



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday 21st May, 2008

1. Prayers
2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
3. Oaths
4. Announcements (if any)
5. Petitions

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Ecological Fund (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2008 (SB. 91) - *First Reading*
Senator Grace F. Bent (Adamawa South)
2. National Directorate of Employment Act (Amendment) Bill, 2008 (SB. 93) - *First Reading*
Senator Ganiyu O. Solomon (Lagos West)
3. Chartered Institute of Fraud Examiners (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2008 (SB. 108) - *First Reading*
Senator Joseph I. Akaagerger (Benue North East)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. **NIGCOMSAT - 1: The need for its effective Utilization for Maximum Benefit of all Nigerians:**
Sen. Joseph I. Akaagerger (Benue North-East)
Co-Sponsors;
Sen. Sylvester Anyanwu
Sen. Uche Chukwumerye
Sen. Dahiru Kuta
Sen. Smart Adeyemi
Sen. Osita Izunaso
Sen. Olorunnimbe Mamora
Sen. Ayogu Eze
Sen. Bala Mohammed
Sen. Anthony G. Manzo

The Senate,

Aware that the Federal Government, in pursuit of its objectives in the telecoms sector, approved on November 10th 2003, the NigComSat-1 project as a national priority project to achieve better quality, cheaper and more affordable IT services and applications throughout Nigeria;

Recalling that Nigeria Communications Satellite Limited was incorporated under the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990 (CAMA as Amended) on the 4th of April, 2006 to operate and manage the Nigerian Communications Satellites starting with NigComSat-1.

Further recalling that Memorandum and Articles of Association of NIGCOMSAT Ltd permit the company to carry on business relating to the provision of bandwidth in the upstream and downstream services including but not limited to telephony (urban and rural), television, high definition television, direct-to-home television, tele-education, telemedicine, e-government, radio, mobile and paging broadcasting and broadband internet services, real time monitoring and navigation services, geo-posting and location services;

Satisfied that the communications Satellite is critical ICT infrastructure, ranking second only to Power and Energy, and a veritable tool for the provision of a cost effective solution to information and communication requirements of the nation in particular and the African continent in general;

Convinced that the NigComSat-1 project was also approved to be utilized to meet the nation's Aviation, Maritime, Immigration, Customs, Defence and Security needs especially in the Niger-Delta for monitoring pipelines, grid lines, special equipment, and real time tracking system for fleet, ships and other mobile equipments, devices and national assets with a saving potential of over N70 billion burden on the budget;

Further convinced that the communications satellite offers the fastest means of diversifying the revenue base of the country from oil to services base with a potential income of USD56.16 million per annum from the telecommunications downstream sub sector;

Impressed that the NigComSat-1 was delivered in orbit on May 13th 2007 in China and In-Orbit Testing (IOT) was completed on the 5th of July 2007 and the early utilization of the services of the satellite was by the NTA to broadcast the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony of His Excellency, President Umar Yar'Adua on 29th May, 2007 viewed across Nigeria and abroad with clear pictures and excellent audio qualities;

Impressed too that NIGCOMSAT LTD, through a channel partner, is working for the socio-economic benefit of the nation by marketing and distributing Easy-learning, a highly affordable computer based training system available for all kinds of people for educational training, skill acquisition, personal development and professional certification;

Further impressed that the company is promoting telecommunication penetration into rural, remote and unserved urban areas utilizing NigComSat-1 band through the establishment of Community Tele-Centres for Students, e-health care delivery, wireless access to homes, repair centres, space education, agricultural information to rural farmers, etc;

Appalled that NigComSat-1 has the potential to retain otherwise an annual capital flight of \$4.37 billion, provide other socio-economic, security and defence implications, still suffers the challenge of license and spectrum allocation thereby incapable of deploying its services;

Accordingly resolves to:

- i. **Strongly** urge the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) to ensure the immediate allocation of the services spectrum and 3G Licenses as approved by Government to enable NigComSat Ltd deploy 3G - 4G end-to-end multimedia services for Nigeria and other African nations;
- ii. **Further** urge the NCC to ensure the immediate allocation of ITU frequency range of 3.4GHz-3.7GHz reserved for satellite services;
- iii. **Request** the Federal Government to give directives for the hand over of the P¹ phase of the rural telephony project from the Ministry of Communications to NIGCOMSAT who are better positioned to hook the entire rural network to its satellite for onward connections to other networks for effective operations;
- iv. **Urge** for greater cooperation and more beneficial collaboration between NCC and NIGCOMSAT Ltd in intensifying actions towards facilitating greater utilization of the capacity of NigComSat for maximum benefits to the average Nigerian without delay.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Establish a Tax Fund for the Nigerian Police, 2008 (SB. 17) - *Second Reading*
Senator Gbemi R. Saraki (Kwara Central)
2. A Bill for Act to Repeal the Police Act, CAP. P19 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and to Re-enact the Nigeria Police Service Act, 2008 (SB. 65) -*Second Reading*
Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba (Cross River Central)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rules and Business	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	3. 00 p.m	Committee Room 15 Assembly Complex
2.	Public Accounts	May20th-21 st , 2008	2.00 p.m	Hearing Room 04 Assembly Complex
3.	Solid Minerals	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 304 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
4.	Women Affairs and Youth Development	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 324 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
5.	Marine Transport	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 305 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
6.	Labour, Employment and Productivity	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 427 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
7.	Senate Services	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 426 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
8.	National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	2. 00 p.m	Committee Room 204 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
9.	Finance	Wednesday, 21st May, 2008	12 noon	Committee Room 323 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
10.	Local and Foreign Debts	Tuesday, 27th May, 2008	2.00p.m	Committee Room 313 New Senate Building Assembly Complex