



# SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 25th January, 2005

1. The Senate met at 10.10a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**  
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 11th January, 2005 and approved same.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.*

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



**PRESIDENT**  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

18 January, 2005

Chief Adolphus Wabara,  
President of the Senate,  
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,  
National Assembly Complex,  
Three-Arms Zone,  
Abuja.

Dear President of the Senate,

### **PROPOSED BUDGET FOR, THE NATIONAL POLITICAL REFORM CONFERENCE**

*On 7th December 2004, I inaugurated the Presidential Committee on the Background Paper for Political Reforms, which was mandated to identify the requisite steps for enriching Nigeria's political process so as to widen, deepen and entrench democratic principles and practice, with the overall objective of facilitating good governance, meaningful development and ensuring social justice for the people of Nigeria. The eight (8) member Committee had Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi, the Governor of Kaduna State, as the Chairman.*

*The Committee had since completed its assignment and following the 'meeting of the Council of State on Wednesday, 12th January 2005, which considered its Report, the Federal Government has constituted a National Political Reform Conference to address the following central elements of the Reform agenda:*

- (i) Constitutional Reforms;*
- (ii) Political Party Reforms;*
- (iii) Electoral Reforms;*
- (iv) Judicial/Legal Reforms;*
- (v) Civil Society Reforms;*
- (vi) Consultation and Consensus Building;*
- (vii) Police/Prison System Reforms; and*
- (viii) Reforms of the Structure of Government/Governance.*

*The Conference is scheduled to commence in mid-February 2005 for a period of three (3) months and the proposed Budget (copy attached) is ₦931,721,615.28. As there was no provision for it in the Budget already forwarded to the National Assembly, I am forwarding the Budget for inclusion under the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation in the 2005 Appropriation Bill.*

*I thank you very much for your usual understanding and support.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Signed:*  
**OLUSEGUN OBASANJO**

**(ii)**



**PRESIDENT**  
**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

**PRES/134**

**4 January, 2005**

*The President of the Senate,  
Senate Chambers,  
National Assembly Complex,  
Three-Arms Zone,  
Abuja.*

*Dear President of the Senate,*

**PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BILL 2004**

*I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the Senate, a Bill which provides; among other things, for the:*

- (a) establishment of the National Council on Government Commerce;*
- (b) establishment of the Bureau of Public Procurement as the Regulatory Authority responsible for the monitoring and oversight of public procurement;*
- (c) harmonisation of the existing government policies and practices by regulating, setting standards and developing the legal framework and professional capacity for public procurement in Nigeria. and other related purposes.*

*I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Distinguished Members of the Senate.*

*Yours sincerely,*

(iii)



**PRESIDENT**  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

January 6, 2005

The President of the Senate,  
Senate Chambers,  
National Assembly Complex,  
Three-Arms Zone,  
Abuja.

Dear President of the Senate,

**RE: FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY STATUTORY  
ALLOCATION BUDGET FOR YEAR 2005**

Following my letter Ref. PRES/134 of November 15, 2004 on the above subject, I write to re-submit the Federal Capital Territory Statutory Allocation Budget for Year 2005, which is now in the form of a bill, for consideration by the Senate.

While urging you to accept the assurances of my highest esteem, it will be most appreciated if the Bill is given urgent consideration, please.

Yours sincerely,

Signed:  
**OLUSEGUN OBASANJO**

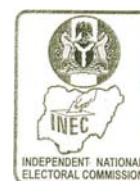
4. ( ) n from the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC):



**INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION  
INEC-HEADQUARTERS**

Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama District A5  
P.M.B. 0184, Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria  
☎:09-4137852-3, 09-4137011 Fax: 09-4132029

**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN**



Ref: INEC/CH/S.013/II/195

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> Dec., 2004

**PROPOSED DRAFT ELECTORAL BILL 2004**

Please recall that after the conclusion of the 2003 general elections, the Commission undertook an in-house appraisal of the entire process through stakeholders workshops and comprehensive review by a team of experts sponsored by the Commonwealth Secretariat, the International Foundation for Election System (IFES) and the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD).

Following the appraisal, there was a general consensus on the need to review the present Electoral Act 2002 (as amended) to take care of most of the short comings noticed during the 2003 general elections.

After due consideration of the various suggestions made by the stakeholders, the Commission has proposed a draft Electoral Bill, 2004. Some of the highlights of the proposed draft Bill include: —

- (a) a consolidation of the INEC Act No. 17 of 1998, INEC Amendment Act No. 33 of 1998, the Electoral Act 2002 and the Electoral Act (Amendment) Act, 2004;
- (b) the establishment of a National Elections Fund; .

- (c) a general election schedule with a deadline for the termination of the submission of nomination that leaves the Commission with sufficient time to make adequate arrangements for the elections including the printing of ballot papers which bear the photographs and names of candidates at the election;
- (d) expanding the powers of the Commission for more effective monitoring of Political Parties' finances;
- (e) increased sanctions for electoral malpractices and fraud;
- (f) empowering the Commission to introduce enhanced or technologically advanced voting systems;
- (g) the placement of a ceiling on the level of election expenses that may be incurred by candidates contesting elections.

*Distinguished Senate President, I have the pleasure and honour to forward 130 copies of the proposed draft Bill for your attention and necessary action, please.*

*Please accept the assurances of my esteemed regards.*

*Yours Sincerely,*

*(Signed)*

**Sir, Abel I. Guobadia, KSA**  
Chairman

#### 5. **Announcement:**

The Senate President announced that he had received a letter from Senator Tunde Ogbeha which he read as follows:

*Senator Tunde Ogbeha, mni*

National Assembly Complex  
P.M.B. 141, Three Arms Zone, Abuja. Tel: 234-9-5230432, 2310487(Fax)  
[E-mail:togbeha@yahoo.com](mailto:togbeha@yahoo.com), Website:www.togbeha.com

January 24, 2005

**Rt. Hon. Adolphus Wabara**  
President of the Senate  
Federal Republic of Nigeria  
National Assembly Complex  
Abuja.

*Your Excellency,*

#### **PASSING UNTO GLORY OF MY BELOVED MOTHER CHIEF** **(MRS.) P. R. OGBEHA**

*It is with heavy heart but with gratitude to the Almighty God for a life well spent, that I write to inform you of the passing unto eternal glory of my beloved mother, CHIEF (MRS.) PRICILLIA RAKIYA OGBEHA which occurred on Saturday January 22, 2005 after a brief illness at the age of 81.*

*During her life time, she was a devout Christian, Community Leader, a Chief in Lokoja Traditional Council, Philanthropist and she lived a fulfilled life. The final burial rites for Mama starts on February 4, 2005 with a Christian wake keeping while the funeral ceremony is scheduled for February 5, 2005 in Lokoja. Details of the programme will be conveyed through the media.*

*I will very much appreciate it, if you can please inform our colleagues of this development through your office. I will also count on your support and prayers during this period of obsequies.*

*Yours Sincerely,*

*(Signed)*  
*Senator Tunde Ogbeha*

**6. Privileges/Complaint Against Newspaper Publication:**

Senator Lawal Shuaibu, Senate Minority Leader, invited the attention of the Senate to page 3 in the Monday, 24th January, 2005, edition of the Daily Trust Newspaper, captioned “*Senators get ₦45m for Boreholes in Constituencies*”. He further stated that the statement was credited to the Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce, Senator Ibikunle Amosun and argued that the publication impugned the integrity of the Senate and Senators. He therefore urged the Senate to look into the matter.

*Debate:*

*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do invite the Honourable Minister and the Honourable Minister of State for Water Resources to the Senate Session on Thursday, 27th January, 2005 to:

- (i) brief the Senate on the alleged ₦45m disbursed to each Senator as credited to him; and
- (ii) brief the Senate on the details of execution of Constituency Water Projects (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

*Question on Motion put and agreed to.*

**7. Presentation of Bills:**

- (i) National Ecological Agency Bill, 2005 (SB:128) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) National Commission for Polytechnic Bill, 2005 (SB:132) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative Bill, 2005 (SB:146) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Border Communities Development Agency Bill, 2005 (SB:147) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Allocation of Revenue (Federation Account, etc) Bill, 2005 (SB: 148) — *Read the First Time.*
- (vi) Remuneration for former Presidents, Heads of Federal Legislative Houses and Chief Justices of the Federation (and other Ancillary Matters) Bill 2005 (SB. 150) — *Read the First Time.*

**8. Confirmation of Appointments:**

***Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC):***  
*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do consider the request of Mr President, Commander-in-Chief for the Confirmation of the Appointments of the Chairman and Members of the Governing Board of the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in accordance with Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Niger-Delta Development Commission Act, 2000".

| S/No. | Name                            | State/Body/Ministry | Designation      |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1.    | Amb. Sam Joe Edem               | Akwa Ibom           | Chairman         |
| 2.    | Mr. Okey Nwaubani               | Abia                | Part time member |
| 3.    | Hon. (Pastor) Godwin Moffat Eyo | Akwa Ibom           | Part time member |
| 4.    | Georgiana Kiente Ngeri Nwagha   | Bayelsa             | Part time member |
| 5.    | Mr. Ekpo Asuquo Ekpo Okon       | Cross River         | Part time member |
| 6.    | Barr. Val Aremyinka             | Delta               | Part time member |
| 7.    | Dr. Frederick Ebegue Amadasun   | Edo                 | Part time member |

|     |                                |                                                 |                  |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8.  | Hon. (Chief) I. E. Jones Uzoka | Imo                                             | Part time member |
| 9.  | Chief Olusola Oke              | Ondo                                            | Part time member |
| 10. | Mr. Dimabo Oruama              | Rivers                                          | Part time member |
| 11. | Dr. Garba Na'dama (NIW)        | Rep. Non-Oil Mineral<br>Producing States (Zone) | Part time member |

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|-----|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 12. | Alhaji Alhassan Shuaibu(N/C) | „                                                                          | Part time member             |
| 13. | Amb. Ibrahim S, Jimeta (N/E) | „                                                                          | Part time member             |
| 14. | Mr. Samuel Edward Inyang     | Rep. Oil Producing<br>Companies in Niger-Delta<br>nominated by the Oil Co. | P a r t t i m e<br>member    |
| 15. | Hon. E. E. Aguariavwodo      | Managing Director                                                          | Full Time<br>(Reappointment) |
| 16. | Engr. Ojum Beniah Elemchukwu | Executive Director<br>(Project)                                            | Full Time<br>(Reappointment) |
| 17. | Mr. Timi Alaibe              | Executive Director<br>(F&A)                                                | Full Time<br>(Reappointment) |

(Deputy Senate Majority Leader).

*Debate:*

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Request for Confirmation of Appointments accordingly referred to the Committee on Niger-Delta to report within two weeks.*

**9. Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.**

***International Crime Court (Ratification and Jurisdiction) Statute of Rome Bill, 2005 (HB. 8):***

Senator Jibril Aminu explained that the inability of the Committee on Foreign Affairs to report to Senate on the International Crime Court (Ratification and Jurisdiction) Statute of Rome Bill 2005 was as a result of the intervening adjournment and pilgrimages to Mecca by most members of the Committee.

He therefore urged the Senate to grant the Committee up till 10th February, 2005 to enable it conclude the assignment and report as ordered.

*The Committee was granted up till 10th February, 2005 to conclude the assignment and report as ordered.*

**10. Adjournment:**

*Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do adjourn till Wednesday, 26th January, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (Deputy Senate Majority Leader).

*Adjourned accordingly at 12.00 noon.*

**Adolf Wabara**  
*President of the Senate*