



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 26th January, 2005

1. The Senate met at 10.25a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 25th 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 two letters from the President, Commander-in-Chief which he read as follows:
(i)



PRESIDENT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

24 January, 2005

*Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Chief Adolphus Wabara,
President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
National Assembly Complex,
Three-Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear President of the Senate,

**APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS TO REPRESENT JIGAWA
AND OYO STATES IN THE NATIONAL POPULATION COMMISSION**

The National Population Commission is one of the Federal Executive Bodies established under Section 153(1) of the 1999 Constitution. By the provision of Part 1(J) of the THIRD SCHEDULE of the 1999 Constitution, the Commission shall comprise the Chairman and one person from each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. There are, however, two vacant positions from Oyo and Jigawa States in the Commission.

I have, therefore, in the exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 154(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, decided to appoint the following as members of the National Population Commission.

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Designation</i>
1.	Hon. Yusuf Yunusa Sankara	Jigawa	Member
2.	Abdul-Lateef Aderemi Gbadamosi	Oyo	Member

The C. Vs of the candidates are attached.

In line with the provision of Section 154(1) and (3) of the 1999 Constitution and after due consultation with the Council of State at its meeting of Wednesday, 12thh January, 2005, I hereby present the two nominees for confirmation by the Senate.

I look forward to your early action.

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,

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
CHIEF HON. SIR EMEKA ANANABA AS NATIONAL
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER, INDEPENDENT
NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is one of the Federal Executive Bodies established under Section 153(1) of the 1999 Constitution. By the provision of Part I (F) of the THIRD SCHEDULE of the 1999 Constitution, the Commission shall comprise the Chairman who shall be the Chief Electoral Commissioner and twelve other members to be known as National Electoral Commissioners.

Section 155(1)(c) of the 1999 Constitution provides that a member of the Commission shall hold Office for a term of five (5) years from the date of his appointment. In this connection, the tenure of Engr. Fidelis M. Nwankwo from Ebonyi State (South East Zone) expired on 15th November, 2004.

I n the exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 154(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and pursuant to the Third Schedule, Part I, Section 14(1)(b) of the 1999 constitution, I have decided to appoint Chief Hon. Sir Emeka Ananaba from Abia State (South East Zone) as National Electoral Commissioner, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), to replace

Engr.

Fidelis M. Nwankwo from Ebonyi State (South. East Zone) whose tenure expired on 15th November, 2004.

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Accordingly, in line with the provisions of Section 154(1)' and (3) of the 1999 Constitution and after due consultations with the Council of State at its meeting of Wednesday, 12th January, 2005, I hereby present Chief Hon. Emeka Ananaba whose Curriculum Vitae is attached herewith for confirmation by the Senate.

I look forward to your early action.

Yours sincerely,

Signed:

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

4. Communication from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT
ABUJA**

P.M.B. 130, Garki

Telephone: 5230491

Telefax: 5230871



Ref: BW. 218

Date: 6th January, 2005

*The Senate President,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGE

I am directed to forward herewith a message addressed to H.E. the Senate President, from H.E. Mr. Ghalam Ali Haddad Adel, Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of the Islam Republic of Iran.

2. *It would be highly appreciated if the message is transmitted to its highest destination.*
3. *Highest regards*

Signed:

I. Hamidu

For: Honourable Minister



THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

*In The Name of God
The Compassionate, The Merciful*

H.E. Chief Adolphus Wabara
Senate President
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the my colleagues and myself, I would like to convey my heartiest congratulations to your Excellency, the esteemed Senate members, government and nation of friendly country of Nigeria, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Birth of Jesus Christ.

I do hope that under the umbrella of cooperation and co-existence among governments and nations, we would be able to witness a year imbued with peace, stability, development and grandeur.

Undoubtedly, parliaments due to their crucial duties could play important role in the achievement of these ends and expansion of ties between the two countries in all fields.

I wish Your Excellency as well as your good colleagues, good health and success.

Gholam Ali Haddad Adel
*Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly
of the Islamic Republic of Iran*

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Pension Reforms (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB:149) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Petroleum and Minerals Technology Development Fund Bill 2005 (SB. 99) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Public Procurement Bill 2005 (SB:151) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Electoral Bill 2005 (SB:152) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Existing Vacancies (Publication) Bill 2005 — *Read the First Time.*

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

The Tsunamis Disaster:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That whereas Christians in particular and the rest of the world in general, were still celebrating Christmas, on the 26th December, 2004, what has been described as “the most destructive disaster in living memory” struck the South East Asia Nations by way of a massive earthquake that devastated the Western coasts of the Indonesia Island of Sumatra with shock waves (*tsunamis*) that were felt more than 5000 kilometers even on the coasts of Africa;

WHEREAS the disaster left the following chilling statistics:

Indonesia	—	94,200 dead, 6,000 missing;
Sri Lanka:	—	More than 46,000 dead, 14,000 missing, 27,513 are dead and 3,858 missing in non-rebel held areas of the Island nation. Tamil Tiger rebels in conjunction with the UNDP say nearly 19,000 are dead and 10,000 missing in rebel held territory;
India:	—	9,682 dead 6,011 missing 5,914 on Andaman and Nicola Islands;
Thailand:	—	5,187 dead, 2,810 missing;
Somalia:	—	114 dead according to the United Nations;

Maldives:	—	82 dead, 26 missing;
Malaysia:	—	66 dead, 6 missing;
Myanmar:	—	86 dead according to the International Federation of the Red Cross, which is coordinating with the Myanmar Government and the United Nations;
Tanzania:	—	10 dead according to the United Nations;
Bangladesh:	—	2 dead according to the United Nations;

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Kenya:	—	1 dead according to Kenyan media;
Seychelles:	—	Unconfirmed reports of deaths.
Nigeria:	—	Reports have it that at least two Nigerians were casualties in Thailand.

WHEREAS it is the general belief that tsunamis may not occur in Nigeria even as experts have warned that Nigeria's Western boundary with Cameroun was an active volcanic region with fracture zone stretching through Romache (Western), Chain (Western Flack, Charcot) and Cameroun Fracture Zone (Eastern Boundary of Nigeria);

WHEREAS the tragedy has sparked the largest ever relief efforts with over US\$ 2 billion pledged all over the world. The United Nations leading other regional bodies, countries, individuals in mobilizing funds for the more than 5 million survivors, one third of them children who are the most vulnerable;

WHEREAS Nigeria has not been left out of this momentous display of solidarity with a donation of US\$1 million (One Million US Dollars) and a Committee set up by Mr President, C-in-C to mobilize further material support in aid of the victims, Australia also pledged US\$754.5 million while Germany and Japan pledged US\$680 million and US\$500 million respectively. The United States apart from a monetary pledge of \$350 million has also moved in men and materials to assist in the rehabilitation;

CONSIDERING the fact that over 220,000 people including some Nigerians are now known to have died as a result of the disaster, with the figure still rising, and the fact that it has created the largest population of orphans in recent history with a large number of the victims being tourists from various countries of the world.

This Distinguished Senate do resolve:

- (i) That the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria sends a condolence message to the Parliaments of the Countries affected.
- (ii) That the Senate sends a delegation to the Embassies and Missions of the affected Countries in Nigeria to formally convey its condolences.
- (iii) That the Senate commends the Federal Government of Nigeria for the financial support to the affected countries and the efforts being made to mobilize further relief to the victims of the disaster and that the Senate do support every initiative of the Federal Government in this regard.
- (iv) That the Senate appreciates and commends the unprecedented global response to an unprecedented catastrophe.
- (v) That this Senate urges the Federal Government of Nigeria to urgently re-assess Government's capacity to respond to disasters and to take proactive measures to protect and safeguard the coastal areas and other disaster-prone areas of the country.
- (vi) That this Senate urge the Federal Government to evolve strategies that will reduce population drift to Lagos and other cities, control ocean surge and reduce land reclamation.
- (vii) That this Senate urges the Federal Government to carefully monitor oil exploration and Seismic

activity in the Niger Delta to avert any avoidable catastrophe (*Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Insert new prayers (i) and (ii) to read as follows:

- (i) That one minute in silence be observed in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) That the Senate contribute \$50,000 to the Tsunamis Disaster Relief Fund (*Senator James E. Manager*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Recommendations:

Prayer (i):

Question:

That one minute in silence be observed in honour of the deceased — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (ii):

Question:

That the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria sends a condolence message to the Parliaments of the Countries affected — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iii):

Question:

That the Senate sends a delegation to the Embassies and Missions of the affected Countries in Nigeria to formally convey its condolences — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iv):

Question:

That the Senate commends the Federal Government of Nigeria for the financial support to the affected countries and the efforts being made to mobilize further relief to the victims of the disaster and that the Senate do support every initiative of the Federal Government in this regard — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (v):

Question:

That the Senate appreciates and commends the unprecedented global response to an unprecedented catastrophe — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (vi):

Question:

That the Senate contribute \$50,000 to the Tsunamis Disaster Relief Fund — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (vii):

Question:

That the Senate urges the Federal Government of Nigeria to urgently re-assess Government's capacity to respond to disasters and to take proactive measures to protect and safeguard the coastal areas and other disaster-prone areas of the country — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (viii):

Question:

That the Senate urges the Federal Government to evolve strategies that will reduce population drift to Lagos and other cities, control ocean surge and reduce land reclamation — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (ix):

Question:

That the Senate urges the Federal Government to carefully monitor oil exploration and Seismic activity in the Niger Delta to avert any avoidable catastrophe — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That one minute in silence be observed in honour of the deceased.
- (ii) That the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria sends a condolence message to the Parliaments of the Countries affected.
- (iii) That the Senate sends a delegation to the Embassies and Missions of the affected Countries in Nigeria to formally convey its condolences.
- (iv) That the Senate commends the Federal Government of Nigeria for the financial support to the affected countries and the efforts being made to mobilize further relief to the victims of the disaster and that the Senate do support every initiative of the Federal Government in this regard.
- (v) That the Senate appreciates and commends the unprecedented global response to an unprecedented catastrophe.

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- (vi) That the Senate contribute \$50,000 to the Tsunamis Disaster Relief Fund.
- (vii) That the Senate urges the Federal Government of Nigeria to urgently re-assess Government's capacity to respond to disasters and to take proactive measures to protect and safeguard the coastal areas and other disaster-prone areas of the country.
- (viii) That the Senate urges the Federal Government to evolve strategies that will reduce population drift to Lagos and other cities, control ocean surge and reduce land reclamation.
- (ix) That the Senate urges the Federal Government to carefully monitor oil exploration and Seismic activity in the Niger Delta to avert any avoidable catastrophe (*S. Res.01/2005*).

7. Report of the Committee on Works:

The Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Works on the Bill for an Act provide for the establishment of the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission and for Matters connected therewith (SB. 66) and approve their recommendations (*Senator Idris I. Kuta*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

Debate:

Consideration of Report by leave of Senate deferred till Wednesday, 2nd February, 2005.

8. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 27th January, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.11 p.m.

Adolf Wabara
President of the Senate