on the Screening of Nominees for Confirmation as Resident Electoral Commissioners:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission on the Screening of Nominees for Confirmation as Resident Electoral Commissioners (*Senator Suleiman M. Nazif — Bauchi North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

10. **Motion:**

Urgent need to look into the Killings and Arson that took place in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State:

Motion made: That the Senate notes with dismay the killings, plunder and arson by armed bandits in four villages of Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State on Friday, 17th November, 2017;

notes also that the unfortunate attack left 23 people dead in Mallamawa and Tungar Kahau villages. Similarly, four villages, namely; Maikamarimi, Gidan Anna, Mallamawa and Tungar Kahau were burnt to ashes including all their farm produce worth about ₦385,000,000 Million;

notes further that Zamfara State is surrounded by two major Forests of Sugugu and Rugu; Sugugu Forest stretches through Anka, Bakura, Kaura Namoda, Maradun, Maru and Shinkafi Local Government Areas, while Rugu forest runs through Zurmi, Birnin Magaji and Tsafe LGAs and these forests provide adequate cover for the bandits, making Zamfara State more vulnerable to such attacks than any other State in Northern Nigeria;

aware that Zamfara State Government has over the years put in place a lot of measures to bring an end to the menace including but not limited to providing logistics to security agencies as well as engaging the bandits on dialogue with a promise of laying down their arms in order to be reintegrated back into the society;

concerned that the bandits surrounded the villages, blocked all escape routes and burnt down houses and silos and carted away dozens of cows and other domestic animals;

also concerned that hundreds of lives have been lost to such attacks in the State over the last four years;

worried that the Military Operation Harbin Kunama that was launched by President Muhammadu Buhari to flush out the bandits is still in place and such attacks are happening unabated;

further worried that the latest attacks have caused fear across the State, especially around rural communities who have had similar experiences in the past;

saddened that these security breaches are on the increase despite the huge resources being expended by the Federal and Zamfara State Governments; and

notes the need for collaborative effort between Federal and State Governments to come up with a definite policy on protecting its citizens especially those living in rural areas.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the dead victims of these horrendous attacks;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to evaluate Operation Harbin Kunama and come up with a clear policy on the protection of its citizens especially those in rural areas;

- (iii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the affected villages in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State; and
- (iv) send a delegation of the Senate to condole with the Government and people of Zamfara State on the incident and also visit the scenes and report within two(2) weeks (*Senator Tijjani Y. Kaura — Zamfara North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence for the dead victims of these horrendous attacks — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to evaluate Operation Harbin Kunama and come up with a clear policy on the protection of its citizens especially those in rural areas — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the affected villages in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do send a delegation of the Senate to condole with the Government and people of Zamfara State on the incident and also visit the scenes and report within two(2) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to review the current security infrastructure of the country in consultation with Security Agencies and provide appropriate way forward” (*Senator Yahaya A. Abdullahi — Kebbi North*)

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the dead victims of these horrendous attacks;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to evaluate Operation Harbin Kunama and come up with a clear policy on the protection of its citizens especially those in rural areas;
- (iii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately send relief materials to the affected villages in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State;
- (iv) send a delegation of the Senate to condole with the Government and people of Zamfara State on the incident and also visit the scenes and report within two(2) weeks; and
- (v) constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to review the current security infrastructure of the country in consultation with Security Agencies and provide appropriate way forward (*S/Res/128/03/17*).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

11. **Conference Committee:
Report on the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act Cap B2 LFN 2011 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 09):**
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
12. **Conference Committee:
Report on the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Bill, 2017 (SB. 257):**
Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.
13. **Development Planning and Projects Continuity Bill, 2017 (SB.42):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
14. **National Agricultural Land Development Authority Act N4 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 12):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
15. **Personal Information Protection Bill, 2017 (SB.310):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
16. **Acts and Conduct that are Undemocratic by Elected Officials Bill, 2017 (SB.51):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
17. **Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.289):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
18. **National Hospital for Women and Children (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.282):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
19. **Federal Scholarship Commission Bill, 2017 (SB.63):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
20. **Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) Act 2011 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.300):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
21. **National Alternative Energy Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB.83):**
Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

22. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 23rd November, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
(Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:31 p.m.

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