



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 17th July, 2019

1. The Senate met at 10:31 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 16th July, 2019.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Sam O. Egwu (*Ebonyi North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the *Ad hoc* Committee on Alleged Assault by Senator Elisha C. Isiaku constituted on 3rd July, 2019, with the mandate to report within two (2) weeks. He stated that the Committee have invited Senator Elisha C. Isiaku; the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Commissioner of Police; victim's lawyer; shop owner; and the lady involved for investigation. He therefore requested for one (1) week extension from the Senate to enable the Committee complete its assignment.

By the leave of the Senate, one (1) week request was granted.

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Rose O. Oko (*Cross River North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the activities of Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) regarding refineries operations over the years. She stated that series of approval were granted by the Federal Government to Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on turn around maintenance and repairs of the nation's refineries without positive result. She sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter the next Legislative Day.

Matter to stand over to the next Legislative Day [Rule 42(2)].

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Rules 42 and 52, Senator Istifanus D. Gyang (*Plateau North*) drew the attention of the Senate to the multiple tragedies in Jos metropolis from flooding to building collapse. He sought and obtained the leave of the Senate to present the matter forthwith:

The Senate:

notes with grieve the fatalities that occurred in Jos the Plateau State capital following twin tragedies of flooding and building collapse resulting in dead of 15 persons, three from the flooding and twelve from the building collapse;

further notes that the flooding disaster occurred at Zinariya axis, a shanty settlement of Jos town following a heavy downpour which swept off a number of houses leaving three persons dead;

equally notes that few days after the tragic flooding, Jos town was again visited by another tragedy following the collapse of a three storey building resulting in ten fatalities with several others sustaining varying degrees of injuries and are now receiving medical attention in hospital;

concerned that building collapse is becoming a recurring incidence across the nation due obviously to non-adherence to standards and in some instances compromise by the regulatory agencies; and

further concerned that the preparedness of first responder agencies in emergency management and in particular, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), is still weak in terms of equipment and promptness.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge all regulatory agencies in the building and construction industry to enforce the stipulated standards by all property developers;
- (ii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to update its capacity for prompt and effective response in times of emergency;
- (iii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to administer relief materials to the affected families; and
- (iv) observe one minute silence in honor of the deceased persons.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge all regulatory agencies in the building and construction industry to enforce the stipulated standards by all property developers — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to update its capacity for prompt and effective response in times of emergency — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to administer relief materials to the affected families — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do observe one minute silence in honor of the deceased persons — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do:

- (i) urge all regulatory agencies in the building and construction industry to enforce the stipulated standards by all property developers;
- (ii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to update its capacity for prompt and effective response in times of emergency;
- (iii) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to administer relief materials to the affected families; and

- (iv) observe one minute silence in honor of the deceased persons (S/Res/026/01/19).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Abba P. Moro (*Benue South*) drew the attention of the Senate to the plight of the people of Okokolo in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State, on account of the killings by militia men of over 25 persons on 30th June, 2019. 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. Ad hoc Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of the following Members of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as Executive Commissioner and Non-Executive Commissioners:

S/No	Name	Position	Geo-Political Zone	Remarks
(i)	Engr. Uba A. S. Maska	Executive Commissioner	North West	Re-Appointment
(ii)	Aliyu Sa'idu Abubakar	Non-Executive Commissioner	North East	Fresh Appointment
(iii)	Prof. Millionaire Abowei	Non-Executive Commissioner	South South	Fresh Appointment
(iv)	Abdulazeez Mohammed Salman	Non-Executive Commissioner	North Central	Fresh Appointment

(Senator Teslim K. Folarin — Oyo Central).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. Ad hoc Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC); and National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) on the screening of Professor Habu S. Galadima for Appointment as the Substantive Director General, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) (*Senator Teslim K. Folarin — Oyo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

9. Confirmation of Nomination:

Confirmation of nomination of Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR for Appointment as Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN):

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation for the confirmation of Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR for appointment as the Chief Justice of Nigeria (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Executive Session — 11.13 a.m.

Open Session — 11.34 a.m.

Privileges of the Floor:

- (i) *Admission of Former Senator and Honourable Member, Acting Chief Justice of the Federation, Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR, and Justices of Supreme Court:*

Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit Former Senator and Honourable Member, Acting Chief Justice of the Federation, Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR; Justices of Supreme Court; and other Justices to the Floor of the Senate (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Former Senator and Honourable Member, Acting Chief Justice of the Federation, Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR; Justices of Supreme Court; and other Justices to the Floor of the Senate.

(Screening of Nominee)

Nominee screened:

Hon.(Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR — *Agreed to.*

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, for the confirmation of Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR, as the Chief Justice of Nigeria. The nominee answered questions from Distinguished Senators on number of topical issues. The Senate thereafter approved the nomination.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of Nominee:*Question:*

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR for appointment as Chief Justice of Nigeria?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Hon. (Dr.) Justice Ibrahim Tanko Muhammad, CFR for appointment as the Chief Justice of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

10. **Motions:**

- (a) *Devastating Storm in Obosi, Nkpor and Oraukwu Communities of Anambra State:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

- (b) *Urgent need to ascertain the status of the Nigerian Extended Continental Shelf Project:*

Consideration of Motion deferred to another Legislative Day.

11. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 18th July, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:29 p.m.

Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.