



THE SENATE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 20th December, 2017

1. The Senate met at 11:05 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 19th December, 2017.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

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

Confirmation of Appointment:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

18th December, 2017

*Distinguished Senator Abubakar Bukola Saraki
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

APPOINTMENT OF STATE RESIDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSIONERS FOR THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

In accordance with the provision of section 154(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigerians amended), I write to forward herewith the names of nine (9) Resident Electoral Commissioners appointed for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for the consideration of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	STATE
1.	Elder Monday Udoh Tom	Commissioner	Akwa Ibom
2.	Baba Abba Yusuf	Commissioner	Borno

3.	Eric Olawale	Commissioner	Osun
4.	Dr. Uthman Abdulrahman Ajidagba	Commissioner	Kwara
5.	Mr. Segun Agbaje	Commissioner	Ekiti
6.	Dr. Cyril Omorogbe	Commissioner	Edo
7.	Yahaya Bello	Commissioner	Nasarawa
8.	Dr. Emmanuel Alex Hart	Commissioner	Rivers
9.	Mohammed Magaji Ibrahim	Commissioner	Gombe

The Curriculum Vitae of the nominees are attached herewith.

While thanking you immensely in anticipation of the early consideration and confirmation of the above appointments by the Senate, please accept, Mr. Senate President the assurances of my highest esteem.

*Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari*

4. Petitions:

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Aliyu S. Sabi (*Niger North*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from his constituent, Kabiru U. Faruq, against the Bureau for Public Enterprise (BPE), over non payment of severance allowance. 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 Mao A. Ohuabunwa (*Abia North*) drew the attention of the Senate to two (2) petitions from:
- (a) Engr. Maurice Okoro, of Efab Petroleum Limited, against Zakhem/NNPC over illegal termination of contract; and
 - (b) Barr. Okey Igwe, on behalf of Maduabuchi A. Jacob, against the Nigeria Police, over unjust treatment by the Police.

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 Rules 42 and 52, Senator Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) drew the attention of the Senate to the abuse of power by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) as it relates to its involvement in a purely commercial transaction involving Mr. Chukwuma Innocent, Chairman and Managing Director of Innoson Motors and Guarantee Trust Bank (GTB). He informed the Senate that EFCC arrested the industrialist that employs over 50,000 Nigerians, over a commercial transaction of Five hundred Million Naira (₦500,000,000) only that is already before the Supreme Court for determination. This according to him has violated Sections 34(3) of the 1999 Constitution as amended. It portends danger to our nascent democracy and sends a wrong signal to his foreign partners. He urged the Senate to investigate the matter.

Debate:

Propose Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do intervene in the arrest of Mr. Chukwuma Innocent, Chairman and Managing Director of Innoson Motors by the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) —
Agreed to.

Propose Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do mandate its Committee on Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes to investigate the matter and report the next Legislative Day — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) intervene in the arrest of Mr. Chukwuma Innocent, Chairman and Managing Director of Innoson Motors by the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC); and
- (ii) mandate its Committee on Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes to investigate the matter and report the next Legislative Day (*S/Res/141/03/17*).

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu (*Imo East*) drew the attention of the Senate to the news gaining trend in social and print media on the recent approval of \$1 Billion by the National Economic Council (NEC) from the Excess Crude Account to fight insurgency. 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)].

7. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Suleiman M. Nazif (*Bauchi North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the demise of two illustrious sons of Bauchi State—the Emir of Katagum, Alhaji Mohammed Kabiru Umar, CON; and the Wazirin Katagum, Alhaji Suleiman Katagum. He urged the Senate to observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased.

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

8. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Mohammed D. Goje (*Gombe Central*) further drew the attention of the Senate to the demise of the Emir of Katagum Alhaji Mohammed Kabiru Umar, CON; and the Wazirin Katagum, Alhaji Suleiman Katagum, who had contributed immensely to the growth and development of Nigeria in general and North-East in particular. He stated that Nigeria has lost these great men and prayed that Almighty Allah grant them Aljanat Firdaus; and also to protect the family. He urged the Senate to send a delegation to commiserate with the families, people and Government of Bauchi State.

By leave of Senate, a condolence delegation would be constituted to condole the families, people and Government of Bauchi State.

9. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Stamp Duties Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 889) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (HB. 364 & 656) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) National Youth Service Corps Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 556) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Chartered Institute of Forensic Accountants of Nigeria Bill, 2017 (SB. 581) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Investment Assurances Bill, 2017 (SB. 587) — *Read the First Time.*
- (vi) Nigerian Coast Guards (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 579) — *Read the First Time.*

10. Committee on Trade and Investment.

Report on the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Act CAP D5 LFN 2011 (Amendment) Bill 2017 (SB.06):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment on the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Act CAP D5 LFN 2011(Amendment) Bill 2017 (*Senator Sabo Mohammed — Jigawa South-West*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

11. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:

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

- a. Mr. Chidi Nwoha, against the Nigeria Police for alleged unlawful dismissal from the Service;
- b. Mr. Esenwa Chukwuemeka Leonard, against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) for alleged wrongful termination of his appointment by the Corporation;
- c. Onwuka Egwu & Co. on behalf of Chief Victor Amadi and Three (3) Others, against the Lagos International Trade Fair Complex Management Board, and the Executives of the Auto Spare Parts and Machinery Dealers Association (ASPMDA) for the illegal sale of spaces and erection of structures within the ASPMDA section in the Trade Fair Complex;
- d. Christopher A. Eichie Esq. on behalf of Major Ali Abdullahi (rtd), against the Chief of Army Staff and the Minister of Defence for refusing to pay him a judgement sum of ₦25.3m awarded in his favour;
- e. Mr. Elomeme Austine and Seventy (70) Other Staff of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) for alleged wrongful retirement from the agency;
- f. Cpl. Obinna Ogbu, against the Nigeria Police for alleged wrongful dismissal from the service; and
- g. Dr. Adedapo D. Aladesanmi, against the Police Service Commission (PSC) for refusing to issue him a letter of appointment after completing police training (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Reports Laid.

12. Executive Communication:

Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation on the confirmation of the nominations of the Chairman and Members of the Code of Conduct Bureau:

S/N	Name	Designation	State	Zone
1.	Dr. Muhammed Isah	Chairman	Jigawa	North-West
2.	Murtala Kankia	Member	Katsina	North-West
3.	Emmanuel E. Attah	Member	Cross River	South-South
4.	Danjuma Sado	Member	Edo	South-South
5.	Ubolo I. Okpanachi	Member	Kogi	North-Central
6.	Ken Madaki Alkali	Member	Nasarawa	North-Central
7.	Prof. S. F. Ogundare	Member	Oyo	South-West

8.	Hon. Ganiyu Hamzat	Member	Ogun	South-West
9.	Saad A. Abubakar	Member	Gombe	North-East
10.	Dr. Vincent Nwanli	Member	Ebonyi	South-East

(Senate Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to report within two (2) weeks.

13. Motions:

(a) ***Urgent need to investigate and curtail the on-going monumental economic waste at the Nigerian Customs Service:***

Motion made: That the Senate notes with great displeasure reports showing that the Nigeria Customs Service currently has in its warehouses loads of seized perishable goods of high economic value. These includes food items, goods obviously seized from commercial traders;

acknowledges that it is the duty of the Customs Service to ensure that contraband goods do not make their way into the Nigerian markets through illegal importation;

observes that this objective is to develop the Nigerian markets and avoid Nigeria becoming a dumping ground for contraband items. This is to ensure economic efficiency, growth and development;

further notes that the objective is fully defeated if it leads to hardship, inefficiency, waste and destruction of value. A reason the Custom Service in the past had adopted the practice of auctioning these items for a more efficient use of the ceased goods especially with the high level of economic hardship that our people are facing at the moment;

observes that this practice denies the offenders the benefit of the economic value of the items and ensures that the countries value in the transaction is not completely destroyed as a result;

notes that these reports indicate that the Customs warehouses in Kano, Katsina, Sokoto, Maiduguri, Western Marine Lagos, Eastern Marine Port Harcourt, Zone C Federal operations Owerri and Port Harcourt are currently filled with these seized perishable items and rotting away at great cost to the economy, our people and the nation in general;

notes with dismay that these items which ought to have been kept for only a short interval are now being kept for so long in the Custom's warehouses, amounting to large economic waste;

notes that prior to now, these goods when seized are auctioned off by the Customs to the general public. However, these auctions are rarely done in recent times and these reports show that the Custom warehouses are brimming with spoiled or almost spoiled goods while people are dying of hunger;

observes that in these desperate times when hunger is prevalent in the country, the public auctions ought to be done more efficiently to help alleviate the hunger situation rather than have these goods waste away in badly stored conditions at these warehouses; and

observes that it is also not in the general interest of our economy to contain these wastes, hence the need for customs to decongest its warehouses and turn these wastes to useful gain for the Nigerian people.

Accordingly resolves to:

constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the veracity of these claims and advise the Senate accordingly (Senator Mohammed Hassan — Yobe South).

*Debate:****Proposed Resolution:***

Question: That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the veracity of these claims and advise the Senate accordingly — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the veracity of these claims and advise the Senate accordingly (S/Res/142/03/17).

Ad hoc Committee:

The Senate President named the following Senators as Members of *Ad hoc* Committee on Economic Waste at the Nigeria Customs Service:

(i)	Senator Dino Melaye	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Bayero U. Nafada	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Babajide C. Omoworare	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Gilbert E. Nnaji	—	Member
(v)	Senator Mohammed Hassan	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Abdullahi Adamu	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Albert B. Akpan	—	Member
(viii)	Senator Binta Masi Garba	—	Member
(ix)	Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu	—	Member

(b) ***Proposed sale of the National Theatre and the Tafawa Balewa Square Lagos by the Federal Government of Nigeria:***

Motion made: That the Senate notes that the media is awashed about the sale of Assets belonging to Federal Government, including the National Theatre and the Tafawa Balewa Square in Lagos to raise more funds to finance the 2018 Budget;

concerned that Tafawa Balewa Square represents the land mark on which Nigeria got the instrument of Nationhood at a ceremony on the morning of 1st October, 1960 when the Union Jack was lowered down and the Green-White-Green National flag was raised and hoisted;

informed that The National Theatre specifically built to host the 2nd Black African Art Festival named the Festival of Art and Culture (FESTAC) in January/February 1977, where all Black people across the globe gathered to celebrate the uniqueness of the Black race;

concerned that these institutions and structures occupied a historical landmark, monument and serve as a symbol of our nationhood, desires and attainment;

aware that these economic and culture values are immeasurable to our cultural pride and symbols of nationhood that can be readily developed as tourist attraction and also for the teaching of history and civic studies;

recalled that in the discussion towards the 2018 budget, the Senate approved a loan facility for the Federal Government to finance the 2018 budget;

notes the transfer of power from the military to the Second Republic was also at the Tafawa Balewa Square when General Obasanjo handed over power to elected President Shehu Shagari on 1st October, 1979;

notes also that the National Theatre with all its facilities represents a landmark of history of the congregation of all Black People of the world, which today may be difficult to repeat. It is a place of history and a memorial to the Black People of the world;

informed that nowhere in the world did any nation dispose of the symbols of its nationhood and attainment. The United States of America cherished its attainment of independence as the structures relating to its independence are under the National park service as monuments to cherish and behold. They are all places of tourist attraction;

worried that several unsuccessful attempts were made in the past to sell off the Tafawa Balewa Square and the National Theatre under some disguise. To permanently block any other such attempt now and the future, the Tafawa Balewa Square and the National Theatre should be declared National Monuments - Including the State House (Presidential Lodge) Marina Lagos;

understands that in other nations, the houses or residence of past leaders especially the first set of Rulers are usually declared national monuments. The Lugard House in Lokoja is a National monument; while the Residence of our first Prime Minister at Onikan is yet to be declared a national monument; and

aware that the house of the colonial Governor of Eastern Nigeria in Calabar is a national monument. If we had continued in that line in which we recognized the importance and history of our colonial masters, why not our own Independence? It is for these reasons therefore that I personally move that the plan by the Federal Government to sell these structures should not be allowed.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government as a matter urgency to stop the planned sale of the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS) and the National Theatre;
- (ii) declare the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS), National Theatre, the President's house at Marina, the Prime Minister's Lodge, Onikan; the National Assembly Complex, Lagos as National Monuments; and
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture to immediately develop these areas into a viable Tourist Attraction for the Country (*Senator Fatimat O. Raji-Rasaki — Ekiti Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government as a matter urgency to stop the planned sale of the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS) and the National Theatre — *Agreed to*.

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do declare the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS), National Theatre, the President's house at Marina, the Prime Minister's Lodge, Onikan; the National Assembly Complex, Lagos as National Monuments.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word “Lagos” in line 3, *insert* the words “and Dodan Barrack” (*Senator Dino Melaye — Kogi West*).

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

Proposed Resolution(iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture to immediately develop these areas into a viable Tourist Attraction for the Country.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word “develop” in line 2, *delete* the words “these area” and *insert* the words “Tafawa Balewa Square and the National Theatre” (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do mandate the Committee on Culture and Tourism to identify and articulate various edifices to be classified as National Monument and report within four (4) weeks” (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government as a matter of urgency to stop the planned sale of the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS) and the National Theatre;
- (ii) declare the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS), National Theatre, the President's house at Marina, the Prime Minister's Lodge, Onikan; the National Assembly Complex, Lagos and Dodan Barrack as National Monuments;
- (iii) urge the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture to immediately develop Tafawa Balewa Square and the National Theatre into a viable Tourist Attraction for the Country; and
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Culture and Tourism to identify and articulate various edifices to be classified as National Monument and report within four (4) weeks (*S/Res/143/03/17*).

14. Federal Institute of Industrial Research Bill, 2017 (SB. 585):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Federal Institute of Industrial Research for the Development of Micro Small, Medium and Large Industries aimed at rapid Industrialization and Socio-economic Development of Nigeria and for Other Related Matters Thereto, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

(Deputy Senate President in Chair)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Science and Technology to report within Two (2) weeks.

15. Nursing and Midwifery Act CAP N143 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB. 451):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to amend the Nursing and Midwifery Act CAP N143 LFN 2004 to restructure the composition of the Council, review penalty provisions, the composition of the Tribunal and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Rabi'u M. Musa — Kano Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

16. Personal Information Protection Bill, 2017 (SB.310):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Promote the Protection of Personal Information Processed by Public and Private Bodies; to Introduce Information Protection Principles so as to Establish Minimum Requirements for the Processing of Personal Information and Other Matters Connected Thereto, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Stella A. Oduah — Anambra North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on ICT and Cybercrime; and Information and National Orientation to report within Four (4) weeks.

17. Federal College of Education (Technical) Arochukwu (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 519):

Motion made: That a Bill for an act to provide for the establishment of the Federal College of Education (Technical) Arochukwu and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

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.

18. Federal Task Force on Revenue Defaulters Piracy (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 449):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of Federal Task Force on Revenue Defaulters Piracy and National Heritage Protection and Other Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu — Imo East*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Finance; and Culture and Tourism to report within Four (4) weeks.

19. National Hospital for Women and Children (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (SB.282):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to amend the National Hospital for Women and Children, Abuja to effect change of the name to National Hospital, Abuja and for Related Matters, 2017 be read the Second Time (*Senator Olanrewaju A. Tejuoso — Ogun Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

20. Correction, Reformation and Re-integration Centre (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (SB. 308):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

21. **Free Integrated Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Care Programme for Women and Children Bill, 2017 (SB. 277):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

22. **Vigilante Group of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (HB. 718) - Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

23. **Subsidiary Legislation (Legislative Scrutiny) Bill, 2017 (HB. 13) - Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

24. **Courts and Tribunals Fines and Financial Penalties Bill, 2017 (HB. 642) - Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

25. **Radiographers (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 676) - Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

26. **Medical Residency Training Bill, 2017 (HB. 982) - Concurrence:**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

27. **Committee on Capital Market:
Report on the Demutualization Bill, 2017 (SB. 531):**

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

28. **Committee on Capital Market:
Report on the need to determine the status of Unclaimed ₦90b Dividends in Securities for Nigerian Investors:**

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

29. **Adjournment:**
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 21st December, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:48 p.m.

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