

Senate summons Wike, CP over Nwoko's aide killing by kidnappers

**Tope Omogbolagun,
Abuja**

THE Senate, on Wednesday, summoned the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Nyesom Wike, and the Commissioner of Police, Benneth Igwe, over the murder of Chris Agidy, an aide to Senator Ned Nwoko, by some kidnappers.

The Senate resolved that the FCT Minister and the police commissioner should appear to brief the Red Chamber on the increasing cases of kidnapping in Nigeria's capital city.

The Senate resolution followed a motion sponsored by Senator Nwoko on the kidnap and killing of his Senior Legislative Aide, Agidy.

Agidy was reportedly kidnapped along with 19 others in the Galadimawa area of Abuja in November 2023.

Following an exhaustive debate on Nwokolo's motion, the Senate also resolved that the Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, should urgently increase security patrols and

surveillance within Abuja and across the nation as a proactive measure against kidnappings.

The Senate also directed the installation of CCTV cameras in strategic locations within and around Abuja highways, adding that the police should dedicate a three-digit emergency number for effective emergency response.

The legislators also directed the Nigerian Communications Commission to urgently ensure the functionality of dedicated emergency

numbers for the police, ambulance service, and fire service to enhance swift response to security and public safety incidents.

The Senate President, Senator Godswill Akpabio, further stated that both the FCT Minister and the CP were to meet the Senate in a closed-door session on a date to be written in a letter of summons to be forwarded to them by the Clerk of the Senate, Chinedu Akubueze.

Akpabio said, "The FCT Minister and Police

Commissioner would appear before us in closed session on a date to be sent to them by the Clerk of the Senate.

"Their expected appearance before the Senate is to hear from them, measures and strategies being put in place to stem the ugly tide of kidnappings in the FCT.

"Incidences like kidnapping and killing of SLA of Senator Nwoko and some residents of FC are worrisome and must be stopped not only in the FCT but also in Nigeria generally," he added.

Senate rejects bill to include Anambra in NDDC

**Tope Omogbolagun,
Abuja**

THE Senate, on Wednesday, rejected a bill seeking the inclusion of Anambra State as a member of the Niger Delta Development Commission.

The bill was sponsored by the senator representing Anambra North, Senator Tony Nwoye.

Nwoye, in his presentation, argued that as an oil-producing state collecting 13 per cent derivative, Anambra State ought to be included in the

NDDC.

Nwoye said, "Mr. President and distinguished colleagues, Anambra as an oil-producing state has been collecting 13 per cent derivation for the oil exploited from her wells by the Federal Government since 2021, and eminently deserves to be included in the operational radius of NDDC.

"Kogi State was also declared as an oil-producing state, but has not been collecting any 13 per cent derivation."

However, most of

the senators who made submissions during the debate on the bill, which was being considered for a second reading, shot down Nwoye's argument.

He noted that being an oil-producing state was not the sole criterion for membership in the NDDC. He pointed out that the NDDC was an agency established mainly for the interest of states in the Niger Delta region, to which Anambra does not belong.

Particularly, the senator representing Kogi East, Senator Jibrin Isah, took Nwoye on for dragging Kogi into his argument.

Isah said contrary to Nwoye's claim, Kogi, as an oil-producing state, had also been enjoying 13 per cent derivative since 2022.

The Kogi lawmaker said, "Senator Nwoye, with all due respect, please stop dragging Kogi State into your argument for membership of Anambra State in the NDDC. Kogi State is an oil-producing state and has also been collecting 13 per cent derivation since October 2022."

Ighodalo promises to beat Obaseki's record, Shaibu threatens lawsuit

**Abdulrahman
Zakariyau with Agency
report**

The Peoples Democratic Party governorship candidate in Edo State, Dr Asue Ighodalo, has promised to surpass the achievements of incumbent Governor Godwin Obaseki if he wins the September 21 governorship poll.

Ighodalo said on Wednesday while addressing

his supporters at the Benin Airport, shortly after his return from Abuja.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that Ighodalo received his certificate of return on Tuesday at the PDP secretariat in Abuja, having won the party's governorship primary conducted last week Thursday.

The former Chairman of Sterling Bank polled 577 votes to defeat nine other governorship aspirants,

including Edo State Deputy Governor, Philip Shaibu, who conducted a parallel primary.

Addressing his supporters on Wednesday, Ighodalo thanked them for coming out in large numbers to welcome him and promised never to disappoint them.

He said, "Having received the PDP certificate of return certificate, now is the time for real work.

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