



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 9 May, 2007

1. The House met at 11.24 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. Votes and Proceedings:
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and-Proceedings of ~~Tuesday 8 May,~~ 2007.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted

3. Presentation of Report:
Joint Committee on Population and Justice:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That
Population and Justice on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Population Act (Cap. No. 67 LFN 2004) and
for Related Purposes 2005 (*Hon. Farouk Adamu Aliyu*)".

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

4. Conduct of the 2007 General Elections:
Mr Speaker remarked that the Motion on the "Order Paper" of the Day titled "Conduct of the 2007 General Elections" bordered on the corporate existence of Nigeria. He acknowledged the right of the Hon. Members to freedom of expression as provided in Section 39 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 which freedom should be exercised mindful of the Oath of Allegiance sworn to by every Hon. Member to preserve and protect the same Constitution. He cautioned against divisive statements during debate and urged Hon. Members to exhibit leadership qualities in their contributions. He invited the lead sponsor, Hon. Haruna Yerima to move the Motion, standing in his name.
5. Order 9 (1) 5:
Rising on a point of Order, Hon. Abdullahi Farouk submitted that the combined effect of Order IX, Rule 1 (5), Section 4 (8) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Section 140 (1) of the Electoral Act, 2006 denied the National Assembly the powers to determine the legality or illegality of the conduct of 2007 General Elections and its results. Concluding, he declared that the subject matter of the Motion was not within the competence of the National Assembly.

Debate:

Mr Speaker noted that Hon. Farouk Aliyu and Hon. Haruna Yerima had informed him that the text of the Motion on the Order Paper did not reflect the text of the Motion filed with the Committee on Rules and Business, and should be discountenanced. The implication of their claim therefore, was that there was no Motion before the House for consideration. In addition to that, Hon. Terfa Atti had also formally written to withdraw his co-sponsorship of the Motion.

Mr Speaker therefore ruled that the House would adjourn to enable him investigate the claim by Hon. Farouk Aliyu and Hon. Haruna Yerima on the Motion.

6, Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 15 May, 2007 at 10.00 a.m. {Hon. Abdul Ningi}.

Adjourned accordingly at 1235 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker