



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 28 July, 2005

1. The House met at 10.30 a.m. Mr. Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr. Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 27 July, 2005.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Petitions:**
Two petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. T. J. Faniyi, from:
 - (a) Ayorinde Igunnuagbemi, praying the House to intervene in his wrongful dismissal from the Service of the Nigerian Army and to grant him the relief's sought in his petition,
 - (b) Retired Naval Personnel, Courses 1 & 2, 2003, Courses 1 & 2, 2004 and Course 1, 2005 Armed Forces Resettlement Centre, Oshodi, Lagos, praying the House to prevail on the Nigerian Navy to pay the arrears of their monthly entitlements and gratuity.
4. **Devastating Famine in the Republic of Niger:**
Motion made and Question proposed That the House:

notes with sadness, the debilitating effects of famine and drought in the Republic of Niger;

is deeply concerned that this phenomenon has devastated the entire country resulting in loss of lives and livestock which is a major contributing factor to the country's economy;

appreciates the long standing social economic and cultural ties between the Republic of Niger and Nigeria;

expresses its thanks to the Federal Government for its timely intervention in assisting a sister African country in its present travail with the supply of relief materials to that country;

is conscious of Nigeria's leading role in providing succor to victims of natural disaster in Africa and the world at large;

Resolves to:
 - (j) *urge* the Federal Government to set up a Relief Fund to be known as the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund* for the purpose of alleviating the suffering of the people of the Republic of Niger;

- (ii) *appeal* to all State Governments, the 36 State Houses of Assembly, Local Government/Area Councils, Multi-national Companies, Public and Private Institutions in the country and all well meaning Nigerians and non-nationals to contribute generously in cash or kind to the Republic of Niger Relief Fund (*Hon. Bawa Bwari and 25 others*). -

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new prayer (ii) as follows:
"(iii) urge all Hon. Members to contribute 5% of their basic salary to the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund*" (*Hon. Bawa Bwari*).

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

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in new prayer (Hi) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"*urge* Hon. Members to contribute a minimum sum of N12,000.00 each to the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund*" (*Hon. Patricia Ette*).

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

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with sadness, the debilitating effects of famine and drought in the Republic of Niger;

Was deeply concerned that this phenomenon had devastated the entire country resulting in loss of lives and livestock which was a major contributing factor to the country's economy;

Appreciated the long standing social economic and cultural ties between the Republic of Niger and Nigeria;

Expressed its thanks to the Federal Government for its timely intervention in assisting a sister African country in its present travail with the supply of relief materials to that country;

Was conscious of Nigeria's leading role in providing succor to victims of natural disaster in Africa and the world at large;

Resolved to:

- (i) *urge* the Federal Government to set up a Relief Fund to be known as the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund* for the purpose of alleviating the suffering of the people of the Republic of Niger;
- (ii) *appeal* to all State Governments, the 36 State Houses of Assembly, Local Government/Area Councils, Multinational Companies, Public and Private Institutions in the country and all well meaning Nigerians and non-nationals to contribute generously in cash or kind to the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund*;
- (Hi) *urge* Hon. Members to contribute a minimum sum of N20,000.00 each to the *Republic of Niger Relief Fund* (HR. 21/2005).

(Secretariat ordered to deduct contributions at source).

5. Consideration of Reports:

- (i) *Committee on Special Duties:*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Special Duties on A Bill for an Act to Amend the Border Communities Development Agency Act, 2003; and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2005 and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. George Sekibo*).

Question put and agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE BORDER COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY ACT, 2003; AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 1: Amendment of the Border Communities Development Agency Act, 2003.

The Border Communities Development Agency Act, 2003 is hereby amended as set out in this Act (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—*Agreed to.*

Question that the provision in Clause 1 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 2: Amendment of Section 2.

Section 2 of the Principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) in Subsection (1) (c) thereof to include the following immediately after item (viii)—

(ix) the Federal Ministry of Power and Steel,

(x) the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology,

(xi) the Federal Ministry of Environment,

(xii) the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development,

(xiii) the Ministry of Police Affairs,

(xiv) Executive Secretary of the Agency who shall serve as Secretary to the Board;

(b) by inserting immediately after the existing Subsection (2) thereof the following new Subsections (3)-(7).

Tenure of members of the Board other than *ex-officio* members.

(3) Members of the Board other than *ex-officio* members—

(a) shall hold office in such terms and conditions as may be specified in their letters of appointment;

(b) shall hold office for a term of four years in the first instance and may be reappointed thereafter for a further term of four years and no more;

(c) with the exception of the Executive Secretary, all members of the Board, including the *non-ex-officio* members shall serve on part time basis.

Removal of a member from office by the President.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2 (3) of this Act, a member of the Board may at any time be removed from office by the President for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause) or for misconduct;

Resignation of appointment by a member of the Board.

(5) A member of the Board other than an *ex-officio* member may resign his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand, addressed to the President and that member shall, on the date of the receipt of the notice by the President cease to be a member.

(6) An *ex-officio* member of the Board shall cease to be a member upon vacation of his office on ground of resignation, retirement from service, dismissal, withdrawal of service, redeployment or for any other reason.

Cessation of membership of the Board.

- (7) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of Section 2 of this Act, a person shall cease to hold office as a member of the Board if—
- (a) he becomes bankrupt, suspends payment or compounds with his creditors; or
 - (b) he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud; or
 - (c) he becomes of unsound mind, or incapable of carrying out his duties; or
 - (d) he is guilty of a serious misconduct in relation to his duties; or
 - (e) in the case of a person possessed of professional qualifications, he is disqualified or suspended, other than at his own request from practicing his profession in any part of the world by an order of a competent authority made in respect of that member; or
 - (f) he resigns his appointment by a letter addressed to the President."
 - (g) by renumbering the existing Subsection (3) as Subsection (8) (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—*Agreed to.*

Question that the provisions in Clause 2 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:**Clause 3: Amendment of Section 5.**

Section 5 of the Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting immediately after the existing Subsection (3) thereof the following new Subsections (4) and (5)—

Removal of Executive Secretary from office by the President.

- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5 (3) of this Act, the Executive Secretary of the Agency, may at any time be removed from office by the President for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause) or for misconduct.
- (5) The Executive Secretary of the Agency may resign his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand, addressed to the President and shall on the date of the receipt of the notice by the President, cease to hold the office of Executive Secretary (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—*Agreed to.*

Question that the provisions in Clause 3 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:**Clause 4: Amendment of Section 9.**

Section 9 of the Principal act is hereby amended by substituting therefore the following new section, that is—

- 9. The Agency shall establish and maintain a fund into which shall be paid and credited—
 - (a) a take-off grant from the Federal Government;
 - (b) annual subvention by the Federal Government through budgetary allocation;
 - (c) such counter-part funding as may be provided from time to time by a State or Local Government;
 - (d) loans and grants-in-aid from national, bilateral and multilateral agencies,
 - (e) rents, fees and other internally generated revenues from services provided by the Agency; and

- (f) all other sums accruing to the Agency from time to time (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—Agreed to.

Question that the provisions in Clause 4 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 5: Deletion of Section 22.

- (1) Section 22 of the Principal Act is hereby deleted.
- (2) Accordingly, the existing Sections 23-25 shall be renumbered as Sections 22, 23 and 24 respectively (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—Agreed to.

Question that the provisions in Clause 5 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 6: Short Title.

This Act may be cited as the Border Communities Development Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2005 (*Hon. George Sekibo*)—Agreed to.

Question that the provision in Clause 6 stands 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, considered the Report of the House Committee on Special Duties on A Bill for an Act to Amend the Border Communities Development Agency Act, 2003; and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2005 and approved Clauses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

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

(ii) Joint Committee on Agriculture and Finance:

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House do consider the Report of the Joint Committee on Agriculture and Finance on A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Allocation of 15 Percent of Nigeria's Annual Capital Budget to be Invested into Agriculture; and for Connected Purposes, 2003 and approve the Recommendations therein (*Hon. Ahmed Lawari*).

Question put and agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the

Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF 15 PERCENT OF
NIGERIA'S ANNUAL CAPITAL BUDGET TO BE INVESTED INTO AGRICULTURE;
AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES, 2005

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 1: Provision of and investment of 25 percent the Federal Annual Capital Budget in Agriculture.

There shall be for each year a provision by the Federal Government of an amount equal to 15 percent of its annual Capital Budget which shall be invested in the production but not limited to crops, livestock, economic trees and the provision of the items set out in the Schedule to the Act for 15 years (*Hon. Ahmed Lawan*).

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Clause 1 and *insert* the following:
There shall be for each year a provision by the Federal Government of an amount equal to at least 5% of its annual capital budget (or any amount approved by the National Assembly during appropriation which could be higher but certainly not lower than 5%) which shall be invested in Agriculture (*Hon. Olaka Nwogu*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (ii) In line 4, immediately after the word "years" insert the following instead thereof:
"That 15 percent being proposed for Agriculture on the annual-capital budget should be equitably distributed to the six geopolitical zones of the Federation" (*Hon. George Ozodinobi*).

-Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (ii) In line 4, *leave out* the figure "15" and *insert* the figure "10" instead thereof (*Hon. Dayo Oguniyi*).

Question that the amendment be made put and negatived.

- (iv) *Leave out* all the words in the Long Title and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"A Bill for an Act to provide for the Allocation of 15 percent of Nigeria's Annual Capital Budget or 1.75 percent of the Federation Account to be invested into agriculture and for connected purposes" (*Hon. Umar El-Yakubu*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (v) In lines 3 and 4, *leave out* the words "and the provision of the items set out in the Schedule to the Act for 15 years" and *insert* the words "and there shall be for each year a provision of 25% with time limit" (*Hon. Yew*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Question that the provisions in Clause 1 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 2: Citation.

This Act may be cited as Agriculture (Provision of Budget Allocation) Bill, 2005 (*Hon. Ahmed Lawari*)—*Agreed to.*

Question that the provision in Clause 2 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

SCHEDULE

Section 2

1.
 - (a) Crops;
 - (b) Livestock;
 - (c) Economic Trees, etc.
2. Provision of Infrastructure:
 - (a) Rural markets,
 - (b) rural roads,
 - (c) rural transportation,
 - (d) rural water supply,
 - (e) irrigation facilities,
 - (f) agro-allied industries,
 - (g) pre and post harvest loses technology,
 - (h) processing and packaging industries,
 - (i) storage facilities (on-farm and off-farm),
 - (j) preservation facilities,

- (k) Partial mechanized farming by providing 1000-5000 hectares of a particular crop every year by state governments especially on export crops.
- 3. Research Funding:
 - (a) adequate funding of all Agricultural Research Institutes and other related institutes;
 - (b) adequate funding of University of Agriculture and retaining them under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- 4. (1) Farmers Empowerment:
 - (a) access loans;
 - (b) short, medium and long gestation agricultural loan not less than 4 percent and not more than percent interest rates;
 - (c) more cottage industries;
 - (d) effective information and education on modern methods of agriculture through radio, television jingles, video clips, cultural dramas, films shows, etc., farmers extension services;
 - (e) local and international agricultural shows.
- (2) Establishment of new farm centers in each federal Constituency.
- (3) Establishment of new farm settlements and rehabilitating the ones.
- (4) Purchasing of Agricultural Implements, chemicals, improved hybrid seedlings jetties, nets, hooks, generators, etc. to be sold loans and at subsidized prices to farmers.
- (5) Purchasing of Agricultural machineries and loan out to farmer to encourage mechanized farming.
- (6) Establishment of Agricultural shows stadium in each local governments in the Federation and for each state capital as well as one at the National level in Abuja.
- (7) Establishment of silo in each senatorial district and subsequently to all the Local Government Areas of the country as well 100 tons capacity storage facilities in each ward within the country.
- (8) All the River Basin Authorities to be fully rehabilitated.
- (9) All dams must be fully operational throughout the country (totaling over 160) to boost irrigation (dry-season farming) to reduce poverty level within the rural populace.
- (10) Establishment of rice processing centers nationwide to enhance modern small rice processing technology for rice farmers.
- (11) Establishment of medium scale rice processing factories nationwide.
- (12) Partial Mechanized Farming—
 - (a) There shall be establishment of 1000-5000 hectares of land in EACH state of the Federation for cultivation particularly crop suitable for adoption to different ecological zones EVERY year, for NOT less than 15 years to ensure food security of Nigeria on sustainable and continuous basis;
 - {b} The Agency shall address itself to full mechanization of Nigerian agriculture in all sectors.
- (13) Provide preservation facilities especially for—
 - (a) (i) Fisheries,

- (it) partial mechanized farming by providing 1000-5000 hectares of a particular crop every year by state governments especially on export crops.
- 3. Research Funding:
 - (a) adequate funding of all Agricultural Research Institutes and other related institutes;
 - (b) adequate funding of University of Agriculture and retaining them under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- 4. (1) Farmers Empowerment:
 - (a) access loans;
 - (b) short, medium and long gestation agricultural loan not less than 4 percent and not more than percent interest rates;
 - (c) more cottage industries;
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 - (a) There shall be establishment of 1000-5000 hectares of land in EACH state of the Federation for cultivation particularly crop suitable for adoption to different ecological zones EVERY year, for NOT less than 15 years to ensure food security of Nigeria on sustainable and continuous basis;
 - (b) The Agency shall address itself to full mechanization of Nigerian agriculture in all sectors.
- (13) Provide preservation facilities especially for—
 - (a) (i) Fisheries,

- (ii) Livestock (cattle, sheep and goats),
 - (Hi) Poultry, (iv) Piggery;
- (b) Tuber crops:
 - (i) yam,
 - (ii) cassava,
 - (iii) potatoes, etc.;
- (c) Vegetable and Fruits
 - (i) tomatoes, onions, etc
 - (ii) mangoes, pumping, etc
 - (iii) banana, orange, pipeapples, coconuts, etc.
- (14) Establishment of school farms in ALL primary and secondary schools as well as tertiary institutions as demonstrating farms to students.
- (15) Introducing and intensifying artificial insemination to improve diary production in each local Government Area of the Federation.

5. Funding:

From the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation (*Hon. Ahmed Lawari*)—Agreed to.

Question that the provisions in the Schedule 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, considered the Report of the Joint Committee on Agriculture and Finance on A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Allocation of 15 Percent of Nigeria's Annual Capital Budget to be Invested into Agriculture; and for Connected Purposes, 2005 and approved Clauses 1, 2 and the Schedule to the Bill.

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, 2 August, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Bawa Bwari*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.26 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker