



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 18th May, 2006

1. The Senate met at 10.45 a.m. The President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 17th May, 2006 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. **Announcements:**
 - (i) **Defection:**
The Senate President announced the defection of Senator Nicholas Y. Ugbane from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) through a letter which he read as follows:



Senator Nicholas Yahaya Ugbane

CHAIRMAN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON 1NEC

17 May, 2006.

His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Ken Nnamani President of the Senate, National Assembly, Abuja.

Your Excellency,

NOTIFICATION OF MY CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP FROM ANPP TO PDP

I would like to officially notify you and my Distinguished Colleagues of my decampment along with my supporters in my Constituency, from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

Our decision was predicated on the fragmentation of ANPP which has resulted in the emergence of factions under various leaders singing discordant tunes. All efforts to reconcile the warring factions have not yielded any meaningful result. At the end of March, this year, the General Jerry Useni (Rtd.) faction and the Chief Don Ethelbert faction held separate NEC meetings (only a day apart) in Abuja and in Maiduguri, respectively.

*At the Maiduguri meeting, the entire National Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of the party were said to have been dissolved and replaced by a Caretaker Committee under Senator AH Modu Sheriff, Governor of Borno State - something that **the** Jerry Useni faction and most people have refused to accept because due process was not followed. I cannot continue to operate efficiently as a Senator under this atmosphere of confusion and unhealthy rivalry.*

I have painstakingly explained to my colleagues in the minority parties (Senate Minority Caucus) the circumstances that led me and my supports to move from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

I wish to express my profound gratitude and deep appreciation to my Distinguished Colleagues in ANPP for their co-operation and legislative support, I want to assure them that I will continue to be guided by the tenets of democracy, objectivity, fairness and legislative decorum which make us stand out as distinguished Senators of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Please accept Mr Senate President, distinguished colleagues, the assurances of my loyalty and esteemed regards.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed:

Senator Nicholas Y. Ugbane, FCIB

(ii) British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Tape recording Cassette:

The Senate President informed the Senate of the receipt of the tape containing the interview granted the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) radio by Senator (Dr.) Ahmadu Ali, National Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). He directed that the tape be handed over to the Chairman, Committee on Ethics, Code of Conduct and Public Petitions for necessary action.

4. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday, 23rd May, 2006 at 10,00 a.m. (Senate Majority Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 11. 00 a.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate