



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 24th January, 2018

1. The Senate met at 10:52 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 23rd January, 2018.
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:

2017 Budget Estimates of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC):



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

27th December, 2017

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

Dear Distinguished Senate President,

**2017 BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE NIGER DELTA
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NDDC)**

Pursuant to the Niger Delta Development Commission (Establishment) Act, I forward herewith the 2017 Budget Estimates of the Niger Delta Development Commission, for the kind consideration and passage by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

While thanking you for your usual expeditious consideration, please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,
(Signed)
Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcements:

(a) *Invitation to Memorial Dinner:*

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Stella A. Oduah (*Anambra North*) as follows:



Sen. Princess Stella Adaeze Oduah, OON
ANAMBRA NORTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

January 18, 2018

Your Excellency
Senator (Dr) Abubakar Bukola Saraki, CON
The Senate President
Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly
Abuja

Your Excellency Sir,

INVITATION LETTER TO ATTEND MEMORIAL DINNER OF MY SON CHINEDU MAXWELL ODUAH

I wish to inform your Excellency and my dear distinguished colleagues of a Memorial Dinner for my late son Chinedu Maxwell Oduah.

His aspiration was to impact positively on the people's lives. This he was doing till his untimely death.

To commemorate his contributions to humanity, we are re-launching a foundation scheme in his memory, The Maxwell Foundation.

DATE: February 8TH, 2018

VENUE: Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja

TIME: 6:00 PM PROMPT

The Vision of the foundation is to relive Buwa's dream to empower the less privileged. In his words "Every child is endowed with a peculiar talent hence deserves the support of everyone to actualize it".

The Foundation has been involved in bringing light and succour to the less privileged children through its numerous scholarship programs, skill development scheme.

Your presence will be highly appreciated.

A formal invitation will be sent to all.

Yours Truly
(Signed)
Senator Princess Stella Oduah, OON

(b) Conference Committee:

The Senate President named the following Senators as Conferees on Electoral Act No. 6. 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (SB.231 & 234):

(i)	Senator Suleiman M. Nazif	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Shehu Sani	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Biodun C. Olujimi	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Hope O. Uzodinma	—	Member
(v)	Senator Dino Melaye	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Peter O. Nwaoboshi	—	Member

(c) Acknowledgment:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of Honourable Speaker and Members of the Puntland State of Somalia who were at the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

5. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Mao A. Oluabunwa (*Abia North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the letter of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation read by the Senate President on the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Budget Estimates Bill, 2017. He made reference to the relevant Section of the Act Establishing the Commission which spelt out the composition of the Board. He informed the Senate that about three States were not represented in the Board of the Commission due to non completion of the screening exercise started by the relevant Committee long before the resolution taken by the Senate to suspend screening of all Presidential nominees. He urged the Senate to allow the Committee to complete the exercise so that these States will be adequately represented in the Commission.

By leave of the Senate, Secretariat is mandated to look into date of the Executive Communication to the Senate.

6. Privileges:

Rising on Rule 14, Senator Kabiru G. Marafa (*Zamfara Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to the discussion on national security in a Closed Session and the subsequent comments made by Senator Ben Murray-Bruce (*Bayelsa East*) in both print and electronic media contrary to the Rules of the Senate. He noted that this impugned on his privilege as a Senator and the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. He demanded that Senator Ben Murray-Bruce apologise to him and the entire Senate.

By the leave of the Senate, Senator Ben Murray-Bruce accordingly apologised.

7. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) FCT Appropriation Act 2017 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.598) — *Read the First Time.*

Motion made: That the Senate do suspend Rule 79 of the Senate Standing Orders for the Second Reading of the FCT Appropriation Act 2017 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.598) (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory, to report on Tuesday, 30th January, 2018.

- (ii) Fire (Hazard, Prevention and Safeguard) Bill, 2018 (SB. 568) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Federal Polytechnic Orogun, Delta State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 549) — *Read the First Time.*

- (iv) Federal College of Education Usugbenu, Irrua, Edo State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 554) — *Read the First Time.*

8. Committee on Communications:

Report on the Nigerian Postal Service Act Cap N127 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 106 & 437);

Motion made: that the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Communications on the Nigerian Postal Service Act Cap N127 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (*Senator Gilbert Nnaji — Enugu East*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

9. Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND:

Report on the Federal University Gashua (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 459):

Motion made: that the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND on the Federal University Gashua (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (*Senator Barau I. Jibrin — Kano North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

10. Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND:

Report on the Federal University of Health Sciences Otukpo, Benue State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 504):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and TETFUND on the Federal University of Health Sciences Otukpo, Benue State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (*Senator Barau I. Jibrin — Kano North*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

11. Motion:

Monumental Corruption at the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC):

Motion made: The Senate notes that the Brass LNG was incorporated by the Corporate Affairs Commission on 9th December, 2003 and is limited by shares of 1million USD;

observes that the shareholders of this company are: the Federal Government; Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation - (NNPC) represented by Mr. Funsho Kukpolokun with 490 Thousand USD shares, Philip Brass Limited whose address is in Cayman Island, British West Indies represented by Mr. R.L. Smith with a share capital of 170 Thousand USD; Eni International B.V with address in Amsterdam, Netherland represented by Mr. A. Forzoli with share of 170 Thousand USD, while the fourth shareholder Chevron Texaco Brass LNG Limited with address in Bemuda represented by Mr. J.R. Pryor with a share of 170 Thousand USD;

observes that from the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) records, the following are Directors of the Company amongst other foreigners:

1. Gaus Obaseki Jackson, Former GMD NNPC;
2. Yakubu Andrew, Former GMD NNPC;
3. Ibogomo Gbeyansa, Staff NNPC;

4. Dawa Joseph Thlama, Staff NNPC;
5. Ige David, Staff NNPC; and
6. Mr. Buba Mohamman.

observes that from the Memorandum of Understanding, the Brass LNG is supposed to be a Joint Venture Company with the NNPC having the controlling shares and their account domiciled with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN);

surprised that the account of this company is with Keystone Bank opened on 1st August, 2012 with account number 1005825168 a USD domiciliary account with a closing balance of USD 137, 086, 462:54 currently, while the sum of USD 648,179,487 was recorded as the account's last inflow on 19th September, 2016 and a withdrawal of 4 million USD was effected on the 18th November, 2016 without Bank Verification Number (BVN);

observes that a lot of questions are begging for answers as regards this company (Brass LNG) - The status of investment and principal objectives of the company?

- The signatories to the account?
- The status of the Federal Government investment?
- The returns on the investment?
- Was due process followed in the formation and appropriation of shares in the company?

convinced that there is an urgent need to define the position of the company viz-a-viz its operation, management and mandate in order to halt this seeming corruption.

Accordingly resolves to:

mandate the Committee on Public Accounts to carry out a holistic investigation into the activities of the Brass LNG and the complicity therein as well as the level of corruption that has taken place and report within four (4) weeks (*Senator Dino Melaye — Kogi West*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do mandate its Committee on Public Accounts to carry out a holistic investigation into the activities of the Brass Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and the complicity therein as well as the level of corruption that has taken place and report within four (4) weeks.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "Committee on Public Accounts" and *insert* the words "Committees on Public Accounts; and Gas" instead thereof (*Senator James E. Manager — Delta South*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate mandate its Committees on Public Accounts; and Gas to carry out a holistic investigation into the activities of the Brass Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and the complicity therein as well as the level of corruption that has taken place and report within four (4) weeks (S/Res/169/03/18).

12. National Institute of Sports Act CAP N52 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 75):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the Amendment of the National Institute of Sports Act CAP N52 LFN 2004 to provide for the decentralization of the Institute and for Other Related Matters, 2016 be read the Second Time (*Senator Shehu Sani — Kaduna Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

13. Acts and Conduct that are Undemocratic by Elected Officials Bill, 2018 (SB.51):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to prescribe punishment for Acts and Conduct that are undemocratic by elected officials and or person and other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senator Bala Ibn Na'allah — Kebbi 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.

14. Chartered Institute of Forensic Accountants of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 581):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of the Chartered Institute of Forensic Accountants of Nigeria and for Other Related Matters, 2018 (*Senator Dino Melaye — Kogi West*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

15. Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.289):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport of Nigeria and for Other 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 Land Transport to report within Four (4) weeks.

16. National Oil Spill Detection Response Agency Act 2006 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.557):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection Response Agency Act 2006 and for Other Related Matters, 2018 (*Senator Oluremi S. Tinubu — Lagos Central*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

17. African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Domestication and Ratification) Bill, 2018 (SB.491):

Motion made: Bill for An Act to make Provision for the Prevention, Protection and Provision of Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and Affected Communities in Nigeria and give effect to the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa and for Other Related Matters, 2018 (*Senator David Umaru — Niger East*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

18. Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) Act 2011 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.300):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

19. Correction, Reformation and Re-integration Centre (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 308):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Correction, Reformation and Re-integration Centre to provide support services for Prisons in the area of reformation, re-integration and youthful offender programming and for Other Related Matters, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senator Gershom O. H. Bassey — Cross River South*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

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

20. National Agricultural Land Development Authority Act N4 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.12):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

21. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 25th January, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:19 p.m.

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