



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 17th August, 2005

1. The Senate met at 10. 15 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, 16th August, 2005 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. Announcement:
The Senate President announced the presence in the gallery of 50 students sponsored by Unilever Nigeria Plc drawn from the six geo-political zones to observe Senate proceedings,
4. Presentation of Bills:
 - (i) Registration, Control, Operation and General Regulation of Motor Cycles Operations in Nigeria
Bill 2005 (SB. 211) - *Read the First Time.*
 - (ii) Social Welfare Bill 2005 (SB. 205) — *Read the First Time. (Hi)*
Asylum Bill 2005 (SB, 212) - *Read the First Time.*
5. Confirmation of Appointment:
*Report of the Committee on National Population and National Identity Card:
Screening of Nominee:
Motion made and Question Proposed:* That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on National Population and Identity Card on the screening of Dr. Timothy Sule (Benue State) as a member of the National Population Commission and approve the recommendations (*Senator Iya Abubakar*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

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)

Report Of the Committee. M1 National Population and National Identity Card on the Screening of a Nominee as a Member of the National Population Commission:

Recommendation:

Nominee recommended for confirmation:

Debate:

Question on Committee's Recommendation put and agreed to.

Chairman to Report.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The Senate President reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of tin Committee on National Population and National Identity Card on the screening of the Presidential Nominee, Dr. Timothy Sule, (*Benue State*) as a member of the National Population Commission an< approved the Committee's recommendation.

Question, That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Resolved in this Affirmative.

6. Closed Session:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resolve into a Closed Session to consider matters crucial to the workings of the Senate (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Senate in Closed Session — 11. 00 a.m.

Senate in Open Session — 1.05 p.m.

7. Committees on Establishment and Public Service Matters and Employment, Labour and Productivity:

Report on the Right Sizing of the Public Service:

Consideration of Report deferred for two weeks.

8. Committee on Employment, Labour and Productivity:

Report on the Board of Safety Professionals Practitioners Bill 2005 (SB. 39):

Consideration of Report deferred for two weeks.

9. Conference Report on a New Accounting Manual for National Assembly:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider the Conference Report on a New Accounting Manual for National Assembly as follows:

The New Accounting Manual for the National Assembly

Recommendations:

- (1) Existing Financial Regulations of the Federal Government:
That Existing Financial Regulations of the Federal Government should be adopted and adapted with appropriate modifications so as to conform to the peculiar requirements of the National Assembly.
- (2) Classifications of Sub-Heads:
 - (a) *Advances - Retireable:*
That these are direct payments to Senators and Members of House of Representatives, which are meant to be retired after the assignment is undertaken;
 - (b) *Non- Relireable Advances:*
That these arc direct payments to Senators and Members of House of Representatives, which are not meant, to be retired after the assignment, is undertaken;
 - (c) *Other Charges:*
That these are Sub-Heads that cover peculiar financial activities including the overhead and Capital votes as follows:

Local Travel and Tours:

- (i) *Constituency Tour:*
That all expenses incurred on Constituency Tour shall be regarded as non-retireable advances;
- (ii) *Other Official Tours:*
That all tours related to Committee assignment are retireable on the completion of the assignment.

- (3) **Duty Tour Allowance:**
That the Duty Tour Allowance rates approved by the Presiding Officers and Accounting Officer are to be adjusted as follows:

(i)	Senate President	—	N37,000.00
(ii)	Honourable Speaker	—	N35,000.00
(Hi)	Deputy Senate President	—	N32,000.00
(iv)	Honourable Deputy Speaker	—	N30,000.00
(v)	Principal Officers (Senate)	—	N26,300.00
(vi)	Principal Officers (H/R)	-	N25,000.00
(vii)	Senators	—	N23,000.00
(viii)	Honourable Members	—	N21,000.00
(ix)	Clerk to the National Assembly	—	N20,000.00
(x)	Deputy Clerk to NASS, Clerk Senate, Clerk (H/R)	—	N15,000.00

- (4) **Utility:**
Those payments for utility should be made directly to Senators and Members non-retireable advance.

- (5) **Telephone:**
That funds paid to each individual Senator and Member under this Sub-Head be treated as Non-Retireable advance.

- (6) **Stationery:**
That disbursement under this Sub-Head should be treated as non—retireable advances in accordance with the approved budgetary allocations.

- (7) **Maintenance of Office Equipment:**
That disbursement under this Sub-Head should be treated as non-retireable advance.

- (8) **Maintenance of Motor Vehicles:**
That a specific amount be provided under this Sub-Head and should be treated as non-retireable amount and that the expenditure should be known as "Motor Vehicle Running Non-Retireable Advance (Fuelling and Maintenance)"

- (9) **Entertainment/Hospitality:**
That disbursement under this Sub-Head should be treated as non-retireable advance.

Consultancy:
That disbursement under this Sub-Head should be treated as advance of the assignment.

(11) International Travel and Transport:

- (a) That disbursement be made under this Sub-Head should be regarded as a retireable advance except the Estacode and Contingency components.
- (b) That disbursement of Contingency fund should be standardized for all categories of Legislators as follows:

Contingency Fund Rates			
I.	Senate President/Hon. Speaker	Trips of one Week Duration	Trips Over one Week Duration
		15,000 USD	20,000 USD
2.	Deputy Senate President/ Hon. Deputy Speaker	10,000 USD	15,000 USD
3.	Principal Officers	10,000 USD	12,000 USD
4.	Leader of Delegation (Senator or Hon. Member)	9,000 USD	11,000 USD
5.	Clerk to the National Assembly	8,000 USD	10,000 USD
6.	Deputy Clerk to NASS	5,000 USD	7,000 USD
7.	Leader of Delegation (Clerks to Senate & H/R)	2,500 USD	2,500 USD

(c) *Estacode Rates:*

That the existing Estacode rates approved by the Presiding Officers should be maintained as the recommendations is based on the Basic Salary approved by the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission as follows;

1.	Senate President	—	1,300 USD
2.	Honourable Speaker	—	1,000 USD
3.	Deputy Senate President	—	790 USD
4.	Honourable Deputy Speaker	—	750 USD
5.	Senators	—	600 USD
6.	Honourable Members	—	550 USD
7.	Clerk to the National Assembly	—	500 USD
8.	Deputy Clerk to NASS	—	450 USD
9.	Clerks, Senate and H/R	—	400 USD

(12) Miscellaneous:

That almost all the expenditure chargeable under this Sub-Head are mainly advances, and therefore retireable. The Medical Expenditure, which also falls under this category, should be paid across board as medical allowance. However, any amount approved by the Presiding Officers and the Accounting Officer over and above the approved rate for medical allowance, should be treated as an advance, which must be retired.

(13) Administration of Contracts:

All contracts administration shall be in accordance with the due process guidelines approved in the National Assembly including the following;

- (a) Contracts below N5000,000: In line with the general principle of contract administration in the public service, contracts not exceeding N500,000 shall be approved by the Clerk to the National, the Speaker and the Senate President, as the case may be, in a competitive manner;

Contract below N50 Million:

That the composition of this Tenders Board is as follows:

The Clerk to the National Assembly	Chairman
The Deputy Clerk to NASS	Member
The Clerk Senate	Member
The Clerk, House of Representatives	Member
All other Directors	Member

The Secretary shall come from the Department of Planning and Legislative Budget. The decisions of the Board shall be subject to the approval of the relevant Presiding Officer.

- (c) *Contract above N50 Million (Senate):*

That the composition of this Tenders Board is as follows:

The Presiding Officer	—	Chairman
The Principal Officers	—	Member
The Clerk to National Assembly	—	Member
The Deputy Clerk to NASS	—	Member
Clerk of the Senate	—	Member
All Directors	—	Member
Director, Planning and Legislative Budget	—	Secretary

- (d) *Contract above N50 Million (House of Representatives):* That the composition of this Tenders Board is as follows:

The Presiding Officer	—	Chairman
The Principal Officers	—	Member
The Clerk to National Assembly	—	Member
The Deputy Clerk to NASS	—	Member
Clerk of the House of Representative	—	Member
All Directors	—	Member
Director, Planning and Legislative Budget	—	Secretary

Joint Tenders Board: Contracts above N50 Million (Common Services):

That the composition of this Tenders Board is as follows:

The President of the Senate	Chairman
The Honourable Speaker	Member
All Principal Officers	Member

The Chairman, Senate Services	—	Member
The Chairman, House Services	—	Member
The Clerk to the National Assembly	—	Member
The Deputy Clerk to NASS	—	Member
Clerks of the Senate and H/R	—	Member
All Directors	—	Member
Director, Planning and Legislative Budget	—	Secretary

(14) **Bank Loans:**

That any of the legislative chambers seeking loan from any financial institution should ensure that such funds which must be approved by the Presiding Officers and the Accounting Officer should not exceed 1/3 of the expected quarterly allocation.

(15) **Office Running Accounts:**

(a) That in view of the Financial Regulations (FR.809) which states that, "Private Money will in no circumstance be paid into an Official Bank Account, nor any Public Money paid into a Private Account", Senators and Honourable Members "Office Running Account" be adopted while the individual legislators will be sole signatory to the Office Running Account.

(b) The Personnel Emolument, will be paid into each Legislator's Personal Account.

(16) **Committee Account:**

That all the Parliamentary Committees should open Bank Accounts in the name of each Committee with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, the Clerk or Committee's Secretary as signatories to the Account. The Chairman and Vice Chairman and anyone signatory shall draw funds from the Committee Account.

(17) **Consultancy Service:**

That a consultant should be engaged to produce the detailed accounting manual incorporating accounting codes and audit guides, while the guidelines in this report shall continue to operate pending the production of a final accounting manual.

TABLE 1 NON RETIREABLE

ADVANCES

S/H	DESCRIPTION
1.	Local Travel & Tours
2.	Utility
3.	Telephone
4.	Stationery
5.	Maintenance of Office Equipment
6.	Maintenance of Vehicle/cap. Asset
7.	Grants and Subvention
8.	Entertainment & Hospitality
9.	Miscellaneous
10.	Welfare Package
11.	Contingency
12.	Medical for Senators and Hon. Members
13.	Security
14.	Constituency Tours

TABLE 2

RETIREABLE ADVANCES

S/H	DESCRIPTION
1.	Consultancy
2.	Training and Staff Development
3.	International Travel & Transport
4.	Miscellaneous
5.	Rest/Coast. Office Renewal
6.	NASS - Clinic
7.	Appropriation Coordinating Office
8.	Uniforms
9.	Insurance of Govt. Properties
10.	Printing Press Consumables
11.	News Papers and Magazines
12.	Gardeners/Cleaning Materials
13.	Senate/House Administration
14.	Print and Electronic Media
15.	Outstanding Recurrent Liabilities
16.	Constitutional Review
17.	Parliamentary Exchange Programmes (<i>Senator Jonathan S. Zwingina</i>)

Debate:

Debate concluded.

Question put and to.

8, Ad-hoc Committee on the Demolition Exercise in Federal Capital Territory:

Report on the Demolition Exercise in the FCT and Environs;

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and consider **the** Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the demolition exercise in Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and approve **the** recommendations (*Senator Idris Kuta*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and Laid.

9. Allocation of Revenue (Federation Account) Bill 2005 (SB.148):

Consideration of BUI deferred till the next legislative day.

10, Legal Aid Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB.153):

Consideration of Bill deferred for two weeks.

11. Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation Act (Amendment) Bills (SI1.133), (SB. 130) and (SB, 166):

Consideration of Bill deferred till the next legislative day.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do adjourn till Thursday, 18th August, 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 7.55 p.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate