



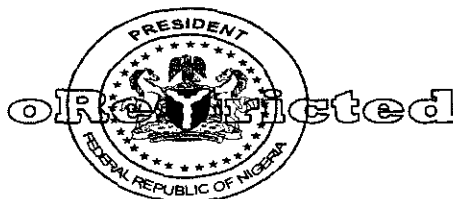
SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 5th November, 2009

1. The Senate met at 10.35 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, 4th November, 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 three letters from Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief which he read as follows:
(A)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

November 3, 2009

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

Dear Brother,

**SUBMISSION OF VIREMENT PROPOSAL FOR SOME PROVISIONS
IN THE 2009 APPROPRIATION ACT FOR MINISTRIES,
DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

I write to request the kind consideration of the Senate in approving virement proposals to achieve higher execution rate of the 2009 Budget.

Distinguished Senate President, you will recall that capital budget implementation fell below expectation during the first quarter of the year due to implementation constraints. We have since made concerted efforts towards accelerating the pace of capital budget implementation, through monitoring and tracking of budget execution at the Federal Executive Council; simplification of

procurement procedures, and strengthening of MDAs' implementation capacity among other measures. While these measures have culminated in appreciable progress in budget execution, we remain committed to efforts in this direction.

Following a recent review of project execution by the MDAs, considerable scope exists for further progress through virement of funds from projects that are unlikely to be fully executed before the end of the fiscal year to other projects that have recorded higher execution rate. In a few cases, also, it is considered critical to reallocate resources within the recurrent expenditure category of the budget with a view to facilitating the day to day running of the MDAs.

In line with budgetary practices and existing legislation, virement proposals in respect of the 2009 Appropriation Act, prepared by under-listed Ministries, are hereby attached for your kind consideration:

- (i) *Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources;*
- (ii) *Ministry of Aviation;*
- (iii) *Ministry of Defence;*
- (iv) *Ministry of Federal Capital Territory Administration;*
- (v) *Federal Ministry of Health;*
- (vi) *Ministry of Interior;*
- (vii) *Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs*
- (viii) *Federal Ministry of Power;*
- (ix) *Federal Ministry of Science and Technology; and,*
- (x) *Federal Ministry of Works, Housing and Urban Development.*

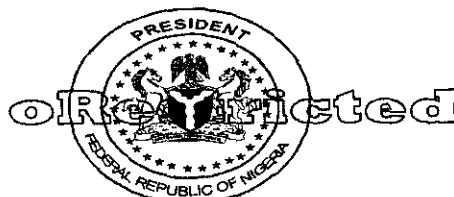
It is my hope that the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will consider and pass the Virement proposals in your characteristic expeditious manner.

Please accept, Distinguished Senate President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Signed:
UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

(B)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

November 3, 2009

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

Dear Brother,

**REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF
SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION**

I write to request for the kind support of the Senate in endorsing supplementary appropriation and the associated financing items occasioned by a number of factors, including the urgency of consolidating and sustaining peace in the Niger Delta; the need to put in place strategic interventions geared towards addressing the transitional costs which would accompany envisaged reforms in the downstream petroleum sector; as well as meeting additional expenditure needs that have emerged. Details of the expenditure items as well as sources of financing are attached to this letter for your kind consideration and endorsement.

In relation to the Niger-Delta, you would agree with me, Senate President, that it is extremely important that we embark on projects which would help deepen and consolidate peace as well as lay foundations for sustainable development. This is crucial to rebuilding confidence and trust in the amnesty initiative, enhancing production and improving revenue flow to the federation account, mitigating investment risks, as well as boosting full realization of the nation's economic potential.

Details of expenditures and the Niger-Delta Amnesty program are being worked out, based on close consultations with key stakeholders. Areas of focus include the East-West Highway (currently under construction); Coastal road/highway; East-West Rail line, inland water way transportation infrastructure; reclamation to link all communities; dredging of canals; housing and land reclamation projects for oil producing communities; and environmental clean-up activities. The money being appropriated will be ring-fenced under a similar arrangement that has been made in respect of funding for the National Integrated Power Project, and appropriate mechanisms of accountability, control and reporting will be put in place.

In addition to the Amnesty program-related expenditure, we are seeking to invest in programs and projects that would address the transition costs of envisaged reforms in the downstream petroleum sector. In this context, the government is proposing additional interventions in the rail and road transportation sectors, as well as emergency road rehabilitation. These are being complemented with measures to facilitate access to low income housing for workers, as well as support to the real sector through development finance institutions. The overall thrust of these envisaged policy measures are to reduce the cost of transportation and make available alternative sources of transportation, seek avenues for reducing the cost of living as well as generate employment opportunities.

We also seek the endorsement of the Senate to finance strategic interventions aimed at addressing supply constraints and unemployment in the context of the, global economic meltdown. Some of the expenditure items in the supplementary appropriation would be utilized to offset outstanding government obligations (including pension arrears), meet funding shortfall, and provide for counterpart funding.

Distinguished Senate President, approving these expenditure items would help in alleviating the adverse impact of the global economic crisis on the most vulnerable segment of the population as well as ensuring effective day to day operations of some MDAs.

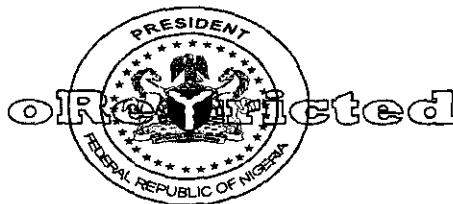
The proposed expenditure items above will be financed from Federal Government's portion of the sharing from the Excess Crude Account, proceeds of the soft loan from the World Bank (as communicated in my letter dated July 27, 2009) and the use of existing issuance of FGN Bonds by the Debt Management Office, as well as balance of unspent funds from 2009 appropriation.

Distinguished Senate President, I trust that these key interventions will receive the traditional expeditious kind consideration of the Distinguished Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Yours sincerely,

Signed:
UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

(C)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

November 3, 2009

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

Dear Brother,

AMBASSADORIAL NOMINEE

In accordance with Section 171 (C) sub-section 4 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I have the honour to forward the nomination of Professor Adebawale I. Adefuye for the kind consideration of the Senate for Ambassadorial appointment.

A photocopy of his Curriculum Vitae (CV) is attached herewith.

It is my hope that this will receive the usual prompt attention of the Distinguished Senate of the Federal Republic.

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

Yours sincerely,

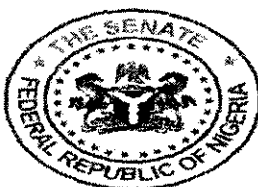
Signed:

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

4. Announcements:

(A) Conferment of Honourary Doctorate Degree:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator George O. Akume (Benue North West) as follows:



Senator George O. Akume
BENUE NORTH WEST SENATORIAL ZONE, BENUE STATE
THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

October 13, 2009

*Senator David B.A. Mark,
President of the Senate*

Your Excellency,

**NOTIFICATION AND INVITATION TO ATTEND THE CONFERMENT
OF HONOURARY DOCTORATE DEGREES ON 'US'
BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MKAR**

It is with great pleasure and the special grace of God that I write to notify you that it has pleased the Senate and Council of the University of Mkar, Benue State to offer your brothers, Honourary Doctorate Degrees, my humble self, "in recognition of the outstanding contributions that you have made to the development of the nation and state in general and the University of Mkar in particular", and Chief Mike Okibe, former Federal Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Defence.

Consequently, it is my honour and privilege to invite you as someone who has been part of the realization of the dream of establishing the University of Mkar, and a dear brother, to share this moment of honour at the conferment ceremony scheduled for the Maiden Convocation of the University on Friday, 6th November, 2009, at 9.00 am prompt. I passionately appeal that you cause this letter to be read on the floor of the Senate to serve as invitation to our Distinguished colleagues.

May I also solicit your kind prayers for us, other honourees, and the University.

God bless you as you come.

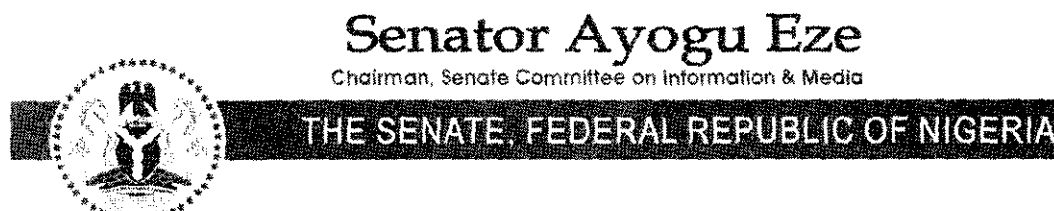
yours faithfully,

signed:

Senator George Akume

(B) Senate Retreat:

The Senate President also read a letter from Senator Ayogu Eze (Enugu North) as follows:



*Senator David B.A. Mark,
President of the Senate
National Assembly
Abuja*

ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to remind all distinguished Senators that Arik Air, flight W3 321 conveying distinguished Senators to Enugu for the Senate Retreat 2009 will depart the local wing of the Nnamdi Azikiwe Airport, Abuja on Monday, November 09, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. All Senators going on this flight to be at the airport at 9.30 a.m.

Signed:

Senator Ayogu Eze
Chairman,
Senate Retreat 2009 Planning Committee.

(C) Acknowledgement:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of Staff and Students of Hallmark Secondary School, Itanla, Ondo State who were in the gallery to observe Senate proceedings.

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Cigarette Advertisement (Prohibition) Bill 2009 (SB. 321) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation Act (Amendment) Bill 2009 (SB. 318) — *Read the First Time.*

6. Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development:

Report on the Drought in the Northern Part of Nigeria:

Motion made: That the Senate do resume consideration of the Report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development in respect of the motion on the drought in the northern part of Nigeria (*Adjourned debate - 4th November, 2009*) (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendations:

- (i) Government should continue to bear and apply subsidies on agricultural in-puts and out-puts;
- (ii) The Government should construct more silos and other necessary storage facilities in all States of the Federation in order to avoid wastage during the harvest season;
- (iii) Government should create buyer of last resort account for excess grains and crops during harvest season as well as to guarantee market availability to farmers all year round. This measure will not only check the activities of the middle men, it will encourage farmers to produce more;
- (iv) Agricultural Research Institutes across the country should be motivated to intensify efforts in providing high yield varieties of crops and seeds that can tolerate adverse weather conditions in their localities and each Research Institute should be encouraged to excel in one field as a center of excellence;
- (v) The Federal, States and Local Governments should adopt the MAPUTO Declaration of allocating 10% of their total annual budget to agricultural activities and food sufficiency;
- (vi) The National Assembly needs to update the Land Use Act as well as formulate new laws that will regulate ownership of lands in the country, particularly through the cadastral mapping of farm lands. This will strengthen grazing reserves, afforestation policies and afford opportunity for loan collateralization;
- (vii) There should be renewed efforts on the side of Nigeria for the discovery of alternative and renewable energy as is the practice worldwide. This is to reduce deforestation as a result of human activities such as cooking;
- (viii) The irrigation projects across the country, should be resuscitated through the rehabilitation of existing dams and concessioning them to private sector for effective management and utilization;
- (ix) Agricultural policies and programmes should be consistent and realistic to ensure sustainability and give some level of confidence to farmers;
- (x) There should be synergy between the Federal and States Governments in terms of policy formulation and implementation to fashion out ready-made markets capable of absorbing excess agricultural produce;
- (xi) The Federal Government should intensify efforts in trying to resuscitate the Lake Chad in order to boost agricultural production in the Lake Chad Basin; and
- (xii) Facilities at the various Federal Colleges under the Ministry of Agriculture such as Federal College of Freshwater Fisheries, Baga should be upgraded to meet their training needs (*Senator Tawar U. Wada*).

Debate:

Prayer (i):

Question: That Government should continue to bear and apply subsidies on agricultural in-puts and out-puts — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (ii):

Question: That Government should construct more silos and other necessary storage facilities in all States of the Federation in order to avoid wastage during the harvest season — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iii):

Question: That Government should create buyer of last resort account for excess grains and crops during harvest season as well as to guarantee market availability to farmers all year round. This measure will not only check the activities of the middle men, it will encourage farmers to produce more — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iv):

Question: That the Agricultural Research Institutes across the country should be motivated to intensify efforts in providing high yield varieties of crops and seeds that can tolerate adverse weather conditions in their localities and each Research Institute should be encouraged to excel in one field as a center of excellence — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (v):

Question: The Federal, States and Local Governments should adopt the MAPUTO Declaration of allocating 10% of their total annual budget to agricultural activities and food sufficiency — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (vi):

Question: The National Assembly needs to update the Land Use Act as well as formulate new laws that will regulate ownership of lands in the country, particularly through the cadastral mapping of farm lands. This will strengthen grazing reserves, afforestation policies and afford opportunity for loan collateralization — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (vii):

Question: There should be renewed efforts on the side of Nigeria for the discovery of alternative and renewable energy as is the practice worldwide. This is to reduce deforestation as a result of human activities such as cooking.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the words after the word “worldwide” in line 2 (*Senator Nicholas Y. Ugbane*).

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

Prayer (viii):

Question: That irrigation projects across the country, should be resuscitated through the rehabilitation of existing dams and concessioning them to private sector for effective management and utilization.

Amendment Proposed:

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

“irrigation projects across the country, should be resuscitated through the rehabilitation of existing dams and construction of new ones” (*Senator Mohammed A. Mohammed*).

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

Prayer (ix):

Question: That Agricultural policies and programmes should be consistent and realistic to ensure sustainability and give some level of confidence to farmers — *Negatived.*

Prayer (x):

Question: There should be synergy between the Federal and States Governments in terms of policy formulation and implementation to fashion out ready-made markets capable of absorbing excess agricultural produce — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (xi):

Question: The Federal Government should intensify efforts in trying to resuscitate the Lake Chad in order to boost agricultural production in the Lake Chad Basin.

Amendment Proposed:

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

“The Federal Government should intensify efforts in trying to resuscitate the Lake Chad by effectively re-channeling Tiga, Challawa and other dams with the view to boosting agricultural production in the Lake Chad” (*Senator Bala A. Mohammed*).

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

Prayer (xii):

Question: That facilities at the various Federal Colleges under the Ministry of Agriculture such as Federal College of Freshwater Fisheries, Baga should be upgraded to meet their training needs — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (xii) to read as follows:

“That every Government in the affected States should construct more dams” (*Senator Jibril M. Aminu*).

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

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (xiii) to read as follows:

“That the Federal, State and Local Governments should carry out a programme of enlightenment on the importance of the use of irrigation” (*Senator George T. Sekibo*).

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

Resolved:

- (i) That Government should continue to bear and apply subsidies on agricultural in-puts and out-puts;
- (ii) That Government should construct more silos and other necessary storage facilities in all States of the Federation in order to avoid wastage during the harvest season;
- (iii) That Government should create buyer of last resort account for excess grains and crops during harvest season as well as to guarantee market availability to farmers all year round. This measure will not only check the activities of the middle men, it will encourage farmers to produce more;
- (iv) That the Agricultural Research Institutes across the country should be motivated to intensify efforts in providing high yield varieties of crops and seeds that can tolerate adverse weather conditions in their localities and each Research Institute should be encouraged to excel in one field as a center of excellence;
- (v) That the Federal, States and Local Governments should adopt the MAPUTO Declaration of allocating 10% of their total annual budget to agricultural activities and food sufficiency;

- (vi) That the National Assembly needs to update the Land Use Act as well as formulate new laws that will regulate ownership of lands in the country, particularly through the cadastral mapping of farm lands. This will strengthen grazing reserves, afforestation policies and afford opportunity for loan collateralization;
- (vii) That there should be renewed efforts on the side of Nigeria for the discovery of alternative and renewable energy as is the practice worldwide;
- (viii) That irrigation projects across the country, should be resuscitated through the rehabilitation of existing dams and construction of new ones;
- (ix) That there should be synergy between the Federal and States Governments in terms of policy formulation and implementation to fashion out ready made markets capable of absorbing excess agricultural produce;
- (x) The Federal Government should intensify efforts in trying to resuscitate the Lake Chad by effectively re-channeling Tiga, Challawa and other dams with the view to boosting agricultural production in the Lake Chad;
- (xi) That facilities at the various Federal Colleges under the Ministry of Agriculture such as Federal College of Freshwater Fisheries, Baga should be upgraded to meet their training needs;
- (xii) That every Government in the affected States should construct more dams; and
- (xiii) That the Federal, State and Local Governments should carry out a programme of enlightenment on the importance of the use of irrigation (*S. Res/58/03/09*).

7. Committee on Finance:

Report on the Screening of Nominee:

Consideration of Report deferred to the next Legislative Day.

8. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Tuesday, 17th November, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.15 p.m.

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