



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 31st May, 2006

1. The Senate **met** at 10. 15 a.m. The President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 30th May, 2006 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.

3. **Announcements:**

(i) **International Retreat:**

*The Senate President read a letter from Senator Jonathan S. Zwingina as follows:
The International Retreat organised by the Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils
in Africa and Arab World, will hold in Abuja on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th June, 2006.*

Venue: Congress Hall, Transcorp Hilton Hotel Abuja.

Time: 10:00 a. m.

The President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo will declare the Retreat open on Monday, and the Chief Host is the Senate President, Senator Ken Nnamani. So far, 15 Presiding Officers of various Senates or Shoora and their delegations have confirmed their attendance.

All Senators are therefore, requested to support the programme and attend the Retreat on Monday and Tuesday next week. Invitation cards have been distributed into Senators' letter boxes.

Thank you.

*Signed:
Senator (Dr.) Jonathan S. Zwingina
Deputy Senate Leader
Chairman of Organising Committee*

- (ii) The Senate President read a letter from Senator Sani Kamba as follows:

Senator Sani

(KEBBI NORTH)
SENATOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone. P.
M. B. 141, Garki -
Abuja. Tel:
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400462

30th May, 2006

A Reminder

Senator Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate
National Assembly Complex
Abuja.

MARRIAGE OF SA 'ADA TV SANI KAMBA

This is to remind His Excellency, the Senate President and all Distinguished Senators of the forthcoming marriage of my daughter, Sa 'adatu, which I had written to you earlier.

It will take place at my house in Bachirawa, Katsina road, Kano, this Saturday, 3rd June, 2006 at 10:00 a. m. prompt,

I look forward to welcoming His Excellency and the entire Senate, trusting that as a valued friend, you will all grace the event with your distinguished presence.

Please accept the assurances of my highest regards.

Signed:
Senator Sani Kamba

4. Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill 2006 (SB. 01):

Bill re-committed to the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters for further legislative action to report in two weeks.

5. Nigeria Council for Management Development (Amendment, etc) Bill 2006 (SB. 256):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Nigeria Council for Management Development (Amendment, etc.) Bill 2006 be read the Second Time (Senate Majority Leader).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on National Planning, Economic Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to report within four weeks.

6. Conference Report on the National Industrial Court Bill 2006 (SB. 164):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do approve the Conference Report on the Bill for an Act to establish the National Industrial Court as a Superior Court of Record and for Matters connected therewith (Senator Oserheimen A. Osunbor).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

Debate:

Question; That the Report be approved — Resolved in the Affirmative.

7. **Conference Report on the Advance Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences Bill 2006 (SB. 253):**

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do approve the Conference Report on the Advance Fee Fraud and Other. Related Offences (*Senator Rufai S. Hanga*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

Debate:

Question; That the Report be approved — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

8. **Conference Report on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Act (Amendment) Bill 2006 (SB. 152):**

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do approve the Conference Report on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Act (Amendment) Bill 2006 (*Senator David C. Brigidi*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

Debate:

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)

(President in Chair) Report of

the Conference Committee on the Electoral Bill 2006

Debate:

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause S. 53(l)(b):

The use of Electronic Voting Machine for the time being is prohibited (*Senator David C. Brigidi*) — **Agreed to.**

Chair to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Conference Committee on the Electoral Bill 2006 and approved Clause S. 53(l)(b) as recommended.

Question: That the Report of the Committee of the Whole be approved — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Question: That the Senate do adopt the Report of the Conference Committee— *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

9. **Committee on Science and Technology:**

Report on the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology Bill 2006 (SB. 157):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on the Federal College **of** Chemical and Leather Technology Bill 2006 (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

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)

(President in Chair) A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal

College of Chemical and Leather Technology Bill 2006.

PART 1 ESTABLISHMENT,

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COLLEGE

Clause 1: There is hereby established the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology, (hereinafter in this Bill severally referred to as "the College") which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name

Committee's Recommendation

Leave out the word "severally" (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 2: The College shall have its main campus located at Zaria, Kaduna State, and may open such other Campuses anywhere else in Nigeria as may be determined from time to time

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 2 be retained (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART II - POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLEGE

Clause 3: **The Functions of the College are to:**

- (1) provide courses of instructions, training and research in the field of leather and leather products technology, chemical technology, laboratory technology, management, applied sciences and such other fields of learning as the College may from time to time decide;

Committee's Recommendation:

- (1) provide courses of instructions, training and research in the field of leather and leather products technology, chemical technology, polymer Technology, laboratory technology, management, applied sciences and such other fields of learning as the President-in-Council may from time to time decide;

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the words "of learning as the" in line 4, leave out the words "President-in-Council" and insert the word "College" instead thereof (*Senator Daniel I. Saror*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (2) organize conferences, seminars, studies and other activities relating to Chemical Technology, Leather and Leather Products Technology, Management and other fields of learning specified in paragraph (i) of this section; and
- (3) hold examinations and award diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions to persons who have pursued any course of study approved by the College and have satisfied such other requirements as the College may prescribe and any other persons who distinguish themselves in any field of human endeavour as may be considered and approved by the Council.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Subclauses (2) and (3) be retained (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Insert a new Sub-section (4) as follows:

"Notwithstanding the provision in subsection (1) of this Section, the Federal Executive Council may at any time it deems fit, reduce the number of courses offered by the College" (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 3 as amended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 4: The College shall have power to -
- (1) acquire, hold, grant, charge, exchange, dispose of or otherwise deal in any movable or immovable property;
 - (2) accept subventions, gifts, legacies, donations and any form of technical assistance acceptable to the College and to make use of the same in furtherance of the functions of the College; -
 - (3) enter into contracts alone or jointly with other persons and where necessary, to act through agents;
 - (4) erect, provide, equip and maintain lecture halls, workshops, laboratories, libraries, administrative buildings, halls of residence, refectories, staff quarters, sport grounds and other buildings, structures and things necessary or suitable or convenient for any of the functions of the College;
 - (5) prescribe conditions under which persons may be admitted as students of the College;
 - (6) recognize qualifications of other institutions of learning;
 - (7) award scholarships, studentship, fellowships and provide for other aids to learning and research;
 - (8) provide consultancy and advisory services, and to impose such charges and fees as the College may deem fit;
 - (9) print, reproduce, publish, compile and sell any research and other works as may from time to time be conducted by members of the staff or students of the College;
 - (10) charge and collect from students, fees in respect of instructions, as the College may from time to time determine;
 - (11) perform its functions either alone or in co-operation, or affiliation with any other institution of higher learning;
 - (12) employ such contractors, agents, servants and other persons as the Council may require for carrying out the functions of the College; and
 - (13) undertake such other acts and things as may seem to the Council, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the functions of the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 4 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

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

- Clause 5: The President shall be the Visitor to the College. The Visitor shall, not less than once in every five years, conduct a visitation of the College or appoint a visitation panel, consisting of not less than five experts, to conduct the visitation;
- (1) for the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative performance of the College, and

- (2) for such other purpose or in respect of any other affairs of the College as the Visitor may deem fit.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 5 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 6:

- (1) There shall be established for the College, a Governing Council (hereafter in this Act referred to as "the Council") which shall consist of a Chairman to be appointed by, the President on the recommendation of the Minister.
- (2) The following other members appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister -
- (a) six representatives of the Tanners Association of Nigeria one from each of the six geo-political zones of the country;

Committee's Recommendation:

(i) Leave out the words "six" and "Association" and insert the words "three" and "Council" instead thereof.

(ii) Immediately after the word "Nigeria" leave out all the words following (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

(b) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology;

(c) one representative of the Federal Ministry of Education;

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the words "Federal Ministry of Education" and insert the words "Polymer Institute of Nigeria" instead thereof (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

(d) one representative of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE);

(e) two researchers currently working on the field of leather technology or related fields;

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the provision in Subclause (6)(e) and insert the following: "Two representatives of the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics, ASUP who shall be researchers in polymer or Leather technology".

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in Subclause (6)(e) and insert the provision as in the extant Act (*Senator Daniel I. Saror*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

(f) the Provost of the College; and

(g) one representative of the Academic Board of the College.

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

Clause 7:

- (1) Subject to the provision of this Act, the Council shall be the governing body of the College and shall have the general management of affairs of the College, and in particular, the control of the property and finances of the College and shall also have power to do anything which in its opinion is calculated to facilitate the carrying out of the activities of the College and promote its best interests.

- (2) The Council may acquire and hold such movable or immovable property as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect, the provisions of this Act, and for the same purpose may sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise alienate or dispose of any property so acquired.
- (3) The Council may enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect, the provisions of this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

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

- Clause 8:
- (1) If it appears to the Council that a member of the Council (other than an ex-officio member) due to misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect to the Minister. If the Minister, after making such inquiry as it considers necessary, approves the recommendation, the Minister shall in writing, declare the office of such member vacant.
 - (2) The Minister may remove any member of the Council if he is satisfied that it is not in the public interest or in the interest of the College that such member should continue as a member of the Council.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 8 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 9:
- The Minister may give the Council directions of the general character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to any individual person) or case with regard to the exercise by the Council of its functions and it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with the directions.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 9 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART II - PROVISIONS RELATING TO STAFF

- Clause 10:
- (1) There shall be appointed for the College by the Council the following Principal Officers on such terms and conditions as the Council may determine:
 - (a) Deputy Provost;
 - (b) Heads of Academic units;
 - (c) A Registrar;
 - (d) A Bursar;
 - (e) A Librarian;
 - (f) Director of Medical Services; and
 - (g) Director of Works
 - (h) Such other Principal officers as the Council may deem fit

- (2) (a) The Deputy Provost shall be appointed from among the Chief Lecturers in the College;
- (b) The Deputy Provost shall:
- (i) assist the Provost in the performance of his functions;
- (ii) act in the place of the provost when the post of Provost is vacant or if the Provost for any reason is absent or unable to perform his function as Provost; and
- (iii) , perform such other functions as the Provost or the Council may from time to time, assign to him.
- (c) The Deputy Provost:
- (i) shall hold office for a period of two years beginning from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
- (ii) may be re-appointed for one further period of two years and no more.
- (3) (a) The Registrar to the College shall be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration of the College and shall perform such other duties as the Council or, as the case may be, the Provost may from time to time require him to do.
- (b) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council, the Academic Board and any Committee of the Council and shall attend all the meetings of those bodies unless excused for a good reason by the Chairman of the Council.
- (c) In the absence of the Registrar, the Chairman of the Council may, after consultation with the Provost, appoint a suitable person to act as Secretary for any particular meeting of the Council.
- (d) The Secretary to the Council or a person appointed to act under subsection (3) above shall not vote on any question before the Council or count towards a quorum unless he is so entitled as a member of the Council.
- (e) The Registrar:
- (i) shall hold office for a period of five years beginning from the effective date of his appoint and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
- (ii) may be re-appointment for one further period of five years and no more.
- ii) Where on the commencement of this section, a Registrar had held office:
- (i) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be reappointed for a further term of five years; and
- (ii) For more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter, relinquish his post and may be assigned other duties in the College.
- (4) (a) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the College and be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the College;

- (b) The Bursar:
- (i) shall hold office for a period of five years in the first instance and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - (ii) may be re-appointed for a further period of five years and no more.
- (c) Where on the commencement of this section, a Bursar has held office:
- (i) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be re-appointed for a further term of five years;
 - (ii) for more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter, relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the College; and
 - (iii) For ten years or more, the Council may allow him to serve as Bursar or Librarian for period of one year only and thereafter, he shall relinquish his post and may be assigned other duties in the College.
- (5) (a) The College Librarian shall be responsible to the Provost for the administration of the College Library and the co-ordination of the library services in the teaching units of the College.
- (b) The College Librarian:
- (i) shall hold office for a period of five years in the first instance and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - (ii) may be re-appointed for a further period of five years and no more.
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- (c) Where on the commencement of this section, a Librarian has held office:
- (i) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be re-appointed for a further term of five years;
 - (ii) for more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter, relinquish his post and be may assigned other duties in the College; and
 - (iii) For ten years or more, the Council may allow him to serve as Bursar or Librarian for period of one year only and thereafter, he shall relinquish his post and may be assigned other duties in the College.
- (6) Other principal as mentioned in this Section, or as may be appointed by the Council shall perform such functions as may be assigned to them by the Council or the Provost
- (7) A principal officer may resign his appointment:
- (a) in the case of the Provost, by written notice to the Visitor, through the Council and the Minister; and
 - (b) in any other case, by written notice to the Council

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- (c) perform such other functions as the Provost or the Council may from time to time, assign to him.
- (4) The Deputy Provost:
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of two year beginning from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be re-appointed for one further period of two years and no more.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 12 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 12 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 13:**
- (1) There shall be a Registrar to the College who shall be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration of me College and shall perform such other duties as the Council or, as the case may be, the Provost may from time to time require him to do.
 - (2) The Registrar shall be the Secretary to the Council, the Academic Board and any Committee of the Council and shall attend all the meetings of those bodies unless excused for a good reason by the Chairman of the Council.
 - (3) In the absence of the Registrar, the Chairman of the Council may, after consultation with the Provost, appoint a suitable person to act as Secretary for any particular meeting of the Council.
 - (4) The Secretary to the Council or a person appointed to act under subsection (3) above shall not vote on any question before the Council or count towards a quorum unless he is so entitled as a member of the Council.
 - (5) The Registrar
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of five years beginning from the effective date of his appoint and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be re-appointment for one further period of five years and no more.
 - (6) Where on the commencement of this section, a Registrar had held office;
 - (a) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be reappointed for a further term of five years; and
 - (b) For more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter, relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 13 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 13 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 14:**
- (1) There shall be for the College the following other principal officers in addition to the Registrar, that is:

- Clause 11:
- (1) There shall be a Provost for the College who shall be appointed by the President and who shall have the requisite qualification as provided in this Act.
 - (2) The Provost shall hold office for a term of four years beginning with the effective date of appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.
 - (3) (4)** The Provost may be reappointed for a further period of four years and no more.
- Where a vacancy occurs in the post of Provost, the Council shall:
- (a) advertise the vacancy in a reputable journal or widely read newspaper in Nigeria, specifying;
 - (i) the required qualification of the persons who may apply for the post, and
 - (iii)** the terms and conditions of service applicable to the post.
 - (b) recommend to the President three candidates for his consideration for appointment as Provost
- (5) The President shall appoint, as Provost, one of the candidates recommended to him under the provisions of subsection 4(b) of this section.
 - (6) Subject to this Act and the general control of the Council, the Provost shall be the Chief Executive of the College and shall be charged with general responsibility for matters relating to the day-to-day management and operations of the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 11 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 11 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 12:
- (1) There shall be for the College a Deputy Provost who shall be appointed by the Council from among the Chief Lecturers in the College on the recommendation of a Selection Board constituted under this section for that purpose;
 - (2) The Selection Board referred to in subsection (i) of this section shall make inquiry as it seems fit before making the recommendation required under this section and shall consist of:
 - (a) the Chairman of the Council, as Chairman;
 - (b) the Provost;
 - (c) two members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board; and
 - (d) one member of the Academic Board.
 - (3) The Deputy Provost shall:
 - (a) assist the Provost in the performance of his functions;
 - (b) act in the place of the provost when the post of Provost is vacant or if the Provost for any reason is absent or unable to perform his function as Provost; and

- (a) the Bursar; and
- (b) the College Librarian

who shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Selection Board constituted under section 12 of this Act.

- (2) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the College and be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the College .
- (3) The College Librarian shall be responsible to the Provost for the administration of the College Library and the co-ordination of the library services in the teaching units of the College.
- (4) The Bursar or Librarian:
 - (a) shall hold office for a period of five years in the first instance and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - b) may be re-appointed for a further period of five years and no more.
- (5) Where on the commencement of this section, a Bursar or Librarian has held office:
 - (a) for five years or less, he shall be deemed to be serving his first term of office and may be re-appointed for a further term of five years;
 - (b) for more than five years but less than ten years, he shall complete the maximum period of ten years and thereafter, relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the College; and
 - (c) For ten years or more, the Council may allow him to serve as Bursar or Librarian for period of one year only and thereafter, he shall relinquish his post and be assigned other duties in the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 14 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 14 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15:

A principal officer may resign his appointment:

- (1) in the case of the Provost, by notice to the Visitor, through the Council and the Minister; and
- (2) in any other case, by notice to the Council.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 15 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 15 do stand pan of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 16:

There shall be for the College a Selection Board, which shall consist of

- (1) the Chairman of the Council;
- (2) the Provost;
- (3) four members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board; and

- (4) two members of the Academic Board.

The functions and procedure and other matters relating to the Selection Board constituted under this section shall be as the Council may, from time to time, determine.

Committee's Recommendation;

That the provision in Clause 16 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 16 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 17:
- (1) The Council may appoint such other persons to be employees of the College as the Council may determine, to assist the Provost and the Principal officers of the College in the performance of their functions under this Act.
 - (2) The power to appoint all other employees of the College shall be exercised:
 - fa) in the case of Senior employees, by the Council on the recommendation of the Appointments and Promotions Committee setup under the provisions of paragraph 2(1) of the Second Schedule to this Act; and
 - 0) in the case of junior employees by the Provost on the recommendation of the Appointments and Promotions Committee.
 - (3) The Appointment and Promotion Committee shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Council with respect to the Appointment and Promotion of members of the senior staff specified in subsection (a) of this section.
 - (4) The members of staff to whom this section applies, shall perform such functions as may be specified in their instruments of appointment and as the Provost may from time to time in addition, assignment to them.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 17 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 17 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 18: Subject to the provisions of this Act, the remuneration, tenure of office and conditions of service of the employees of the College shall be determined by the Council in Consultation with the Federal Civil Service Commission, National Income, Salaries and Wages Commission, National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) National Pension Commission, Head of Service and other relevant bodies.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 18 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 18 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 19:
- (1) The service of the College shall be approved service for the Pension Act and accordingly, the Staff of the College shall be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are enjoyed by persons holding equivalent positions in the Public Service of the Federation as prescribed under the Pension Act.
 - (2) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall prevent the appointment of any person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension or gratuity in respect of service in that office.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 19 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 19 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

**PART III — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD
AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES**

- Clause 20:**
- (1) There shall be established for the College, a Board to be known as the Academic Board which shall consist of the following members;
 - (a) , the Provost of the College, as the Chairman;
 - (b) **the** Deputy Provost of the College;
 - (c) all Heads of Academic Departments;
 - (d) the Registrar;
 - (e) the College Librarian; and
 - (f) one member each representing each of the departments, nominated by the Department, other than the Head of Department.
 - (2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for: ,
 - (a) **the** direction and management of academic matters of the College including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates and diplomas, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinctions; and
 - (b) **the** making to the Council, of such periodic reports on such academic matters, as the Academic Board may think fit or the Council may from time to time direct; and the discharge of any other functions which the Council may delegate to it.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 20 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 20 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 21:**
- (1) **If** it appears to the Council, that there are reasons for believing that any person employed as a member of the academic, administrative or technical staff of the College, other than the Provost, should be removed from office on the grounds of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall:
 - (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question: and
 - (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Council.
 - (2) If he or any three members of the Council so request within the period of one month, beginning with the date of the notice, the Council shall make arrangements:
 - (a) if he is an academic staff, for a Joint Committee of the Council and the Academic Board to investigate the matter and report on it to the Council; or
 - (b) for a Committee of the Council to investigate the matter, where it relates to any other member of the staff of the college and the report on it to the Council; and

- (c) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the investigating committee with respect to the matter;

and if the Council, after considering the report of the investigating committee, is satisfied that the person in question should be removed as aforesaid, the Council may so remove him by an instrument in writing signed on the direction of the Council.

- (3) The Provost may in a case of misconduct by a member of staff, which in the opinion of the Provost, is prejudicial to the interests of the College, suspend such member and any such suspension shall forthwith, be reported to the Council.
- (4) For good cause, any member of staff may be suspended from office or his appointment may be terminated by the Council; and for the purposes of this subsection "good cause" means:
 - (a) any physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office; or
 - (b) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his office; or
 - (c) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.
- (5) Any person suspended in pursuant to sub section 4(b) or 4(c) above, shall be placed on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of such suspension, consider the case against that person and come to a decision as to:
 - (a) whether to continue such person's suspension and if so on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him); or
 - (b) whether to reinstate such person in which case, the Council shall restore his full emolument to him with effect from the date of suspension; or
 - (c) whether to terminate the appointment of the person in question in which case such a person will not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or
 - (d) whether to take such disciplinary measures against such person (including the restoration of such proportion of his emoluments that might have been withheld) as the Council determines and in any case whether the Council, pursuant to this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.
- (6) It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed in pursuance of subsection (1) above to use his best endeavour to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.
- (7) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall prevent the Council from making such regulations for the discipline of other categories of staff and workers of the College it may think fit.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 21 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 21 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 22:
- (1) If any junior staff is accused of misconduct or inefficiency, the Provost may suspend for not more than three months and forthwith, shall direct the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee:
 - (a) to consider the case; and
 - (b) to make recommendations as to the appropriate action to be take by the Provost.
 - (2) In all cases under this section, the officer shall be informed of the charge made against him and shall be given reasonable opportunity to defend himself.
 - (3) The Provost may after considering the recommendations made pursuant to subsection (1) (b) of this section, dismiss, terminate, retire or down-grade the officer concerned.
 - (4) Any person aggrieved by the Provost's decision under subsection (3) above may within a period of 21 days from the date of the letter communicating the decision to him, address a petition to the Council to reconsider his case and the Council's decision thereon, shall be final.
 - (5) In any case of gross misconduct on the part of a Junior Staff, the Provost shall forthwith, suspend him and thereafter, refer the matter to the Junior Staff Appointment and Promotion Committee to be dealt with according to the foregoing provision of this section.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 22 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 22 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 23:
- Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the Provost that any student of the College has been guilty of misconduct, the Provost may without prejudice to other disciplinary powers conferred on him by this Act or regulations made hereunder direct:-
- (1)
 - (a) That the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the College, or make use of such facilities of the College as he may specify, or
 - (b) that the activities of the student shall, during such period as may be specified in the directions be restricted in such manner as may be so specified; or
 - (c) that the student be suspended for such period as may be specified in the directions; or
 - (d) that the student be expelled from the College
 - (2) Where there is temporarily no Provost or where the Provost refuses to apply any disciplinary measures, the Council either directly or through some other staff may apply such disciplinary actions as are specified in subsection (1) of this section to any student of the College who is guilty of misconduct.

- (3) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) above in respect of any student, the student may, within 21 days from the date of the letter communicating this decision to him, appeal from the direction, and the Council after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Council considers just, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council may think fit.
- (4) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance of the last foregoing subsection shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.
- (5) The Provost may delegate his power under this section to a disciplinary committee consisting of such members of the College as he may nominate.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of student's activities in the College otherwise than on the ground of misconduct.
- (7) It is hereby declared that a direction under subsection (1) above may be combined with a direction under subsection (2) above
- (8) In all cases under this section, the decision of the Council shall be final.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 23 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 23 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART IV - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 24:

- (1) The Council shall keep proper accounts and proper records in relation thereto, and shall cause to be prepared not later than 1st October in each financial year, an estimate of the revenue and expenditure of the college for the ensuing financial year and when prepared, the estimate shall be submitted to the Minister for approval.

Committee's Recommendation:

(i) *Leave out* the word "October" and *insert* the word "April" instead thereof.

(ii) *Leave out* the word "Minister" and ***insert*** the words "National Assembly" instead thereof (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

- (2) At the end of each financial year but not later than 30th June, the Council shall cause to be prepared a statement of the income and expenditure of the College during the previous financial year.
- (3) The statement of accounts referred to in subsection (2) above shall when certified by the Provost, be audited by a Firm of Auditors appointed by the Council with the approval of the Minister and shall be published in the annual report of the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the word "Minister" in line 3 and *insert* the word "Board" instead thereof (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

Committee's Recommendation:

Insert a new Subclause(4) as follows:

"The Audit Report, when approved by the Council, shall be submitted to the Auditor-General of the Federation pursuant to Section 85(3) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federation" (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) — *Agreed to.*

Question, that Clause 24 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, pat and agreed to.

- Clause 25: The fund of the College shall include:
(1) fees charged by and payable to the College in respect of students;

Committee's Recommendation:

Insert a new Sub-clause (1) as follows and renumber accordingly:

The fund of the College shall include:

- (1) Funds appropriated for the College by the National Assembly
- (2) any other amounts due to or recoverable by the College;
- (3) any other amounts due to or recoverable by the College;
- (4) revenue from time to time accruing to the College from the Federal Government by way of subvention, grant-in-aid, endowment or otherwise howsoever;
- (5) donations and legacies accruing to the College from any source for the special purposes of the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 25 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 25 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 26: (1) Donations of money to be applied to any particular purpose, shall be placed to the credit of a special reserve account approved by the Council, until such tune as they may be expended in fulfilment of such purpose.
- (2) The college shall not be obliged to accept a donation for a particular purpose, unless it is approved of the terms and conditions attached to such donation.

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the words "it is approved of" in line 2 and insert the words "the Council approves" (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau).

Question, that Clause 26 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 27: All sums of money received on account of the College shall be paid into such bank as may be approved by Council.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 27 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question, that Clause 27 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 28: The Council shall on or before 31st December in each year, prepare and submit to the Federal Executive Council through the Minister, a report of its activities during the preceding financial year and shall include in the report, the audited accounts of the College in respect of that financial year of the Auditor's comments on the account.

Committee's Recommendation:

Immediately after the word "accounts" in line 4, leave out the word "of" and insert the word "for" instead thereof (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 28 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART V - MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTAL

- Clause 29:
- (1) The Council may make bye-laws relating to any matter within its competence under this Act other than matters for which provision is to be made by standing orders pursuant to Paragraph 7 of the schedule to this Act.
 - (2) All such bye-laws shall be in written form and shall take effect from the date when sealed with the seal of the College unless some other date for their commencement is prescribed therein.
 - (3) Nothing in subsection (2) above shall make it obligatory for the Council to public any of the said bye-laws in the Official Gazette, but the Council shall bring such bye-laws to the notice of all affected thereby.

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the word "public" and insert the word publish' instead thereof (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau)—Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 29 as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 30:
- No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of the following matters, that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping), sex, place of birth or of family origin or religious or political persuasion or as a condition of becoming or continuing to be a student at the College or as a worker at the College, or a member of any body established by virtue of this Act, and no person shall be subjected to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage in relation to the College by reference to any of those matters;

Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the College from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the aforementioned persons, where such person wilfully refuses or fails on grounds of religious belief, to undertake any duty generally and uniformly imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty, having regard to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the opinion of the College, reasonably justifiable in the national interest.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 30 be retained (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 30 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 31:
- Subject to the provision of paragraph 6(2) of the Schedule to this Act and any standing orders or bye-laws made under this Act, the quorum and procedure of anybody or persons established by this Act shall be such as determined by that body.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 31 be retained (Senator Saidu M. Dansadau)—Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 31 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 32:
- By virtue of this Act, all properties (movable and immovable) held by or on behalf of the College hereafter in this section referred to as "the College") shall, as from the commencement of this Act, vest in the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 32 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) —
Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 32 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 33:

Upon the commencement of this Act:

- (1) the rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the College existing immediately before the commencement of this Act under any contract or instrument, or at law or in equity, apart from any contract or instrument, shall, by virtue of this Act, be assigned to and vested in the College;
- (2) any such contract or instrument as mentioned in subsection (1) above shall be of the same force and effect against or in favour of the College and shall be enforced fully and effectively as if the College had been named therein or had been a party thereto; and
- (3) the College, shall be subject to all the obligations and liabilities to which the College was subject immediately before the commencement of this Act and all other persons shall, as from the commencement of the Act, have the same rights, power and remedies against the College as they had against the College immediately before the said commencement.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 33 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) —
Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 33 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 34:

If immediately, before the commencement of the Act, a person was a member or an employee of the College, that person shall by virtue of this Act become a member or an employee of the College.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 34 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) —
Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 34 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 35:

Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing before the commencement of this Act by or against the College may be commenced, continued or enforced by or against the College as it might have been against the College if this Act had not been made.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 35 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) —
Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 35 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 36:

All assets, funds, resources and other moveable or immoveable property which immediately before the commencement of this Act were vested in the College existing before the commencement of this Act shall by virtue of this Act and without further assurance, be vested in the College established by this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 36 be retained (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*) —
Agreed to.

Question, that Clause 36 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 37: In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Academic Board" means the board established under section 16;

Question, That the words "Academic Board" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

"Appointments and Promotions Committee" means a body by that name established under paragraph 2(1) (a) of the Schedule to this Act;

Question, That the words "Appointments and Promotions Committee" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

"Chairman" means Chairman of the Council appointed under section 6(1) of this Act-

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

"College" means the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology, set up under section 1 of this Act,

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

"Council" means the Governing council of the College established under Section 5 of this Act;

Question, That the words "Council" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

"Member" means member of the Council appointed under section 6(2) of this Act;

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

"Minister" means the Federal Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to Science and Technology.

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

"Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee" Means a body that is set up under paragraph 3(2) of the schedule to this Act;

Question, That the words "Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee " be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

"Provost" means Provost of the College appointed under sections 10 and 11 of this Act;

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

"Registrar" Means the registrar of the College appointed under section 10(i) of this Act.

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

"Visitor" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

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

Question that Clause 32 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 38: This Act may be cited as the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology Act 2004

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the figures "2004" and insert the figures "2006" instead thereof

(Senator Saidu M. Dansadau) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 38 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

SCHEDULE 1

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL

Tenure of Office of Members

1. (1) A member of the Council other than ex ex-officio member shall hold office for a period of three years beginning with the date on which he was appointed and shall be eligible for re-appointment for further term of three years and thereafter, he shall no longer be eligible for re-appointment.
- (2) Members of the Council holding office as specified in paragraph 1(1) above, shall be paid remuneration or allowance in accordance with rates specified from time to time by the Federal Executive Council.
- (3) A member of the Council holding office as specified in paragraph (1) above may by notice in writing to the Minister, resign his office.
2. (1) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Council, that vacancy shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor, so however that the successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.
- (2) The council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or the absence of any member or that person not entitled to do so take part in its proceeding.

Question that Sections 1 and 2 under the Head "Tenure of Office of Members" stand part of the Schedule to the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE 2

Committees

1. The Council may appoint one or more committees to which it may delegate any of its functions.
2. Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (1) above, the council shall appoint: The Senior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committees, which shall without prejudice to section 7(d) of this Act.
 - (a) consist of a Chairman to be appointed by the Council's Chairman from members of the Council and four other members who shall be recommended by the Provost from the College;
 - (b) be charged with the responsibility for making recommendations to the Council on the appointment of the academic and senior staff of the College, have a quorum of three members; and if the Chairman of the committee is absent from any meeting of the committee, the members present shall elect one of their members to act as Chairman for that particular meeting.

3. The Provost shall appoint the Junior Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee which shall consist of a Chairman and four other members and shall have the powers set out in section 17 and 22 of this Act;
4. (1) The Provost shall appoint the Committee on Students' Affairs which shall consist of the following members -
 - (a) a Chairman who shall be appointed from among the Non-Academic senior employees of the College;
 - (b) two members of the Academic Staff of the College; and
 - (c) two students of the College.(2) The Committee on Students' Affairs shall be charged with the duty of:-
 - (a) considering any matter which related to the welfare of students;
 - (b) any other matter referred to it by either the Council or students of the College; and
 - (c) any matter which the College may wish to refer to Council shall be referred to the Committee of Students' Affairs in the first instance.
5. No decision of a Committee shall have effect unless it is confirmed by the **Council**.

Question that Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 under the Head "Committees" stand part of the Schedule to the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE 3

Proceedings of the Council

1. (1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times as the Chairman of the Council may appoint but shall meet at least every quarter of the Year.
 - (2) The Chairman of the Council may at any time and shall at the request in writing of not less than five members of the Council, summon a meeting of the Council
 - (3) Particulars of the business to be transacted shall be circulated to members with the notice of the meeting at least, two weeks before the date of the meeting.
2. Where the Council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, it may co-opt such a person as a member for a meeting whether or not expressly convened for the purpose of considering the particular matter; but no co-opted member shall be entitled to vote or shall count towards a quorum.
3. (1) Every question put before the Council at a meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the members present and voting.
 - (2) The Chairman shall, at any meeting of the Council have a vote and in the case of an equality of votes, may exercise a casting vote.
 - (3) Subject as aforesaid, the Council may make standing orders with respect to the holding of meetings, the nature of notices to be given, the proceedings thereat, the keeping of minutes of such proceedings and the custody and production for inspection of such minutes.
 - (4) Any contract or instrument which if entered into by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may in like manner be entered into or executed on behalf of the Council by the person generally or specifically authorized by it for the purpose.

5. (1) The Common Seal of the Council shall not be used or fixed to any document except in pursuance of resolution duly passed at a properly constituted meeting of the Council and recorded in the minutes of such meeting.
- (2) the fixing of the Seal of the Council shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman of the Council and some other members authorized generally or specifically by the Council to act for that purpose.
- (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the Seal of the Council shall be received in evidence and shall unless the contrary is proved be deemed to be executed.
6. Any member of the Council or of a Committee thereof, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Council or a Committee thereof, shall forthwith, disclose his interest to the Council and shall not vote on any question relating to such contract or arrangement.

Question that Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 under the Head "Proceedings of the Council" stand part of the Schedule to the Bill — Agreed to.

Chair to 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 Science and Technology on the Federal College of Chemical and Leather Technology Bill \ 2006 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1 and 2	—	As Recommended
Clause 3	—	As Amended
Clauses 4 and 5	—	As Recommended
Clause 6	—	As Amended
Clauses 7 - 9	—	As Recommended
Clauses 10 - 11	—	As Amended
Clauses 12-19	—	As Recommended
Clauses 20-23	—	As Recommended
Clauses 24-28	—	As Recommended
Clauses 29-38	—	As Recommended
Schedules 1 - 3	—	As Recommended

Question, That the Report of the Committee of the Whole be approved - Resolved in the Affirmative.

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Bill be read the Third Time (Senate Majority Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Third Time and passed.

10. Committee on Foreign Affairs:
Report on the Convention on the Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and Other Destructions and For Purposes Connected therewith 2006:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Report on the Convention on the Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and Other Destructions and For Purposes Connected therewith 2006 (*Senator Jibril M. Aminu*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Further consideration deferred till a later date.

11. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 1st June, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.50p.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate