



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 21 July, 2005

1. The House met at 11.00 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, 20 July, 2005.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.*

3. **Announcements:**
  - (i) **Visitors:**  
Mr Speaker announced the presence in the Gallery of winners of the Hon. Wale Okediran Quiz Competition for Secondary Schools in Iseyin/Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency of Oyo State.
  - (ii) **Birthday Lucheon and Book Presentation:**  
Mr Speaker announced that the Birthday Lucheon and Book Presentation in honour of Hon. Tunde Akogun would hold at the Congress Hall of NICON Hilton Hotel, Abuja at 2.00 p.m. This Day.
  - (iii) **Appointment:**  
Mr Speaker read a letter from Hon. Mercy Almona-Isei:



Federal Republic of Nigeria

*Rep. (Chief) Mercy Almona-Isei (JP)*

CHAIRMAN; HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GAS RESOURCES

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(NDOKWA/UKWANI FEDERAL CONSTITUENCY, DELTA STATE)

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

Your Excellency,

July 21, 2005.

**APPOINTMENT BY WORLD BANK**

It is with great pleasure and humility I write to inform you and the Honourable House that the World Bank Group has appointed me as a member of its Extractive Industries Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group is expected to help the World Bank Group identify and promote best practice in oil, gas and mining extractive industries (E.I.). The Advisory group will function as a means for the Bank and all stakeholders actively involved in E.I. in different capacities, to discuss a broad range of key issues affecting the sector. These, issues include contribution of Extractive Industries to sustainable development and poverty reduction in the Countries in which the World Bank Group operates.

The World Bank Extractive Industries Advisory Group consists of fifteen persons from across the globe with backgrounds in industry, government, civil society, academia and finance.

By the special grace of God! wish to humbly inform you that I am the only Nigerian in the group.

While soliciting your kind support and prayers, please accept assurances of my very esteemed regards.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

**Rep. (Chief) Mercy Almona-Isei.**  
**Ndokwa/Ukwani Federal Constituency,**  
**Delta State.**

**4. Petition:**

Three Petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

- (i) Hon. George Thompson Sekibo, from Sergeant Genesis Mei Baka, a former Police Officer, praying the House to investigate his wrongful dismissal from the Nigeria Police Force and to re-instate him;
- (ii) Hon. Duro Faseyi, from Folarin Solarin, praying the House to prevail on the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to convert him to the post of Senior Mechanical Engineer, Grade Level 10 with effect from 1 July, 1979 and to grant him other reliefs sought in his Petition;
- (iii) Hon. Saudatu Sani, from Dr (Mrs) Modupeola Bosede Adeniran, praying the House to prevail on the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board not to evict her from her official quarters.

**5. Joint Session of the National Assembly:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do meet with the Senate in a Joint Session on Tuesday, 26 July, 2005 at 11.00 a.m. to receive an Address from the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

**6. Debt Forgiveness for Nigeria:**

*Order read; Motion to await Mr President's Address on Tuesday, 26 July, 2005.*

**7. Consideration of Report:*****Committee on Environment:***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Environment on A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a Shelter Belt Project; and for Connected Purposes, 2004 and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*).

*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 ESTABLISHMENT OF  
A SHELTER BELT PROJECT; AND FOR CONNECTED PURPOSES**

***Committee Recommendation:***

**Clause 1: Establishment of the Shelter belt Project.**

- (1) There is established a project to be known as the Shelter Belt Project (in this act referred to as the project).
- (2) The Headquarters of the Project shall be in the Federal Ministry of Environment( Abuja and there shall be offices in each of the States listed in the Second Schedule to this Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*).

***Amendments Proposed:***

- (i) In Subclause (1), line 2, immediately after the word "project" *insert* the words "which shall be a juristic person and can sue and be sued" (*Hon. Abdullahi Idris Umar*).

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

***Further Amendment proposed:***

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in Subclause (2) and *insert* the words "The Headquarters of the Project shall be in the Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja and there shall be offices in each of the States listed in the Second Schedule to this Act" instead thereof (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

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

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

***Committee Recommendation:***

**Clause 2: Establishment and Composition of the National Monitoring Committee.**

- (1) There is hereby established for the Project a National Monitoring Committee (in this Act, referred to as "the National Committee") which shall provide the general guideline for the control and management of the Project.
- (2) The National Committee established pursuant to Subsection (1) of this section shall consist of—
  - (a) a Chairman who shall be—
    - (i) a person who, is educated and experienced in matters relating to the sciences and, laws of environment,
    - (ii) appointed by the President;
  - (b) one representative each ,of the Ministries charged with responsibility for—
    - (i) agriculture,
    - (ii) environment,
    - (iii) finance,
    - (iv) water resources;
  - (c) one representative each from the States listed in the Second Schedule to this. Act, who shall—
    - (i) be recommended to the President for appointment by the Governors of the States listed in the Second Schedule thereof,
    - (ii) be persons who are knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to the environment.

- (3) A member of the National Committee appointed in terms of Subsection (2) of this section, other than an *ex-officio* member—
  - (a) shall serve for the duration of the project;
  - (b) may resign his appointment in a letter written under his hand and addressed to the President, and his appointment shall terminate on the day of the receipt of the letter;
  - (c) may 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
- (4) The emoluments of the members, other than *ex-officio* members shall be as may be determined, from time to time, by the Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission.
- (5) The Proceedings of the National Committee shall be as set out in the Third Schedule to this Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 3: Establishment of Special Implementation Committees.**

- (1) To ensure effective implementation of the Project, the following Special Implementation Committees are hereby established, that is —
  - (a) the National Steering Committee;
  - (b) the National Technical Committee;
  - (c) the State Afforestation Steering Committee; and
  - (d) the Local Government Afforestation Coordinating Committee.
- (2) The composition and duties of the Special Implementation Committees established in terms of Subsection (1) of this section shall be as prescribed in the Forth Schedule to this Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

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

**PART II—FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 4: Functions of the National Committee.**

- (1) The functions of the National Committee shall be to—
  - (a) coordinate the cultivation of certain variety and species of fast growing tree plants and woodlots in the Arid Zone States of the Federation listed in the First Schedule 10 to this Act;
  - (b) in collaboration with the communities; and the traditional rulers, maintain and secure the tree plants and woodlots cultivated pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection for the duration of the Project;
  - (c) supervise the construction of boreholes within the areas of cultivation of the tree plants for the purpose of, watering and nurturing them to maturity;
  - (d) carry out continuous education and massive enlightenment of the inhabitants of the Arid Zone States of the adverse effect of indiscriminate felling of trees and overgrazing;
  - (e) provide alternative sources of energy for the communities in the affected areas;

- (f) carry on research work on indigenous tree species and other fast growing tree species suitable for use in the Project;
- (g) carry out such other activities as are necessary and expedient for ensuring the proper discharge of its functions under this Act.

**Powers of the National Committee.**

- (2) Subject to this Act, the National Committee shall have powers to—
  - (a) coordinate the award of contracts for the purpose of constructing boreholes, producing seedlings and cultivating tree plants and woodlots in affected areas of the Arid Zone States listed under this Act;
  - (b) coordinate the employment of senior and intermediate levels of manpower to maintain and secure the tree plants and woodlots cultivated in terms of this section;
  - (c) coordinate the promotion and conduct of enlightenment programmes and other events such as seminars, workshops and conferences to educate the inhabitants of the Arid Zone States of the adverse effect of felling trees and burning bushes indiscriminately; and to explain the purposes for which the Project is being established;
  - (d) carry on the administrative and individual work concerned with the exercise of its powers, the execution of its duties and the performance of its functions through persons employed or seconded to the Project; and
  - (e) do such things which in its opinion is calculated to facilitate the discharge, implementation or performance of the duties under this Act.
- (3) For the avoidance of any doubt, the powers conferred under Subsection (2) of this section shall be exercised in consultation with the President (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*).

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out* all the words in Subclause 1 (e) and *insert* the words "Expose the Communities in the affected areas to alternative sources of energy" instead thereof (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

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

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 5: Appointment and duties of the Project Manager.**

- (1) The National Committee shall appoint a Project Manager who shall have such qualifications and experience as are appropriate to perform the functions of his office under this Act, that is to say—
  - (a) carry on the day-to-day administration of the Project;
  - (b) accounting for all moneys collected, paid or otherwise expended by the project; and
  - (c) perform such other duties as may be directed by the National Committee.
- (2) The Project Manager shall be paid such salaries and allowances as are specified in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to.*

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 6: Appointment and duties of the Project Coordinators.**

- (1) The National Committee shall appoint not exceeding twelve persons who shall be designated as Project Coordinators who shall have responsibility for—

- (a) coordinating the activities of the Project in the States to which they are posted; and
  - (b) carry out such other duties as may be assigned to each Project Coordinator by the Project Manager.
- (2) The Project Coordinators shall be paid such remuneration as may be specified in their letter of appointment (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

*Question that the provisions in Clause 6 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 7: Employment of staff and remuneration.**

- (1) The National Committee may appoint such other staff it deems necessary for the running of the project to assist the operations of the Project.
- (2) Officers and staff of the Project may be appointed by way of secondment from any of the Public Service of the Federation.
- (3) The remuneration and tenure of office of officers and staff of the Project shall be determined by the National Committee after consultation with the Salaries and Wages Commission.
- (4) Service in the Project shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pensions Act and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the Project shall be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits:

Provided that nothing in this Act shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension, gratuity or other retirement benefit in respect of that office (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

*Question that the provisions in Clause 7 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 8: Establishment and Expenditure of Fund for the Project.**

- (1) There is hereby established for the Project a fund, which shall be applied for the purposes of the Project as set out in this section.
- (2) The Fund established pursuant to Subsection (1) of this section shall consist of—
  - (a) a take-off grant for the project;
  - (b) the annual subvention or allocation received from the Government of the Federation for the implementation of the project;
  - (c) such money as may from time to time, be lent to meet the costs of the Project by the Government of the Federation or of a State or Local Council or any other agents of government;
  - (d) all monies raised for the purposes of the Project by way of gifts, donations, grants-in-aid, testamentary dispositions from individuals, bodies corporate or philanthropic organizations, non-governmental organizations within or outside Nigeria or otherwise howsoever; and
  - (e) all other interests on investment and payments from assets that may accrue to the Project, from time to time.
- (3) Without prejudice to the provisions of Subsection (2) of this section, the fund of the Project shall, include the following participatory payments from the Government of the Federation, the affected State Governments and Local government councils, that is to say—
  - (a) contributions from the Government of the Federation which amount shall be 60 percent of the total cost of the Project in any particular financial year;

- (b) contributions from the Government of each of the affected Arid Zone States of the Federation which amount shall be 30 per centum of the total cost of the Project in any particular financial year;
  - (c) contributions from the each of the affected Local government councils of the Arid Zone States of the Federation which amount shall be 10 per centum of the total cost of the Project in any particular year.
- (4) The National Committee shall, from time to time, apply the proceeds of the fund established in this section—
- (a) to the funding of the activities of the Project, including the administrative and incidental costs accruing thereof;
  - (b) to the salaries and other remuneration or allowances of members, officers and other servants of the National Committee and other committees established under this Act;
  - (c) to the expenditure on the maintenance of the properties vested in the National Committee; and
  - (d) to the payment of such other charges as may be reasonably incurred in the performance of the functions of the National Committee and other committees established under this Act.
- (5) The Chairman. and members of the National Committee shall have and exercise the responsibility for controlling and disbursing, amounts from the fund, established under this section of this Act.
- (6) For the purposes of the Companies Income Tax Act, any donation made by any' company in Nigeria to the project shall be a deductible donation within the meaning of that Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*).

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out* all the words in Subclause 3 (a) - (c) and *insert* instead the following instead thereof "Contributions from the Government of the Federation which amount shall be 60 percent of the total cost of the project in any particular financial year, provided that any state that wishes to benefit from the scheme shall contribute as follows:

- (b) State 30% of the total cost of the project;
- (c) Each affected Local Government 10% of the total Costs of the project" (*Hon. Celestine N. Ughanze*).

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

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 9: Annual Estimates. account and audit.**

- (1) The Chairman of the National Committee shall cause to be prepared, not later than six months before the end of the year, estimates of recurrent and capital expenditure and income of the Project during the next succeeding year, which shall be assented to by the members thereof and presented to the President for final approval.
- (2) The National Committee shall keep proper accounts and records in relation thereto, and shall prepare in respect of each year a statement of account in such form as the Chairman of the National Committee may direct.
- (3) The National Committee shall as soon as may be after the end of a financial year, cause its accounts to be audited by qualified auditors appointed from the list of auditors and in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

- (4) The auditor appointed pursuant to Subsection (3) of this section shall, on completion of the audit of the accounts of the project, prepare and submit to the National Committee two reports, that is—
- (a) a general report setting out the observations and recommendations of the said auditors on the financial affairs of the Project and on any important matters which the auditors may consider necessary to bring to the notice of the National Committee; and
- (b) a detailed report containing the observations and recommendations of the auditors on all aspects of the operations of the Project for that year (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

*Question that the provisions in Clause 9 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 10: Annual Report.**

In addition to any other report prescribed under this Act, the National Committee shall prepare and submit to the President and the National Assembly, not later than the last day of the month of June of each financial year, a report on all aspects of the operations of the accounts of the National Committee during the immediately proceeding year, and shall include in that report a copy of the audited accounts of the project for that year and the auditors report thereon (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

*Question that the provision in Clause 10 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 11: Application.**

The provisions of this Act shall apply to the Arid Zone States of the Federation as specified in the Second Schedule to this Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

*Question that the provision in Clause 11 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 12: Duration and transition.**

- (1) This Act shall be in force for a period of 12 years from the date of its commencement, and shall thereafter, expire.
- (2) At the expiration of the period specified in Subsection (1) of this section, the Project shall be transferred to the affected State Governments which shall be required to maintain and sustain it from the expiration of that period.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (2) of this section, the Government of the Federation shall provide annual grants-in-aid to the affected States, at the end of the duration specified under this section, to enable the continued maintenance by the affected States of the Shelter Belt Project established thereof (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to*.

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 13: Interpretation.**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

"Chairman" means the Chairman or the Director-General of the Committee appointed pursuant to Section 4 (1) (a) of this Act; (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)

*Question that the meaning of the word "Chairman" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.*

"Committee" means the National Monitoring Committee established under Section 3 (1) of this Act; and (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)

*Question that the meaning of the word "Committee" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.*

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to environment, "Ministry" shall be construed, accordingly, and (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)

*Question that the meaning of the word "Minister" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.*

"other Committees" means the Special Implementing Committees established pursuant to Section 3 (1) of this Act (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)

*Question that the meaning of the words "other Committees" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.*

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 14: Special Provisions as regards duties imposed on a State Government.**

- (1) Without prejudice to any other law in force in the Federation or any part thereof, the duties imposed on any officer or authority of a State Government under this Act, shall continue to have effect upon the approval made for that purpose by the Governor of the State concerned.
- (2) Any approval made by a State Governor in respect of the duties imposed on I. any officer or authority in his State in consequence of this Act, and which is published in the Official Gazette of the State, shall be sufficient proof of the authenticity of the approval made thereof (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to.*

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

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 15: Citation.**

This Act may be cited as the Shelter Belt Project (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2005 (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to.*

*Question that the provision in Clause 15 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

*Section 4 (1) (a)*

1. The tree plants and other woodlots shall be planted in a shelter belt traversing the following Arid Zone States, that is, Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Yobe and Zamfara States of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
2. The length of the belt affixed in paragraph 1 of this Schedule is appropriately 1,500 kilometers stretching from Sokoto State to Borno State, while the width of the said belt is 60 kilometers.
3. There shall be three rows of trees to be cultivated for the shelter belt development which shall consist of fast growing species of trees such as—
  - (a) neem (*azadirachina indica*);
  - (b) eucalyptus ssp;
  - (c) *Prosopis juliflora*; and
  - (d) other species of cassia
4. Other fast growing species of trees that may be cultivated include—
  - (a) *Dalbergia siss*;
  - (b) *Khaya senegalensis*;
  - (c) *senna siamea*;

- (d) acacia (faidherbic) albida;
- (e) acacia senegalensis;
- (f) acacia nilotica; and
- (g) *Parkia claper toniana* (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—Agreed to.

*Question that the provisions in the First Schedule to this Bill stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 1 (2)

States capital cities and local governments where the State Branch offices and Shelter Belt Projects shall be located, respectively.

|     | States  | Capital cities                              | Local Governments                  |
|-----|---------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Borno   | Maiduguri                                   | Damasak, Kukawa                    |
| 2.  | Jigawa  | Dutse                                       | Babura, Maitagatari, Birniwa       |
| 3.  | Katsina | Katsina                                     | Jibia, Kaita, Maladuwa             |
| 4.  | Kebbi   | Birnin Kebbi                                | Dandi, Arewa, Bagudo, Augi         |
| 5.  | Sokoto  | Sokoto                                      | Tangaza, Illela, Gada, Sabon Birni |
| 6.  | Yobe    | Damaturu                                    | Machina, Yusufari, Yunusari        |
| 7.  | Zamfara | Gusau                                       | Isa, Zurmi                         |
| 8.  | Adamawa | Yola                                        |                                    |
| 9.  | Gombe   | Gombe                                       |                                    |
| 10. | Bauchi  | Bauchi                                      |                                    |
| 11. | Kano    | Kano ( <i>Hon. Emeka Atuma</i> )—Agreed to. |                                    |

*Question that the provisions in the Second Schedule to this Bill stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

THIRD SCHEDULE

Section 2 (5)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1. The National Committee shall have powers to regulate its proceedings and may make standing orders for that purpose and, subject to such standing orders, may function notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or the absence of any member.
2. The National Committee shall meet at least six times in a year to discuss the issues or matters relating to the effective discharge of its functions under this Act.
3. The Chairman shall preside over any meeting of the National Committee, and in his absence the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number to preside at any such meeting.
4. The quorum of the National Committee shall consist of the Chairman, or in an appropriate case, the member elected pursuant to paragraph (3) of this Schedule, and five other members.

5. The fixing of the seal of the Project shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman and the Project Manager to the Project (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to.*

*Question that the provisions in the Third Schedule to this Bill stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Section 3 (2)

COMPOSITION AND DUTIES OF SPECIAL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEES

*The National Steering Committee*

*(a) Composition*

1. (1) The National Steering Committee shall comprise—
  - (a) the Ministers charged with responsibility on matters relating to—
    - (i) the environment, who shall be the Chairman,
    - (ii) agriculture and rural development,
    - (iii) water resources,
    - (iv) solid minerals development,
    - (v) women affairs and youth development,
    - (vi) special duties,
    - (vii) finance;
  - (b) the State Commissioners charged with responsibility on matters relating to the environment and forestry in—
    - (i) Katsina State,
    - (ii) Kebbi State,
    - (iii) Yobe State; and
  - (c) one representative each of—
    - (i) the National Tree Nursery Development Programme,
    - (ii) the office of the Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, who shall not be below the rank of a Director,
    - (iii) the office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, who shall not be below the rank of a Director.
- (2) The Federal Ministry charged with responsibility for matters relating to the environment shall provide the officers and staff of the Secretariat of the National Steering Committee, which shall be located in the Federal Ministry thereof.

*(b) Duties*

2. (1) The duties of the National Steering Committee shall be to—
  - (a) formulate policies that would assist the implementation of the Project;
  - (b) coordinate the processes of evaluation, planning, and monitoring of the Project;

- (c) ensure the prompt provision of funds for expenditure incurred in the implementation of the varied programmes of the Project;
  - (d) coordinate the manpower needs and training programmes designed for the effective implementation of the Project; ,
  - (e) provide all necessary logistics needed for the smooth implementation of the Project, such as vehicles, machinery and other equipment and implements; and
  - (f) make provision for the consultancy services necessary for an integrated evaluation of the extent of the Project and its cost implications.
- (2) The duties of the National Steering Committee shall be performed in consultation with the National Committee of the Project.

*The National Technical Committee*

*(a) Composition*

3. (1) The National Technical Committee shall comprise—
- (a) a National Programme Coordinator, who shall be the Chairman;
  - (b) the Director of Drought and Desertification Amelioration in the Ministry charged with responsibility on matters relating to the environment;
  - (c) one Director each from the department of the following Ministries, that is—
    - (i) the Forestry Department of the Ministry charged with responsibility on matters relating to the environment,
    - (ii) the Federal Ministry charged with responsibility on matters relating to agriculture and rural development,
    - (iii) the livestock and pest control department of the Federal Ministry charged with responsibility on matters relating to agriculture and rural development,
    - (iv) the Federal Ministry charged with responsibility on matters relating to water resources;
  - (d) the President of the National Council of Women Societies;
  - (e) one director each from the State Ministries charged with responsibility on matters relating to afforestation that is—
    - (i) Adamawa,
    - (ii) Bauchi,
    - (iii) Borno,
    - (iv) Gombe,
    - (v) Jigawa
    - (vi) Kano
    - (vii) Katsina,
    - (viii) Kebbi,
    - (ix) Sokoto,
    - (x) Yobe,
    - (x) Zamfara;

- (f) one representative each of the—
  - (i) the Nigerian Army,
  - (ii) the Nigerian Air Force,
  - (iii) the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria, not below the rank of a Director,
  - (iv) the Ecological Funds Office, not below the rank of a Director; and
- (e) one representative each of the following bodies corporate and non-governmental organisations, that is—
  - (i) the Fight Against Desert Encroachment,
  - (ii) Sahel Conservation, a non-governmental organisation based in the affected areas,
  - (iii) the National Parks,
  - (iv) the University of Maiduguri,
  - (v) the National Tree Nursery Development Programme,
  - (vi) the Energy Research Centre, Sokoto.
- (2) The Federal Ministry charged with responsibility for matters relating to the environment shall provide the officers and staff of the Secretariat of the National Technical committee, which shall be located in the Federal Ministry thereof.

*(b) Duties*

- 4. (1) The duties of the National Technical Committee shall be to—
  - (a) provide the technical advice and expertise required for the implementation of the Project;
  - (b) embark on the recruitment of technical manpower in the senior and intermediate 'levels for the development of the Project;
  - (c) make provision for the machines, equipment and other tools and implement necessary for the implementation of the Project; and
  - (d) make adequate arrangement for the provision of training facilities for employees of the Project.
- (2) The duties of the National Technical Committee shall be performed in consultation with the National Steering Committee established under this Schedule.

*The State Afforestation Steering Committee*

*(a) Composition*

- 5. (1) The State Afforestation Steering Committee shall comprise—
  - (a) a Chairman, who shall be a State Commissioner in charge of matters relating to the environment (with special reference to forestry);
  - (b) the Commissioners of the Arid Zone States with responsibility for matters relating to—
    - (i) agriculture,

- (ii) water resources,
  - (iii) women affairs;
- (c) the Chairmen of the House of Assembly Committee on Environment and Forestry of each of the Arid Zone States;
- (d) the Chairmen of the affected Local Government Councils of the Arid Zone States;
- (e) the Chairmen of the State Council of Chiefs of the Arid Zone States; and
- (f) one representative each of—
  - (i) the Apex Farmers Organisation,
  - (ii) the non-governmental organisations in the Arid Zone States,
  - (iii) the Community, Based Organisations in, the Arid Zone States,
  - (iv) the Women and Youth Groups in the Arid Zone States,
  - (v) the Nigerian Army,
  - (vi) the Nigerian Air Force, and
  - (vii) the Nigeria Police Force.
- (2) The State Ministry charged with responsibility for matters relating to the environment and forestry, approved by a joint meeting of the Governors of the Arid Zone States, referred to under this Act, shall provide the Secretariat for the State Afforestation Steering Committee.
- (3) The officers and staff of the Secretariat provided in terms of subparagraph (2) of this paragraph shall consist of persons from the State Ministries of Environment and Afforestation of each of the Arid Zone States.

*(b) Duties*

- 6 (1) The duties of the State Afforestation Steering Committee shall be to—
- (a) provide the land for the Project and make all relevant site preparations for the implementation of the Project;
  - (b) provide manpower at the intermediate and lower categories of labour necessary for the implementation of the Project;
  - (c) ensure the provision and disbursement of the amounts due for contribution to the counterpart funding formula specified under this Act;
  - (d) coordinate the implementation of the Project;
  - (e) make adequate provision for the logistics necessary for the proper implementation of the Project, to include vehicles, operational offices, equipment, rehabilitation of nurseries, etc. and
  - (f) provide adequate security including patrols for the protection of the trees cultivated for the purposes of the Project.

*The Local Government Afforestation Coordinating Committee*

*(a) Composition*

- 7 (1) The Local Government Afforestation Coordinating Committee shall comprise—

- (a) a Chairman, who shall be a Councilor in charge of matters relating to agriculture and forestry appointed by a meeting of all the affected Local Government Councils of the Arid Zone States;
  - (b) three persons, who shall be Technical Officers from the works, education and health sectors of the affected Local Government Areas to be appointed by a meeting of all the affected Local Government Councils of the Arid Zone States;
  - (c) one representative of Traditional Rulers of the affected Local Government Councils in the Arid Zone States;
  - (d) one representative of the Women Group in the affected Local Government Council; and
  - (e) one representative of the non-governmental organisations concerned with matters relating to the environment based in the affected Local Government Areas of the Arid Zone States.
- (3) A Divisional Forest Officer appointed by a meeting of the affected Local Government Councils in the Arid Zone States shall serve as the Secretary to the Local Government, Afforestation Coordinating Committee.

*(b) Duties*

8. (1) The duties of the Local Government Afforestation Coordinating Committee shall be to—
- (a) contribute to the counterpart funding arrangement specified under this Act;
  - (b) provide manpower needs and support staff at the intermediate and lower levels of labour necessary for the sustainability of the Project;
  - (c) supervise and monitor the execution of the projects in its vicinity;
  - (d) provide land for the cultivation of tree plants for the Shelter Belt;
  - (e) engage in grassroots mobilisation and enlightenment of the inhabitants of the affected Local Government Areas on the purposes of the Project and the need for their support and involvement in the programmes embarked upon in consequence thereof;
  - (f) participate in the production of seedlings of tree plants for cultivation in the Shelter Belt Project; and
  - (g) provide adequate protection for the tree plants cultivated in the Shelter Belts in their vicinity, including the conduct of regular patrols for the purposes of dissuading any form of vandalism of the tree plants cultivated thereof.

*Interpretation*

9. In this Schedule—

“the affected areas” means the State or Local Government Area affected by desertification or which is seriously under the threat of desert encroachment (*Hon. Emeka Atuma*)—*Agreed to.*

*Question that the provisions in the Fourth Schedule to this Bill 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 House Committee on Environment on A Bill for an Act to Establish A Shelter Belt Project; and for Connected Purposes, 2005; and approved Clause 1, as amended, Clauses 2, 3, Clause 4, as amended, Clauses 5, 6, 7, Clause 8, as amended, Clauses 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and the Schedules to the Bill.

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

**8. Adjournment**

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 26 July, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

*Adjourned accordingly at 12.35 p.m.*

**Aminu Bello Masari**  
*Speaker*