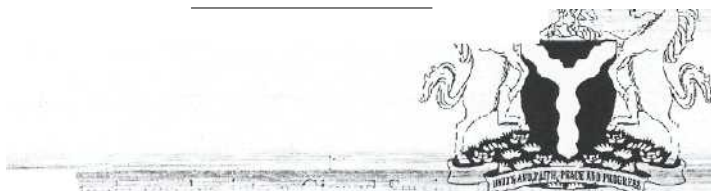


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## SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 29th June, 2006

1. The Senate met at 10:20 a.m. The President read Prayers.

### Votes and Proceedings:

The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 28th June, 2006 and approved same.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.*

### Announcements:

- (i) The Senate President announced that he had received two letters, which he read as follows:  
(A) Conference:



### Northern Senators' Forum

Room 227 and 215, Second Floor, Senate Wing National Assembly Complex, P. M. B. 141, Garki Tel:  
09 - 2341286, 2340658, Abuja. Contact E-mail: sindansadau@yahoo.co.uk

June 28, 2006

*The Senate President National Assembly Abuja*

**RE: NORTHERN SENATORS' CONFERENCE IN MINNA — JUNE 30  
-JULY 1, 2006**

*Tins is to remind all members of the Northern Senators' Forum of the Forum's Conference holding as planned from Friday, June 30 Sunday, July 1, 2006. The venue still remains Gidan Matasa, Okada Road, GRA, Minna, Niger State.*

*All members are expected to arrive Mhma Shiroro Hotel at 11.00am on Friday, June 30.*

*Signed:*  
*Senator Saidu Mohammed Dansadau*  
*Secretary- General*

**(B) Defection:****SENATOR DR. BODE OLOWOPOROKU**

(Ph.D. Econs. Manchester)

Senate Chambers  
National Assembly Complex  
Garki - Abuja

**His Excellency**  
The Senate President  
National Assembly

**Office:** 092349829  
**Residence:** 092311059  
**Lagos Office:** 01-4521995

28th June 2006 Your Excellency, **-DECLARATION**

**FOR ADVANCED-CONGRESS**

*You recall that the National Working Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) expelled me from the Party on 22nd October 2004. Because the National Working Committee does not have such powers under the PDP constitution, the matter was taken to the Law Court. Subsequently, the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the Party and the National Convention of the PDP went ahead to ratify the expulsion in defiance of the court litigation.*

*Thereafter, the PDP party officers and officials mounted pressure on the Senate to declare my seat vacant or change my seat in the Senate. I am grateful to the Senate for resisting the pressure of the PDP officers on two grounds:-*

- (a) *That there is no where in the 1999 constitution where it is stated that when a Senator is suspended or expelled from his political party the status of his seat in the Senate should be affected.*
- (b) *That the Senate has to stand by its own standing rules, particularly rule 53(5) ... that the Senate shall not make reference to any matter before the court so as not to prejudice the outcome of such cases before the Court of Law.*

*I appreciate the Senate for not acting in such a way that would have laid a bad precedent and subsequently made a mince of the status of a Senator whose seat in the Senate should be insulated from squabbles and intrigues within the various political parties. If the Senate had not resisted the pressure and acted because it was the person of Senator Dr. Bode Olowoporoku that was affected, by today, the overzealous people in the various political parties would have consumed several Senators and would have extended it to all levels of legislatures in the country thus the most potent hub of democracy in this Republic would have been bastardized and reduced to docile rubbles.*

*I would be failing to appreciate, if I simply declare for another party without acknowledging the positive contributions of my colleagues towards a stable Senate that can hold its own at all times.*

*Now history is being made today again. The first Senator to be expelled from his party in the present Democratic Experiment is declaring for another political party.*

*In view of the factionalisation in the PDP and consequential instability in the party, I have come to the conclusion that PDP cannot be an engine of growth for the transformation of Nigeria and therefore cannot be an engine for the transformation of my vision for Nigeria into reality of positive progress for this country. Therefore having consulted widely with the people of my Senatorial District and in keeping with the spirit of the proviso under section 68(g) of the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I hereby declare for the Advanced Congress of Democrats (A CD). All former documents remain valid.*

*Once more, I thank you all for the support.*

*Long live the Senate and Long Live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*

*Senator Dr. Bode Olowoporoku (Ph.D Econs. Manchester)  
Ekiti South Senatorial District*

- (ii) Acknowledgment:  
The Senate President acknowledged the presence of Students and Staff of Esteem International School,. Zone 4, Wuse, Abuja in the gallery to observe Senate proceedings.

4. Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development:  
*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do receive the Reports of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development on the following Bills:

- (i) National Council of Animal Science Bill 2006 (HB.03):  
(ii) Agricultural Inputs (Provisions of Subsidy) Bill 2006 (HB. 21): (iii)  
Agriculture (Provision of Budgetary Allocation) Bill 2006 (HB. 25):

- (v) " National Tea "Development Authority Bill 2006 (SB. 62):

- (vi) National Farm Settlement and Youth Empowerment Agency Bill 2006 (SB. 72):

- (vii) National Agricultural Development fund Bill 2006\_(SB 98)

- (viii) Farmers Registration Council of Nigeria (FARCON) Bill 2006 (SB. 126):

- (ix) National Food Storage and Preservation Centre Bill 2006 (SB. 143) (*Senator Mohammed S. Ohiare*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Reports Laid.*

5. Year 2006 Budget of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC):  
*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do receive and consider the request by Mr President, Commander-in-Chief for the approval of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Budget 2006 (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to report within two weeks.*

6. Confirmation of Nomination:  
*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do consider the request by Mr President, Commander-in-Chief for the confirmation of nomination of Mrs. Umaru Talatu Ogbayi, to replace Amb. (Engr.) Polycarp Azige, Nasarawa State (North Central), as a member of the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Establishment and Public Service Matters to report within two weeks.*

7. Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs:  
*Screening of Nominee:*  
*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs on the screening of Barrister Tukur Muri Yakubu as a Member of the Code of Conduct Bureau and approve the recommendation (*Senator Ike Ekweremadu*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Report presented and Laid.*

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

*Question put and agreed to.*

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE) Screening of

nominee as a Member of the Code of Conduct Bureau **Debate:**

*Recommendation:*

*Nominee recommended for confirmation:*

Barrister Tuktur Muri Yakubu — *Agreed to.*

Chairman to report progress

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(SENATE IN THE PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs on the screening of Barrister Tuktur Muri Yakubu as a Member of the Code of Conduct Bureau and approved the nomination.

*"Question that the Senate approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — resolved in the Affirmative.*

*Confirmation:*

*Question:*

" Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Barrister Tuktur Muri Yakubu as a Member of Code of Conduct Bureau? " — *Resolved in Affirmative.*

*Nomination of Barrister Tuktur Muri Yakubu as a Member of Code of Conduct Bureau accordingly confirmed.*

Committee on Establishment and Public Service Matters:

*Screening of Chairman and Members of the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC):*

*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee of Establishment and Public Service Matters on the screening of the followings persons as Chairman and Members of the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) and approve the recommendations:

|        |                             |          |           |               |
|--------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| (i)    | Engr. Ahmed Aliyu Dogondaji | Chairman | Sokoto    | North West    |
|        |                             |          | Katsina   | North West    |
| (ii)   | Alhaji Ibrahim S. K. Adamu  | Member   | Kano      | North West    |
| (iii)  | Aminu Abdulsalam Gwarzo     | Member   | Ekiti     | South West    |
| (iv)   | Mr. Sunday Olufemi Ige      | Member   | Osun      | South West    |
| (v)    | Mr. Olaniyan Enoch Ayoyemi  | Member   | Rivers    | South South   |
| (vi)   | Mr. Jones Nwene Ogbonda     | Member   | Akwa-Ibom | South South   |
| (vii)  | Engr. Patrick Akpan Ekpodu  | Member   | Benue     | North Central |
| (viii) | Hon. Ohepo Ada Ejiga        | Member   | Adamawa   | North East    |
| (ix)   | Alhaji Sa'adu Aminu         | Member   |           |               |

(x) Idi Adamu Ningi Member Bauchi North East

(xi) ' Dr. Denis C. NWachukwu ' Member " Enugu "

"Member Anambra South East

(Senator Felix O. Ibru).

*Consideration of Report stood down to a later date.*

**9. Closed Session:**

*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do resolve into a Closed Session to deliberate on matters relevant to the workings of the Senate (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**Senate in Closed Session** — **11:10 a. m.**

**Senate in Open Session** — **12: 25 p.m.**

**10. Adjournment:**

*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday., 22nd August, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

*Adjourned accordingly at 12: 30p. in.*

**Ken Nnamani**  
*President of the Senate*