



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 5 October, 2006

1. The House met at 10.01 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, 4 October, 2006.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. Announcements:
 - (i) *Conference Committee:*
Mr Deputy Speaker named the following Conferees on the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria Bill, 2006:
Hon. Clever M. Ikisikpo
Hon. Sani Toro Hon.
Patricia Akwashiki Hon.
Taiye Opaleke Hon.
Lawal Garba Hon. Bala
Ngilari.
 - (ii) *Joint Session:*
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that the House would meet with the Senate in a Joint Session on Wednesday, 11 October, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. to receive an address by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the 2007 budget estimates.
4. Presentation of Reports:
 - (i) *Joint Committee on National Security and Intelligence, and Foreign Affairs:*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on National Security and Intelligence, and Foreign Affairs on the Review of the United States National Intelligence Council "Mapping Sub-Saharan African's Future" (*Hon. Yusuf Dikko*).

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Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

- (ii) *Committee on Public Petitions:*
 - (a) Report on the Petition by K. O. Udokporo:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by K. O. Udokporo against the Nigeria Customs Service" (*Hon. Moroof A. Akinwande*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.

- (b) Report on the Petition by Gbaji Yeke Community:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Gbaji Yeke Community against the Nigeria Customs Service" (*Hon. Moroof A. Akinwande*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.

- (c) Report on the Petition by Iddo Liquid Resources:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Iddo Liquid Limited against the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria" (*Hon. Moroof A. Akinwande*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.

- (d) Report on the Petition by Jimoh Yunusa:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Jimoh Yunusa and 30 others against the National Iron Ore Mining Company" (*Hon. Moroof A. Akinwande*).

Question put and agreed to. Report

Laid.

4. A Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of the Federal Capital Territory Agency for Mass Education, and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2006 (HB. 260) — *Second Reading*:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment of the Federal Capital Territory Agency for Mass Education, and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2006, be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Bawa Bwari*).

Debate;

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

Bill read a Second Time and referred to Joint Committee on Federal Capital Territory and Education.

5. Consideration of Report:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do resume consideration on the Report of the Committee on Legislative Budget on a Bill for an Act to Establish an Independent National Assembly Budget and Research Office, which will Provide the National Assembly with Objective, Timely and Non-Partisan Analysis needed for Economic and Budget decisions and with the Information and Estimates required for use in the Budget Process and Other Related Matters, 2006 (HB. 254) (*Hon. Bawa Bwari*).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to resume consideration of the Report, put and agreed to. *

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUDGET
 AND RESEARCH OFFICE, WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITH OBJECTIVE,
 TIMELY AND NON PARTISAN ANALYSIS NEEDED FOR ECONOMIC AND BUDGET DECISIONS AND
 WITH THE INFORMATION AND ESTIMATES REQUIRED FOR USE IN THE BUDGET PROCESS
 AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS, 2006

Mr Chairman recalled that the previous day, the House, in the Committee of Whole, mandated a four-Member *Ad-Hoc* Committee to advise the House on the appropriate Management Structure in Clause 5 and **on the** provisions in Clause 6. He invited the Chairman, Committee on Legislative Budget to address the Committee of Whole.

Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo, on behalf of the Ad-Hoc Committee, reported that the Committee met and deliberated on Clauses 5 and 6. It recommended the reduction of the number of departments from ten (10) to six (6) as follows:

- (i) Administration
- (it) National Security and Special Duties
- {Hi} Human and National Resources Research
- (iv) Tax Analysis Department
- (v) Budget Analysis
- (vi) Fiscal and Monetary Policies Analysis.

It further recommended the deletion of subclause (2) in Clause 6.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 5: Office Structure.

- (1) There shall be for the Office, a management committee comprising the Executive Director-General, Deputy Executive Director General and seven (7) Directors who shall be responsible for the implementation of the requests from the National Assembly and the day—to—day administration of the Office.
- (2) The Executive Director-General shall be the Chief Executive of the office
- (3) The Deputy Executive Director General shall be the supervisor of the Directors.
- (4) (a) The Office shall be structured into ten (10) functional units composed of professional analysts and one (1) administration unit, each unit is headed by a Director.
- (b) the ten (10) functional units are—
 - (i) Office of the executive Director/Deputy Director,
 - (ii) Legal Services Department,
 - (iii) Administration and Information Department,
 - (iv) Budget Analysis Department,
 - (v) Macro-Economic Analysis Department,
 - (vi) Tax. Analysis Department,
 - (vi) National Resources and Commerce Department,
 - (viii) Health and Human Resources Department,
 - (a) National Security Department,
 - (x) Special Duties Department;
- (c) **Functions of the Department—**
 - (i) *Office of the Executive Director:*
The Executive Director General of the NABRO is responsible for ensuring that all duties of the organisation as specified by law are performed effectively and appropriately for the benefit of the National Assembly. The Deputy Director shall assist the Executive Director General in the day-to-day management of the NABRO and shall act in his/her absence.

- (II) *Legal Services Department:*
The Department executes NABRO's legal matters, analyses and interprets relevant and applicable status, examine proposed legislation and review procurement activities among others.
 - (III) *Administration/Information Department:*
It shall provide internal management and general administrative support services to other Department including budget, finance human resources, information resources management, facilities management and library services. The Department also provide editorial and publicity services.
 - (iv) *Budget Analysis Department:*
The Budget Analysis Department is responsible for preparing the bill cost estimates and spending projection called for in the budget Act. This shall include projection for the total federal budget.
 - (v) *Macroeconomics Analysis Department:*
The Department shall prepare NABRO's economic projection, analysis the impact of fiscal policy on the economy and advising the National Assembly on general macroeconomic issues. The Department shall assist the Finance/Appropriation Committees to develop concurrent federal budget.
 - (vi) *Tax Analysis Department:*
The Department is to estimate and project future tax revenues and analyse Nigerian tax structure. It shall also offer response to request for the provision of analysis on tax related policies.
 - (VII) *National Resources and Commerce Department:*
This Department shall serve the National Assembly Committees on Agricultural, Petroleum, Gas Energy, Science, Technology, Industry, to provide policy analyses that would be used for preparing and evaluating legislation.
 - (viii) *Health and Human Resources Department:*
It shall analyse policies, and programs in the areas of Health and Medicare, primary Health, public health preventive medicine, sanitation, health insurances programmes and all other social services.
 - (ix) *National Security Department:*
The Department analyse budgetary issues relating to Notional defence, defence budgets, military force and weapons system. It shall also provide budget analyse for international defence/security. The demand for and supply of military personnel, the military industry. It shall also examine and analyse the cost and other effects of prevailing defence programmes that may be of interest to the National Assembly defence Committee.
 - (x) *Special Duties Department:*
It shall be the duty of the department to analyse Budget Concept and accounting procedures as well as budget process issues. It shall conduct studies on proposals for budget reforms. It shall prepare annual reports on unauthorized appropriation and expiring authorization. It shall address balanced budget amendment, line-item veto, privatization and federal pay system. The Department shall provide private sector cost estimates for bills reported or submitted to National Assembly Committees dealing with judiciary, governmental affairs and oversight functions.
- (5) Each functional Department shall be equipped to conduct program/policy analysis, budget analysis, cost estimates, and post appropriation performance evaluation and monitoring activities.

- (6) The ten (10) functional Departments shall be composed of economists, fiscal analysts, accountants, bankers, budget analysts, information system analysts, research analysts, political scientists, public administrators, lawyers, statisticians, computer specialists, data analysts data processors, and social scientists.
- (7) Each Department shall be responsible for a number of related legislative concerns as represented by the respective legislative committees.
- (8) The cadres of professionals and experts to be employed shall :
 - (a) posses not less than ten (10) post bachelor's degree experience in the relevant position of employment;
 - (b) occupy managerial or supervisory or coordinating positions in the Office; and
 - (c) constitute the bulk of the personnel of the Office (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Amendments proposed:

- (i) Insubclause (1), line 2, *leave out* the words "Deputy Executive Director"; *leave out* the word "seven" and the figure "7" and *insert* the word "six" and the figure "6" instead thereof (*Hon. Almajir Geidam*).

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

- (ii) *Leave out* the provision in subclause (3) — *Consequential amendment*,
- (iii) In subclause (4) (a), *leave out* the word "ten" and the figure " 10" and **insert** the word "six" and the figure "6" instead thereof; in line 1, *leave out* the word "Units" wherever it occurs and *insert* the word "Departments" instead thereof — *Consequential amendment*.
- (iv) In subclause (4) (a), line 2, *leave out* the words "and one administrative unit" — *Consequential amendment*.
- (v) (a) In subclause 4 (b), line 1, *leave our* the word "ten" and the figure "10" and *insert* the word "six" and the figure "6" instead thereof — *Consequential amendment*.
- (b) *Leave out* the provisions in subclause (4) (b), paragraphs (i)- (x) and *insert* as follows instead thereof:
 - (i) Administration Department
 - (ii) National Security and Special Duties Department
 - (iii) Human and National Resources Research Department
 - (iv) Tax Analysis Department
 - (v) Budget Analysis Department
 - (vi) Fiscal and Monetary Policies Analysis Department(*Hon. Almajir Geidam*).

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

- (vi) In subclause 5 (c), *leave out* the provisions in paragraphs (i) - (x) and *insert* the following instead thereof:

Functions of the Departments:

- (i) *Administration:*
The Department shall provide internal management and general administrative support services to other Departments including budget, finance, human resources, information resources management, facilities-management and library services. The Department shall also provide editorial and publicity services. It shall also execute NABRO's legal matters, analyse and interpret relevant statutes, examine proposed legislation and other legal services.
- (ii) *National Security and Special Duties:*
The Department shall analyse budgetary issues relating to National defence, defence budgets, military force and weapons system. It shall also provide budget analysis for international defence/security, the demand for and supply of military personnel in the military industry. It shall also examine and analyse the cost and other effects of prevailing defence programmes that may be of interest to the National Assembly Defence Committee.

The Department shall analyse budget concepts and accounting procedures as well as budget process issues. It shall conduct studies on proposals for the budget reforms.

It shall prepare annual reports on unauthorized appropriation and expiring authorization. It shall address balanced budget amendments, line-item veto, privatization and Federal pay systems.

The Department shall provide private sector cost estimates for bills reported or submitted to National Assembly Committees dealing with judiciary, governmental affairs and oversight functions.

(iii) **Human and National Resources Research:**

This Department shall serve the National Assembly Committees on Agricultural, Petroleum, Gas Energy, Science, Technology, Industry, to provide policy analyses that would be used for preparing and evaluating legislation. It shall analyse policies, and programs in the areas of Health and Medicare, primary Health, public health preventive medicine, sanitation, health insurances programmes and all other social services.

(iv) **Tax Analysts:**

The Department is to estimate and project future tax revenues and analyse Nigerian tax structure. It shall also offer response to requests for the provision of analysis on tax related policies.

(v) **Budget Analysis:**

The Budget Analysis Department is responsible for preparing the bill cost estimates and spending projections called for in the budget Act. This shall include projections for the total federal budget.

(vi) **Fiscal and Monetary Policies Analysis:**

The Department shall prepare NABRO's economic projections, analyse the impact of fiscal policy on the economy and advise the National Assembly on general macroeconomic issues. The Department shall assist the Finance/Appropriation Committees to develop concurrent federal budget (**Hon. Alabala B. Ojomu**).

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

(vi) In subclause (6), *leave out* the word "ten" and the figure "10" — *Consequential amendment.*

*Question that Clause 5 as amended, stand part of the **Bill**, put and agreed to.*

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 6: Executive Director General, Appointment, Duties, Tenure and Removal.

- (1) The Office shall be headed by the Executive Director General responsible for the overall operations of the Office including but not limited to :
 - (a) steering or overseeing the implementation of the requests or directive of legislative committees and members of the National Assembly;
 - (b) general management and administration of the Office;
 - (c) discipline of the members of staff of the Office;
 - (d) perform such other duties as may be specified, directed and determined by * the National Assembly; and
 - (e) being the accounting officer for the purposes of controlling and disbursing amounts from funds established in accordance with this Bill.
- (2) The position of the Executive Director General shall be equivalent in rank to a Permanent Secretary in the Public Service of the Federation.
- (3) The Executive Director-General shall be an accomplish person who has had at least twenty (20) years post bachelor's degree career inn the field of either economics, finance, accountancy, banking, **public** administration, business management, business administration, investment, administration: or a combination of any of the foregoing fields of endeavor constained herein.

- (4) - - The Executive Director-General shall not be a member of a political party, or be involved, or in any way connected to partisan politics.
- (5) The Executive Director-General shall be appointed jointly by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, after considering recommendation from the Committee of Finance, Appropriation, Budget, and National Planning of both Houses of National Assembly, and screened and confirmed by the Senate. The appointment- shall be based solely on professional competence and qualification without regard to political affiliation.
- (6) The Executive Director-General shall hold office for a period of five (5) years, and shall be eligible for reappointment for one more term of five (5) years.
- (7) The Executive Director-General may be removed from Office by National Assembly upon a resolution by 2/3 majority of both Houses of the National Assembly, for inability to discharge the function of **the** office or for misconduct {Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo}.

Amendments Proposed:

(i) In subclause (1) line 1, *leave out* the word "Executive" — *Consequential amendment*.

(ii) *Leave out* the provision in subclause (2) (Hon. Alabala Ojomo).

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

(iii) In subclause (3) line 1, *leave out* the word "Executive" — *Consequential amendment*.

(iv) In subclause (3), line 2, *leave out* the figure "20" and *insert* the figure "10" instead thereof (Hon. Ajatta).

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

(v) In subclause (3), line 2, immediately after the word "degree", *leave out* the words "the field of either economics, finance, accountancy, banking, public administration, investment, trust administration or a combination of any of the foregoing fields of endeavour contained therein and *insert* the words "research experience" instead thereof (Hon. Almajir Geidam).

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

(vi) In subclauses (4) and (5), line 1, *leave out* the word "Executive" — *Consequential amendment*.

(vii) In subclause (5), lines 3 and 4, *leave out* the words "and screened and confirmed by the Senate" (Hon. Almajir Geidam),

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

(viii) In subclauses (6) and (7), line 1, *leave out* the word "Executive" — *Consequential amendment*.

(ix) In subclause (7), line 2, *leave out* the following "2/3 majority of both Houses of the National Assembly" and *insert* the words "by a simple majority of both Houses of the National Assembly sitting separately" instead thereof (Hon. Almajir Geidam).

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

(x) In subclause (7), line 3, *leave out* the words "or for misconduct" and *insert* instead thereof, the words "as provided in the Code of Conduct for Public Officers" (Hon. Adeyemi Oluwole).

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

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 7: Deputy Executive Director General, Appointment, Duties, Tenure and Removal.

- (1) There shall be a Director who shall be the Executive Director general's deputy. The Deputy Executive Director-General shall be a qualified and experienced person with vast knowledge in budgetary and administrative procedure > and shall perform such duties as—

- (a) **supervisoryheadoftheten(10)** Departments established within the Office;
 - (b) coordinate the efficient operation of the units to provide researched information and analysis necessary to assist the consideration and prompt passage of money bills presented to the National Assembly from time to time;
 - (c) equipping the Office with the most up-to-date, modern information storage, retrieval and dispatch systems, and the regular maintenance of same; and
 - (d) perform such other duties as may be specified, directed and determined by the Executive Director-General.
- (2) The position of the Deputy Executive Director-General shall be equivalent in rank to a Director in the Public Service of the Federation.
 - (3) The Director shall act in the absence, vacancy and/or incapacity of the Executive Director.
 - (4) The Deputy Executive Director-General shall be an accomplished person who has had at least eighteen (8) years post bachelor's degree career in the field of either economics, finance, accountancy, banking, public administration, business management, or combination of any of the foregoing fields of endeavor contained herein:
 - (5) The Deputy Executive Director General shall not be a member of a political party, or be involved or in any way connected to partisan politics;
 - (6) The Deputy Executive Director-General shall be appointed jointly by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, upon recommendation from the Executive Director-General: and screened and confirmed by the Senate. The appointment shall be based solely on professional competence and qualification without regard to political affiliation
 - (7) The Deputy Executive Director-General shall hold office for a period of five (5) years, and shall be eligible for reappointment for one more term of five years.
 - (8) National Assembly may remove the Deputy Executive Director-General from office upon a resolution by 2/3 majority of both House of the National Assembly, for inability to discharge the function of the office or for misconduct (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the entire provision in Clause 7 — Consequential amendment.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 8: Directors—appointment, **Duties** Tenure **and** Removal.

- (1) There shall be for the Office:
 - (a) A Director of the Administration who shall oversee the Personnel, Legal and Information Management of the Office; and
 - (b) six (6) other Directors who shall head the ten (10) functional units.
- (2) The 'Directors shall be appointed by the Executive Director—General upon recommendation from the Deputy.Executive Director—General. The appointment shall be based solely on professional competence and qualification without regard to political affiliation.
- (3) The Directors shall be professionals in the fields of Economics, Accountancy, Finance, Banking, Law, Business Administration, Public Administration, Statistics and/or Computer Science.

- (4) The Directors shall be accomplished persons who have had at least fifteen (15) years post bachelors degree career in the field of economics, finance, law accountancy, statistics, computer science, public administration, commerce, business management, business administration, investment, trust administration: or a combination of any of the foregoing fields of endeavor contained herein.
- (5) The Directors Shall not be members of any political party, or be involved or in any way connected to partisan politics.
- (6) The Directors may be removed from office by the Director-General upon recommendation from the Deputy Executive Director—General (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Amendments proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* the provision in subclause (1) (b) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"Five Directors who shall head the other Departments"— *Consequential amendment*.
- (ii) *Leave out* the provision in subclause (3) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"The Directors shall be professionals in their relevant fields"— *Consequential amendment*.
- (iii) *Leave out* the provision in subclause 4, and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"The Directors shall be accomplished persons with at least a Bachelors Degree in their relevant fields and a minimum of 8 years post qualification Research experience" (*Hon. Igo Aguma*).

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

- (iv) *Leave out* all the words in subclause (6) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"The Directors may be removed from office by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives upon the recommendation of the Director-General" (*Hon. Almajir Geidam*).

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

Question that Clause 8 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

- Clause 9: Cadre of Professional Analyst, Appointment, Duties, Tenure and Removal.
- (1) There shall be for each unit of the Office, cadre of professional analysts who shall carry out the day—to—day duties and functions of the Office.
 - (2) The Professional Analysts shall be appointed by the Director-General upon recommendation from the Directors of the units. The appointment shall be based solely on the basis of qualification without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of fitness to perform duties.
 - (3) The professional Analysts shall be professionals in the fields of Economics, Accountancy, Finance, banking, Law, Business Administration, Public Administration, Statistics and/or Computer Science.
 - (4) The Professional Analysts shall be accomplished persons who have had at least fifteen (15) years post bachelor¹s degree career in the field of economics, finance, law, accountancy, statistic, computer science, public administration commerce, business management, business administration, investment, trust administration; or a combination of any of the foregoing fields of endeavor contained herein.
 - (5) The professional Analysts shall not be members of any political party, or be involved or in any way connected to partisan politics.
 - (6) The Professional Analysts may be removed from office by the Director-General upon recommendation from the Directors of the Department (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Amendments proposed:

- (0) In subclause (4), line 2, *leave out* the provision "fifteen (15)" and *insert* the provision "six (6)" — *Consequential amendment*.

- (ii) In subclause (4), line 2, *leave out* **the** word "career: and *insert* the words "research experience" instead thereof — *Consequential amendment*.

Question that Clause 9 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 10: **Other Staff.**

- (1) The Director—General shall appoint such other staff as may be necessary to carry out the duties and functions of the office. Such appointments are to be made without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of fitness to perform duties.
- (2) The Director-General may delegate to any member of the staff the authority to perform any of the duties and functions of the Office.
- (3) In **carrying** out the duties and functions of the Office, the Director General may procure the temporary or intermittent services of experts or consultants by contract (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 10 stand pan of the **Bill**, put and agreed to.*

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 11: **Remunerations of Director-General.**

The Senate President and the Speaker of the House Representatives shall determine the salary and other allowances to be received by the Director-General (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Amendment proposed:

In line 1, immediately after the word "shall" *insert* the words "in consultation with the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission" (*Hon. Almajir Geidam*).

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

Question that Clause 11 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 12: **Remuneration** of Directors and **the** Professional Staff.

- (1) The Directors and the professional staff of the office shall receive such remunerations as shall be determined by the Director-General.
- (2) Such remunerations shall be comparable to, but not below, that which is obtainable in the banking or finance industry in the Federation.
- (3) The Director-General shall have authority to make—
 - (a) payment to employees for unused annual leave, or
 - (b) payments to enhance and reward exceptional performance by any staff or group of staff (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 12 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 13: **Remuneration of Other Staff.**

- (1) The other staff of the office shall receive such remunerations as shall be determined by the Director-General.
- (2) Such remunerations shall be comparable to, but not below, that which is obtained in the Public Service in the Federation.
- (3) The Director-General shall have authority to make:
 - (a) payments to employees for unused annual leave, or
 - (b) payments to enhance and reward exceptional performance by any staff or group of staff (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 13 stand part of the **Bill**, put and agreed to.*

*Committee Recommendation:***Clause 14: Pensions.**

- (1) Service in the Office shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pensions Act, and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the Office in respect of their service be entitled to pension, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are enjoyed by persons holding equivalent grades in the public service of the Federation.
- (2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall prevent the appointment of a person in the office on terms, which preclude the grant of a pension or gratuity in respect of service in the Office (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 14 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

*Committee Recommendation:***Clause 15: Staff Regulations.**

The Director-General may by regulation first laid before the national assembly, and published in the National Assembly Journal prescribe the:

- (a) duties and responsibilities of the directors and staff of the office:
- (b) disciplinary control of all employees of the office and mode of appeal by such employees against dismissals or other disciplinary measures: and/or
- (c) proceeding, administrative or organizational structural of the office (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new subclause (d) as follows

"Promotion and staff welfare" (Hon. Abubakar Momoh).

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

Question that Clause 15 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

*Committee Recommendation:***Clause 16: Estimate of Expenditure, etc.**

- (1) The Office shall maintain a fund consisting of such monies as may in each year be approved for the purposes of carrying out the duties and functions of the Office
- (2) Until the National Assembly appropriate the monies mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, the expenses of the Office shall be paid from the contingency fund of the National Assembly.
- (3) The Director-General shall prepare not later than 31st May of each year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Office during the next succeeding year, which shall be submitted, to both Houses of the National Assembly for approval.
- (4) The Director-General shall keep accounts and receipts, payments, assets and liabilities and shall in respect of each year prepare a statement of account in such form as the National Assembly may direct.
- (5) The Director-General shall within six (6) months after the end of the financial year to which the account relate, cause the account to be audited by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

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Amendments Proposed:

{I} **In** subclause (3), *leave out* the provision "31st May" and *insert* the provision "30th June" instead thereof (*Hon. Cletus Upaa*).

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

- (ii) In subclause (5) line 1, *leave out* the provision "Six (6)" and *insert* the provision "Three (3)" instead thereof (*Hon. Adeyemi oluwole*).

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

Question that Clause 16 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 17: Obtaining of Data by the Director-general.

- (1) The Director-General may, for the purpose of coordinating the operations of the office with those of the National Assembly Agencies, obtain information, data, estimates and statistic developed by the Committees, Clerk and all other Offices of the National Assembly.
- (2) The Committees, Clerk and other Office of the National Assembly shall furnish the Director-General any available materials that he determines to be necessary in the performance of his duties (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 17 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 18: Obtaining of Data from Public Enterprise.

- (1) The Director-General may obtain information, data, estimates statistics directly from Ministries, Extra-Ministerial departments, government parastatals and judicial establishments and such ministries, parastatals, etc. shall furnish to the Director-General any available materials that the Director-General determines to be necessary in the performance of his/her duties.
- (2) The Director-General may, upon agreement with the head of any Ministry, Extra-Ministerial department, parastatals or judicial establishment shall provide the Office with such services, facilities and personnel needed in performance of his/her duties as mentioned in subsection (1) of this section (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 18 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 19: Making Information Available to the Public.

- (1) The Director-General shall make all information, estimates, data and statistics obtained under sections (17) and (18) available for public copying during normal business hours, subject to reasonable rules and regulations, and shall to the extent practicable at the request of any person, furnish a copy of any such information, estimates, etc. upon payment by such person of the cost of making and furnishing such copy.
- (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to information, data estimates and statistic which—
 - (a) are specifically exempted from disclosure by law; or
 - (b) the Director-General determines will disclose—
 - (i) matters necessary to be kept secret in the interest of National defence or the Confidential Conduct of the foreign relations of the Federation Republic of Nigeria,
 - (ii) information relating to trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining to a given person if the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such in a specific financial or other benefits, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive positions of such persons, or

- (iii) personal or medical data or similar data, the disclosure, of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personnel privacy, unless the portions containing such matters, information or data have been excised (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 19 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 20: Making Methodology Available to the Public.

The Director-General shall make available to the public upon request, the methodologies and assumptions for all analysis, cost estimates and studies (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 20 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 21: Submission of Report for the Fiscal Year,

On or before 1st of April each year, the Director-General shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of **National** Assembly, a report for the fiscal **year** commencing on 1st of January of the following year, **with** respect to fiscal policy, the permissible aggregate Government Expenditure and Core revenue (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) ~ *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 21 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 22: Interpretation.

In this Act—

- (a) "the Office" means the National Assembly Budget and Research Office (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Question that the meaning of the words "the Office" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

- (b) "Public Enterprise" means any corporation, board, company or parastatal established by or under enactment in which the Government of the Federation, a Ministry, or Extra—Ministerial Department, agency, or equity interest and include a partnership joint venture or any form of business arrangement or organisation (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Public Enterprise" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

- (c) "core revenue" means accruable revenue (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Question that the meaning of the words "core revenue" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

- (d) "permissible aggregate government expenditure" means the total spending ceilings or limits (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Question that the meaning of the words "permissible aggregate government expenditure" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

- (e) "property" means land or building and includes intellectual property (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

Question that the meaning of the word "property" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new paragraph if) as follows:

"Misconduct — as provided in the Code of Conduct for Public Officers" (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*).

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

Question that the meaning of the word "misconduct" be as defined in the interpretation to this Act, put and agreed to.

Question that Clause 22 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:**Clause 23: Citation.**

This Act may be cited as the National Assembly Budget and Research Office Bill, 2006 (*Hon. Emmanuel Ojomo*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 23 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole, resumed consideration of the Report of the Committee on Legislative Budget on a Bill for an Act to Establish an Independent National Assembly Budget and Research Office, which **will** Provide the National Assembly with Objective, Timely and Non-Partisan Analysis Needed for Economic and Budget Decisions and with the Information and Estimates required for use in the Budget Process and Other Related Matters, 2006. It amended Clauses 5 and 6, deleted Clause 7, amended Clause 8, approved Clause 9 and 10, amended Clause 11, approved Clauses 12, 13 and 14, amended Clauses 15 and 16, approved Clauses 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, amended Clause 22 and approved Clause 23.

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

6. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 10 October, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.25 p.m.

Austin Opara
Deputy Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 4 October, 2006:

On page 289 (Amendments Proposed), in paragraph (ii), lines 1 and 2, *leave out* the words "Executive Director-General" and *insert* the words "Deputy Executive Director-General" instead thereof.