



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 14 April, 2005

1. The House met at 11:05 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, 13 April, 2005.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Messages:**
Mr Deputy Speaker read the following messages from the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria:
(i)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS, EXCISE
TARIFF, ETC. (CONSOLIDATED) ACT, 2004 AND
FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Customs, Excise Tariff, etc. (Consolidation) Act to abolish the five per cent levy on the Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) value of imported sugar.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

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(ii)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE EDUCATION TAX ACT,
2004 AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Education Tax Act, 2004 to abolish the education tax and provide alternate source of funding for the Education Fund and -for matters connected therewith.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

(iii)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
FEDERAL INLAND REVENUE SERVICE**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to repeal Part I of the Companies Income Tax Act, dissolve the Federal Board of Inland Revenue and establish the Federal Inland Revenue Service as an autonomous parastatal charged with the functions of administering the various Federal tax laws in Nigeria including all the functions that were initially performed by the Federal Board of Inland Revenue and for related matters.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

(iv)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPANIES
INCOME TAX ACT, 2004 AND FOR MATTERS
CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Companies Income Tax Act to, among other things, make it more responsive to the tax reform policies of the Federal Government and to enhance its implementation and effectiveness.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)
OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

(v)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PETROLEUM PROFIT TAX ACT, 2004
AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Petroleum Profit Tax Act to make it more responsive to the tax reform policies of the Federal Government and to enhance its implementation and effectiveness.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

(vi)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PERSONAL
INCOME TAX ACT, 2004 AND FOR MATTERS
CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Personal Income Tax to make it more responsive to the tax policies of the Federal Government and to enhance its implementation and effectiveness.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

(vii)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL SUGAR
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ACT, 2004 AND FOR
MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the National Sugar Development Council Act to abolish the ten per cent surcharge on sugar imports and make provisions for alternate funding of the existing National Sugar Development Council.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

(viii)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL
AUTOMOBILE COUNCIL ACT, 2004 AND FOR
MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the National Automotive Council Act to abolish the two percent of the Cost, Insurance and Freight CIF) value of all imported Fully Built Units (FBU) auto component spare parts, Completely Knocked Down (CKD) and raw materials brought in for the automotive sub-sector and make provisions for alternate funding of the existing National Automotive Council.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

(ix)



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

6 April, 2005

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

Dear Hon. Speaker,

**A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE VALUE ADDED TAX ACT, 2004
AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the House of Representatives, the attached Bill which seeks to amend the Value Added Tax Act to, among other things, make it more responsive to the tax reform policies of the Federal Government and to enhance its implementation and effectiveness.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Honourable Members of the House.

Yours sincerely,

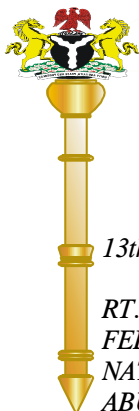
(Signed)

4. Announcements:**(i) Invitation :**

Mr Deputy Speaker notified the House of an invitation to a reception by the Enugu State Government in honour of the Senate President on Friday, April 15, 2005.

(ii) Bereavement:

Mr Deputy Speaker announced with deep regret, the sad news of the untimely death of the wife of Hon. Jim Adun. He read the following letter from Hon. Adun and called for prayers and a minute in silence:



Hon. Jim A. Adun

Member Representing

Egor/lkpoba-Okha Federal Constituency, Edo State

080-23388377; 080-42140393

House of Representatives

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

13th April 2005

**RT. HONOURABLE SPEAKER,
FEDERAL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY,
ABUJA.**

Honourable Speaker Sir,

**RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUDDEN AND UNTIMELY DEMISE
OF MY LOVELY WIFE: MRS EFE ADUN**

I wish to bring to the kind attention of the Honourable Speaker, Federal House of Representatives and indeed the entire Honourable members of the Federal House of Representatives, the untimely and sudden death of my lovely wife Mrs Efe Adun.

Efe, who was a dedicated, loyal and indeed my pillar of strength, passed on to the great beyond few days ago in Benin City, Edo State, after a brief illness.

It is my wish that I be joined by my Honourable Colleagues in prayers to God to graciously accept the departed soul of my dearly beloved wife in His Bossom.

Thank you and God bless.

(Signed)

HON. JIM ADUN

(Hon. John Longhor rendered prayers for the repose of the soul of the deceased and a minute in silence observed in her honour).

5. Petitions:

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

- (i)** Hon. Samuel Olufemi Adeyemi, from Miss Funke Jimoh, praying the House to prevail on the Nigeria Police Force to reinstate her and provide her with medical treatment for the injury she sustained in the course of her duty;
- (ii)** Hon. Kayode Amusan, from Capt. D. O. Labinjo, praying the House to prevail on the Nigerian Navy to comply with a Court Order and re-instate him;
- (iii)** Hon. Kayode Amusan, from Mrs Bola Labinjo on behalf of Al-Dawood Shipping Lines Limited, praying the House to investigate the unlawful arrest and detention of its vessel, "MT Mahdi" and grant the relief sought therein;
- (iv)** Hon. Essien Ayi, from Police Inspector Edet Okon (*rt'd*), praying the House to prevail on the Inspector General of Police to reinstate him.

6. Presentation of Report:***Committee on Ethics and Privileges:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Ethics and Privileges on allegation of corruptions against Three Honourable Members" (*Hon. Bello Matawalle*)

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid:

7. Consideration of Report:***Committee on Ethics and Privileges:***

Motion made, "That this House do consider forthwith, the Report of the House Committee on Ethics and Privileges on allegations of corruption against Three Honourable Members" (*Hon. Jerry Ugokwe*).

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 in the Chair)

REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND PRIVILEGES ON THE ALLEGATION OF CORRUPTION AGAINST THREE HON. MEMBERS

Debate:

Recommendation (a):

Following the arraignment of Hon. Shehu Matazu before a Law Court, the Committee recommends that the law be allowed to take its course (*Hon. Bello M. Mutawalle*).

Amendment Proposed:

Insert two additional paragraphs to Recommendation (a) as follows:

"Flowing from the findings of fact as contained in pages 23 and 24 of the Report, Recommendation (a) relates to the Fifty-Five Million Naira (~~₦~~55,000,000:00) only.

Accordingly, on the Fifteen million Naira (~~₦~~15,000,000:00) allegation against Hon. Izunaso, Hon. Suswan, and Hon. Matazu, the Committee finds no nexus between the accused persons and the accusers as there is no evidence before the Committee implicating the aforesaid Hon. Members" (*Hon. Obeten O. Obeten*).

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

Recommendation (b):

The Committee hereby recommends that all the House Standing Committees be re-organized (*Hon. Bello M. Mutawalle*).

Question put and negated.

Recommendation (c):

The Committee finally recommends that all arms of Government and their appropriate Agencies be advised to refrain, in future, from pre-emptive pronouncement to the Public until proper Investigation is concluded in the spirit of fair hearing and the rule of Law (*Hon. Bello M. Mutawalle*).

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Whole, considered the Report of the House Committee on Ethics and Privileges on the allegation of Corruption against three Honourable Members and approved Recommendation (a), added two additional paragraphs to Recommendation (a), negated Recommendation (b) and approved Recommendation (c).

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

8. **Rampaging Gully and Soil Erosion in Ekwulobia Town in Aguata Local Government Area, Anambra State:**

Motion made and Question proposed,
“The House:

Notes the ravaging effects of gully and soil erosion in Ekwulobia town in Aguata Local Government Area, Anambra State;

Concerned that many families have been displaced from their traditional homes, property subsumed, farmlands and roads washed away and the community cut off from other parts of the country;

Worried that the only Federal Highway - the Ekwulobia - Oko - Umunze road faces the danger of imminent collapse as a result of erosion;

Disturbed that the entire Ekwulobia town is at the risk of extinction as a community;

Conscious of the urgent need to address this rampaging menace and in the meantime provide the necessary succour to the Ekwulobia community;

Resolves to:

- (i) *Urge* the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently send relief materials to the Ekwulobia community;
- (ii) *Call on* the Federal Ministry of Environment to undertake a study of the incident and provide urgent and lasting solution to the impending disaster;
- (iii) *Mandate* the Joint Committee on Environment, Disaster Preparedness, Inter-Governmental Affairs and Works to visit the affected areas, assess the extent of damage caused by erosion in Ekwulobia town and recommend appropriate solutions” (*Hon. Chidi Duru & 10 Others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (ii) (*Hon. Ahmed Lawan*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (iii) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
“Mandate the Joint Committee on Environment, Disaster Preparedness, Inter-Governmental Affairs and Works to visit the affected areas, assess the extent of damage caused by Erosion in Ekwulobia town of Aguata Local Government area including Agulu and Nimo erosion sites of Njikoka/Aniocha/Dunukofia Federal Constituency and recommend appropriate solutions” (*Hon. George Ozodinobi*).

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

Further Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), line 3, immediately after the word “solutions” *insert* the following:
“and report its findings within one month” (*Hon. Abubakar Momoh*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the ravaging effects of gully and soil erosion in Ekwulobia town in Aguata Local Government Area, Anambra State;

Concerned that many families have been displaced from their traditional homes, property subsumed, farmlands and roads washed away and the community cut off from other parts of the country;

Worried that the only Federal Highway - the Ekwulobia - Oko - Umunze road faces the danger of imminent collapse as a result of erosion;

Disturbed that the entire Ekwulobia town is at the risk of extinction as a community;

Conscious of the urgent need to address this rampaging menace and in the meantime provide the necessary succor to the Ekwulobia community;

Resolved to:

- (i) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently send relief materials to the Ekwulobia community;
- (ii) Call on the Federal Ministry of Environment to undertake a study of the incident and provide urgent and lasting solution to the impending disaster;
- (iii) Mandate the Joint Committee on Environment, Disaster Preparedness, Inter-Governmental Affairs and Works:
 - (a) to visit the affected areas, assess the extent of damage caused by erosion in Ekwulobia town of Aguata Local Government including Agulu and Nimo erosion sites of Njikoka/Aniocha/Dunukofia Federal Constituency and recommend appropriate solutions; and
 - (b) report its findings within one month (*HR 14/2005*).

9. Adjournment:

That this House do now stand adjourned till Tuesday, 19 April, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:44 p.m.

Austin Opara
Deputy Speaker