



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 19th February, 2009

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 Wednesday, 18th February, 2009 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Nkechi J. Nwaogu as follows:
(A)



Senator Nkechi J. Nwaogu
ABIA CENTRAL SENATORIAL DISTRICT

chairman: Senate Committee On Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions

Member: Commerce, Home affairs, Labour and Productivity.

The President
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Abuja.

Your Excellency,

February 16, 2009

CONFERMENT OF CHIEFTAINCY TITLE ON SENATOR NKECHI J. NWAOGU

I wish to inform my Distinguished Colleagues of this hallowed Chamber that a Chieftaincy Title will be conferred on me by His Majesty, Eze Obidiegwu Onyesoh MFR, JP (Eze Nrinwelana II) of Nri, the Custodian of Igbo Custom and Tradition and keeper of the Ancestral Homeland of Ndi-Igbo.

The event comes up as follows:

Place: Eze Nri Palace Nri , Anaocha L. G. A. Anambra State.

Date: 21st February, 2009.

Time: 12.00 noon.

You are by this letter invited and colleagues who will be chanced to grace this occasion are expected to indicate.

Signed:

Senator Nkechi J. Nwaogu

(B) Acknowledgement:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the following who were in the gallery to observe Senate proceedings:

- (i) Staff and Students of Lead British International School, Gwarinpa, Abuja; and
- (ii) Staff and Students of Learning Springs School, Asokoro, Abuja.

4. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) *Graduate Employment Allowances Trust Fund and Incidental Matters Bill 2009 (SB. 241) — Read the First Time.*
- (ii) *Nigerian Industrial Development Authority (Establishment) Bill 2009 (SB. 237) — Read the First Time.*

5. Committee on Commerce:

Report on the Financial Reporting Council Bill 2009 (SB. 100):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on the Financial Reporting Council Bill 2009 (*Senator Joel D. Ikenya*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

6. Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters:

Report on the screening of nominees:

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the screening of Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro and Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari as Members of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee (*Senator Umaru Dahiru*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the screening of Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro and Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari as Members of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee.

Recommendations:

Nominees recommended for confirmation:

1. Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro — *Agreed to.*
2. Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari — *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 Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the screening of Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro and Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari as Members of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee and approved the recommendation.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Confirmation of nominations:***Question:***

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro as a Member of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Mr. Olumuyiwa Akinboro as a Member of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee accordingly confirmed.

Question:

“Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari as a Member of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee?” — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Nomination of Alhaji Mohammad Bala Shagari as a Member of the Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee accordingly confirmed.

7. Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs:***Report on the State of the Nation Address Bill 2009 (SB. 57):***

Motion made: That the Senate do resume the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs, on the State of the Nation Address Bill 2009 (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to resume consideration of the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)**Resumed consideration of the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs on the State of the Nation Address Bill 2009.**

- Clause 1:** (3) The State of the Nation Address shall be delivered to the Joint Sitting of the National Assembly on the first legislative day of the second week in May of every year (*Senator Smart Adeyemi*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 1(3) as recommended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 2:** (1) The President shall address the Joint Sitting aforesaid on such critical issues including but not limited to national security, the economy, external debt situation, defence, poverty eradication, social justice and observance of Federal Character in key government appointments, intergovernmental relationships, foreign policy and regional co-operation, education, health and agricultural policy.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in Clause 2(1) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

“The President shall address the Joint Sitting aforesaid on such issues including but not limited to national security, the economy, foreign policy and social justice (*Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe*).”

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

- (2) The two Houses of the National Assembly shall variously debate the issues raised within five legislative days following the presentation of the State of the Nation Address.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the word “variously” in line 1, and *insert* the word “each” instead thereof (*Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba*).

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

- (3) The resolutions of both Houses shall be harmonized by a Joint Conference Committee and forwarded to the President.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in Clause 2(3) (*Senator Ayogu Eze*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Question that Clause 2 as amended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 3:** (1) Ministers and Heads of Parastatals and Government Agencies shall prepare and forward to the appropriate Committee of both Houses of the National Assembly an annual report on the performance of their Ministries, Parastatals and Agencies once in every year and such report shall give details of their budget performance for that year.

- (2) The appropriate Committee of any of the Houses of the National Assembly or both may under this Act invite a Minister and or Head of Parastatal and Government Agency and or a maker of any report forwarded to it under this Act for further investigation.
- (3) The appropriate Committee of any of the Houses of the National Assembly or both shall have the report aforesaid and its observations thereof laid before the appropriate House of the National Assembly for possible discussion.

Committee's Recommendation:

Leave out the provision in clause 3 (Senator Smart Adeyemi)—Agreed to.

Clause 4: In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively that is to say -

"Address" means State of the Nation Address (*Senator Smart Adeyemi*)— *Agreed to.*

"National Assembly" means the two Legislative Houses, namely, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

"President" means the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Amendment Proposed:

The meaning of the words "National Assembly" and "President" as defined in the 1999 Constitution shall apply (*Senator Umar Dahiru*).

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

Question that Clause 4 as amended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: This Act shall be cited as the State of the Nation Address Act 2008.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the figure "2008" and insert the figure "2009" instead thereof (Senator Teslim K. Folarin) — Agreed to.

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

Question that Clause 5 as amended do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs, on the State of the Nation Address Bill 2009 and approved as follows:

Clause 1(3)	—	As Amended
Clause 2	—	As Amended
Clause 3	—	As Recommended

Clauses 4 - 5 — As Amended

Long title — As Recommended

Question: That the Senate do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Motion made: That the Bill be now read the Third Time (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Third Time and passed.

9. Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Bill 2009 (SB. 238):

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the Issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account the Total Sum of ₦135,901,297,300.00k (One Hundred and Thirty Five Billion, Nine Hundred and One Million, Two Hundred and Ninety Seven Thousand, Three Hundred Naira) only of which the sum of ₦24,356,948,618.00K (Twenty Four Billion, Three Hundred and Fifty Six Million, Nine Hundred and Forty Eight Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighteen Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs and the sum of ₦19,032, 799,407 .00k (Nineteen Billion, Thirty Two Million, Seven Hundred and Ninety Nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Seven Naira) only is for Overhead Costs Whilst the Balance of ₦92,511,549,275.00k (Ninety Two Billion, Five Hundred and Eleven Million, Five Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy Five Naira) only is for Capital Projects for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the Financial Year Commencing on 1st January and Ending 31st December, 2009 be read the Second Time (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to Committee on Federal Capital Territory to report within two (2) weeks.

10. Factories Act (Amendment) Bill 2009 (SB. 191):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

11. National Council for Occupational Safety and Health Bill 2009 (SB. 130):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another legislative day.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday, 24th February, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.50 p.m.

Dr. David A. B. Mark, GCON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.