



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 9 May, 2006

1. The House met at 11.02 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. Votes **and** Proceedings:
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 4 May, 2006.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

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

(0)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

April 26, 2006

Vice Honourable Speaker,
House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone, Abuja.

Dear Hon. Speaker,

CONCESSIONARY LOAN FROM CHINA

When I visited China in April 2005, we agreed on a Strategic Relationship and Partnership **between** Nigeria and the Peoples Republic of China. One of the outcomes of this Strategic Relationship is a US\$2.5 billion loan at concessionary interest rate of not more than 3% dedicated for infrastructural development. These are specifically, \$1 billion for the Mambila Hydro project, \$1 billion for the railway, and \$500 million for rural telephony and power transmission. .

I hope that before the end of the year, we would have worked out the details of the utilization of the funds and, **in** addition, plan to make adequate future budget available to sustain the continuous implementation of the projects, i. e. Mambila Hydro, railway and rural telephony. Appropriate implementation system is being established for the Mambila Hydro and the modernization of the railway.

As always, I thank you and all members of the House for your usual understanding and constant support.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) OLUSEGUN
OBASAN JO



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

April 26, 2006

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

RE: 2007 - 2009 MEDIUM-TERM SECTOR STRATEGIES:
PARTICIPATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

As part of efforts to reform the budget process, I have approved the preparation of Medium-Term Sector Strategies (MTSS) covering the period 2007-2009, for 20 of our Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). The MDAs are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Agriculture and Rural Development | 11. Internal Affairs Power and Steel |
| 2. Aviation | 12. Science and Technology Solid |
| 3.. Defence | 13. Minerals Development Transport |
| 4. Education | 14. Water Resources Works |
| 5. Environment | 15. Inter-Governmental Affairs & Youth |
| 6. Federal Capital Territory | 16. Development Police Affairs 20. |
| 7. Foreign Affairs | 17. Tourism |
| 8. Health | 18. The objective of the MTSS is to |
| 9. Housing and Urban Development | link the annual spending of our MDAs with |
| 10. Information and National Orientation | 19. our long-term strategies as articulated |

under NEEDS and the MDGs. The MTSS will underpin and drive spending in these MDAs for the period 2007-2009. An Executive Summary of the MTSS process and a pictographic summary situating the MTSS within the planning process are attached for your information.

One of the key components of the 2007-2009 MTSS process is the participation of the relevant Committees of the House of Representatives. We are desirous of drawing on the invaluable input and sector-specific knowledge of the members of the relevant Committees of the House of Representatives in documenting the 2007-2009 MTSS of each of the 19 MDAs.

In recognition of the busy schedule of members of the relevant Committees of the House, we have structured their participation in the MTSS process around high-level focused strategy sessions, scheduled to run for three (3) full days for each sector. By this letter, I am requesting that you kindly designate two (2) members of each of the Committees of the House with oversight over each of the MDAs specified in paragraph 1 above, to participate in the MTSS process.

My **Director-General/Adviser** Budget will contact you to provide you with a briefing on the MTSS process, obtain the list of your designees for each of the specified MDAs **and furnish** you with details of the time, venue and dates for the strategy sessions and any other relevant information that you may require.

// is my fervent belief that the participation of the relevant Committees of the House in the MTSS process will not only enrich the medium-term strategies of our MDAs, but will also help strengthen Executive/Legislative relations, particularly as it relates to the budget process.

Please accept, Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

ANNEXURE

MTSS WITHIN THE PLANNING PROCESS

	NEEDS MDG	Long term poverty reduction strategies
	Fiscal Strategy Paper	Medium-term revenue and expenditure plan
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	Sector Strategies	Medium-term strategic plan for Ministries, Departments, And Agencies (MDA)
	—	
	Annual Budgets	Yearly spending plan for MDA
	Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting	Quarter/Half-yearly Implementation , plans Monitoring plans and Reports

MEDIUM-TERM SECTOR STRATEGIES (MTSS) FOR MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES (MDA)

QUESTION	ANSWER
WHAT ARE WE DOING?	Assisting MDA to define their strategy over the medium-term (3 years)
HOW ARE WE DOING IT?	Assisting MDA to: • Understand how NEEDS and MDG should impact their goals and objectives • set medium-term goals and objectives • Identify key initiatives (programs and projects) that they need to embark upon to achieve their goals and objectives • Cost each initiative and phase them over the medium-term bearing in mind the indicative expenditure envelope of the MDA for the same period set out in the Fiscal Strategy Paper. • Define outcomes and outputs to be delivered to Nigerians in clear measurable terms • Agree how performance will be monitored and reported to Nigerians
WHEN ARE WE DOING IT?	2 nd Quarter 2006 and this will be updated annually

WHO ARE WE WORKING WITH?	The MDA that we propose that we prepare Medium-Term Sector Strategies for in 2006 are: Education, Health, Water, Roads, Power, Agriculture, Police, Defence, FCT, Foreign Affairs, Internal Affairs, Science and Technology, Aviation, Transport, Environment, Housing and Urban Development, Solid Minerals, Information and National Orientation, and Youth Development. These represent about 78% of MDA spending in 2006. To assist the MDA on this assignment are: Consultants, Sector Experts in each area, NPC , BOF/fmf, BMPIU , OSSAP (MDG), Relevant Committees of NASS
WHY ARE WE DOING IT?	To ensure that: 1. annual budgets of the MDA are consistent with their medium-term strategies, the Fiscal Strategy Paper, NEEDS and MDG 2. expected outcomes and outputs from MDA spending are clearly define, monitored, variances explained and communicated to Nigerians 3. we get greater value out of MDA spending

4. **Announcements:**

(i) **Conference Committee:**

Mr Speaker named the following Conferees on the Advance Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences **Bill**, 2006:

- (a) Hon. Terngu Tsegba
- (b) Hon. Bassey **Etim**
- (c) **Hon. Hamisu** Gambo
- (d) Hon. Ita Enang
- (e) **Hon. Bala Ibn** Na'Allah
- (f) Hon. Yerima Idris

(g) **Use of Presidential Gate:**

Mr Speaker read the following Memo from the Serjeant-at-Arms:



**OFFICE OF THE SERJEANT-AT-ARMS
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Three-Arms Zone, P.M.B. 141, Garki, Abuja - Nigeria

USE OF PRESIDENTIAL GATE

MAY, 2006

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Hon. Speaker,

1. Honourable Members are please reminded to use the Presidential Gate whilst coming into National Assembly to avoid the traffic hold-up recently experienced during the late morning hours.
2. This gesture makes it convenient for the Security Details to **carefully** screen and monitor visitors.

(Signed)

COL. E. OKERE (rtd)
SERJEANT-AT-ARMS

(iii) *Bereavement:*

Mr Speaker announced the death of the eldest son of Hon. Patricia Akwashiki on Friday, 5 May, 2006. He was aged 27 years. Principal Officers of the House had visited Hon. Akwashiki to condole her on the loss and he would do the same on adjournment of sitting.

5. **Presentation of a Bill:**

Investment and Securities Tribunal **Bill**, 2006 (HB. 247) — *Read the First Time.*

6. **Presentation of Report:**

Committee on Solid Minerals:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Solid Minerals on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Minerals and Mining Act, No. 34 of 1999 and Enact the Minerals and Mining Act for the Purposes of Regulating all Aspects of the Exploitation of Solid Minerals in Nigeria and for Connected Purposes, 2004" {Hon. Ogbuefi **Ozomgbachi**}.

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Create Offences Pertaining to Advance Fee Fraud and Other Fraud Related Offences; to Provide for the Arrest and Trial of Persons who Commit such Offences and for Matters Connected Thereto, 2006 (HB. 209) — Third Reading:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Create Offences Pertaining to Advance Fee Fraud and Other Fraud Related Offences; to Provide for the Arrest and Trial of Persons who Commit such Offences and for Matters Connected Thereto, 2006 be read a Third Time" (Hon. Abdul Ningi).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and Passed.

8. **Privileges of the Floor:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That pursuant to Order XVI, Rule 9 of the Standing Orders, the immediate past Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. **Ghali Umar** Na'Abba, two former Hon. Members of the House and two former Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria be admitted to the Chamber to observe debate on the general principles of the 1999 Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2006" (Hon. Abdul Ningi).

Admittance of all Public Officers to the Chamber during Second Reading debate, consideration and passage of the 1999 Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2006 suspended.

9. **Modality and Allocation of Time for Debate on the General Principles of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1999, 2006:**

Mr Speaker remarked that debate on the General Principles of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1999, 2006 would last for 3 days. He advised Members who wished to contribute to the debate to submit their names to the Deputy House Leader and the ANPP Whip. He declared that 5 minutes would be allocated to each contributor and the Clerk of the House would serve as the timekeeper.

10. **Address by the Hon. Speaker on the Commencement of Debate on the General Principles of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1999, 2006:**

Protocol

Dear colleagues, I consider it pertinent that prior to the commencement of debate on the general principles of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Amendment Bill 2006, I address you on my thoughts on the subject.

This bill, presents once again a defining moment in our March towards nationhood, as we have through it, to pursue with utmost zeal, the forces of integration, such that the Nigeria of our dreams would become a reality in our lifetime.

Our constitution provides in Section 9 subsections (1) (2) (3) and (4) the mode of altering any of its provisions. And that is the course we are embarking on now.

We should in our debate assure Nigerians that this course is not intended for the personal benefit of anyone person or class of persons, but an exercise of our constitutionally vested responsibility which we are exercising for the collective good of all Nigerians. We should abide by the oath of office contained in the constitution, to which we subscribed before taking our seat in this House, and indeed the standing orders of this House.

We should pursue the process of Amendment in accordance with the guide contained in Section 9 of the constitution, but should be extremely cautious in expanding it.

On my part as the presiding officer of this house, I want to assure you, and all Nigerians, that I will not derogate from the provisions of the constitution, and would sustain its inviolability, and preserve its sanctity.

I urge my colleagues to elevate the debate on the general principles to be issue oriented, accommodating every opinion however unacceptable to you it may be, knowing and believing that the minority would have their say and the majority their way, which is the beauty of democracy.

I will not tolerate any attempt to gag any member who is permitted to speak on any issue, as that would be derogating from such members right.

We have to constantly remind ourselves that the RULE OF LAW must not only be preserved, but its observance must be seen to be adhered to in all our legislative actions.

Politics is a realistic good, and not a necessary evil.

I call on all of you, my dear colleagues to presence the -integrity of this hallowed chamber by moderating your utterances, limiting our contributions to issues in the bill, and putting the unity of this country over and above all considerations, as our beloved Nation, is our common heritage, and we, her trustees on behalf of alt.

LONG LIVE THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA.

*Hon. Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker, House of Representatives,
May 9, 2006*

- 11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, 2006 (HB. 248)**
— Second Reading:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, 2006 be now read a Second Time" {Hon. Austin Opara}.

Debate.

Debate adjourned.

- 12. Adjournment:**
And it being 1.55 p.m. the House adjourned till Wednesday, 10 May, 2006 by 2.00 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker

CORRIGENDA

In the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 4 May, 2006:

Clause 173: Interpretation:

- (1) On page 847, *leave out* the words "School Certificate or its equivalent" and the interpretation thereof.
- (2) On page 848, *leave out* the words "Secret Society" and the interpretation thereof.