



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 14th September, 2006

1. The Senate met at 10:10 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, 13th September, 2006 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. **Announcement:**
The Senate President announced that the Students of Public Administration Department of the Anambra State University of Science and Technology were in the gallery to observe Senate proceedings.
4. **Committee on Science and Technology:**
Report on Information Technology Bill 2006, (SB 184):
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on the Information Technology Bill 2006 (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.
5. **Motion:**
Collapse of Democratic Government at the Local Government Level in Enugu and Many Other States:
Motion made and Question Proposed: WHEREAS section 7(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees a system of democratically elected government at the Local Government Level;

WHEREAS Enugu State Governor, Dr. Chimaroke Nnamani, has failed/refused to abide by legal and constitutional provisions and to promote democracy at the local government level in Enugu State;

WHEREAS it is part of the responsibility of the Senate to make laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Nigerian people;

WHEREAS Chapter 2 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, obligates the Senate to exercise its law-making and oversight functions in the light of the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy;

WHEREAS the Senate Committee on States and Local Government Affairs is charged with the responsibility of monitoring and supervising the activities of States and Local Government Officials in Enugu State; and

WHEREAS the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has failed/refused to release the report of its investigations as it relates to serving State government officials in Enugu State.

Be it resolved: That

the Senate do:

- (A) Mandate the Committees on States and Local Government Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to:
 - (i) investigate all matters relating to the collapse of democratically elected Local Government Councils in Enugu State and other States of the Federation facing similar conditions;
 - (ii) investigate the creation of the so called thirty-nine (39) Development Centres in Enugu State, which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the Seventeen (17) Local Government Councils established by the Constitution;
 - (iii) investigate the arbitrary creation of wards which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the constitutionally established Local Councils in many other States of the Federation; and
 - (iv) Report findings to the Senate within two (2) weeks.
- (B) Direct the Chairman of Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC):
 - (I) to release forthwith the report of its investigation into the allegations of monumental corruption in Enugu State Government in particular and other States of the Federation in respect of which they have also carried out investigations; and
 - (ii) to appear before and appraise the Senate within one week, of its problems and prospects in the collective battle against corruption.

Debate:

Prayer 1:

Question that the Senate do:

- (A) Mandate the Committees on States and Local Government Affairs, and Security and Intelligence and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to:
 - (i) investigate all matters relating to the collapse of democratically elected Local Government Councils in Enugu State and other States of the Federation facing similar conditions — *Agreed to.*
 - (ii) investigate the creation of the so-called thirty-nine (39) Development Centres in Enugu State, which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the Seventeen (17) Local Government Councils established by the Constitution — *Agreed to.*
 - (Hi) investigate the arbitrary creation of wards which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the constitutionally established Local Councils in many other States of the Federation — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (A)(iv) as follows:

"(iv) That the Senate do request Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief to direct the Minister of Finance to withhold further Funds to Enugu State and all other States of the Federation until democratically elected Local Government Councils are put in place" (*Senator Kanti Bello*).

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

Report findings to the Senate within two (2) weeks — *Agreed to.*

Prayer 2:**Question:**

- (B) That the Senate do urge Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to direct the Chairman of Economic and financial Crime Commission (EFCC):
- (i) To release forthwith the report of its investigation into the allegations of monumental corruption in Enugu State Government in particular and other States of the Federation in respect of which they have also carried out investigations;

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (B) (i) and insert a new one as follows:

"(i) To release to the Senate forthwith the Report of its investigation into the allegations of monumental corruption in Enugu State Government in particular and other States of the Federation in respect of which they have also carried out investigation and prosecute those found guilty" (*Senator Saidu M. Dansadau*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed.

- (ii) To appear before and appraise the Senate within one week, of its problems and prospects in the collective battle against corruption.

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately before the word "to" in line 1, *insert* the words "that the Senate do invite the Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes (EFCC)" (*Senator Dalhatu S. Tafida*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Resolved:

- (A) That the Senate do mandate the Committees on States and Local Government Affairs; and National Security and Intelligence and Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to:
- (i) Investigate all matters relating to the collapse of democratically elected Local Government Councils in Enugu State and other States of the Federation facing similar conditions;
- (ii) That the Senate do investigate the creation of the so-called thirty-nine (39) Development Centres in Enugu State, which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the Seventeen (17) Local Government Councils established by the Constitution;
- (in) That the Senate do investigate the arbitrary creation of wards which partake in the sharing of revenue allocated to the constitutionally established Local Councils in many other States of the Federation;
- (iv) That the Senate do request Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief to direct the Minister of Finance to withhold further Funds to Enugu State and all other States of the Federation until democratically elected Local Government Councils are put in place; and
- (v) Report findings to the Senate within two (2) weeks.
- (B) That the Senate do urge Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to direct the Chairman, Economic and Financial Commission, (EFCC):
- (i) To release to the Senate forthwith the Report of its investigation into the allegations of monumental corruption in Enugu State Government in particular and other States of the Federation in respect of which they have also carried out investigation and prosecute those found guilty; and
- (ii) That the Senate do invite the Chairman of Economic and Financial Crimes, (EFCC) to appear before and appraise the Senate within one week of its problems and prospects in the collective battle against corruption (*Res. S. /059/06*).

6. *Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do stand down the remaining items on the Order Paper (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

7. **Adjournment:**

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday, 19th September, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.50p.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate