



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 July, 2007

1. The House met at 2.12 p.m. Madam Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Madam Speaker announced that she had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 3 July, 2007.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Announcement:**
Distribution of Laws of the Federation of Nigeria:
Madam Speaker announced that she had directed the *Ad-Hoc* Committee on Rules and Business to distribute to Hon. Members copies of the compendium of Bills and Legislative Measures considered by the last Assembly from 2 June, 2003 - 31 May, 2007, as well as the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (LFN) *{Re-issued Edition 2000 - 2005}*. She stated that the purpose was to acquaint Hon. Members with the Acts and to enlighten them on the different stages of consideration of Bills. It would also afford them the opportunity of knowing which Acts may need to be amended.
4. **Presentation of Bills:**

(i) Custom, Excise Tariff, etc. (Consolidation) (Amendment) Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) Custom and Excise Management (Amendment) Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time.* (iii) Freedom of Information Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time.*
5. **Trapped Monies in Failed and Unrecapitalized Banks:**
Motion made and Question proposed, The House:

Notes, the hardship of many Nigerians whose monies are trapped in failed and unrecapitalized Banks;

Further notes, the assurances of the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria in a statement in 2006 that depositors would be paid their monies within six months;

Aware, that the Federal Government had lost huge sums of money in form of deposit in such banks; Worried,

that families of staff of the affected banks are languishing in hunger, squalor and disease;

Disturbed, that the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) have caused so much uncertainty and apprehension among the depositors leading to liquidation of businesses, loss of lives and withdrawal of wards from schools.

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the indifference of the concerned authorities to the untold hardship experienced by the depositors;

(//) set-up an *Ad-Hoc* Committee to thoroughly investigate the matter with a view to finding a lasting solution to the problem and report back to the House (*Hon. Abubakar Shehu Bunu and 10 others*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out prayers (i) and (ii) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

"Mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency when constituted to investigate the matter with a view to finding a lasting solution to the problem and report to the House " (*Hon. Leo Ogor*).

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

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted, the hardship of many Nigerians whose monies are trapped in failed and unrecapitalized Banks;

Further noted, the assurances of the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria in a statement in 2006 that depositors would be paid their monies within six months;

Aware, that the Federal Government had lost huge sums of money in form of deposit in such banks;

Worried, that families of staff of the affected banks are languishing in hunger, squalor and disease;

Disturbed, that the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) have caused so much uncertainty and apprehension among the depositors leading to liquidation of businesses, loss of lives and withdrawal of wards from schools;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency when constituted to investigate the matter with a view to finding a lasting solution to the problem and report to the House (**HR. 5/2007**).

6. Gruesome Killing of a Nigerian Citizen - Mr Osamuyi Akpitanbi by Spanish Security Officers:

Motion made and Question proposed, The House:

Notes, that Nigeria and Spain are parties to the Universal declaration on Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948;

Aware, that Article 5 of the said declaration states that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment";

Disturbed, that Osamuyi Akpitanbi while being deported on 9 June, 2007, by the Spanish Authorities was tortured, bound, injected with tranquilizing substances resulting in his death which was the most inhuman and degrading treatment in violation of the said declaration;

Worried, that if this unacceptable act by the Spanish Security Officials meted towards a Nigerian citizen is not addressed, other Nigerians in diaspora stand the risk of similar treatment in the near future;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn in strong terms the killing of Osamuyi Akpitanbi by the Spanish Authorities in the course of his deportation on an Iberia Airline to Nigeria on 9 June, 2007;

(//) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to as a matter of urgency, request the Spanish Government to pay adequate compensation to the family of the deceased and tender an unreserved apology to the Nigerian Government and her people;

(Hi) constitute an *Ad-Hoc* Committee on Foreign Affairs to investigate the matter and report back to the House (*Hon. Samson R. Osagie and 22 others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(0) Leave out Prayers (i and (ii) (*Hon. Emmanuel Jime*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(ii) Leave out prayer (ii) and insert the following instead thereof:

"Mandate an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the matter and report back to the House." (*Hon. Olaka Nwogu*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(iii) Insert a new prayer (iv) as follows:

"Suspend diplomatic and bilateral relations with the Kingdom of Spain till adequate compensation and a letter of apology is written to the Federal Government of Nigeria." (*Hon. Friday Itulah*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(iv) Insert a new prayer (iv) as follows:

"Urge the Federal Government to call on the Envoy of Spain to a meeting and condemn the treatment meted to Mr. Osamuyi during deportation proceedings and to ask for a written letter of apology and adequate compensation to be paid promptly" (*Hon. Olusegun Akinloye*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(v) Insert a new prayer (vi) as follows:

"urge Nigerians to remain in the country to salvage it together and seek to enter foreign countries only through legal means and abide by the Laws of the host countries" (*Hon. Rabe Nasir*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted, that Nigeria and Spain are parties to the Universal declaration on Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948;

Aware, that Article 5 of the said declaration states that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment";

Disturbed, that Osamuyi Akpitanbi while being deported on 9 June, 2007, by the Spanish Authorities was tortured, bound, injected with tranquilizing substances resulting in his death which was the most inhuman and degrading treatment in violation of the said declaration;

Worried, that if this unacceptable act by the Spanish Security Officials meted towards a Nigerian citizen is not addressed, other Nigerians in Diaspora stand the risk of similar treatment in the near future;

Resolved to:

(i) condemn in strong terms the killing of Osamuyi Akpitanhi by the Spanish Authorities in the course of his deportation on an Iberia Airline to Nigeria on 9 June, 2007;

(ii) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to as a matter of urgency, request the Spanish Government to pay adequate compensation to the family of the deceased and tender an unreserved apology to the Nigerian Government and her people;

(Hi) constitute an *Ad-Hoc* Committee on Foreign Affairs to investigate the matter and report back to the

7.

Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Thursday, 5 July, 2007 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 4.40 p.m.

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Patricia Olubunmi Etteh
Speaker