



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 3rd March, 2005

1. The Senate met at 10.25 a.m. The Deputy Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Deputy Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 2nd March, 2005 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.

Privilege:

Senator Tawar U. Wada invited the attention of the Senate to a front page publication in the Tuesday, 1st March, 2005, edition of the Punch Newspaper, captioned "*Makarfi attacks National Assembly — says Legislators struggle for power*". He stated that the statement was credited to the Executive Governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Ahmed Makarfi and opined that the publication impugned the integrity of the Senate and Senators. He therefore urged the Senate to examine the statement in all its ramifications.

Debate:

Prayers:

- (i) That the Senate strongly condemn the statement credited to Governor Ahmed Makarfi of Kaduna State as a manifestation of the Governor's ignorance of the workings of the National Assembly and the Senate in particular (*Senator David Mark*).
- (ii) That no Committee of the Senate or its officials on official assignment in Kaduna State shall pay courtesy call on the Kaduna State Governor (*Senator Sule Yari Gandi*).
- (iii) That the Senate do respectfully draw the attention of their Honourable Colleagues, the Members of the House of Representatives, to the unprovoked, censorious and sinister remarks recently made by Governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Ahmed Makarfi, on the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and earnestly appeal to the Honourable Colleagues of the House to consider the resolutions of the Senate on the matter and to also pass and adopt the resolutions in solidarity with the Senate and because what affects one Chamber of the National Assembly will not spare the other (*Senate Jibril M. Aminu*).

Prayer (i):

Question: That the Senate strongly condemn the statement credited to Governor Ahmed Makarfi of Kaduna State as a manifestation of the Governor's ignorance of the workings of the National Assembly and the Senate in particular — *agreed to*.

Prayer (ii):

Question: That no Committee of the Senate or its officials on official assignment to Kaduna State shall pay Courtesy call on the Kaduna State Governor — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iii):

Question: That the Senate do respectfully draw the attention of their Honourable Colleagues, the Members of the House of Representatives, to the unprovoked, censorious and sinister remarks by Governor recently made by Governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Ahmed Makarfi, on the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and earnestly appeal to the Honourable Colleagues of the House to consider the resolutions of the Senate on the matter and to also pass and adopt the resolutions in solidarity with the Senate and because what affects one Chamber of the National Assembly will not spare the other — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That the Senate strongly condemn the statement credited to Governor Ahmed Makarfi of Kaduna State as a manifestation of the Governor's ignorance of the workings of the National Assembly and the Senate in particular.
- (ii) That no Committee of the Senate or its officials on official assignment to Kaduna State shall pay courtesy call on the Kaduna State Governor.
- (iii) That the Senate do respectfully draw the attention of their Honourable Colleagues, the Members of the House of Representatives, to the unprovoked, censorious and sinister remarks by Governor recently made by Governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Ahmed Makarfi, on the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and earnestly appeal to the Honourable Colleagues of the House to consider the resolutions of the Senate on the matter and to also pass and adopt the resolutions in solidarity with the Senate and because what affects one Chamber of the National Assembly will not spare the other (*S. Res.09/05*).

Committee on Sports and Social Development:

Report on the Destruction and Disrepair of the Velodrome at the National Stadium:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on the Destruction and Disrepair of the Velodrome at the National Stadium and approve the

Recommendations (*Senator Mahmud K. Bello*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and laid.

Recommendations:

- (i) That the Senate do appeal to Mr President to pay the outstanding certified balances of the various contractors that amounted to about N22 billion.
- (ii) That the Senate do consider appropriating funds for the maintenance of facilities and equipment put in place at the National Sports Complex to match with international standards.
- (Hi) That the Federal Government should mandate and insist that Julius Berger Nigeria Pic should repair the Velodrome at the agreed period and within the original contract sum without any variation.

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the provision in Prayer (iii) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

"That the Senate do note that Julius Berger Nigeria Plc had agreed to repair the Velodrome".

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Prayer (i):

Question: That the Senate do appeal to Mr President to pay the outstanding certified balances of the various Contractors that amounted to about N22 billion — *Negative.*

Prayer (ii):

Question: That the Senate do consider appropriating funds for the maintenance of facilities and equipment put in place at the National Sports Complex to match with international standards— *Negative*.

Prayer (iii):

Question: That the Senate do note that Julius Berger Nigeria Pic had agreed to repair the Velodrome — *Agreed to*.

Committee on Niger-Delta:

Report on the Screening of Nominees on Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Niger-Delta on the screening of Nominees for appointment as Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and approve the recommendations (*Senator John K. Brambcofa*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

Debate:

Extension of Time of Sitting:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do sit beyond the time appointed for the termination of its proceedings this 3rd day of March, 2005 (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Debate continued:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report of the Committee on Niger-Delta (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Report of the Committee on Niger-Delta on the Screening of Nominees for appointment as Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC).

Further Debate:

Recommendations:

(A) *Nominees recommended for Confirmation:*

Debate:

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|--------|---|---|---|
| (i) | Ambassador Sam Joe Edem (Akwa Ibom) | — | Chairman — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (ii) | Hon. Emmanuel Aguariavwodo (Delta) | — | Managing Director — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (iii) | Mr Tirai Alaibe (Bayelsa) | — | Executive Director
Finance and Admin— <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (iv) | Hon. Godwin Moffat Eyo (Akwa Ibom) | — | Part-time Member — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (v) | Dr. Georgiana K. Ngeri Nwagha (Bayelsa) | — | Part-time Member — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (vi) | Mr. Ekpo Asuquo Ekpo Okon (Cross River) | — | Part-time Member — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (vii) | Barr. Val Aremyinka (Delta) | | Part-time Member — <i>Agreed to</i> . |
| (Viii) | Mr. Dimabo Oruama (Rivers) | | Part-time Member — <i>Agreed to</i> . |

- (ix) Mr. Garba Na-Dama (North West Zone) — Part-time Member — *Agreed to.*
- (x) Alhaji Alhassan Shuaibu (North Central Zone)— Part-time Member — *Agreed to.*
- (xi) Mr, Samuel Edward Inyang (Akwa Ibom) — Representative of Oil Producing Company — *Agreed to.*

(B) *Nominees not recommended for confirmation by the Committee:*

- (i) Mr. Oke Nwubani (Abia) — Part-time Member — *Consideration Deferred.*
- (ii) Dr. Frederick Amadasun (Edo) — Part-time Member — *Consideration Deferred.*
- (Hi) Hon. I.E. Jones Uzoka (Imo) — Part-time Member — *Consideration Deferred.*
- (iv) Chief Olusola Oke (Ondo) — Part-time Member — *Consideration Deferred.*
- (v) Ambassador Ibrahim S. Jimeta (North East Zone)
- (vi) Engr. Egum Beniah Elemchukwu (Rivers) *Debate:*

Amendment Proposed:

That the Senate do approve the nomination of Engineer Egum Beniah Elemchukwu (Rivers) as Member of the Governing Board of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (*Senator David C.. Brigidi*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Further Debate:

Another Amendment Proposed:

That the Senate do defer consideration of the Committee's Recommendations on Ambassador Ibrahim S. Jimeta (*Senator Tunde Ogbeha*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Further Debate:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do invite the Director-General, Department of State Services to brief the Senate in a Closed Session on Tuesday, 8th March, 2005 at 11.00 a.m. on the Nominees listed (i) to (iv) not recommended for confirmation by the Committee (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Further consideration of the Committee's Recommendation in respect of Nominees listed (i) — (iv) deferred.

Chairman to report progress,

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Deputy Senate President reported that the Senate in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Niger-Delta on the screening of the Presidential Nominees as Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and approved:

(A) *The following Nominees for Confirmation:*

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|--------|--|---|---|
| (i) | Ambassador Sam Joe Edem (Akwa Ibom) | — | Chairman Managing |
| (ii) | Hon. Emmanuel Aguariavwodo (Delta) | — | Director |
| (Hi) | Mr Timi Alaibe (Bayelsa) | — | Executive Director
Finance and Admin |
| (iv) | Hon. Godwin Moffat Eyo (Akwa Ibom) | — | Part-time Member |
| (v) | Dr. Georgiana K. Ngeri Nwagha (Bayelsa) | — | Part-time Member |
| (vi) | Mr. Ekpo Asuquo Ekpo Okon (Cross River) | — | Part-time Member |
| (vii) | Barr. Val Aremyinka (Delta) | — | Part-time Member |
| (viii) | Mr. Dimabo Oruama (Rivers) | — | Part-time Member |
| (ix) | Mr. Garba Na-Dama (North West Zone) | — | Part-time Member |
| (x) | Alhaji Alhassan Shuaibu (North Central Zone) | — | Part-time Member |
| (xi) | Mr. Samuel Edward Inyang (Akwa Ibom) | — | Representative of Oil Producing
Company. |
| (xii) | Engr. Egum Beniah Elemchukwu (Rivers) | — | Part-time Member. |

(B) Deferred consideration of the Recommendation of the Committee in respect of Ambassador Ibrahim S. Jimeta (North East Zone).

(Q) That the Department of State Services should brief the Senate in Closed Session in respect of the Recommendation of the Committee flowing from the Security Report on the following Nominees.

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|------|-------------------------------|---------|
| (i) | Mr. Oke Nwubani | Abia |
| (ii) | Dr. Frederick Amadasun | Edo Imo |
| (Hi) | Hon. (Chief) I.E. Jones Uzoka | Ondo |
| (iv) | Chief Olusola Oke | |

Consequent upon this decision, Senate ordered that the Director-General, Department of State Services should be invited to brief the Senate in a Closed Session on Tuesday, 8th March, 2005 at 11.00 a.m. on the Report of that Department on the Nominees whose appointments were not recommended for confirmation.

Question: That the Report of the Committee of the Whole be approved, resolved in the Affirmative.

7. *Motion made and Question Proposed:* That items 1 and 2 (Consideration of Bills) on the Order Paper be stood down till the next legislative day (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to,

8. Adjournment:
And it being 2.20 p.m the Deputy Senate President adjourned the Senate till Tuesday, 8th March, 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 2.20p.m.

Ibrahim N. Mantu
Deputy Senate President