



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 18th April, 2018

1. The Senate met at 10:53 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 17th April, 2018.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Appreciation:**

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Theodore A. Orji (*Abia Central*) as follows:



Senator T. A. Orji (Ochendo) CON
Abia Central Senatorial District

17th April, 2018

*The Senate President,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.*

THANK YOU LETTER

I write to thank the Senate Leadership and all my Distinguished colleagues especially the many that made it a point of duty to attend the "Thank you" reception for me by the Ukwa Ngwa People of Abia State on the 13th April, 2018 at Ngwa High School, Aba.

The presence of my Distinguished colleagues added a lot of colour to the ceremony.

I thank you sincerely but God thanks you the more.

My family and I sincerely appreciate.

*Yours sincerely,
(Signed)*

Sen. T. A Orji Ochendo

(b) Wedding Notification:

The Deputy Senate President read a letter from Senator Ibrahim A. Gobir (*Sokoto East*) as follows:

**SENATOR IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI GOBIR, MFR**

Ph.D, M. Eng, B. Eng, C. Eng, MBA, FIEE, FNSE, FNIM

Sardaunan Gobir I Sokoto East Senatorial District

CHAIRMAN SENATE SERVICES

Member, FCT, Aviation, Poverty Alleviation & Procurement Committees

REMINDER

17th April, 2018

*His Excellency,
President of the Senate,
Dr. Abubakar Bukola Saraki,*

WEDDING NOTIFICATION

This is to inform you and my distinguished colleagues that there will be a Wedding Fatihah of our Daughter Dr. Saratu Ibrahim Gobir which will, Inshah-Allah, take place on Saturday the 21st of April, 2018.

This ceremony is scheduled to take place in my Guest House at No.6, Sir Kashim Ibrahim Road near Police Officers' Mess in Sokoto, Sokoto State at 12:00 Noon Prompt. Reception follows immediately at the same venue.

We will certainly appreciate your presence at this important and memorable occasion. In the event that you may not be opportuned to grace the occasion in person, please include the couple in your daily prayers so that they will have a happy and prosperous matrimonial life.

However, in the event that our formal invitation card does not reach you on time, please consider this letter as your formal invitation to the Ceremony.

We look forward to seeing you at the occasion.

(Signed)

Sen. Dr. Ibrahim A. Gobir, MFR

(c) Acknowledgment:

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

- (i) Members of the National Association of Kano State Students, Cotonou Chapter, Benin Republic; and
- (ii) Staff and Students of Sacred Heart Primary School, Kaduna State.

4. Petitions:

- (i) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf (*Taraba Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Aliyu Marama & Co. on behalf of Hajiya Maimuna S. Aliyu, against the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), over wanton harassment, embarrassment and intimidation. 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 Andrew I. Uchendu (*Rivers East*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Chief Enyinna Onuegbu KSC & Co. on behalf of Seventy-Three (73) Communities of Obiafu in Rivers State, against Nigeria Liquified Natural Gas Company Limited (NLNG), over non payment for land compensation. 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.

- (iii) Rising on Rule 41, Senator Samuel N. Anyanwu (*Imo East*) drew the attention of the Senate to Eleven (11) petition from:
1. C.T. Obiajunwa, Esq on behalf of Parsley Consults Ltd. for the people of Azuzuama Community, against Nigerian Agip for refusal to compensate the community and affected families during the Tebidara-Clough creek pipeline explosion and fire outbreak;
 2. Engineer Rasheedat Al-Bashir, against Abuja Electricity Distribution Company for unlawful dismissal;
 3. Mutum Sheyin Paul, against NNPC/KRPC, Kaduna for wrongful termination of employment/lack of payment of due benefits and entitlements;
 4. Mr. Olusola O. Rhiogbere, Esq. on behalf of Chiltern solicitors for Mr. Gilbert Fiyebor, against Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, Delta State for unlawful and illegal termination of employment;
 5. Nnamdi Ugwu, Esq on behalf of Mr. Ojochenemi Fidelis Ebi, against Setraco Nigeria Limited (Eastern Zone) for non-payment of compensation and other benefits;
 6. Fidelis Anosike on behalf of Daily Times of Nigeria, against Nigeria Police and Corporate Affairs Commission for gross injustice, abuse of office and connivance to destroy Daily Times of Nigeria;
 7. Mrs. Oghuehi A. Theresa, against the Nigerian Air Force for unlawful and wrongful dismissal from the Service;
 8. Ofonmbuk Akpan and 6 others, against Exxon Mobil for gross violation of Local Content Act, Economic Sabotage; Racism; Transfer of Jobs to Higher Wage foreigners and request for immediate redress;
 9. Solomon Chiemezie Nnolim on behalf of Segrils Technical Services, against the Nigeria Police, Headquarters Abuja for seized ₦6,301,200.00 for over eight years;
 10. Ashiegbu Desmond Ex: F/No. 170095, against the Nigerian Police for unlawful dismissal and inhuman negligent treatment meted out on him; and
 11. Jacob M. Jai on behalf of Destiny Marine & Shipping Co. Ltd, against the Nigerian Ports Authority for nefarious activities in the maritime sector (Stevedoring Services)

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. **Invasion of the Senate:**

Some thugs invaded the Senate Chamber of Federal Republic of Nigeria at about 11:10 a.m. to disrupt Plenary Session.

6. **Closed Session:**

Closed Session — 11:18 a.m.

Open Session — 12:36 a.m.

By the Leave of the Senate, Nigerians are assured that normal Plenary Session has resumed, and our democracy would not be taken for granted. The invaders shall be fully dealt with accordingly.

7. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Immigration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 480) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) National Broadcasting Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 168) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Nigerian Film Commission Bill, 2018 (HB. 584) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Nigerian Academy of Sciences (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 662) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Animal Health and Husbandry Technologist Registration Board of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 664) — *Read the First Time.*
- (vi) National Child Protection and Enforcement Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 665) — *Read the First Time.*
- (vii) Franchise Bill, 2018 (SB. 666) — *Read the First Time.*
- (viii) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery Isiala-Mbano, Imo State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 628) — *Read the First Time.*

8. Committee on Trade and Investment:

Report on the Companies and Allied Matters Act CAP C20 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB. 355):

Presentation of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

9. Motion 1:

The Exclusion of Zamfara State by the Federal Government in the distribution of 30,380mt of grains from National Strategic Reserve to IDP in Nigeria and other related matters:

Motion made: That the Senate is aware of the initiative by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) in 2017 in conjunction with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), as reported by News Express of 12th June, 2017 to distribute through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), 332,360 bags of Maize; 682,726 bags of Soy Beans and 229,360 bags of Sorghum to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Bauchi, Gombe and Taraba State;

aware of the directives given to Nigeria Customs Services to distribute seized food items to IDP's in the North East (NE);

also aware of the recent announcement, as reported by Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) News Line of Sunday 15th April, 2018, of FGN approval for an intervention with over 30,000MT of grains to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States in the NE and in Benue and Nasarawa States in North Central (NC);

concerned by the conspicuous absence of Zamfara State in these programmes of intervention to the IDPs, including the recently announced grains intervention to victims displaced by conflicts and other Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) in the NE and NC by the FGN;

aware that Zamfara State is only second to Borno and Yobe States in terms of number of people killed, raped or displaced by armed conflict;

further aware that Zamfara State, in terms of casualty ratio and displacements, is ahead of many States in the NE and NC being given prominence by the mainstream media;

aware that no month passes without report of one form of armed attack or kidnapping in one community or the other from the first attack in Lingyado, Maru Local Government Area in 2011 to the most recent attack on Kuru-Kuru town in Anka Local Government last week;

further aware that the state lost over 300 people within 2 months, starting with the gruesome murder of more than 100 people in Birane town, Zurmi Local Government; 6 & 9 in Goran Namaye and Kaya towns of Maradun Local Government Area; 25 people in Unguwar Alhazai, Yan-Kuzo and Yanwarin Daji communities; 9 in Bawo, Akuzo, Hegin-Mahe and surrounding villages of Wonaka in Gusau Local Government Area; and 15 in Yartashan Sahabi, Kuran Mota and neighbouring villages, this is in addition to the attack on Oanjibga, Kizara and its environs where many other people remained unaccounted for;

further aware of the recent several killings and wanton destructions in Bini, Dibgawa, Dogon-Daji, Maru Local Government Areas, in addition to the killings of over 16 people in Tungar Rakumi and surrounding villages in Bungudu Local Government;

aware of the recent killings of over 100 people in Anka emirate, including Bawan Daji and the most recent killing of about 26 persons in Kuru-Kuru village in Anka Local Government Area;

disturbed that these attacks have resulted in the death of between 10,000-15,000 people from 2011 to date;

also disturbed that the activities of these armed bandits have resulted in the burning down of several households, the destruction of yet to be estimated hectares of farmland, including cattle and other form of livestock rustled. This is in addition to the loss of over ₦300 Million paid as ransom by individuals and communities;

aware that there is an estimated 16,000 widows, about 5,000 rape victims and about 40,000 orphans, taking a conservative figure of 8,000 adults killed, leaving behind an average of 2 wives and five children/family;

further disturbed that these killings have brought untold hardship to several other families who have to squeeze and accommodate the displaced families sharing accommodation and scarce food items and clothing; and

alarmed by the negative consequence arising from these and the need for more humanitarian interventions to the growing number of widows and orphans.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) to, with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara State in the current distribution of 30,380MT of grains approved for distribution to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North East (NE) and North Central (NC);
- (ii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, in conjunction with security agencies, conduct a holistic census of people injured, raped, orphaned and widowed as a result of the activities of armed bandits in the State with a view to assisting them through the various interventions by well-meaning individual Nigerians, Corporate bodies, Ministries, Department, and Agencies (MDA's), Local and Foreign Bodies; and
- (iii) designate the State as a priority area in all activities of Local and International humanitarian and donor agencies (*Senator Kabiru G. Marafa — Zamfara Central*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) to, with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara State in the current distribution of 30,380MT of grains approved for distribution to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North East (NE) and North Central (NC).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the Proposed Resolution (i) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

“That the Senate do urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara and Ebonyi States; and other Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) across Nigeria” (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, in conjunction with security agencies, conduct a holistic census of people injured, raped, orphaned and widowed as a result of the activities of armed bandits in the State with a view to assisting them through the various interventions by well-meaning individual Nigerians, Corporate bodies, Ministries, Department, and Agencies (MDA's), Local and Foreign Bodies — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution(iii):

Question: That the Senate do designate the State as a priority area in all activities of local and international humanitarian and donor agencies — *Negated.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara and Ebonyi States; and other Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across Nigeria; and
- (ii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, in conjunction with security agencies, conduct a holistic census of people injured, raped, orphaned and widowed as a result of the activities of armed bandits in the State with a view to assisting them through the various interventions by well-meaning individual Nigerians, Corporate bodies, Ministries, Department, and Agencies (MDA's), Local and Foreign Bodies (S/Res/225/03/18).

10. Invasion of the Senate Chamber:***Solidarity Visit from House of Representatives:*****Privileges of the Floor:*****Admission of Deputy Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives:***

Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit Deputy Speaker, Leadership and Honourable Members of the House of Representatives in solidarity to the floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy Speaker, Leadership and Honourable Members of the House of Representatives accordingly admitted.

The Deputy Senate President stated that the Senate Chamber was attacked by some intruders desecrating the hallow Chamber of the Senate. This led to the disruption of Plenary Session as they made away with the mace. The same men almost kidnaped two (2) Distinguished Senators within precinct of the National Assembly. This situation is condemned and unacceptable to our democracy. He also expressed his gratitude to Deputy Speaker and Honourable Members for the solidarity visit.

The Deputy Speaker responded by condemning the attack and promised that the House of Representatives would partner with Senate in its drive at defending Nigerian Legislative Arm of the Government in all ramification. He further stated that the House of Representatives would resume its sitting after the visit to continue the normal legislative work and also pass a Resolution, urging the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) and Director-General, Directorate of Security Services (DSS) to retrieve the Senate mace within twenty-four (24) hours. He concluded that the House of Representatives was proud of the Senate.

By the leave of the Senate, Inspector-General of Police; and Director-General, Directorate of Security Services (DSS) were mandated to recover the mace taken away by the intruders within twenty-four (24) hours and report to the Senate accordingly.

Motion 2:

The need to include Ebonyi State and other States' Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Federal Government Grain Distribution Scheme under the Special Relief Intervention Plan:

Motion made: That the Senate is aware that the Federal Government, under the Special Relief Intervention Plan is distributing about 40,000 metric tons of grain comprising of Rice, Maize, Sorghum and Soya beans to about 1.8 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North-East to address the food crisis resulting from the insurgency in the region;

aware also that the Federal Government sometimes last year issued directives to the Nigeria Customs Service to distribute seized perishable items to IDPs in the North East;

observes that National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in the past one month have been enumerating and distributing food items to the affected persons at their doorsteps in camps and host communities States in the North East;

notes that a breakdown of food items distributed indicated that 144,406 displaced persons, representing 24,068 households, were enumerated in Yobe, while in Adamawa, a total of 17,892 IDPs, representing 4,656 households, have also been enumerated; and

worried that despite the monumental humanitarian crisis caused by the communal clashes in Ebonyi State and other States of the Federation resulting in IDPs camps which is beyond what the State Government can handle alone, no agency of the Federal Government including NEMA has come to the aid of the victims by way of providing them with relief materials despite the Special Relief Intervention Plan by the Federal Government.

Accordingly resolves to:

urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately intervene through provision of relief materials and inclusion of the victims of communal crisis in the various IDP Camps in Ebonyi State and other States of the Federation with IDPs in the grain distribution scheme under the Special Relief Intervention Plan of the Federal Government (*Senator Samuel O. Egwu — Ebonyi North*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately intervene through provision of relief materials and inclusion of the victims of communal crisis in the various IDP Camps in Ebonyi State and other States of the Federation with IDPs in the grain distribution scheme under the Special Relief Intervention Plan of the Federal Government.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the Proposed Resolution and *insert* the following instead thereof:

“That the Senate do urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara and Ebonyi States; and other Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) across Nigeria” (*Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to with immediate effect approve a sizeable quantity of grains to Zamfara and Ebonyi States; and other Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) across Nigeria (S/Res/226/03/18).

11. National Assembly Budget and Research Office (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.656):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the National Assembly Budget and Research Office and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.

12. Corporate Manslaughter Bill, 2018 (SB.657):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to make provision for Corporate Manslaughter and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.

13. Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.658):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.

14. National Post Graduate College of Medical Laboratory Science (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.659):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the National Post Graduate College of Medical Laboratory Science and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.

15. **Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.660):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.
16. **Chartered Institute of Human Capital Development of Nigeria (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.661):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to establish the Chartered Institute of Human Capital Development of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee of the Whole, and deferred to another Legislative Day.
17. **Electoral Act No.6, 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.667):**
Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to amend the provisions of the Electoral Act No.6, 2010 to make provisions for sequence of elections in Nigeria and for Related Matters, 2018 be read the Second Time (*Senator Suleiman M. Nazif — Bauchi North*).

Debate:

Consideration of Bill referred back to the Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission for further Legislative Action.
18. **Electoral Act No.6, 2010 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.654):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
19. **National Deposit Insurance Corporation Act CAP N102 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB.626):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
20. **Sheriffs and Civil Process Act CAP S56 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.599):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
21. **Federal College of Education (Technical) Aghoro, Bayelsa State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.615):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.
22. **Federal College of Forestry Toungo (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB. 320):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

23. **Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission Act CAP R7 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.415):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

24. **Immigration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.230):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

25. **Joint Admission and Matriculation Board Act CAP J1 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.625):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

26. **Education (National Minimum Standards and Establishment of Institutions) Act CAP E3 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.559):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

27. **Federal High Court Act CAP F12 LFN 2004 (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (SB.648):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

28. **Nigerian Police Academy (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.270):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

29. **Nigerian Council for Psychologists (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.625):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

30. **Explosive Act CAP E18 LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2018 (SB.250):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

31. **Federal College of Education Illo, Kebbi State (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018 (SB.620):**

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

32. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 19th April, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:48 p.m.

Ike Ekweremadu, CFR
Deputy Senate President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.