



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14th February, 2007

1. The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers. »
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 13th February, 2007 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were .approved.
3. **Announcements:**
Change of Party Affiliation:
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Dalha Danzomo as follows:



Senator Dalha Ahmed *Danzomo
Vice Chairman Senate Committee on Information
THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
National Assembly Complex Three Arms
Zone P. M. B. 141, Abuja, Nigeria

13th February, 2007.

*The Senate President, Senate
Chambers, National Assembly
Complex, Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Sir,

RE: COMING BACK TO MY ROOTS

Mr President Sir, sometime later last year, I informed you and my distinguished colleagues in this hallowed chamber, of my intention to decamp from my mother party (the ANPP), to the ruling party (the PDF). I did this with utmost good intentions for my constituents.

After a lot of soul searching and extensive consultations with my family and people, I have been advised to return to the ANPP. This is borne out of the fact that my constituents who voted me to represent them, have unequivocally declared their unflinching and unwavering support for the ANPP as the only party that can salvage them from the present misrule.

It is in that vein I inform you sir and all my distinguished colleagues that I hereby formally return to my party, the ANPP in accordance with overwhelming wishes of my people.

Thank you and may God Almighty continue to guard, guide and protect us all. Do accept the assurances of my highest regards please. Signed:
Senator Dalha Ahmed Danzomo

(it) *Joint Conference Committee on the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution Bill 2007:*

The Senate President named the underlisted as Senate Conferees:

(a)	Senator Robert B. Koleosho	—	Chairman
(b)	Senator Umaru Dahiru	—	Member
(c)	Senator Ben Obi	—	Member
(d)	Senator Titus O. Olupitan	—	Member
(e)	Senator Baba Tela	—	Member
(f)	Senator Nuhu Aliyu	—'	Member
(g)	Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw	—	Member

4. **Presentation of Bills:**

(i) Federal Co-operative College Bill 2007 (SB. 339) — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill 2007 (SB. 337) — *Read the First Time.*

5. **Motion:**

Non-Display of Registered Voters' List:

Motion made and Question Proposed: THAT WHEREAS the Independent National Electoral Commission, (INEC) has publicly committed itself in different fora guaranteeing the Nigerian people free, fair and peaceful elections in April, 2007;

WHEREAS the proper documentation and presentation of the fully registered voters in Nigeria is a sine qua-non for the success of the forth coming general elections;

WHEREAS the registration exercise has fallen short of the expectations of Nigerians going by the nationwide complaints that trailed it;

WHEREAS the purported concluded display of the voters list has also grossly negated INEC's promises and violated Section 20 (1) and (2) of the Electoral Act and has fallen short of acceptable requirement for the people's confidence in INEC;

WHEREAS in view of the fact that the voters registers were observed to have been deliberately bungled and not displayed in most parts of the South-West;

WHEREAS majority of eligible voters were denied the opportunity of sighting their names which by extension might be the same experience in other parts of the country; and

WHEREAS this ineptitude may portend danger for the success of the forthcoming general elections;

BE it resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do direct the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to display the Voters' list in the Local Governments and wards all over the country and the South West, in particular.
- (ii) That the Senate do direct the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to repeat the display of voters register for another 7 days before the end of February to enable it cope with any objections and omissions before the stipulated 45 days prior to elections (*Senator Iyabode Anisulowo*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

Question: That the Senate do direct the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to display the Voters' list in the Local Governments and wards all over the country and the South West, in particular (*Senator Iyabode Anisulowo*).

Amendments Proposed:

Leave out the word "direct" in line 1 and insert the word "urge" instead thereof (*Senator Jonathan T. Ogbaha*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

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Another Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "and the South West, in particular" (*Senator Lawal Shuaibu*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Further Amendment Proposed:

After the word "country in line'2, insert the words "in accordance with the Electoral Act" (*Senator Jonathan T. Ogbaha*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Prayer (ii):

Question: That the Senate do direct the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to repeat the display of voters register for another 7 days before the end of February to enable it cope with any, objections and omissions before the stipulated 45 days prior to elections (*Senator Iyabode Anisulowo*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in Prayer (ii) (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That the Senate do urge the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to display the Voters' list in the Local Governments and wards all over the country in accordance with the Electoral Law (S. Res/07/07).

6. Conference Report on the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria Bill 2007 (SB. 170):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adopt the Conference Report on the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria Bill 2007 (*Report presented and Laid on Wednesday, 7th February, 2007*) (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report adopted.

7. Ad-Hoc Committee on the Demolition Exercise by the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA):

Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Demolition Exercise embarked upon by the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Demolition Exercise embarked upon by the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Recommendations:

- (i) A Land Appeal tribunal must be appointed at all times and office accommodation provided in an open accessible area so that those affected by the FCDA demolition exercise could file their complaints and seek redress,
- (ii) FCDA and the offending parties' must obey the ruling of the Land Appeal Tribunal.
- (iii) All aggrieved persons must be in possession of the following Documents:
 - (a) Authentic Certificate of Occupancy
 - (b) FCDA approved Building Plans
 - (c) FCDA approved Setting Out of the Building on site.
- (iv) The issuance of the Certificate of Occupancies by Abuja Municipal Area Council valid for 50 years and FCDA for 99 years should be centralized.
- (v) FCDA should only allocate plots to individuals and organizations from an approved layout not contravening the Abuja Master Plan with well provided access roads and drainages with central sewage, power, and telephone and water mains lines buried in the ground.
- (vi) The Abuja Master Plan must be fully protected at all times if Abuja is to remain a capital that we want it to be. It can however be reviewed periodically and any amendments or modifications must be approved by the Minister for FCT.
- (vii) All FCDA and FCT officials involved in illegal land deals should be sanctioned, such sanctions to include dismissal and prosecution.
- (viii) Some of the structures not in line with Land Use as per the Master Plan should be integrated into the Abuja Master Plan provided that the structures have not bastardized the Abuja Master Plan.
- (ix) Government should compensate the victims of demolition who had genuine allocation papers and still had their properties demolished.
- (x) Two Hundred and Twenty-one approved buildings at Kubwa were approved to stand. The ones demolished out of the approved number should be compensated by the F. C. D. A.
- (xi) Those Corner-shops awarded for tenure of 5 years were those built on prototype Type I that cost N6 Million. The Prototype type II cost N6.5 Million. The prototype type III cost N8 Million. It has been found out that Corner-shops in Wuse Zone 4 were rented for N800,000 per annum and sold for *HI* 0,000,000. Therefore most of the owners of such Corner-shops must have recovered their money by now. We would therefore not recommend for compensation.

However, those with 25 years and limitless tenure, having genuine particulars should be compensated as they were helping government by investing their money since the government had shirked on its responsibilities.

Debate:

Recommendations:

- (i) A Land Appeal tribunal must be appointed at all times and office accommodation provided in an open accessible area so that those affected by the FCDA demolition exercise could file their complaints and seek redress (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "must be appointed" in line 1 and **insert** the words "should be established" instead thereof (*Senator Jonathan T. Ogbaha*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (ii) FCDA and the offending parties' must obey the ruling of the Land Appeal Tribunal (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in recommendation (ii) (*Senator Jonathan T. Ogbaha*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (iii) All aggrieved persons must be in possession of the following Documents:
- (a) Authentic Certificate of Occupancy
 - (b) FCDA approved Building Plans
 - (c) FCDA approved Setting Out of the Building on site (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*) — *Agreed to.*
- (iv) The issuance of the Certificate of Occupancies by Abuja Municipal Area Council valid for 50 years and FCDA for 99 years should be centralized (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the word "centralized" in line 2 and **insert** the word "harmonised" instead thereof (*Senator Nicholas Y. Ugbane*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (v) FCDA should only allocate plots to individuals and organizations from an approved layout not contravening the Abuja Master Plan with well provided access roads and drainages with central sewage, power, and telephone and water mains lines buried in the ground (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*) — *Agreed to.*
- (vi) The Abuja Master Plan must be fully protected at all times if Abuja is to remain a capital that we want it to be. It can however be reviewed periodically and any amendments or modifications must be approved by the Minister for FCT (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "Minister for FCT" in line 3 and **insert** the words "Federal Executive Council" instead thereof (*Senator Usman K. JJmar*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Another Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "modifications" in line 2 and **insert** the words "publicly considered" (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (vii) All FCDA and FCT officials involved in illegal land deals should be sanctioned, such sanctions to include dismissal and prosecution (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately after the word "officials" in line 1 and *insert* the words "serving or retired" (*Senator Usman K. Umar*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (viii) Some of the structures not in line with Land Use as per the Master Plan should be integrated into **the** Abuja Master Plan provided that the structures have not bastardized the Abuja Master Plan (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the words "have not bastardized" in line 2 and *insert* the words "are not incompatible with" instead thereof (*Senator Nicholas Y. Ugbane*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (ix) Government should compensate the victims of demolition who had genuine allocation papers and still had their properties demolished (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*) — *Agreed to.*

- (x) Two Hundred and Twenty-one approved buildings at Kubwa were approved to stand. The ones demolished out of the approved number should be compensated by the F.C.D.A. (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Immediately before the words "Two Hundred" in line 1, *insert* the words "In line with recommendation (ix) above" (*Senator Udoma U. Vdoma*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

- (xi) Those Comer-shops awarded for tenure of 5 years were those built on prototype Type I that cost N6 Million. The Prototype type II cost N6.5 Million. The prototype type III cost N8 Million. It has been found out that Comer-shops in Wuse Zone 4 were rented for N800,000 per annum and sold for N10,000,000. Therefore most of the owners of such Corner-shops must have recovered their money by now. We would therefore not recommend for compensation.

However, those with 25 years and limitless tenure, having genuine particulars should be compensated as they were helping government by investing their money since the government had shirked on its responsibilities (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in recommendation (xi) (*Senator Ibrahim N. Mantu*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Resolved:

- (i) A Land Appeal tribunal should be established at all times and office accommodation provided in an open accessible area so that those affected by the FCDA demolition exercise could file their complaints and seek redress,
- (ii) All aggrieved persons must be in possession of the following Documents:
- (a) Authentic Certificate of Occupancy
 - (b) FCDA approved Building Plans
 - (c) FCDA approved Setting Out of the Building on site.
- (iii) The issuance of the Certificate of Occupancies by Abuja Municipal Area Council valid for 50 years and FCDA for 99 years should be harmonised.

- (iv) FCDA should only allocate plots to individuals and organizations from an approved layout not contravening the Abuja Master Plan with well provided access roads and drainages with central sewage, power, and telephone and water mains lines buried in the ground.
- (v) The Abuja Master Plan must be fully protected at all times if Abuja is to remain a capital that we want it to be. It can however be reviewed periodically and any amendments or modifications publicly considered must be approved by the Federal Executive Council.
- (vi) All FCDA and FCT officials, serving or retired, involved in illegal land deals should be sanctioned, such sanctions to include dismissal and prosecution.
- (vii) Some of the structures not in line with Land Use as per the Master Plan should be integrated into the Abuja Master Plan provided that the structures are not incompatible with the Abuja Master Plan.
- (viii) Government should compensate the victims of demolition who had genuine allocation papers and still had their properties demolished.
- (ix) In line with recommendation (xiii) above, two hundred and twenty-one approved buildings at Kubwa were approved to stand. The ones demolished out of the approved number should be compensated by the F. C. D. A. (S.Res/08/07).

8. Committee on Foreign Affairs:

Report on the Screening of Ambassadorial Nominees:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resume the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, on the screening of the following Career Foreign Service Officers for Ambassadorial appointments and approve the recommendations (*Adjourned debate - 1st February, 2007*)

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|------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (1) | Mr. Hamidu Salihu | — | Adamawa State |
| (2) | Mr. Charles Ezeadigo Onwuagbu | — | Anambra State |
| (3) | Mr. Emmanuel Mbanefo Obiako | — | Anambra State |
| (4) | Mr. Salihu Ahmed-Sambo | — | Bauchi State |
| (5) | Mr. Baba Gana Zanna | — | Borno State |
| (6) | Mr. Marius Uzochukwu Offor | — | Delta State |
| (7) | Mr. Sam Azubuike Dada Olisa | — | Delta State |
| (8) | Dr. Martin Ihoeghian Uhomobhi | — | Edo State |
| (9) | Mr. Peter Jonathan Ethansor Anegbeh | — | Edo State |
| (10) | Mr. Zacchaeus Olusola Ojo | — | Ekiti State |
| (11) | Dr. Felix Ani Aniokoye | — | Enugu State |
| (12) | Dr. Obioma Philip Oparah | — | Imo State |
| (13) | Mrs. Azuka Cecilia Uzoka-Emejulu, mni | — | Imo State |
| (14) | Mr. Lawal Mohammed Dutsin-Ma | — | Katsina State |
| (15) | Mr. Kabiru Garba | — | Kano State |
| (16) | Mr. Usman Alhaji Baraya | — | Kebbi State |
| (17) | Mr. Sunday Thomas Dogonyaro | — | Kebbi State |

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|------|----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (18) | Mr. Hammed Ajibaiye Opeloyeru | — | Kwara State |
| (19) | Dr. Rufus Oloruntoyin Akeju | — | Lagos State |
| (20) | Amb. Mohammed Kudu Ndanusa | — | Niger State |
| (21) | Mr. Albert Olakunle Soyombo | — | Ogun State |
| (22) | Mr. Adekunle Oladokun Adeyanju | — | Ogun State |
| (23) | Mrs. Adeola Adebisi Obileye | — | Ogun State |
| (24) | Mr. Christopher Adegboyega Ariyo | — | Osun State |
| (25) | Mr. Timothy Ademola O. Oguntuna | — | Oyo State |
| (26) | Amb. Abdul Bin-Rimdap | — | Plateau State |

(Senator Jibril Aminu).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and laid.

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)

Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the screening of Ambassadorial Nominees.

Recommendations: Nominees recommended for confirmation:

- (1) Mr. Hamidu Salihu (Adamawa State) — *Agreed to.*
- (2) Mr. Charles Ezeadigo Onwuagbu (Anambra State) — *Agreed to.*
- (3) Mr. Emmanuel Mbanefo Obiako (Anambra State) — *Agreed to.*
- (4) Mr. Salihu Ahmed-Sambo (Bauchi State) — *Agreed to.*
- (5) Mr. Baba Gana Zanna (Borno State) — *Agreed to.*
- (6) Mr. Marius Uzochukwu Offor — *Agreed to.*
- (7) Mr. Sam Azubuike Dada Olisa (Delta State) — *Agreed to.*
- (8) Dr. Martin Ihosghian Uhomoibhi (Edo State) — *Agreed to.*
- (9) Mr. Peter Jonathan Ethansor Anegbeh (Edo State) — *Agreed to.*
- (10) Mr. Zacchaeus Olusola Ojo (Ekiti State) — *Agreed to.*
- (11) Dr. **Felix Ani Aniokoye (Enugu State)** — *Agreed to.*
- (12) Dr. Obioma Philip Oparah (Imo State) — *Agreed to.*

- (13) Mrs. Azuka Cecilia Uzoka-Emejulu, mni (Imo State) — *Agreed to.*
- (14) Mr. Lawal Mohammed Dutsin-Ma (Katsina State) — *Agreed to.*
- (15) Mr. Kabiru Garba (Kano State) — *Agreed to.*
- (16) Mr. Usman Alhaji Baraya (Kebbi State) — *Agreed to.*
- (17) Mr. Sunday Thomas Dogonyaro (Kebbi State) — *Agreed to.*
- (18) Mr. Hammed Ajibaiye Opeloyeru (Kwara State) — *Agreed to.*
- (19) Dr. Rufus Oloruntoyin Akeju (Lagos State) — *Agreed to.*
- (20) Amb. Mohammed Kudu Ndanusa (Niger State) — *Agreed to.*
- (21) Mr. Albert Olakunle Soyombo (Ogun State) — *Agreed to.*
- (22) Mr. Adekunle Oladokun Adeyanju (Ogun State) — *Agreed to.*
- (23) Mrs. Adeola Adebisi Obileye (Ogun State) — *Agreed to.*
- (24) Mr. Christopher Adegboyega Ariyo (Osun State) — *Agreed to.*
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- (25) Mr. Timothy Ademola O. Oguntona (Oyo State) — *Agreed to.*
- (26) Amb. Abdul Bin-Rimdap (Plateau State) — *Agreed to.*

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the screening of Ambassadorial nominees and approved the recommendations.

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

Confirmation of Appointments:

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Hamidu Salihu (Adamawa State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Hamidu Salihu (Adamawa State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Charles Ezeadigo Onwuagbu (Anambra State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Charles Ezeadigo Onwuagbu (Anambra State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Emmanuel Mbanefo Obiako (Anambra State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Emmanuel Mbanefo Obiako (Anambra State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Salihu Ahmed-Sambo (Bauchi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Salihu Ahmed-Sambo (Bauchi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Baba Gana Zanna (Borno State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Baba Gana Zanna (Borno State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Marius Uzochukwu Offor (Delta State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Marius Uzochukwu Offor (Delta State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Sam Azubuike Dada Olisa (Delta State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Sam Azubuike Dada Olisa (Delta State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Martin Ihoeghian Uhomobhi (Edo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Dr. Martin Ihoeghian Uhomobhi (Edo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Peter Jonathan Ethansor Anebeh (Edo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Peter Jonathan Ethansor Anebeh (Edo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Zacchaeus Olusola Ojo (**Ekiti** State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Zacchaeus Olusola Ojo (Ekiti State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Felix Ani Aniokoye (Enugu State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Dr. Felix Ani Aniokoye (Enugu State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Obioma Philip Oparah (Imo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Dr. Obioma Philip Oparah (Imo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mrs. Azuka Cecilia Uzoka-Emejulu, mni (Imo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mrs. Azuka Cecilia Uzoka-Emejulu, mni (Imo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Lawal Mohammed Dutsin-Ma (Katsina State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mr. Lawal Mohammed Dutsin-Ma (Katsina State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Kabiru Garba (Kano State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mr. Kabiru Garba (Kano State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

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Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Usman Alhaji Baraya (Kebbi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mr. Usman Alhaji Baraya (Kebbi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Sunday Thomas Dogonyaro (Kebbi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mr. Sunday Thomas Dogonyaro (Kebbi State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Hammed Ajibaiye Opeloyeru (Kwara State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Mr. Hammed Ajibaiye Opeloyeru (Kwara State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Dr. Rufus Oioruntoyin Akeju (Lagos State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Dr. Rufus Oioruntoyin Akeju (Lagos State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Amb. Mohammed Kudu Ndanusa (Niger State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — Resolved in the Affirmative.

Nomination of Amb. Mohammed Kudu Ndanusa (Niger State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Albert Olakunle Soyombo (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Albert Olakunle Soyombo (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Adekunle Oladokun Adeyanju (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Adekunle Oladokun Adeyanju (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed-Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mrs. Adeola Adebisi Obileye (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mrs. Adeola Adebisi Obileye (Ogun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Christopher Adegboyega Ariyo (Osun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Christopher Adegboyega Ariyo (Osun State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Timothy Ademola O. Oguntona (Oyo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Timothy Ademola O. Oguntona (Oyo State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Amb. Abdul. Bin-Rimdap (Plateau State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria? — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Amb. Abdul Bin-Rimdap (Plateau State) as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accordingly confirmed.

9. Ad-Hoc Committee on Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2007 (SB. 226):

Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2007:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to resume consideration of the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2007 (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL 2007

Clause 6: Tenure of Office:

The Chairman and members of the Commission shall hold office for a single term of 5 years.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 6 be retained (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 7:

Powers of the Commission:

The Commission shall have power to-

- (a) formulate and provide general policy guidelines for the discharge of the functions of the Commission;
- (b) superintend the implementation of the policies of the Commission ;
- (c) appoint for the Commission, such numbers of employees as may in the opinion of the Commission be expedient and necessary for the proper and efficient performance of the functions of the Commission ;
- (d) determine the terms and conditions of service in the Commission, including disciplinary measures for the employees of the Commission ;
- (e) fix the remuneration, allowances and benefits of the employees of the Commission as approved by the Salaries and Wages Commission;
- (f) do other things, which in its opinion are necessary to ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Commission; and
- (g) regulate its proceedings and make standing orders with respect to the holding of its meetings, notices to be given, the keeping of minutes of its proceedings and such other matters as the Commission may, from time to time, determine.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 8:

Cessation of Membership:

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5 (2) and section 6 of this Act, a member of the Commission shall cease to hold office if-
 - (a) he becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors; or
 - (b) he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty, corruption or fraud; or
 - (c) he becomes incapable of carrying out the functions of his office either by reason of an infirmity of mind or body; or
 - (d) the President is satisfied that It is not in the interest of the Council or the interest of the public that the member should continue in office and the President removes him from office; or
 - (e) he has been found guilty of violation of the code of conduct or serious misconduct in relation to his duties: or
 - (f) he resigns his appointment by a notice under his hand, addressed to the President: and
 - (g) in the case of a person who becomes a member by virtue of the office he occupies, he ceases to hold such office for whatever reason.
- (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor, provided that the successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 9:

Emoluments, etc of Commission members:

- (1) There shall be paid to the Chairman of the Commission such salaries, allowances and benefits as the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission may from time to time approve.
- (2) There shall be paid to other members of the Commission such sitting allowances and benefits as may be determined by the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission may from time to time approve.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Clause 10:

Submission of annual report of the Commission:

The Commission shall prepare and submit to the National Assembly not later than 30th June in each financial year; a report of its activities including all cases of contravention investigated during the preceding financial year, and shall include in the report a copy of its audited accounts for the preceding financial year.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Udoma U. Udoma*) — *Agreed to.*

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

consideration deferred to the next legislative day. Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole resumed consideration of the report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2007 and approved as follows:

Clauses 6 — 10 — As Recommended

Further consideration deferred to the next legislative day.

Question; That the Senate do approve the report of the Committee of the Whole — Resolved in the Affirmative.

10. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 15th February, 2007 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 2.00 p.m.

Ken Nnamani, GCON
President of the Senate