The Senate

Observes that there has been an unprecedented volume of rainfall in the 2007 raining season across the country;

Observes also that between 4th-6th of August, 2007, there was so much rain fall to the extent that the North Central and South Senatorial Districts of Plateau State, the South Senatorial District of Bauchi State, the South and North Senatorial Districts of Taraba State, the South and Central Senatorial Districts of Niger State, and North Senatorial Districts of Adamawa State, Gwoza, Maiduguri, Dambo and Biu in Borno State were heavily flooded;
Observes further that about fifty nine (59) persons lost their lives and property/houses worth several millions of Naira were destroyed, over eight hundred square hectares of arable land was submerged, and about twenty five thousand, one hundred and six (25,106) people were displaced, food stuff, roads, drainages, culverts of unquantifiable value were also washed away;

Notes that inability to access the affected areas has led to a deterioration of the already pathetic health and socio-economic situation of the people in those areas;

Notes also that the enormity of the disaster is beyond the capacity of the affected states and Local Governments to handle;

Observes that the response of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to the plight of the victims of this disaster has been quite minimal and very unsatisfactory.

Accordingly resolves to:
(i) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide relief materials to the victims of this disaster;

(ii) Urge, as a matter of urgency the Federal Ministry of Health, Transport, Environment, Housing and Urban Development to undertake assessment visits to the affected areas with a view to taking immediate steps to ensuring normalcy in the Areas;

(iii) Urge the Nigerian Army to direct the Nigerian Army Corps of Engineers (NACE) to provide two (2) Bailey Bridges between Wase, Mban, Zamko and Bapkwai in Langtang North Local Government Area, two (2) Bailey Bridges between Langai and Gindiri and another between Gindiri and Generet in Mangu Local Government Areas of Plateau State;

(iv) Urge the Federal Road Maintenance agency (FERMA) and the Federal Ministry of Works to urgently ensure the construction, rehabilitation and restoration of the damaged roads, bridges, culverts and drainage within the affected area areas;

(v) Urge the National Meteorological Agency to evolve effective channels of alerting Communities, ahead of time;

(vi) Urge the President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to consider the allocation of funds from the Ecological fund to the affected areas.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

1. Report of the Committee on Appropriation:
   Appropriation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2007 (SB. 07):
   Senator Iyiola Omisore: (Osun East)
   "That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on Appropriation, on the Appropriation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2007 (SB. 07)" (Committee of Supply).

2. Report of the Committee on Appropriation:
   Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2007 Part II (SB. 08):
   Senator Iyiola Omisore: (Osun East)
   "That the Senate do receive and consider the report of the Committee on Appropriation, on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2007 Part II (SB. 08)" (Committee of Supply).

CONSIDERATION OF BILL

1. A Bill for An Act to Establish A Skills Acquisition and Development Trust Fund And For Related Purposes 2007 (SB.01) - Second Reading Senator Gbemi R. Saraki: - (Kwara Central)