



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 28 February, 2006

1. The House met at 11.10 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, February 21, 2006.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Message:**
Mr Speaker read the following Messages from the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/51

17 February, 2006

*Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari, Speaker,
House of Representatives, National
Assembly Complex, Abuja.*

Dear Hon. Speaker,

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

It is with a heavy heart that I convey, on behalf of my family, the Government and entire nation, our profound sympathy to you and the House of Representatives on the untimely death of Hon. (Barr.) Nsini Akpan Umossoh. This is, a terrible loss to his family, constituency and the nation.

As one of the leading lights of our democratic system, Hon. Umossoh made significant contributions to the work of the Legislative chamber. There is no doubt that he would be greatly missed by you and other members of the House. I pray that the Almighty God will give his family the fortitude to bear the loss and grant him sweet repose in the bosom of his Lord.

Please, convey my condolence to all the members of his family.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) OLUSEGUN
OBASANJO



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

21 February, 2006.

*The Honourable Speaker,
House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three-Arms Zone, Asokoro,
Abuja.*

Dear Hon. Speaker,

AMENDMENT OF HOUSING RELATED LAWS

I forward herewith, for consideration and passage into law by the House, the under-listed Housing related Bills:

- 1) *The Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria Act 2005 — This Bill seeks to;*
 - (a) *repeal the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria Act 1993;*
 - (b) *Re-enact the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria Act 2004; and*
 - (c) *make provisions for the re-organisation of the functions and activities of the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria as a secondary Mortgage Institution to make it more proactive and capable of handling funds received on behalf of the National Trust and regulating the activities of the Primary Mortgage Institutions in Nigeria with respect to the NHF.*
- 2) *The Insurance (Amendment) Act 2005 — This Bill seeks to amend the Insurance Act, 2003 to expand the scope of properties and securities in which Insurance Companies may invest to include mortgage-backed securities or bonds and secondary mortgage transactions.*
- 3) *The Investment and Securities (Amendment) Act 2005 ~ This Bill seeks to amend the Investment and Securities Act 1999 to enlarge the category of persons who can make invitation to the public to invest in their securities to include other bodies empowered by an Act of the National Assembly to issue their own securities.*
- 4) *The Mortgage Institutions Act 2005 — This seeks to repeal the Mortgage Institutions Act 1990 and makes comprehensive provisions for the carrying on of mortgage business in Nigeria.*
- 5) *The National Housing Trust Fund Act 2005 — This seeks to repeal the National Housing Fund Act 1992 and establish the National Housing Trust Fund to facilitate the mobilisation and disbursement of funds with the primary goals of ensuring that all Nigerians own or have access to decent, safe and sanitary mass housing accommodation at affordable cost with secure tenure.*
- 6) *The Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (Amendment) Act 2005 — The Bill seeks to amend the Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund Act by expanding the scope of its investment to include bans in housing developing, mortgage-backed securities and secondary mortgage transactions.*
- 7) *The Trustee Investment (Amendment) Act 2005 — The Bill seeks to amend the Trustee Investment Act to provide mechanism for facilitating the investment of trust and other funds in issued securities including mortgage-backed securities and secondary mortgage transactions.*

While I hope that these Bills will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) **OLUSEGUN
OBASANJO**

(iii)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

23 February, 2006.

*The Honourable Speaker,
House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three-Arms Zone, Asokoro,
Abuja.*

Dear Hon. Speaker,

PRESENTATION OF A BILL

I forward herewith, for consideration and passage into law by the House, draft Bills to amend Petroleum Profits Tax Act (PPTA) and Companies Income Tax Act (CITA).

While I hope that these Bills will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) **OLUSEGUN
OBASANJO**

4. Petitions:

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

- (i) Hon. Usman Mohammed Balkore, from Yusuf Alhasan Gawu praying the House to prevail on the National Television Authority to pay his terminal benefits.
- (ii) Hon. Mao Ohuabunna, from Frederick Ogbonnaya Eze protesting acts of victimization by Schlumberger Nigeria Limited against him and praying the House to intervene.
- (iii) Hon. Sani Mohammed Banki, from Abubakar Ubandoma protesting his unlawful dismissal from the Nigeria Army and praying the House to ensure his reinstatement.
- (iv) (a) Hon. Okwudili Uzoka, from Mr. C. A. Odumodu praying the House to prevail on the Nigeria Railways Corporation to pay arrears of pension owed the pre-June 1996 pensioners;
- (b) Hon. Okwudili Uzoka, from Mr. C. A. Odumodu protesting the payment of 5 years pension to the pre-June 1996 pensioners and stoppage of their monthly pensions.

5. Presentation of Report

Joint Committee on Banking and Currency and Justice;

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Banking and Currency on A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigeria Deposits Insurance Corporation Act, 1988 and to Re-Enact the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation Act 2005; and for Matters Connected Therewith" (Hon. Clever Ikisikpo).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

6. Ratification of Treaty:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House, having adopted the Report of the Committee of Whole on A Bill for an Act to Enable Effect to be given in the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Statute of the West African Central Bank and Matters Connected Therewith, 2006, do advise and consent to the Ratification of the Treaty in the form agreed to".

Question that the House do advise and consent to the ratification and enforcement of the Treaty in the form agreed to, resolved in the affirmative.

7. A Bill for An Act to make Provisions for the Control of Noise Pollution in the Country, and for Related Matters (HB. 189), 2005 — Second Reading.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That A Bill for An Act to make Provisions for the Control of Noise Pollution in the Country, and for Related Matters, 2005 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mercy Almona-Isei*).

Debate:

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

Bill read a Second Time, and referred to the Joint Committee on Environment and Justice.

8. Consideration of Report:

Committee on Foreign Affairs:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Investigation into the 2005 Hajj Operations and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Question put and agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

**REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON THE
INVESTIGATION INTO THE 2005 HAJJ OPERATIONS**

Recommendation (i):

Legislation be put in place establishing a permanent body for co-ordinating and management of Hajj operations. This should be in the form of a Commission with regulatory power. The Commission should be in form of a body with regulatory powers. The Commission should be an independent and autonomous body empowered to take over the coordination and management of Hajj operations. A Bill for a permanent Hajj Commission is already under the consideration of this Honourable House (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

The Commission should have the technical capacity to examine the aviation industry and see how best the airlifting of pilgrims could be structured and addressed, in order to avert the current scenario and the lack of clear line of authority in the handling of aviation matters (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

The Directorate of Pilgrim Affairs should be made to account for what has been collected and expended of the U.S. \$30.00 charge (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

Further investigation is needed to establish the financial dealings on the excess budgetary expenditure for the Amirul Hajj delegation should refund the sum in issue to the Federal Government of Nigeria (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Amendment Proposed:

In line 2, immediately after the word "delegation", *leave out* the words "should refund the sum in issue to the Federal Government of Nigeria" (*Hon. Vsman Bugaje*).

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

Main Question as amended put and agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

The Auditor General of the Federation should, in compliance with constitutional stipulations for audit of public bodies, appoint an independent auditor to audit the financial transactions for the 2005 Hajj operations and a report be submitted to the National Assembly in 3 months from the date the House endorses this recommendation (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the words in the Recommendation and **insert** the following instead thereof; "The Auditor-General of the Federation should in compliance with Constitutional Stipulations for audit of public bodies conduct an audit of the financial transactions for the 2005 Hajj Operations and submit a Report to the National Assembly within 3 months of the date of this resolution" (*Hon. Yemi Oluwole*).

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

Main Question as amended put and agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

Considering the obstruction of investigation, dereliction of duty and sheer incompetence of the Directorate of Pilgrim Affairs (DPA) and Ministry of Foreign, the current officials i.e. Director, Directorate of Pilgrim Affairs and the Accountant should be immediately suspended to allow free access to records (*Hon. Usman Bugaje*).

Consideration deferred to enable the Committee provide proof of charges against the officials.

Recommendation (vii):

That this Honourable House mandate the Committee to proceed to probe further and conclude the outstanding actions on the investigation (*Hon. Vsman Bugaje*).

Amendment Proposed:

In the Title, before the word "Report" insert the word "Interim" and leave out all the words in the Recommendation (*Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah*).

Question that the Amendment be made, 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 Foreign Affairs on the Investigation into the 2005 Hajj Operations and approved Recommendations (i), (ii), (iii), Recommendations (iv) and (v) as amended, deferred consideration of Recommendation (vi), amended the Title of the Report and rejected Recommendation (vii).

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

9. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at 2.00 p.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.20p.m.