



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 1st June, 2005

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 Tuesday, 31st May, 2005 and approved same.
By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. Presentation of Bills:
 - (i) Industrial Training Fund Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 187) — *Read the First Time.*
 - (ii) Names and Headquarters of Local Government Areas (Establishment, etc.) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2005 (SB. 196) — *Read the First Time.*
4. Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs;
Report on the Nigeria Volunteer Service Bill 2005 (SB. 12):
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs on the Nigeria Volunteer Service Bill 2005 (*Senator Iyiola Omisore*).
Question put and agreed to.
Report Laid.
5. Committee on **Environment** and Ecology:
Report on the Sessional Report (June 2004 — June 2005):
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Sessional Report of the **Committee** on Environment and Ecology for [he period June 2004 - June 2005 (*Senator Umar A. Hambagda*).
Question put and agreed to.
Report Laid.
6. **Committee on Employment, Labour and Productivity**
Report on the Resolution of the Strike Action by RA TTA WU, NUJ AND A UPC IRE: Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Employment, Labour and Productivity on the Resolution of the Strike Action by RATTAWU, NUJ and AUPCTRE (*Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw*).
Question put and agreed to.
Report Laid.

7. Confirmation of Appointment:
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do suspend Rule 118(3) to enable the Senate resolve into the Committee of the Whole to screen the Presidential nominee as Chairman of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Privileges of the Floor:

- (i) *Admission of the Special Adviser on National Assembly Matters:*
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17 to enable the Senate admit the Special Adviser to the President on National Assembly Matters to the floor of the Senate (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

The Special Adviser admitted accordingly.

- (ii) *Admission of the Presidential Nominee:*
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do suspend Rule 17 to enable the Senate admit the Presidential nominee to the floor of the Senate (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

The Presidential nominee admitted accordingly.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Consideration of the request of Mr President on the confirmation of nominee as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Debate:

Recommendation :

Nominee recommended for confirmation:

Professor Maurice Maduegbulam Iwu — *Agreed to.*

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole screened the President's nominee for Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission and approved the nomination.

Question, that the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole, resolved in the Affirmative.

Confirmation:

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Professor Maurice Maduegbulam Iwu as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)?" — *Resolved in affirmative.*

Nomination of Professor Maurice Maduegbulam Iwu as Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)?" – resolved in affirmative

8. Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission:
Report on the Screening of Nominee as Commissioner Independent National Electoral Commission:
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission on the screening of Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu State) as Commissioner, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and approve the recommendation (*Senator David C. Brigidi*).

Question put and agreed to.

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 request of Mr President on the confirmation of Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu State) as a Commissioner of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)

Debate:

Recommendation:

Nominee recommended for confirmation.

Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu 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 Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) on the screening of Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu State) as a Commissioner of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and approved the nomination..

Question, that the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole, resolved in the Affirmative.

Confirmation:

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu **State**) as a Commissioner of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)? — *Resolved in Affirmative.*

Nomination of Barrister Victor Chibueze Chukwuani (Enugu State) as a Commissioner of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) accordingly confirmed.

9. Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters:
Report on the Screening of Nominee as Grand Khadi Sharia Court of Appeal:
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the screening of Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu as Grand Khadi Sharia Court of Appeal Federal Capital Territory Abuja and approve the recommendation" (*Senator Oserhenmen. A Osunbor*).

Question put and agreed to.

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 request of Mr. President on the confirmation of Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu as Grand Khadi Sharia Court of Appeal Federal Capital Territory.

Debate:

Recommendation :

Nominee recommended for confirmation.

Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu — *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 ,(the Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters on the screening of Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu as Grand Khadi, Sharia Court of Appeal, Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, and approved the nomination.

Question, that the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole, resolved in the Affirmative.

Confirmation:

Question:

"Will the Senate confirm the nomination of Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu as Grand Khadi Sharia Court of Appeal Federal Capital Territory Abuja? — *Resolved in Affirmative,*

Nomination of Hon. Khadi Mohammed Shehu as Grand Khadi Sharia Court of Appeal Federal Capital Territory Abuja accordingly confirmed.

10. Extension of Time of Sitting:
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do sit beyond the appointed time stipulated for the termination of the sitting of the Senate {Rule 13(2)} (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to,

11. Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Affairs
Report of the Senate Endorsement of Resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union(IPU) and African Parliamentary Union (APU):
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Affairs and adopt the under-listed Resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union(IPU) and African Parliamentary Union (APU),

- (i) RESOLUTIONS OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION AND AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION FOR ENDORSEMENT BY THE SENATE

RESOLUTIONS

EXTRACTS FROM 109TH ASSEMBLY OF IPU HELD IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND ON 1ST - 3RD OCTOBER, 2003

The Role of Parliaments in Assisting Multilateral Organizations in Ensuring Peace and Security and in Building an International Coalition For Peace

Noting the importance of parliaments as the cornerstone of democracy and their role in promoting peace,

Considering that peace and justice are two interdependent issues of fundamental importance to humankind.

Convinced that strengthening democracy, promoting human rights and supporting the peaceful settlement of conflicts are the most effective means of combating terrorism,

Calls on government and parliaments to promote reconciliation processes aimed at achieving sustainable solutions to internal conflicts

Also calls on all parliaments to do everything possible at the national level to facilitate the establishment, of standing mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, as a way to promote action towards achieving real peace;

Further, calls on all parliamentarians to work hard to limit the effects of war on civilians, whom they represent, particularly as regards the vulnerable situation of women and children and the consequences of rape;

Calls on parliaments and governments to strengthen measures to combat poverty, corruption and environmental destruction through international cooperation and to devote attention to the 3 glider implications of conflicts;

Global Public Goods: A New Challenge for Parliaments

Recognizing the increased globalization and interdependence among world economies, and the enormous importance acquired by Global Public Goods,

Emphasizing the collective responsibility of nations to debate resolutions to accelerate the process of development assistance with the appropriate parliamentary Goods and the way to finance them,

Noting the emphasis placed on Global Public Goods by the World Bank, the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in tackling the problem of world food security,

Calls on both developed and developing countries to recognize that Global Public Goods have transnational effects and therefore require joint assumption of responsibility.

Urges governments, parliaments, International organizations and donor agencies to channel financial resources to Poor Countries, especially those belonging to the Heavily Indebted poor countries (HIPC) category, and to pay special attention to the debt burden of developing countries, which hinders them from providing Global Public Goods at the domestic level;

Emphasizes the need for close cooperation among governments, parliaments, businesses, international organizations and NGOs if Global Public Goods are to play a role in the pursuit of economic growth, which is necessary for the eradication of world poverty, but which should not be achieved at the expense of the environment;

The contribution of new Information and Communication Technologies to good Governance, the improvement of Parliamentary Democracy and the Management of Globalization

Hoping that the new information and communication technologies (NICTS) will help to build a more peaceful more prosperous and fairer world based on global public goods in all their diversity.

Convinced that the NICTs can bring about significant political, economic and social changes that reduce distances and generate new cultures and markets, although they give rise to concerns as well as hopes.

Emphasizing the many financial, economic and social restrictions and barriers hindering the use of the NICTs in developing societies, including inadequate financial resources to cover the huge investments needed in this field, a shortage of managers and skilled personnel, weak demand for such services due to limited purchasing power and low incomes, and the rising costs of the services provided by the NICTs,

Call on Parliaments and their members to make full use of the NICTs:

- To enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of their activities and to better connect with the electorate;
- To expand inter-parliamentary relationships and cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels, thus enhancing parliamentary democracy and diplomacy;

Urges the establishment of appropriate aid mechanisms, including an NICT observatory for African and other disadvantaged regions, and recommends the establishment of a network of correspondence among IPU

Recommends that each parliament put in place the necessary structures to follow up and monitor annually the development of e-government in its country so as to guarantee its transparency for citizens and democracy;

Invites Parliaments to make legislative action with the aim of providing an environment conducive to the dissemination, development and secure use of the NICTs

Noting that armed conflict is often the result of a crisis and/or of a poorly managed reconciliation.

Reiterates the call on parliaments made at the 109th Inter-Parliamentary Assembly to do everything possible "at the national level to facilitate the establishment of standing mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, as a way to promote action geared to achieving real peace",

Requests that parliaments engage in a policy of good offices, cooperation and assistance with parliaments of countries in conflict undergoing reconciliation, when requested,

Requests that parliaments of countries engaged in a process of reconciliation meet and develop joint projects,

Urges parliaments to oversee the foreign policy of their government in order to bring reconciliation processes to a successful conclusion;

Requests parliaments to foster or support, as the case may be, national measures designed to promoting international reconciliation, such as promoting the concept and culture of peace, volunteerism, combating all forms of violence, outlawing terrorism, promoting development and education for all, including human rights education;

Trade

Requests also that parliaments foster or support, as the case may be, measures to strengthen peace and security, such as reconstruction, reducing the trade in weapons,

A particularly small arms, and in narcotic, promoting social justice, and combating poverty: corruption and environmental degradation;

Encourages parliaments, in their reconstruction efforts, to bring pressure to bear on their governments to respect the commitments undertaken in Monterrey and to alleviate or cancel, as far as possible, the debt burden, which is one of the main causes of poverty and conflicts;

Noting that the Doha Ministerial Declaration recognizes that the majority of WTO members are developing countries and that world trade should be largely commensurate with the needs of their economic development,

Also noting that the voice of developing countries became stronger at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun with the involvement of negotiating groups such as the G20+, the G90 (African Union, ACP and LDCs) and the G33

Recognizing the need for better-designed negotiating structures with clear rules, agreed by all WTO
Concerned that one third of the world's population does not have access to essential medicines, and particularly concerned at the spread of HIV / AIDS, affecting 42 million people throughout the world, a significant proportion of whom are in Africa, 90% of whom do not have access to medicines,

Aware of the support through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for essential not-patented medicines requiring the provision of full health service delivery system in each country,

Noting the reforms of the EU Common Agricultural Policy entailing major decoupling of production **subsidies**, while remaining aware that-distorting domestic support and export subsidies clearly harm developing countries,

Welcoming French President Chirac's proposals at the G* summit in Evian in 2003 to eliminate export subsidies on all products of interest to developing countries,

Further noting that:

While agriculture provides a means of subsistence for two-thirds of the world's population, particularly in the developing countries, in Sub-Sahara Africa, where cotton producers make up approximately 40% of the overall population, cotton represents nearly 30% of national exports and 5-10% of GDP, and that this commodity is therefore of strategic in the fight against poverty,

Calls for continued provision of financial and technical assistance to negotiating teams of developing countries, so as to enable them to become more effective in international negotiations;

Calls for radical reduction of all agricultural subsidies that contribute to under—development as well as the reduction of tariffs and non-tariff barriers imposed on imports from developing countries;

Emphasizes that the decision of the WTO General Council of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health calls for its prompt implementation through the enactment of national legislation by each parliament;

Encourages parliaments to scrutinize the actions of both governments and pharmaceutical companies to ensure implementation of the above-mentioned WTO decision, particularly after 31 December 2004, by which date all countries (except LDCs) are required to have introduced product patents on pharmaceuticals;

Calls upon all parliaments to pass legislation giving effect to the 30 August 2003 decision of the WTO that introduces compulsory licensing for the export of patented medicines for life-threatening diseases to developing countries with no or little manufacturing capacity in the pharmaceutical sector and to [he least developed countries, so that they can import such drugs without restrictions;

Further calls upon parliaments to (osier government action to ensure that antiretroviral drugs and **those** preventing mother-to-child I11Y transmission are made freely accessible to HIV/AIDS patients, rather than simply to lower the price such drugs;

Calls on the parliaments to monitor the pursuit by governments of the above-mentioned objectives;

Democracy and Human Rights

Aware that a well-functioning democracy is crucial to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights and effective reconciliation;

Mindful that the full enjoyment of human rights empowers human being to shape their lives based on liberty, equality and respect for human dignity, and must be safeguarded by every State and the international community,

Affirming the role of parliaments and Inter-parliamentary bodies in providing a forum for dialogue peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Affirms that parliaments play an essential role in securing a national consensus regarding the need and form of reconciliation, monitoring the agreements made to this effect, and adopting such laws and providing the resources needed to ensure their implementation;

Encourages parliaments to consider the full range of possible instruments of reconciliation, in particular truth-telling, reparations, healing and education, as well as different forms of justice, including community-based restorative measures;

Calls on parliaments to respect the political rights of opposition parties and the freedom of the press;

Reaffirms that parliamentary democracy can only be truly meaningful if women are represented in parliament on the basis of full equality with men, both in law and in practice; strongly urges parliaments to ensure that such equality is achieved by, inter alia, the adoption of temporary special measures;

Calls on parliaments to ensure that there are no statutes of limitations or other legal impediments to the prosecution of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law;

Calls on parliaments to become more active in the field of improving respect for human rights and international humanitarian law and in monitoring the implementation of decisions related thereto by the relevant bodies;

Urges parliaments to ensure that tolerance, human rights, the culture of peace and the norms and principles of international humanitarian law are included and promoted in formal and informal education syllabuses, in consideration of the importance of school literature to democratic education and in helping to prevent young people from becoming involved in a culture of violence;

Also calls on the IPU and parliaments to strengthen their role in encouraging the implementation of the Road Map, which will lead to a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with agreements already concluded between the parties;

(iii) **EXTRACTS FROM 111TH ASSEMBLY OF IPU HELD IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
ON 28TH SEPTEMBER - 1ST OCTOBER, 2004**

The Role of Parliaments in Strengthening Multilateral Regimes for Non—Proliferation of Weapons and for Disarmament, in the Light of New Security Challenges

Recognizing the risk to international peace, stability posed by the uncontrolled build-up and proliferation of armaments, and especially weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Deeply moved by the suffering and destruction inflicted upon humankind by the fatal impact of arms, wars and terrorist activities.

Profoundly apprehensive of the facts of the ongoing stockpiling of arms on the world economy, on the global environment, and on sustainable development.

Mindful of the United Nations Charter, and especially Article 2 and 26 thereof,

Conscious of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all other Covenants, treaties and instrument related rights and respect for human dignity

— Calls on all parliaments to provide strong and effective support to all resolutions and recommendations on peace, disarmament and security previously adopted at IPU Conferences and Assemblies;

— Calls on governments, national parliaments and the international community to address the root causes, which create an environment that might lead people to resort to violence at the individual, national and international levels;

 Calls on all parliaments to monitor closely the national implementation of all arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament treaties and United Nations resolutions, to engage in an exchange of information on best practice for such monitoring and to report back to Assembly on progress on progress made;

— Calls on parliaments to ensure the full implementation at all times the Antarctic Treaty, the treaty on the prohibition of the enhancement of Nuclear Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Seabed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (the Seabed Treaty) and the Treaty on Principles Governing the **Activities** of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial bodies;

- Calls on parliaments to ensure that, whenever applicable, legislation is compatible with the Statute of the International Criminal Courts, with particular attention to ensuring that includes provisions sanctioning crimes committed against women.

Beijing + 10: An Evaluation from A Parliamentary Perspective

Recognizing the fundamental importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), its Optional Protocol and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, and other regional instruments, including the International American Convention on the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against women,

Reaffirming the Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September, 1995, and the outcome document adopted at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session, Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century (Beijing + 5);

Recognising the comprehensive nature of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 12 critical areas of concern highlighted, relating to the social, cultural and political status of women worldwide.

- Calls upon parliaments to promote efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women, and the reduction of maternal mortality rates;
- Calls upon parliamentarians to play a more active role in the process of gender mainstreaming in every area of life;
- Calls upon parliamentarians, as overseers of their Governments, to ensure that international commitments are upheld and implemented, particularly those that fall under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its Optional Protocol;
- Calls upon parliamentarians to challenge the social construction of gender-specific roles with a view to improving policies for women and men;
- Call upon National Parliament to ensure that National Laws enable women to participate in the economy, on an equal footing with men, for example by providing for separate of income and by guaranteeing that women that women can freely purchase, sell and inherit property, own and manage business enterprises, and have access to loans;
- Calls upon parliaments to take appropriate legislative, budgeting and fiscal measures to improve the balance between work and family and to ensure that sufficient child-care facilities are available;
- Urges parliaments and governments to promote equality between women and men on the basis of the following supplementary measures: —
 - Passing and ensuring effective implementing of comprehensive anti-discrimination laws;
 - Guaranteeing equal access to education and training opportunities for women and girls;
 - Helping women to start business;
 - Guaranteeing equal **access to** the labour market for both women and men
 - Guaranteeing equal pay for work of equal value;
 - Promoting gender partnership using relevant public information efforts at schools and in the media;
 - Developing legislation to address gender issues, inter alia to ensure gender equality and equal participation at the management level and on boards of directors in the private sector;

- • Addressing and supporting the empowerment of rural women and their specific needs;
- Calls upon parliament to pass laws against all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, sexual abuse and harassment, incest, sexual exploitation, forced prostitution, murder systematic rape, female genital mutilation and crimes against women committed in the name of honour, ensure that the laws they pass protect victims and punish perpetrators of violence against women; monitor the implementation and enforcement of such legislation and allocate resource to programme aimed at eradicating violence against women.
- Calls upon government, parliament and international and regional organization to identify and condemn the use of the systematic practice of rape and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment of women as a deliberate instrument of war and ethnic cleansing, and to take steps to ensure that full assistance is provided to the victims of such abuse for their physical and mental rehabilitation.
- Calls upon parliaments of States that have not done so to ensure ratification of the CEDAW and its Optional Protocol, and encourages the IPU to continue promoting the role of parliament in the CEDAW process through its awareness campaign and seminars; and
- Calls upon parliamentarians to encourage the development of leadership skill and to strengthen strategic partnerships for gender equality at the national, regional and International levels, so as to mainstream gender perspectives in their legislatures.

(iv) EXTRACTS FROM 112TH ASSEMBLY OF IPU HELD IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES ON 31ST MARCH - 8TH APRIL, 2005

The Role Of Parliaments In The Establishment And Functioning Of Mechanisms to provide for the Judgement And Sentencing of War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, Genocide And Terrorism, with a view to avoiding Impunity

Deeply concerned by the fact that in today's world, many regions and whole societies are brutally affected by the persistence of war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and/or terrorism, all of which are serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole,

Convinced that there is no justifiable cause for those abhorrent crimes,

Considering that, in keeping with the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international crime law, appropriate instruments have been developed, and it is of paramount importance to ensure that their provisions are enforced, in conformity with the international obligations assumed by states.

Recalling in this respect the particular importance of ensuring respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention of Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Geneva Conventions for the protection of victims of war of 12 August 1949 and their Additional Protocols, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and other instruments, treaties and agreements ensuring respect for human dignity, as well as the human rights norms of customary international law as reflected by state practice,

- Strongly condemns, without exception, all acts, methods and practice of war crimes, crime against humanity and genocide.
- Strongly advises all IPU Member Parliament to ensure, before their States and citizens in conformity with their National Legislations and the international obligations of States, the responsibility for implementing and enforcing, through the enactment of national laws, the international agreements that have been concluded to punish and prevent war crimes, crime against humanity, genocide and terrorism;
- Recommends that all parliaments, including those States which have not ratified the Rome Statute, enact laws for the prevention and punishment of war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and terrorism; and
- Recommends that all parliaments support and cooperate with the ICC and other competent bodies (such as national and international commissions for the investigation of crimes against humanity and national and international courts), and thus strengthen parliamentary action to eradicate war crimes, crimes against humanity and terrorism.

The role of Parliaments in establishing innovative international finance and trading mechanisms to address the problem of debt and achieve the millennium development goals

Recalling the Declaration adopted on 1 September 2000 by the Presiding Officers of National Parliaments entitled The Parliamentary Vision of International Cooperation on the Eve of the Third Millennium,

Recalling also the Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000, which sets out eight time-bound and measurable goals collectively known as the Millennium Development Goals, as criteria established jointly by the international community for the elimination of poverty, and also the Human Development Reports drawn up by the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling the final declarations of specialised United Nations conference, in particular the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico in 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2002, and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels, Belgium in 2001,

Recalling the Declaration adopted in New York on 20 September 2004 by 120 countries at the end of the Summit for Action against Hunger and Poverty, the September 2004 report by the Technical Group on Innovative Financing Mechanisms and the final reports of the UN Millennium Project, delivered on 17 January 2005,

Urges all IPU Member Parliaments whose governments have endorsed the Millennium Summit Declaration to support the implementation of the MDGs in their respective countries by recommending the allocation of funds for MDG programmes in their national budgets.

The role of Parliaments in Advocating and Enforcing Observance of Human Rights in the Strategies for the Prevention, Management and Treatment of the HIV/Aids Epidemics

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the IPU, especially the resolution entitled Action to combat HIV/AIDS in view of its devastating human, economic and social impact, adopted in Windhoek in 1998, and convinced that HIV/AIDS is an all-embracing threat against Cc./ rather than an isolated health problem,

Further calling the international Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights, issued by the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in 1998, and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS "Global Crisis - Global Action" adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS in 2001,

Taking note of the UNAtDS 2004 Report on the global AIDS epidemic.

Affirming the recommendations contained in the UNAIDS/WHO document Guidance on ethics and equitable access to HIV treatment and care.

- Calls upon parliaments and governments to ensure that their laws, policies and practices respect human rights in the context on HIV/AIDS in particular the rights to education, work, privacy, protection and access to care, treatment and social services; and also calls upon them to protect people living with HIV/AIDS from all forms of discrimination in both the public and the private sector, promote gender equality, ensure privacy and confidentiality in research involving human subjects, and provide for speedy and effective judicial, administrative and civil remedies in the event that the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS are violated;
- Further urges parliaments and government to adopt and finance the measures necessary to ensure, on a sustained basis and for all affected persons (irrespective of social status, legal situation, gender, age or sexual orientation) the availability and accessibility of good quality services and information for HIV/AIDS prevention, management, treatment, care and support, including the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention supplies such as male and female condoms, safe injection needles, microbicides and basic preventive care packages, as well as affordable antiretroviral

- Drugs and other safe and effective medicines for poor countries, psychological support, diagnosis and related technologies, for all persons, with particular attention to vulnerable individuals and populations such as women and children.
 - Also urged parliament and government to implement measures to increase the ability of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including those related to sexual and reproductive health.
 - Calls upon parliament and government to recognize the health, socio-economic and other effects of HIV/AIDS on individuals, families and nations, and to take the appropriate legislative and executive social measures to halt its spread.
 - Urges parliament to make services related to treatment, care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS available and through all available media to advocate for and raise awareness of their rights;
 - Calls upon parliaments and governments to develop and implement national legislation and policies that address the needs and human rights of the growing number of child, orphaned and made vulnerable by the HIV/AIDS pandemic;
 - Also calls upon parliaments, government and the international community to ensure free access to my testing for all;
 - Calls upon parliaments to promote an effective and efficient use of resources for HIV/AIDS response, including by means of country-level coordination that takes into consideration the UNAIDS "Three Ones" guiding principles for national authorities and their partners;
 - Urges Parliaments to create Parliamentary committees and/or other structures formally linked to parliaments with the specific task of tackling the issues of halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS, to share experiences, information and best practices and to involve all sectors of society through partnership programmes in high-level decision-making processes;
 - Call upon parliaments and governments to ensure the development and accelerated implementation of national strategies for women's empowerment, including access to property rights, the promotion and protection of women's full enjoyment of all human rights and the reduction their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS through the elimination of all forms of discrimination, as well as all forms of violence against women and girls, including harmful traditional and customary practice, abuse, rape and other forms of sexual violence;
 - Calls upon Parliaments and Government to ban compulsory HIV/AIDS screening for people applying for travel visas, university enrolment, jobs, or asylum, in favour of voluntary testing.
- (v) EXTRACTS FROM THE 45TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND 27TH CONFERENCE OF APU HELD IN ALGIERS, ALGERIA ON 27TH - 30TH NOVEMBER, 2004: EXTRACTS

"On the Promotion of Good Governance: Role of African Parliaments:

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted in September 2000 in New York,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, especially: —

- On Parliament and Democracy (Lima, June, 1994)
- On Public Administration (Luanda, September, 1999)
- On the fight against corruption (Abuja, October, 2001)

- The political governance which involves democracy, rule of law, fundamental freedom and separation of powers etc;
 - The economic governance, which demands essentially good management, the fight against corruption and social justice.
- Urges parliaments to promote democracy and human and peoples rights, including minorities rights, by enacting rules that guarantee the rule of law and take account of the voices of the poor and the most vulnerable;
 - Calls on Parliamentarians to create a healthy political and legal environment by carrying out institution and organization reforms, adopting norms and codes of good conduct for good governance, and most particularly, by strengthening the parliamentary control through reform of the judicial system and fighting against corruption and embezzlement;
 - Calls on parliaments to create and strengthen national, regional and continental and continental structures that ensure good governance and democratic life;
 - Urges parliaments to work together to have all African countries adopt more egalitarian political processes that would allow the effective participation of all citizens in public life;
- Requests parliaments to set up schemes aimed at ensuring state capacity building with a view to improving the economic governance and allowing the private sector to participate in the conception and achievement of poverty alleviation programme by creating a favourable investment environment ;-
- Calls on parliaments to reinforce the separation of powers in order to make the control mechanism and the opposition forces work effectively, and emphasizes the need for a real political will to implement the various functioning mechanisms and processes, and the need for an individual and collective sense of responsibility;
 - Urges parliaments to embark on a dialogue with the civil society, including research centers, NGOs and unions in order to make the laws comply with their aspirations and open their doors to the citizens for transparency and information;
 - Urges also parliaments to lend support to the establishment and strengthening of Children's Parliament, which allows them to express their concerns on state laws and policies;
 - Calls on parliaments to consolidate conflict prevention, management and resolution mechanisms at the regional and continental levels for peace to prevail;
 - Calls on parliaments to acquire appropriate infrastructures, departments and commissions with high-performance equipment and qualified personnel;
 - Calls on parliaments to urge governments to adhere to the African Peer Review Mechanism; and
 - Calls on parliaments to support the African Union in the objectives set, by conferring on the Pan African Parliament all the powers needed for the development of the African continent.

"The Representation of Women in Decision-Making Bodies: Obstacles and Strategies"

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the African Charter Declaration on Human and Peoples Rights and the African Charter .m Human and Peoples Rights relating to women,

Recalling the Declaration and the programme of action adopted the 14th World Conference on Women held in Beijing, on September, 1995, and the final document adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its extraordinary session on the theme "Women in the year 2000: gender equality, development and peace",

Recalling the Beijing parliamentary declaration adopted by the participants at the Parliamentary Day held on the occasion of the 4th World Conference on Women.

- Calls on men and women parliamentarians to involve themselves in strengthening the parliamentary action intended to achieve gender quality at the national and international level and to follow-up closely the implementation of Beijing platform and the final document of

extraordinary session of the General Assembly of the United Nations held in 2000.

- Calls on parliamentarians to pay more attention to issues of equality and partnership by the effective participation of women in the mechanisms of Parliamentary Assemblies, notably, in the commissions by targeting a minimum representation of 30%.
- Requests parliaments to see to it that international commitments undertaken by their government be fulfilled and implemented especially those relating to the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women; and
- Call for the setting up of a Standing Committee of Women Parliamentarian within the African Union (Senator Uche Chukwumerije)

Debate:

Resolutions accordingly adopted.

12. Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes:
Report on the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 18):
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes on the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 18) and approve the recommendations (Senator Lawal Shuaibu).

Question put and agreed to.

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)

Debate:

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 Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes on the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 18) and deferred further consideration of the Report to a later date.

13. Personal Explanation:
Rising on Rule 43, Senator Abubakar Danso Sodangi explained that the Committee on Internal Affairs could not report on the Indigenization Bill 2005 as ordered in view of the nature of the assignment and requested that the Committee be granted an extension of time to enable it conclude the assignment and report as ordered.

The Committee accordingly granted extension of time to report when Senate resumes from recess.

14. Adjournment;
And it being 3.15 p.m. the Senate President adjourned Senate till Wednesday, 2nd June, 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 3.15 p.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate