



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDS

Thursday, 7 February, 2008

1. The Senate met at 10.15 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.
2. Votes and Proceedings:
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 6th February, 2008 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. Announcements:
 - (i) The Senate: President announced that there would be an interactive session of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) with the Country Review Mission (CRM) on self assessment report of the country on Thursday, 7th February, 2008 at 2.00 p.m.
 - (ii) The Senate President acknowledged the presence of Senior Officers of the National War College, Abuja, who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

4. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Police Development Regulatory Board (Establishment, etc) Bill 2008 (SB.38) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Bill 2008 (SB. 40) — *Read the First Time.*
- (Hi) First Degree/Higher National Diploma (Abolition and Prohibition of Dichotomy and Discrimination) Bill 2008 (SB. 45) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) National Emergency Management Agency Act (Amendment) Bill 2008 (SB. 69) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) National Fisheries Commission (Establishment, etc) Bill 2008 (SB. 70) — *Read the First Time.*

5. Motion:
The Chadian Crisis:
The Humanitarian and Security Implication for Nigeria:
Motion Made and Question Proposed: That the Senate notes with serious concern the protracted fighting between government and the armed opposition alliance in the Republic of Chad;

Worried that the crisis is posing an enormous humanitarian calamity and a great security risk to the sub-region and to Nigeria in particular;

Observes that armed opposition groups known as the **United** Forces for Democracy and Development (UFDD) on Saturday, 2nd February, 2008 launched an onslaught on N'djamena, Chad Capital;

Notes that this group (UFDD) has moved and operated unhindered through the eastern boarder of Sudan Darfur region to the Capital City of Chad (N'djamena) shows that they are large in number and heavily armed;

Observes that the latest of the clash has forced the United Nations Refugee Agency and other International Aid Organisations to evacuate their entire staff and suspend all relief operations;

Concerned about the current report that over 3,500 Chadian refugees fleeing Chad have already entered this country, and still counting.

Accordingly resolve:

- (i) That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to continue to work with the ECOWAS, African Union (AU), EU and other International Organisations to bring the UFDD and the Chadian Government to end the hostilities through resort to dialogue;
- (ii) That the Senate do appreciate the efforts of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in assigning the relevant Security Agencies particularly the Army and Immigration Service to strengthen security on the Chad-Nigeria border;
- (iii) That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the refugees and other victims of the fighting especially in the border towns of Baga, Gamborou, Ngala and Mallam Fatori to assist in controlling the refugees, who are mostly women, children and the elderly; and
- (iv) That the Senate do call on the International Community, Particularly the European Union (EU) to assist the African Union (AU) in arriving at a lasting peace in Chad as soon as possible (*Senator Maina Ma 'aji Lawan*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to continue to work with the ECOWAS, African Union (AU), European Union (EU) and other International Organisations to bring the UFDD and the Chadian Government to end the hostilities through resort to dialogue;

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "Union" in line 1 insert the words "Economic Communities of West Africa States (ECOWAS), European Union (EU)" thereof (*Senator Andrew A, Babalola*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed in.

Question on Main Prayer as amended, put and agreed to.

Prayer (ii):

That the Senate do appreciate the efforts of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in assigning the relevant Security Agencies particularly the Army and Immigration Service to strengthen security on the Chad-Nigeria border—*Agreed to*.

Prayer (ii)

That the Senate do urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the refugees and other victims of the crisis especially in the border towns of Baga, Gamborou, Ngala and Mallam Fatori to assist in controlling the refugees, who are mostly women, children and the elderly; and

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out prayer (iii) and insert a new prayer (iii) as follows:

"That the Senate do urge the National Commission for Refugees, United Nations High Commission for Refugees and other agencies to provide relief materials to the refugees and other victims of the crisis, especially in the border towns of Baga, Gamborou, Ngala and Mallam Fatori and other towns to assist in controlling the refugees" (*Senator Ike Ekweremadu*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Question on Main Prayer as amended, put and agreed to.

Prayer(v)-

Call on the International Community, Particularly the European Union (EU) to assist the African Union (AU) in arriving at a lasting peace in Chad as soon as possible

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out prayer (iv) and insert a new prayer (iv) as follows:

"Urge the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency improve the welfare services of our security agencies in our border posts" (Senator Abubakar D. Sodangi).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Further Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (v) as follows:

"Urge Mr President to suspend relationship with undemocratic governments" (Senator Nimi Barigha-Amange).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Another Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (vi) as follows:

"Urge the Federal Government to take appropriate diplomatic steps to ensure the safety of all Nigerian citizens living in Chad" (Senator Idris A. Umar).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do call on the Federal Government to work with the Economic Communities of West Africa States (ECOWAS), African Union (AU), European Union (EU) and other International Organisations to bring the UFDD and the Chadian Government to end the hostilities through resort to dialogue
- (ii) That the Senate do appreciate the efforts of the President. Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in assigning the relevant Security Agencies particularly the Army and Immigration Service to strengthen security on the Chad-Nigeria border
- (iii) That the Senate do urge the National Commission for Refugees, United Nation Commission for Refugees and other agencies to provide relief materials to the refugees and other victims of the crisis, especially in the border towns of Daga, Garaborou-Ngala and Mallam Fatori and other towns to assist in controlling the refugees.
- (iv) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency improve the welfare of our security agencies in our border posts.
- (v) That the Senate do urge Mr President to suspend relationship with undemocratic governments;
and
- (vi) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to take appropriate diplomatic steps to ensure the safety of all Nigerian citizens living In Chad. (S. Res/043/08).

6. Committee on Education:

Report on the Civic Citizenship Education Bill 2008 (SB, 234):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Education, on the Civic Citizenship Education Bill 2008 (SB.234) (Senator Joy Emodi).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report (Senate Majority Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

(senate IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR NATIONAL ETHICS CURRICULUM IN PRIMARY, JUNIOR AND SENIOR SECONDARY, TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGES AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN ALL THE STATES OF THE FEDERATION AND THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY

Clause 4: Offences and Penalties:

- (1) Any Institution or body corporate who refuses to implement the provisions of this Act as a study course in Nursery, PRIMARY. JUNIOR SECONDARY AND TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGES in all the States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory is guilty of an offence and shall be liable to be prosecuted and punished accordingly; and Prosecution as specified in Section 4(2) below.
- (2) Any person, institution or corporate body who communities commits an offence under section 1 of this Act is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than N50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Naira) N200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Naira) or to a term; of **imprisonment not** exceeding one year.

Committee's Recommendation:

Any institution or body corporate mat refuses to implement the provisions of this Act as a course of studies in Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, Teacher Training Colleges and Tertiary Institutions is guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a maximum fine of N200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Naira only) (*Senator Joy Emodi*).

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 4 be retained— *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 4 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: New Clause Enforcement:*Committee's Recommendation:*

That the provisions of the new Clause 5 on Enforcement be retained:

- (1) The Federal Ministry of Education shall enforce the provisions of **this** Act.
- (2) Three years after the commencement of this Act, the Federal Ministry of Education shall make Ethics a compulsory subject in Primary, Junior and Senior Secondary Schools, Teacher Training Colleges and Tertiary Institutions certificate examinations (*Senator Joy Emodi*).

Question that Clause 5 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 6: Interpretation:

In this Act unless the context otherwise requires provides "Ethics" means moral values of the Society; "Youth" includes any person in Primary, Secondary and other Tertiary Institutions".

"Youth" includes any person between the age of 14 and 25 years.

Question, That the word "Youth" be as defined in the Interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

"Institution" includes Primary, Secondary Schools and Teachers Training Colleges, and Tertiary Institutions in all the States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory.

Question, That (he word "Institution" be as defined in the Interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision it! Clause 6 be retained (*Senator Joy Emodi*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 6 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 7:

Citation:

This Bill may be cited as National Ethics Curriculum Bill 2008.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provisions in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Joy Emodi*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 7 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

That the Chairman do report Bill.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Education on the Civic Citizenship Education Bill 2008 and approved as follows:

Clause 4 — Agreed to.

Clause 5 — Agreed to.

Clause 6 — Agreed to.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Question that the Bill be read the Third Time, put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Third Time and passed.

7. A Bill for an Act to provide a Framework for the Development and Management of a Health System within the Federal Republic of Nigeria and to provide for matters connected therewith 2008 (SB. 50):

Consideration of the Bill deferred to the next legislative day.

8. National War College Act (No. 82) 2004 (Amendment) **Bill** 2008:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Bill for an Act to Amend the National War College Act (No. 82) 2004 to provide for change of name to National Defence College and for other connected purposes 2008 be read the Second Time (*Senator Ibrahim M. Ida*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Defence and Army to report within 2 (two) weeks.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday, 12th February, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1. 00p.m.