



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 3 May, 2005

1. The House met at 11.23 a.m. Mr. Speaker read Prayers.
2. Vote and proceedings
Mr. Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceeding of Thursday, 28 April, 2005
By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceeding
3. Apology for Late commencement of sitting
Mr. Speaker apologized for the late commencement of sitting and attributed it to technical problems which hindered the production of Legislative Papers.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that Hon. Shehu Matazu had written to resign his appointment as Chairman Committee on Education. He read the letter:



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Tuesday, 3^d May, 2005

*The Hon. Speaker, House
of Representatives,
National Assembly, Abuja.*

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

RESIGNATION OF APPOINTMENT

I write to respectfully inform you that I have resigned from my position as the chairman, House committee on Education with immediate effect.

I thank the Almighty God for giving me the special privilege to serve in this capacity for a period of six years.

I also want to place it on record my sincere appreciation to the entire leadership of the House under your exemplary leadership for the confidence repose on me to serve the House and the Nation.

I would not forget to thank most sincerely the entire members of the Committee especially my able Deputy, Hon. Tijjani Umara Kumalia for their total support and cooperation.

To the other members of this Honourable House, I mil continue to remember and appreciate your total support for any motion or Bill on education matters, especially your 100 % support for the passage of the UBE Bill into an Act.

Furthermore, let me also express my appreciation to the Secretariat staff of the committee under the leadership of the Secretary, Mrs. Nimbang for their total loyalty and dedication.

In addition Mr. Speaker, I want to assure you my total support and loyalty to the entire leadership of the House.

To the gentlemen of the press, I say a very big thank you for the coverage of the committee's activities under my leadership, I urge you to please extend the same cooperation to my successor.

Finally, let me pray to Almighty God to continue to protect the Institution of the National Assembly.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Hon. Dr Shehu A. Garba Matazu

5. Petition

A petition was received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. Titilayo Akindahunsi, from Olatunbosun Odu, praying the House to intervene in the alleged wrongful termination of his appointment by Oceanic Bank Plc.

6. Presentation

(i) Criminal Procedure Code (Application to FCT) (Amendment) Bill, 2005 (HB. 182)—*Read the First Time.*

(ii) Penal Code (Application to FCT) (Amendment) Bill, 2005 (HB.183)—*Read the First Time.*

7. Presentation of Report;

Joint Committee on Housing and Urban Development, Federal Capital Territory and Justice:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Housing and Urban Development, Federal Capital Territory and Justice on the petition by the Kubwa Residents Association (Hon. Alex Nwofe).

Question put and agreed to.

By leave of the House, Hon. Alex Nwofe presented an Oral Report.

He reported that pursuant to the mandate of the House on the above subject matter (vide the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 28April, 2005) the Committee surmounted the initial bureaucratic bottlenecks and conferred with the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory on Monday, 2 May, 2005. At the meeting, the Hon. Minister explained that the demolition exercise in Kubwa was confined to buildings illegally erected on what he described as an "Open Space" and that staff of the Authority who facilitated this illegibility had been dismissed from the Service of the Authority. The Hon. Minister further asserted that the demolition exercise would continue because the Certificates of Occupancy issued to the landlords whose buildings were illegally erected on the "Open Space" were fake and authourised. He added that Mr. President had authorized him to continue with the exercise. Hon. Nwofe added that in the face of the Hon. Minister's explanation, it might be difficult for the House to make a pronouncement on the matter. However, he referred to Mr. Presidents' remark on National Television Programme on Sunday, May 1, 2005 on the subject matter to the effect that the House should concern itself with the art of legislation. He advised the House to address

the validity of Mr. President's remark and cited the provisions of Sections 5 (1) and 88 of the Constitution on the powers of the National Assembly and Section 14 of the same Constitution on the obligations of the Government of the people. He anchored on Section 299 of the Constitution which granted the National Assembly the power to legislate for the Federal Capital Territory and requested the House to take a decision on whether or not the rights of members of the Kubwa Residents Association had been infringed upon as a result of the demolition exercise.

Debate:

Resolved to:

- (i) *mandate* the Joint Committee on Housing and Urban Development, Federal Capital Territory and Justice to investigate the petition of the Kubwa Residents Association and report, to the House.
- (ii) *urge* the Minister, Federal Capital Territory to stop the ongoing demolition exercise in Kubwa until the issues involved were sorted out (*HR. 17/2005*).

- 8 A Bill for an Act for the Establishment of Independence National Electoral Commission and to Regulate the Conduct of Federal, State and Area Council Elections and to Repeal the Electoral Act, 2002; and for Connected Purposes. *Second Reading:*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That A Bill for an Act for the Establishment of Independence National Electoral Commission and to Regulate the Conduct of Federal, State and Area Council Elections and to Repeal the Electoral Act, 2002; and for Connected Purposes be now read the Second Time (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Question put and agreed to.

Debate:

Question that Order XII Rule I, be suspended to enable the House commence debate on the general principles of the Bill agreed to.

Question that commencement of debate on the general principles of the Bill be deferred to enable the Committee on Rules and Business circulate copies of the Electoral Act, 2002 to Members, agreed to.

9. A Bill for an Act to Dissolve the Institute of Cost Management and to Establish a Chartered Institute of Cost Management of Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 116)—Second Reading:

Order read; deferred.

10. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants (HB. 139)—Second Reading;

Order read; deferred.

11. Adjournment

That this House do adjourn till Wednesday, 4 May, 2005 at 2.00 p.m. (Hon. Gilbert Nnaji).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.15 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker