



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 25th August, 2005

1. The Senate met at 9. 20 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, 24th August, 2005 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.

3. **Announcement:**
The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the National Association of Mathematical Students, Delta State University Chapter and Representatives of the Students Assembly of University of Abuja who came to watch Senate Proceedings in the Gallery.
4. **Presentation of Bill:**
National Emergency Management Agency Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 225) — *Read the First Time.*
5. **Confirmation of Appointment:**
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do refer to the appropriate Committee the request by Mr President, Commander-in-Chief for the confirmation of Hon. Abdulmumuni M. Hassan Zareku (*Jigawa State*) as a Member of the Federal Character Commission (*Deputy Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Federal Character and Governmental Affairs to report within four weeks.

6. **Virement:**
Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do refer to the appropriate Committee the request by Mr President, Commander-in-Chief for the virement proposal in the Appropriation Act 2005 in respect of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies listed below:

	HEAD	MDA
(i)	200000	Presidency
(ii)	210000	Intergovernmental Affairs, Special Duties and Youth Development
(iii)	250000	Agriculture & Rural Development
(iv)	260000	Office of the Auditor-General of the Federation

(v)	280000	Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission
(vi)	290000	Water Resources
(vii)	300000	Defence/MOD/Army/Air Force/Navy
(viii)	320000	Education
(ix)	330000	Federal Capital Territory
(x)	340000	Foreign Affairs
(xi)	350000	Finance (Debt Management Office)
(xii)	380000	Information and National Orientation
(xiii)	390000	Internal Affairs
(xiv)	400000	Office of the Head of Service of the Federation
(xv)	420000	Labour and Productivity
(xvi)	450000	Sports and Social Development
(xvii)	480000	Commerce
(xviii)	490000	Transport
(xix)	510000	Works
(xx)	520000	Communications
(xxi)	530000	Housing and Urban Development
(xxii)	580000	Solid Minerals Development
(xxiii)	610000	Federal Character Commission
(xxiv)	620000	Environment
(xxv)	660000	Code of Conduct Bureau (<i>Deputy Senate Majority Leader</i>). Question put and

agreed to. Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Appropriation to report within four weeks.

7. **Remarks by the Senate President:**

Legislative Oversight Function/Suspension of Plenary Sitting:

We have heard what would appear as some difficulties regarding the Appropriation Act, 2005. Again, we have another unique opportunity of performing the necessary responsibilities which we call Oversight Functions. As you are no doubt aware, we are the only Arm of Government entitled to do this by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.

In the next couple of weeks various Committees will be busy carrying-out that unique function. We hope to come in terms with the performance of the Appropriation Act 2005 as well as equip ourselves with the necessary information requisite for the consideration of Appropriation Bill 2006. This is the essence of suspending Plenary Sessions. As the Deputy Senate Majority Leader mentioned, normal Committee activities will go on uninterrupted. We shall resume normal Plenary Session on Tuesday, 20th September, 2005.

Finally, I urge my distinguished colleagues to use the opportunity to go through the National Political Reforms Conference (CONFAB) Report which will be made available to all Senators today.

You will agree that we might get the relevant information from the report for our Committee work. I particularly commend it to the National Assembly Joint Committee on Constitutional Review which has the responsibility of going through it in much more details to pick out those areas that may facilitate their work.

What I have said is contained in our Senate Calender of Business which has already been circulated to all Senators. What you will be getting today in your pigeon holes are documents relating to the recently concluded National CONFAB on Political Reforms.

Thank you very much for listening.

Ken Nnamani

President of the Senate

8. Adjournment:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do suspend Plenary Session **till** Tuesday, 20th September, 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 10.00 a.m.

Ken Nnamani

President of the Senate