



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Tuesday 21st October, 2008

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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Nigerian Citizens in Diaspora Commission (Est. etc) Bill, 2008 (SB. 198) - *First Reading*
Senator Annie C. Okonkwo (Anambra Central)
2. National Essential Commodities Commission (Est. etc) Bill, 2008 (SB.203) - *First Reading*
Senator Annie C. Okonkwo (Anambra Central)
3. Nigeria Building Regulatory Agency (Est. etc) Bill, 2008 (SB. 197) - *First Reading*
Senator Femi A. Kila (Ekiti Central)
4. National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2008 (SB. 204) - *First Reading*
Senator Sola Akinyede (Ekiti South)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. Amendment of Senate Standing Order 111 Pursuant To Rule 110 of the Senate Standing Orders
Senator Olorunnimbe Mamora (Lagos East)
Senator Anyim Ude (Ebonyi South)

Senate,

Notes that the amendment as effected in the last Senate was possibly an act of inadvertent error of judgment which the present Senate ought to correct;

Observes that Rule 110, particularly 111. (ii) as it is, is inconsistent with legislative best practices and tradition generally,

Further Observes that Section 64 subsection 1 of the CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA states;

"The Senate and the House of Representatives shall each stand dissolved on the expiration of a period of four years commencing from the date of the first silting of the House".

This Section connotes that -

All business shall cease

No business of the Senate can exist in a vacuum i.e. without the presence of its members.

The inauguration of a new Senate necessarily signifies that all business must start de novo.

Notes that **S. 60** of the Constitution grants it "power to regulate its own procedure".

However, this power is not absolute as the section says:

"Subject to the provisions of this Constitution" Hence **S.60** and **S.64** must be read together,

Convinced that fresh Senators who were not party to issues in the preceding Senate might be denied the opportunity of any meaningful input thus eroding their legislative mandate,

Concerned that the retention of the rule could foreclose injection of fresh ideas based on new realities and better understanding of issues,

Convinced that the retention of the clause could create a crisis situation for a new administration particularly in lawmaking where a presidential veto existed over a bill passed by a previous Senate,

Convinced that allowing for wholesale "carryover" or "roll over" of legislative business from the previous Senate to the Succeeding Senate may predispose to legislative complacency,

Accordingly Resolves: That the entire Order 111 be deleted and same substituted with words.

- (i) The legislative business of the Senate which remains undetermined at the close of a session of the Senate shall be resumed and proceeded with in the same manner as if no adjournment of the Senate had taken place; and all papers referred to committees and not reported upon at the close of session of the Senate shall be returned to the office of the clerk of the Senate and retained until the next session of the Senate when they shall be returned to the several committees to which they had previously been referred."
- (ii) Bills not signed into law at the close of the life of the Senate maybe fast tracked in a manner stated in **Section 79** of the Senate Rules if such bills are reintroduced into the succeeding Senate"

CONSIDERATION OF A BILL

1. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Ambulance Services Agency and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 (SB. 28) - *Second Reading*
Sen. Anthony Manzo (Taraba North)
Sen. Iyabo Obasanjo-Bello
Sen. Aloysius A. Etok

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Foreign Affairs	21st & 22nd October, 2008	2.30 p.m.	Committee Room 204 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
2.	Police Affairs	Tuesday, 21st October, 2008	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 117 New Senate Building Assembly Complex

3.	Public Accounts	21st, 22nd October, 2008	2.00 p.m	Hearing Room 4 Assembly Complex
	Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions	Wednesday, 22nd October, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 323 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
	Federal Character and Governmental Affairs	Wednesday, 22nd October, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 304 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
	Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters (Screening)	Wednesday, 22nd October, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 3.13 New Senate Building Assembly Complex
	Environmental and Ecology	22nd & 23rd October, 2008	2.00 p.m	Committee Room 117 New Senate Building Assembly Complex