



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 7 November, 2007

1. The House met at 2.35 p.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 1 November 2007.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. Messages:

Mr Speaker ordered the transmission of the following Messages:

To the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

(i) That a Message be conveyed to the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria informing the body, that Hon. Dimeji Bankole (*representing Abeokuta South Federal Constituency, Ogun State*) had been elected the Speaker of the House of Representatives in accordance with Order II, Rule 8 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.

(ii) That a Message be conveyed to the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria informing that body, **that** Hon. Usman Bayero (*representing Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency, Gombe State*) had been elected the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in accordance with Order II, Rule 8 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.

To the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

(i) That the Clerk to the National Assembly notify the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, that Hon. Dimeji Bankole (*representing Abeokuta South Federal Constituency, Ogun State*) had been elected the Speaker of the House of Representatives in accordance with Order II, Rule 8 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.

{ii} That the Clerk to the National Assembly notify the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, that Hon. Usman Bayero (*representing Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency, Gombe State*) had been elected the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in accordance with Order II, Rule 8 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.

4. **Announcements:**

(i) *Bereavement:*

Mr Speaker informed the House of the deaths of the mother and a brother of Hon. Salisu Yusuf Majigiri, Hajia Aisha Labbo and Murtala Mohammed Lamis, in a ghastly motor accident, which occurred on Friday, 2 November, 2007.

A minute in silence was observed, Hon. Farouk Lawan prayed for the repose of the souls of the deceased.

(ii) Invitation:

Mr Speaker announced the invitation of Members to a grant reception for the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and the immediate past Speaker *Pro-Tempore* which will take place Wednesday, 7 November 2007, at Le Meridian Hotel by 8.00 p.m.

5. Party Leadership:

Mr Speaker announced the return of Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal as the Deputy Chief Whip of the House by the Members of the North-West Caucus Zone Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

6. Petitions:

The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

- (0 Hon. I. U. Chima (*Ezza South/Ikwo Federal Constituency*), from Ex-Pte Emeka Nwafor, praying the House to intervene in his alleged wrongful dismissal from service by the Nigerian Army and to grant the relief sought;
- (ii) Hon. Samson Osagie (*Orhionwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*), from CPL Ben Osawiemwenwen, praying the House to intervene in the alleged wrongful termination of his appointment by the Nigeria Police Force and to grant the relief sought;
- (in) Hon. Samson Osagie (*Orhionwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*), from Bartholomew Imlianlahim, seeking the intervention of the House in his alleged unjust dismissal by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development Authority and grant the relief sought;
- (iv) Hon. Kayode Amusan (*Abeokuta North/Odedal Obafemi Owode Federal Constituency*), from Mrs Agbolade O.R, praying the House to prevail on the Nigeria Customs Services to reinstate her;
- (v) Hon. Ishaku J. Sharah (*Askira-JJba/Hhawul Federal Constituency*), from Daniel David, praying the House to investigate the alleged unjust denial of his LLB (**Hons**) Certificate by the authority of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and to grant the relief sought;
- (vi) Hon. Gbenga Elegbeleye (*Akoko/North East/West Federal Constituency*), from Mrs Bosede Ehinmitan, praying the House to investigate the injury she sustained as a result of the wreckless gun shot by Police Constable Abu and to **the** reliefs in her petition;
- (vii) Hon. Oluwole Oke (*Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*), from Awe Sunday Babatunde, praying the House to investigate the alleged wrongful termination of his appointment by the Council of Legal Education and to grant the relief sought;
- (viii) Hon. Moruf Akiuderu-Fatai (*Oshodi-Isolo Federal Constituency*), from Lance Corporal Famolayo Tolulope Muideen, praying the House to investigate his alleged unlawful dismissal by Nigeria Air Force and grant the relief sought therein;
- (ix) Hon. Mohammed Saleh (*Sabon Gari Federal Constituency*), from Wing Commander Yusuf Garba Mshelia against the Nigeria Air Force, praying the House to investigate the alleged wrongful termination of his appointment by the Nigeria Air Force and to grant the relief sought therein.

7. Joint Sitting of the National Assembly:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do meet with the Senate in a Joint Session on Thursday, 8 November, 2007, at 12.00 noon to receive an Address by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the 2008 Budget" (*Hon. Usman Bayero*).

Question put and agreed to.

8. Designation of the House of Chief B. O. Atuchukwu at Amichi Nnewi South Local Government Area, Anambra State, as a National Monument:

The House:

Notes, that the Nigerian-Biafran War technically ended on January 13, 1970 at Chief Benjamin Obijiofor Atuchukwu's House at Arninchi, Nnewi South Local Government Area of Anambra State (hereinafter called "THE BUILDING");

Further notes, that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on January 13, 1970 unveiled a PLAQUE at the Building to commemorate the event where the then Col. Olusegun Obasanjo received the Biafran instrument of surrender Col. Effiong;

Observes, that the building hosted the ceremonies marking the cessation of hostilities between the Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran troops which was attained through a negotiated Agreement that took place in "the Building" in Amichi town, Nnewi South Local Government Area, Anambra State on January 13, 1970;

Further observes, that the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces visited 'The Building' on 7 January, 2006, and expressed the intention of the Federal Government of Nigeria to declare 'the Building' a National Monument, and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution in view of the historic national significance and national importance of "the Building" as the place where cessation of hostilities and cease-fire between the Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran Government took place;

Further notes, that Government of Anambra State on 13 January, 2006, consented to the designation of 'the Building' as a National Monument and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution by among other acts, unveiling the plaque aforesaid on behalf of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Accordingly Resolves as follows:

- (z) That as from the 13 day of January 2006, the building known as Chief Benjamin Obijiofor Atuchukwu's House situated and being at Amichi Town in Nnewi South Local Government Area, Anambra State shall be a National Monument and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution in view of the role of the building in hosting the meetings, negotiations and ceremonies on the cessation of Hostilities between the Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran troops on 13 January, 1970;
- (ii) That having been so designated a National Monument the Federal Government of Nigeria through the National Commission for Museums and Monuments should take over "**the** Building", pay adequate compensation to the OWNER, develop it, and allow the public access to the building;
- (iii) That a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution shall be established by the Federal Government at the site of the Building and at other places to be determined by the Federal Government to enable the centre function more effectively as a research institute (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted, that the Nigerian-Biafran War technically ended on January 13, 1970 at Chief Benjamin Obijiofor Atuchukwu's House at Aminchi, Nnewi South Local Government Area of Anambra State (hereinafter called "THE BUILDING");

Further noted, that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on January 13, 1970 unveiled a PLAQUE at the Building to commemorate the event where the then Col. Olusegun Obasanjo received the Biafran instrument of surrender Col. Effiong;

Observed, that the building hosted the ceremonies marking the cessation of hostilities between **the** Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran troops which was attained through a negotiated Agreement that took place in "the Building" in Amichi town, Nnewi South Local Government Area, Anambra State on January 13, 1970;

Further observed, that the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces visited 'The Building' on 7 January, 2006, and expressed the intention of the Federal Government of Nigeria to declare 'the Building' a National Monument, and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution in view of the historic national significance and national importance of "the Building" as the place where cessation of hostilities and cease-fire between the Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran Government took place;

Further noted, that Government of Anambra State on 13 January, 2006, consented to the designation of 'the Building' as a National Monument and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution by among other acts, unveiling the plaque aforesaid on behalf of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Resolved:

- (0) That as from the 13 day of January 2006, the building known as Chief Benjamin Obijiofor Atuchukwu's House situated and being at Amichi Town in Nnewi South Local Government Area, Anambra State shall be a National Monument and a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution in view of the role of the building in hosting the meetings, negotiations and ceremonies on the cessation of Hostilities between the Nigerian Federal Troops and the defunct Biafran troops on 13 January, 1970;

O'O That having been so designated a National Monument the Federal Government of Nigeria through the National Commission for Museums and Monuments should take over "the Building", pay adequate compensation to the OWNER, develop it, and allow the public access to the building;

- (iii) That a National Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution shall be established by the Federal Government at the site of the Building and at other places to be determined by the Federal Government to enable the centre function more effectively as a research institute (**HR. 12/2007**).

9. A Bill for a Act to Amend the Value Added Tax Act, 1993 and for Matters Connected therewith, 2007

— *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Value Added Tax Act, 1993 and for Matters Connected therewith, 2007 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Hashimu Abdullahi*).

Debate:

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

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Committee of Whole.

10. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Thursday, 8 November, 2007 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Usman Bayero*).

Adjourned accordingly at 4.55 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker