



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21st May. 2008

1. The Senate met at 10.20 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, 20th May, 2008 and approved same,

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.
3. **Message from Mr. President:**
The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces which he read as follows:



PRES/I34

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

May 14, 2008

*Distinguished Senator David Mark,
President of the Senate, Senate
Chambers, National Assembly
Complex, Abuja.*

■ . Dear brother,

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION

Vie Economic and Financial Crimes Commission is an Agency established by an Act of the National Assembly in 2004, charged with the responsibility for the enforcement of all economic and financial crimes laws, among other things. The Appointment of the Chairman and Members of the Commission is provided for in Section 2(1) (a) and (b) of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act, 2004, except for the appointment of the Secretary of the Commission, who is also a member of the Commission, which is provided for separately in Section 8(1) of the Act.

By virtue of Section 2(3) of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Act; which confers upon the President the powers to appoint the Chairman and Members of the Commission, other than the ex-officio members, subject to confirmation by the Senate, I have, appointed the following as members of the Commission.

- | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| (i) | Mrs Farida M. Waziri, A1G (Rtd.) | — | Chairman |
| (ii) | Barrister Basil M. C. Anagoh | — | Member |
| (iii) | Barrister Paul Harris Ogbale | — | Member |
| (iv) | Mr. Banjo Olaniyi | — | Member |
| (v) | Alhaji Mohammed Jibo | — | Member |
| (vi) | Mr. Emmanuel Akomaye | — | Member/Secretary |

Their Curricula Vitae are attached hereto.

The purpose of this letter is to request the Senate to kindly confirm the appointments in the exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 2(3) of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act of 2004.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed:

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

4. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Ecological-Fund (Establishment, etc) Bill 2008 (SB. 91) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) National Directorate of Employment Act (Amendment) Bill 2008 (SB. 93) — ***Read the First Time.***
- (iii) Chartered Institute of Fraud Examiners (Establishment, etc) Bill 2008 (SB. 108) — *Read the First Time,*

5. Motion:

NIGCOMSA T- /: *The need for its effective Utilization for Maximum Benefit of all Nigerians:*

Motion made: That the Senate is aware that the Federal Government, in pursuit of its objectives in the telecoms sector, approved on November 10th 2003, the NigComSat-1 project as a national priority project to achieve better quality, cheaper and more affordable IT services and applications throughout Nigeria;

Recalling that Nigeria Communications Satellite Limited was incorporated under the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990 (CAMA as Amended) on the 4th of April, 2006 to operate and manage the Nigerian Communications Satellites starting with NigComSat-1.

Further recalling that Memorandum and Articles of Association of NIGCOMS AT Ltd permit the company to carry on business relating to the provision of bandwidth in the upstream and downstream services including but not limited to telephony (urban and rural), television, high definition television, direct-to-home television, tele-education, telemedicine, e-government, radio, mobile and paging broadcasting and broadband internet services, real time monitoring and navigation services, geo-posting and location services;

Satisfied that the communications Satellite is critical ICT infrastructure, ranking second only to Power and Energy, and a veritable tool for the provision of a cost effective solution to information and communication requirements of the nation in particular and the African continent in general;

Convinced that the NigComSat-1 project was also approved to be utilized to meet the nation's Aviation, Maritime, Immigration, Customs, Defence and Security needs (especially in the Niger-Delta for monitoring pipelines, grid lines, special equipment, and real time tracking system for fleet, ships and other mobile equipments, devices and national assets with a saving potential of over N70 billion burden on the budget;

Further convinced that the communications satellite offers the fastest means of diversifying the revenue base of the country from oil to services base with a potential income of USD56.16 million per annum from the telecommunications downstream sub sector;

Impressed that the NigCoraSat-1 was delivered in orbit on May 13th 2007 in China and In-Orbit Testing (IOT) was completed on the 5th of July 2007 and the early utilization of the services of the satellite was by the NTA to broadcast the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony of His Excellency, President Umar Yar'Adua on 29th May, 2007 viewed across Nigeria and abroad with clear pictures and excellent audio qualities;

Impressed too that NIGCOMSAT LTD, through a channel partner, is working for the socio-economic benefit of the nation by marketing and distributing Easy-learning, a highly affordable computer based training system available for all kinds of people for educational training, skill acquisition, personal development and professional certification;

Further impressed that the company is promoting telecommunication penetration into rural, remote and un-served urban areas utilizing NigComSat-1 band through the establishment of Community Tele-Centres for Students, e-health care delivery, wireless access to homes, repair centres, space education, agricultural information to rural farmers, etc; and

Appalled that NigComSat-1 has the potential to retain otherwise an annual capital flight of \$4.37 billion, provide other socio-economic, security and defence implications, still suffers the challenge of license and spectrum allocation thereby incapable of deploying its services;

Accordingly resolved that the Senate do:

- (i) Strongly urge the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) to ensure the immediate allocation of the services spectrum and 3G Licenses as approved by Government to enable NigComSat Ltd deploy 3G - 4G end-to-end multimedia services for Nigeria and other African nations;
- (ii) Further urge the NCC to ensure the immediate allocation of ITU frequency range of **3.4GHz—3.7GHz** reserved for satellite services;
- (iii) Request the Federal Government to give directives for the hand over of the 151 phase of the rural telephony project from the Ministry of Communications to NIGCOMSAT who are better positioned to hook the entire rural network to its satellite for onward connections to other networks for effective operations; and
- (iv) Urge for greater cooperation and more beneficial collaboration between NCC and NIGCOMSAT Ltd in intensifying actions towards facilitating greater utilization of the capacity of NigComSat for maximum benefits to the average Nigerian without delay (*Senator Joseph I. Akaagerger*).

Debate:

Further consideration of the Motion stood down and referred back to the sponsors for further legislative action.

6. Nigerian Police Tax Fund Bill 2008 (SB. 17):
Motion made: That the Bill for an Act to Establish a Tax Fund for the Nigerian Police, 2008 be read the Second Time (*Senator Gbemi R. Saraki*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the. Second Time and referred to the Committees on Police Affairs and Finance to report within two weeks.

2. Police-Act (Amendment) Bill 2008 (SB. 65):
Motion Made: That the Bill for Act to Repeal the Police Act, CAP. P19 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and to "Re-enact the Nigeria Police Service Act, 2008 be read the Second Time (*Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters and Police Affairs to report within (our weeks).

7. **Adjournment:**

Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 22nd May, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1. 20p.m.

David A. R. Mark, GCON
President of the Senate