



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 4th May, 2005

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

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. **Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs:**
The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Ratification and Jurisdiction) Bill 2005:
Senator Jibril Aminu:
“That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Ratification and Jurisdiction) Bill 2005 (*To be Laid*).”
 2. **Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs:**
The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (Ratification and Enforcement) Bill 2005:
Senator Jibril Aminu:
“That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (Ratification and Enforcement) Bill 2005 (*To be Laid*).”
-

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. **Re: Strike action by the Radio, Television Theatre and Arts Workers Union of Nigeria (RATTAWU) The Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) and the Amalgamated Union of Public Corporations Civil Service Technical and Recreational Services Employees (AUPCTRE). The Need for Senate to Intervene in order to Resolve the Impasse:**
Senator Tawar U. Wada:
WHEREAS, the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria of which this Distinguished Senate is an integral part passed into law, the monetization of the fringe benefits of the workers of the Federal Government of Nigeria;

WHEREAS, pursuant to this salutary Act of the National Assembly, Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria directed that all Federal Ministries and Parastatals funded by the Federal Government do implement the monetization policy as from 1st October, 2003;
-

WHEREAS, following this directive the core ministries of the Federal Republic of Nigeria began to implement the said monetization policy since 1st October 2003;

WHEREAS, the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN) the Nigeria Television Authority (NT A) and in deed all Parastatals being funded by Federal Government refused, neglected or without good cause failed to implement the monetization policy as directed;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the said refusal, negligence or failure of the Federal Government to implement the monetization policy with respect to the members of RATTAWU NUJ and AUPCTRE, the said members the RATTAWU, NUJ and AUPCTRE made several appeals to the Federal Government to no avail;

WHEREAS, in the wake of the failure of the appeals from the said unions, the union resolved to go on strike on the 23rd February, 2005 having exhausted all necessary avenues of amicable settlements and Notices plus additional seven days grace;

WHEREAS, in order to avert the strike of 23rd February, 2005, a meeting was held by the Federal Government and the unions, at the end of which the following communique was issued;

- (i) That the monetization policy of the Federal Government extends to all Parastatals funded by the Federal Government, as it applies to the core Civil Service in keeping with the provisions of Circular Ref. No. HCSF/SW/HM/H/021/S.829/T of December 15th, 2003 and Salaries, Income and Wages Commission Circular Ref. No. SWC/S/04/S.167/126 of 12th February, 2004;
- (ii) All such Parastatals would submit the financial cost of monetization to the Federal ,Ministries of Labour and Productivity for collation and submission to the Budget Office within one week;
- (iii) The Budget Office would quantify the amount and present same to Mr. President Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria;
- (iv) The Government will source for funds and pay as agreed;
- (v) Implementation will be effected as soon as the National Assembly approves. The Budget Office will ensure that the submission would be made to the National Assembly on or before 31st March, 2005; and
- (vi) Based on the foregoing the present notice of strike has been suspended.

WHEREAS the communique referred to in paragraph 7 above was signed by Chief Uffot Ekaette CFR, Secretary to the Government of the Federation; Dr. Hassan M Lawal, Hon. Minister of Labour and Productivity; Dr. Timiebi A. Koripamo-Agari Permanent Secretary Ministry of Labour and Productivity, and Mr. Boy Ilori, AG Permanent .Secretary Economic Affair Department on the side of the Government and Comrade Saliliu A. , Dembos, President RATTAWU; Prince Smart Adeyemi, President NUJ; Comrade Henry Odugala, Comrade I. A Boyi for President AUPCTRE; Comrade S.O.Z Ejiofor, General Secretary AUPCTRE and Comrade Olu Akinboyewa DEP. General Secretary NUJ on the side of the unions;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the said communique referred to in paragraph 7 above, the Parastatals have since submitted the financial cost of the monetization to the Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity, a copy is hereby attached to this motion and marked annexure;

WHEREAS, no benefit was paid to the workers, deduction pursuant to the terms of the monetization has continued to be made on the salary and wages of the workers thus pauperizing the workers;

WHEREAS, following the failure of the Federal Government to meet its promises towards the implementation of the monetization policy for its parastatals and in spite of the development stated above, the RATTAWU, NUJ and AUPCTRE addressed a Wor1d Conference yesterday the 2nd May 2005 and resolved to go on strike from today 3rd May, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the strike on the economic and other facets of life in the country is better

Be it resolved and it is hereby resolved:

- (i) That the Senate views with grave concern the inability of the, Federal Government to implement the monetization policy with respect to Parastatals funded by the Federal government 3 years after the monetization Act was passed by National Assembly and 2 years when policy directives for its implemented was issued;
- (ii) That the Senate sympathizes with the affected workers over the plight caused by the non-implementation of the policy;
- (iii) That the Senate appeals to the workers to suspend the strike to enable the Senate to mediate in the matter with a view to ensuring the immediate implementation of the policy for them; and
- (iv) That the Senate direct its committee on Employment Labour and Productivity to quickly wade into the impasse by inviting the Honourable Ministers of Labour and Productivity and Finance, the Secretary to the government of the Federal Republic and all other relevant persons to ascertain the cause of delay and the way out.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS

1. **Report of the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation:**
Screening of Nominee as Member of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission:
Senator Saleh Usman Danboyi:
“That the Senate do consider the Report recommitted (on Tuesday, 3rd May, 2005) to the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation on the Screening of Hon. Ignatus A. Amodu (Kogi State) as Member of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission.

Recommendation:
That the Senate do now confirm the appointment of Hon. Ignatus A. Amodu (Kogi State) as Member of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission.
2. **Report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters:**
Screening of Four Honourable Justices of the Supreme Court of Nigeria:
Senator A. O. Osunbor:
“That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Right and Legal Matters on the Screening of Four Honourable Justices of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and approve the recommendation.

Recommendation:
That the Senate do confirm the appointments of the following as Honourable Justices of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.
 - (i) Hon. Justice W.S.N. Onnoghen, (Judge, Court of Appeal);
 - (ii) Hon. Justice Mahmud Mohammed, OFR, (Judge, Court of Appeal);
 - (iii) Hon. Justice Ikechi F. Ogbuagu, (Judge, Court of Appeal);
 - (iv) Hon. Justice Aloma Mariam Mukhtar, (Judge, Court of Appeal);

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

1. Citizen Residency Rights Bill 2005 (SB.135) — *Second Reading.*
Senator J.S. Zwingina:
2. High Court of the Federal Capital Territory Abuja (Number of Judges) Bill, 2005 (SB.107) — *Second Reading.*
Senator James Manager:

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rules and Business	Wednesday, 4th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 15 Assembly Complex
380		Wednesday, 4th May, 2005		No. 176
2.	Privatisation	Wednesday, 4th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 19 Assembly Complex
3.	Works	Wednesday, 4th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 21 Assembly Complex
4.	Gas	Wednesday, 4th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 16 Assembly Complex
5.	FCT	Wednesday, 4th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 02 Assembly Complex
6.	Solid Minerals	Thursday, 5th May, 2005	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 20 Assembly Complex