



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 24th February, 2009

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 Thursday, 19th February, 2009 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Messages from Mr. President:**
The Senate President announced that he had received two letters from the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which he read as follows:
(i)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

February 18, 2009

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

Dear Brother,

BILL TO AMEND THE LAND USE ACT
CAP L5 LFN 2004

I forward herewith, for your kind consideration and passage into law, the attached draft Bill for an Act to amend the Land Use Act.

It is my hope that the Distinguished Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will consider and pass the amendment Bill in your usual expeditious manner.

Please accept, Mr. Senate President, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed:

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

(ii)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

February 18, 2009

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

Dear Brother,

**RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RE-NOMINATION OF MR. NIMITEINBOFA
DAMBO AS MEMBER FROM BAYELSA STATE IN THE REVENUE
MOBILISATION, ALLOCATION AND FISCAL COMMISSION**

The Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission is one of the Federal Executive Bodies established under Section 153(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. By the provision of Part 1(N) of the Third Schedule of the 1999 Constitution, the Commission shall comprise a Chairman and one member representing each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. In this connection, the first tenure of Mr. Nimiteinbofa Dambo, the Bayelsa State representative in the Commission expired on 16th November 2008.

I have, therefore, in the exercise of the powers conferred on me by Sections 154(1) and 156(3) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, decided to reappoint Mr. Nimiteinbofa Dambo for a final term of five (5) years.

In line with the provision of Section 154(1) of the 1999 Constitution which states that the re-appointment shall be subject to confirmation, I hereby present the nomination of Mr. Nimiteinbofa Dambo, whose Curriculum Vitae is attached herewith, for confirmation by the Senate.

I look forward to your usual kind expeditious action.

Yours Sincerely,

Signed:

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Rule 42, Senator Nimi Barigha-Amange drew the attention of the Senate to the recent attack on supporters of Ocean Boys Football Club of Bayelsa State by some unknown hoodlums. He sought the leave of the Senate for the matter to be debated the next legislative day.

Question that the matter be debated, put and agreed to.

Matter to stand over till the next legislative day {Rule 42(2)}.

5. **Personal Explanation:**

Rising on Rule 43, Senator Suleiman A. Adokwe invited the attention of the Senate to the proposed conferment of Honourary Doctorate Degree on the President of the Senate, Senator (Dr.) David A. B. Mark, GCON by the Nasarawa State University in recognition of his remarkable contributions in education, sports and the sustenance of democracy in Nigeria. He seized the opportunity to associate himself with this achievement and invited distinguished Senators to be part of the occasion scheduled to take place on Saturday, 28th February, 2009 at Nasarawa State University convocation ground.

6. **Motion:**

Alarming increase in the use of Sub-Standard Refilling Gas Cylinders in the Country:

Motion made: That the Senate do note that consumption of gas in our homes for domestic purposes is carried out by means of gas cylinders;

Notes that gas cylinders specifically meant for domestic use must conform with Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS);

Notes that refillable gas cylinders have expiry dates;

Observes that Nigerian market has being flooded with sub-standard refillable gas cylinders and accessories;

Notes that exposure of gas cylinders to the weather condition cause tear and wear to them thereby making them susceptible to danger in our homes through latent leakages;

Concerned that sub-standard gas cylinders and accessories lead to explosion thereby causing fire incidents;

Concerned that the use of sub-standard refillable gas cylinders by Nigerians has been a major source of fire incidents in our homes with grave human and material consequences; and

Concerned that dealers in domestic gas engage in fraudulent practices against Nigerian consumers through false scaling and refilling.

Accordingly resolves to:

(i) ***Urge*** Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) refilling plants to test gas cylinders brought before refilling them;

(ii) ***Urge*** Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) to intensify efforts in its fight against sub-standard products in Nigeria by carrying out enlightenment campaign to dealers and the general public on the inherent dangers of using sub-standard cylinders and accessories and invoke its bye-laws by punishing erring members of the public;

(iii) ***Condemn*** fraudulent practices by domestic gas dealers against Nigerian consumers; and

- (iv) **Condemn** the importation and use of sub-standard refilling gas cylinders in the country (*Senator Osita Izunazo*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

Question: That the Senate do urge Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) refilling plants to test gas cylinders brought before refilling them.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the provision in prayer (i) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

“urge the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) to certify that all gas cylinders to be refilled must meet the standard safety requirements” (*Senator Lee Maeba*).

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

Prayer (ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) to intensify efforts in its fight against sub-standard products in Nigeria by carrying out enlightenment campaign to dealers and the general public on the inherent dangers of using sub-standard cylinders and accessories and invoke its bye-laws by punishing erring members of the public — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iii):

Question: That the Senate do condemn fraudulent practices by domestic gas dealers against Nigerian consumers — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iv):

Question: That the Senate do condemn the importation and use of sub-standard refilling gas cylinders in the country — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:

Add a new Prayer (v) as follows:

“Urge the Federal Government to encourage both Public and Private sectors to establish gas cylinders production plants in Nigeria (*Senator Gyang D. Dantong*).

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

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate do urge the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) to certify that all gas cylinders to be refilled must meet the standard safety requirements;
- (ii) That the Senate do urge Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) to intensify efforts in its fight against sub-standard products in Nigeria by carrying out enlightenment campaign to dealers and the general public on the inherent dangers of using sub-standard cylinders and accessories and invoke its bye-laws by punishing erring members of the public;
- (iii) That the Senate do condemn fraudulent practices by domestic gas dealers against Nigerian consumers;
- (iv) That the Senate do condemn the importation and use of sub-standard refilling gas cylinders in the country; and
- (v) That the Senate do urge the Federal Government to encourage both Public and Private sectors to establish gas cylinders production plants in Nigeria (*S. Res/031/02/09*).

7. Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act 2004 (Amendment) Bill 2009 (SB. 205):

Motion made: That the Bill for an Act to Amend the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act 2004 (Amendment) Bill 2009 be read the Second Time (*Senator Sola Akinyede*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes and Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within two weeks.

8. Institute of Registered Safety Professionals of Nigeria (IRSPON) 2009 Bill (SB. 142):

Consideration of Bill deferred to the next legislative day.

9. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Wednesday, 25th February, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.10 p.m.

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