



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 10 April, 2008

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1. The House met at 10.45 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read Prayers.
 2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 9 April, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
 3. **Petition:**
A petition was received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. Friday Itulah (*Esan North East/Esan South Federal Constitution*), from Uzea Community in Esan North East Local Government, praying the House to look into the abandoned Uzea Electrification Project by Mr Dom Edogun of Kingo Engineers Nigeria Limited.
 4. **Presentation of Reports:**
 - (a) *Committee on Special Duties:*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Special Duties on the Request of the President to Appoint 15 Special Advisers" (*Hon. Independence Ogunewe*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.
 - (b) *Committee on Public Petitions:*
 - (i) **Report on the Petition by DSV Limited against Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), AfriBank, Wema Bank Pic and Folio Communications Limited:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by DSV Limited against Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), AfriBank, Wema Bank Pic and Folio Communications Limited" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.
 - (ii) **Report on the Petition by Mr G. E. A. Okhavhe against Nigeria Postal Service:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr G. E. A. Okavhe against Nigeria Postal Service" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(Hi) Report on the Petition by Orient Properties Limited against Federal Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development; and Bank of Industry:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Orient Properties Limited against Federal Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development; and Bank of Industry" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(iv) Report on the Petition by Mr Simon Alade against Federal Capital Territory Administration:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Simon Alade against Federal Capital Territory Administration" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(v) Report on the Petition by DSC Edem, C. O. against Nigeria Customs Service:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by DSC. Edem, C. O against Nigeria Custom Service" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(vi) Report on the Petition by O. R. Agbolade (Mrs) against Nigeria Custom Service:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by O. R. Agboiade (Mrs) against Nigeria Customs Service" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

(vii) Report on the Petition by Mr C. O. Agbikimi against Power Holding Company Nigeria Limited (PHCN):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr C. O Agbikimi against Power Holding Company Nigeria Limited (PHCN)" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

5. Boat Mishap in Watari Dam between Bagwai and Badau Towns in Bagwai Local Government Area of Kano State

Motion made and Question proposed,
The House:

Notes the recent boat mishap involving a bridal train which occurred along the Watari Dam between Bagwai and Badau towns, in Bagwai Local Government Area of Kano State;

Further notes that as a result of this tragedy, 27 Nigerians lost their lives including the 18 year-old bride, children and pregnant women, while others were wounded and are now hospitalised;

Disturbed that if nothing is done to assist the people crossing the river in rickety flying boats, more lives may be at risk.

Resolves to:

- (i) Condole the families of the deceased and commiserate with the people of Bagwai Local Government Area as well as the government and people of Kano State over the tragedy;
- (ii) Urge the Federal Government to intervene by assisting in the procurement of well equipped boats or ferries to aid in the transportation of people across the waterway in order to forestall a re-occurrence (*Hon. Farouk Lawari*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* the provision in Prayer (ii) and **insert** the following instead thereof:
"The relevant Agencies of the Federal Government charged with the oversight responsibilities of water transportation to put in place adequate regulatory framework to guide the operations of water transport providers so as to forestall or at least minimize any further occurrence of such very heart rendering accidents in the future" (*Hon. Independence Ogunewe*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (ii) *Leave out* the provision in Prayer (ii) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"That the relevant authorities should be directed to restrict movement on the waterway by small boats immediately it is six o'clock in the evening. This law should be publized and massive campaign should be carried out to educate the people on the existence of this law" (*Hon. Umeoji Chukwuma*),

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question put and agreed to. The House:

Noted the recent boat mishap involving a bridal train which occurred along the Watari Dam between Bagwai and Badau towns, in Bagwai Local Government Area of Kano State;

Further noted that as a result of this tragedy, 27 Nigerians lost their lives including the 18 year-old bride, children and pregnant women, while others were wounded and were now hospitalised;

Disturbed that if nothing is done to assist the people crossing the river in rickety flying boats, more lives may be at risk.

Resolved to:

- (i) Condole the families of the deceased and commiserate with the people of Bagwai Local Government Area as well as the government and people of Kano State over the tragedy;
- (ii) Urge the Federal Government to intervene by assisting in the procurement of well equipped boats or ferries to aid in the transportation of people across the waterway in order to forestall a re-occurrence (**HR. 14/2008**).

6. Consideration of Reports:

- (i) *Committee on Public Petitions:*
Report on the Petition by Mr Ochayi Oji Edwin against the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS):
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mr Ochayi Oji Edwin against the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) and approve the Recommendation therein" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report - agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker on the Chair)

Recommendation:

"That the parties resolve their dispute in Court" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman to report Proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mr Ochayi Oji Edwin against the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) and approved the only Recommendation therein.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole, put and agreed to.

in) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Mohammed Isa Dabai against the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mohammed Isa Dabai against the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and approve the Recommendation therein" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report - agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE) *(Mr Deputy Speaker on the Chair)*

Recommendation:

"That the petition by Mohammed Isa Dabai be dismissed for lack of merit" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Debate:

Further consideration deferred. Committee ordered to represent the Report.

Chairman to report Progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mohammed Isa Dabai against the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), deferred consideration of the Report and ordered the Committee to represent the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole, put and agreed to.

(iii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Abdullahi Y. Bayawo and Doga Edwin Anyebe against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA):

"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Abdullahi Y. Bayawo and Doga Edwin Anyebe on behalf of 71 retired Staff against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and approve the Recommendations therein" (Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report - agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE) (Mr

Deputy Speaker on the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

that since the appointments of the 71 NDLEA Staff were terminated and not dismissed, the NDLEA could not be procedurally faulted (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Debate:

Question put and negatived.

Amendment Proposed:

(0 *Insert a new Recommendation (i) as follows:*
"That the 71 retirees submit their appeals to the Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes, for individual appraisals, so that merit would be used to establish the number to be reconsidered" (*Hon. David Idoko*).

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

Recommendation (ii):

"That since there were clear evidence that some of the staff had performed creditably without any pending disciplinary cases against them or any queries against them for non-performance before the termination, we recommend that the NDLEA should revisit the entire exercise to avoid miscarriage of justice" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That officers affected by the exercise should take advantage of the offer made by the NDLEA to send in their letters of appeal so that their cases may be reviewed on a case-by-case basis" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Consequently negatived.

Chairman to report Proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Abdullahi Y. Bayawo and Doga Edwin Anyebe on behalf of 71 retired Staff against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and rejected Recommendation (i), approved a new Recommendation (/), approved Recommendation (ii) and consequentially rejected Recommendation (iii).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole, put and agreed to.

7. *Adjournment:*

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 15 April, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.30 p.m.