



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 9th February, 2005

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

MOTION

**Destruction and Disrepair of the Velodrome at the National Stadium - a Call for Investigation:
Senator Musiliu O. Obanikoro:**

WHEREAS, the last All Africa Games has come and gone with its thrills and frills. Nigerians are still savouring the success we' recorded, both as hosts and as participants.

WHEREAS, I salute the organisers and the participants for the brilliant success recorded at the games.

WHEREAS, I have had deep reflections of all the activities that surrounded the games before, during and after and while I accept that the hosting of the games have assisted us in developing infrastructure for our sporting activities, I also deeply feel that a second look should be taken at those infrastructure.

WHEREAS it is no longer news that large sums of tax payers money running into several of billions has gone into the construction of a befitting National Stadium Complex for the country in the Federal Capital Territory. The question that probes my mind, however, is the quality of work that has been given for such a huge amount.

WHEREAS, the fears which I express are not without reason, they are founded on the visible and palpable state of destruction and disrepair which we now find the velodrome and the Indoor Sports Hall. For those of you who had closely followed the activities at the games, you will recall that on the final day of the games, we were rudely brought to a stop by the violent destruction of the membrane covering the velodrome and the attendant destruction of equipment therein as well as other facilities such as the indoor Sports Hall.

WHEREAS one may validly support the position that the destruction of those facilities was an act of God since it was adduced solely to natural causes, some fundamental questions need to be answered —Was the velodrome certified to be standard before it was put to use? Were the materials used for the construction up to the recommended quality or standard? These are all questions begging. for answers.

WHEREAS, modern sporting facilities such as the National Stadium are not just meant to be functional, but should also be of high aesthetic value, what one sees of the velodrome in its present state is an eyesore. What is more worrisome is the silence which has engulfed the whole episode. Nigerians have not been told what will become of the destroyed facilities. Whether the contractors handling the project will shoulder the cost of the repairs or not is yet to be known.

WHEREAS we have had several cases of government contractors carrying out shoddy and sub-standard jobs and collecting certificates of completion with full payment without anyone raising an eyebrow. I implore us all to rise up as one and put a stop to this unprogressive trend once and for all. We can not lose sight of our oversight functions at a time like this. Our country must be protected; our citizens must be guarded; the entire polity must be safeguarded; pillaging of our economy must be seen as a hydra-headed monster that must be annihilated. The case of the National Stadium complex should be used as a starting point.

WHEREAS, in the light of the foregoing, I urge us all to decide in this hallowed chamber here and now on how best to deal with this unsavoury situation, ensuring that there is transparency and accountability from government contractors. There should be no sacred cows as far as the protection of our existence is concerned.

Be it resolve and it is hereby resolved:

That 'a committee comprising members of the Sports and Works. committees be mandated:

- (i) To investigate the extent and quality of work done on the stadium complex;
- (ii) To investigate and ascertain whether the contractors acted in accordance with the brief given them.
- (iii) To ascertain who will be responsible for the repairs to be carried out on the velodrome.
- (iv) To report to the Senate within two weeks from the date of this assignment.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

1. Report of the Committee on Works:

The Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (SB. 66):

Senator Idris Kuta:

"That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Works on the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission Bill 2005".

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

- 1. Remuneration for former Presidents, Heads of Federal Legislative Houses and Chief Justices of the Federation (and other Ancillary Matters) Bill 2005 (SB. 150) — *Second Reading*.
Senator Dalhatu S. Tafida:
- 2. Election Campaign Finance Regulation Bill, 2004 (SB. 116) — *Second Reading*.
Senator U. Chukwumerije:

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rules and Business	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 15 Assembly Complex
2.	Appropriation and Finance	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 13 Assembly Complex
3.	Power and Steel	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 20 Assembly Complex

4.	Petroleum Resources (Downstream)	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	9.00 a.m.	Committee Room 18 Assembly Complex
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5.	Commerce	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 08 Assembly Complex
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6.	Employment, Labour & Productivity	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	12.00 Noon	Hearing Room 01 Assembly Complex
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7.	Foreign Affairs	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 03 Assembly Complex
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8.	Public Account	Wednesday, 9th February, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Hearing Room 04 Assembly Complex
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