



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 8 March, 2007

1. The House met at 11.16 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers..
2. Votes and Proceedings:
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 7 March, 2007.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted. .
3. Announcements:
 - (i) *Bereavement:*
Mr Speaker announced the death of Miss Olufunke Ayodele Duyile on 8 February, 2007, at the age of 64. She was the mother of Hon. Aondona Dabo' Adzuana.

Hon. Wuyep Longhor rendered payers for the repose of the soul of the deceased.
 - (ii) *Conference Committee on Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution Bill, 2007:* Mr Speaker named the following Conferees: Hon. Irem Oka Ibom Hon. Usman A. Mohammed Hon. John Inokon Hon. Wale Okediran Hon. Surajo Dambata Hon. Adeyemi Samuel.
4. Presentation of Bill:
Abuja Metropolitan Management Authority Bill, 2007 (HB. 297) — *Read the First Time.*
5. Allegation of Mismanagement and Abuse of Office in the Petroleum Technology Development Fund:
Mr Speaker referred to House Resolution 65/2006 of 20 December, 2006 on the above subject-matter and ordered the House Leader to file a substantive motion to discharge the Committee on Petroleum Refineries and Products Marketing of its mandate and to recommend the membership of a 7-Member Special *Ad-Hoc* Committee to assume the mandate.
6. Joint Committee on Electoral Matters, Appropriation and Finance: Periodic Report on Preparations for the Conduct of the 2007 General Elections:
Hon. Hamisu Shira briefed the House on the preparedness of the Independent National Electoral Commissions for the 2007 General Election.

Debate: .

Hon. Alex Nwofe ordered to facilitate, before the next Legislative Day, a meeting of the House Leadership with the Attorney-General of the Federation in respect of his comments regarding the printing of ballot papers,

7. Presentation of Reports:

(i) *Committee on Commerce;*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to Authorise the Creation and Application of a National Branding Strategy for the Purpose of Promoting the Development of a Practical Government System that would reflect an Image of Quality and Efficiency of its Products, Character and Services in the Global Marketing Place, Continuous Reform of its Institutions and Administrative processes, Steadfastness and Reliability of its Leadership Role in the International Community and Provide for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2006" (Hon. Sumaila Dikko).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(ii) *Special Ad-Hoc Committee on the Crisis in the Oyo State House of Assembly:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Special Ad-Hoc Committee ,on the Crisis in the Oyo State House of Assembly" (Hon. Alex Nwofe).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

8. Adoption of Conference Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Certified Secretaries and Reporters for the Registration and Discipline of Certified Secretaries and Reporters and to Provide for a Governing Board charged with the Responsibility among other things, Formulation of Policies for the Institute and for Connected Purposes, 2007:

Motion made and Question proposed, "The Conference Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Certified Secretaries and Reporters for the Registration and Discipline of Certified Secretaries and Reporters and to Provide for a Governing Board charged with the Responsibility among other things, Formulation of Policies for the Institute and for Connected Purposes, 2007 was laid on March 7, 2007;

A clean copy of the Conference Report is ready for adoption;

Resolves, to adopt the Conference Report on the Chattered Chartered Institute of Certified Secretaries and Reporters of Nigeria Bill, 2007 (Hon. Austine Opara).

Question put and agreed to.

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9. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Investment and Securities Act 1999 and to Establish the Securities and Exchange Commission as the Apex Regulatory Authority for the Nigerian Capital Market as well as Regulations of the Market to ensure the Protection of Investors, Maintain Fair, Efficient and Transparent Market and Reduction of Systemic Risk and for Related Matters, 2007 (HB. 273) — *Third Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Investment and Securities Act 1999 and to Establish the Securities and Exchange Commission as the Apex Regulatory Authority for the Nigerian Capital Market as well as Regulations of the Market to ensure the Protection of Investors, Maintain Fair, Efficient and Transparent Market and Reduction of Systemic Risk and for Related Matters, 2007 be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Ahmed Aliyu Wadada).

Question that the Bill be now read the Third Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

10. Reckless Exercise of Power by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in the Arrest of the Speaker of Enugu State House of Assembly:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes, that on 1 March, 2007, the Speaker of Enugu State House of Assembly while performing his constitutional duties within the precincts of the State House of Assembly Complex, was whisked away from his office by men of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission;

Aware, that Legislators, by virtue of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act enjoy certain privileges within the Chambers and its precincts in the execution of their constitutional duties;

Worried, that the impudent and unlawful arrest of the Speaker of the Enugu State House of Assembly infringes on his immunity;

Disturbed that the reckless and wanton disregard of the rule of law by government agencies, particularly, **the** Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in the execution of its mandate is now on the increase;

Resolves to;

direct the House Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes to investigate the matter and report to the House (*Hon. Gilbert Nnaji and 6 others*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the words in the prayer and *insert* the following instead thereof:

"set up a Special *Ad-Hoc* Committee to investigate the matter" (*Hon. Abubakar Momoh*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to. The

House:

Noted, that on 1 March, 2007, the Speaker of Enugu State House of Assembly while performing his constitutional duties within the precincts of the State House of Assembly Complex, was whisked away from his office by men of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission;

Aware, that Legislators, by virtue of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act enjoyed certain privileges within the Chambers and its precincts in the execution of their constitutional duties;

Worried, that the impudent and unlawful arrest of the Speaker of the Enugu State House of Assembly infringed on his immunity;

Disturbed that the reckless and wanton disregard of the rule of law by government agencies, particularly, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in **the** execution of its mandate is now on the increase;

Resolves to:

set up a Special *Ad-Hoc* Committee to investigate the matter (HR. 70/2007).

11. Membership of **the** *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Reckless Exercise of Power by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in the Arrest of the Speaker of Enugu State House of Assembly:
Mr Speaker named the Membership of **the** *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Reckless Exercise of Power by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in **the** Arrest of the Speaker of Enugu State House of Assembly as follows: Hon. Ita Enang
Hon. Sola Adeyeye Hon.
Bakura Lawan Hon. Ogbucfi
Ozomgbachi Hon. Bulus
Indiamowei.

12. The **Activities** of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Way **Forward:**
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes, the good work **the** Economic and Financial Crimes Commission is doing for Nigeria, Nigerians and posterity;

Further notes, the averment of the Chairn-in, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Mallam Nuhu Ribadu in several public fora that the Commission had recovered several Billions of Naira and properties from public office holders;

Recognizes, that the Commission had recovered monies/properties from notable Nigerians hitherto thought untouchable and prosecuting them, including some members of the National Assembly;

Appreciates, the need to strengthen the hands of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission with a view to concretizing its efforts;

Aware, that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission has promoted the good image of Nigeria to the International Community;

Acknowledges that the war on corruption has become topical in the contemporary politics of Nigeria;

Resolves to:

- (i) request the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission to furnish the House with the names and addresses of Public Office holders whose monies/properties have been confiscated;
- (it) set up an *Ad-Hoc* Committee to liaise with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission to facilitate this assignment and report to the House within seven (7) days (*Hon. Cairo Ojougboh and 17 others*).

Debate: .

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new prayer (*Hi*) as follows:
"direct the House Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes to furnish the House with the names and addresses of Public Office Holders whose monies/properties have been confiscated" (*Hon, Andrew Uchendu*)

Question put and negatived.

- (if) *Insert* a new prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"the *A d-Hoc* Committee do propose comprehensive amendments to the EFCC Act in view of perceived lapses in the operation of the Act" (*Hon. ita Enang*).

Question put and negatived. Main

Question put and agreed to. The

House:

Notes, the good work the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission is. doing for Nigeria, Nigerians and posterity;

Further notes, the averment of the Chairman, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Mallam Nuhu Ribadu in several public fora that the Commission had recovered several billions of Naira and properties from public office holders;

Recognizes, that the Commission had recovered monies/properties from notable Nigerians hitherto thought untouchable and prosecuting them, including some members of the National Assembly;

Appreciates, the need to strengthen the hands of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission with a view to concretizing its efforts;

Aware, that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission has promoted the good image of Nigeria to the International Community;

Acknowledges that (he war on corruption has become topical in the contemporary politics of Nigeria;

Resolves to:

- (i) request the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission to furnish the House with the names and addresses of Public Office Holders whose monies/properties have been confiscated;
- (ii) set up an *Ad-Hoc* Committee to liaise with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission to facilitate this assignment and report to the House within seven (7) days (HR. 71/2007).

13. Membership of the *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Activities of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and the Way Forward:

Mr Speaker named the Membership of the of the *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Activities of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and the Way Forward as follows:

Hon. Cairo Ojoughboh

Hon. Idiis King

Hon. Abubakar Momoh

Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah

Hon. Jumoke Ok'oya-Thomas

Hon. Kawu Sumaila

Hon. Duro Faseji

Hon. Farouk Adamu.

14. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 13 March, 2007 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Gilbert Nnaji*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.58 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker