



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 22 January, 2009

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, 21 January, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted

3. **Petitions:**

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

- (i) Hon. Bala Adamu Kuta (*Shiroro/Kati/Muya Federal Constituency*), from John Cletus, praying the House to investigate his alleged illegal and unjust dismissal from the services of the Nigeria Police Force, with a view to re-instating him and granting other reliefs sought therein;
- (ii) Hon. Bala Adamu Kuta (*Shiroro/Kati/Muya Federal Constituency*), from Alhaji Shuaibu Isa Paiko, requesting the House to intervene and ensure that his vehicles seized by the Nigeria Police Force were released to him without further delay and grant other reliefs sought therein.

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Hon. Dino Melaiye, rising on Order 8, Rule (1), (2) referred to the frustrating development in the Communications Sector, with the increasing rate of drop calls and the absence of required inter-connectivity. He noted that the inability of the Nigerian Communication Commission to stem the development was affecting the economy and hurting ordinary Nigerians. He urged the House to debate it as a matter of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Matter to stand over till the next Legislative Day.

5. **Presentation of Reports:**

Joint Committee on Finance, Appropriations and Legislative Budget:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Finance, Appropriation and Legislative Budget on the \$3 Billion World Bank Loan Offer to Nigeria" {Hon. John Owan Enoh}.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

6. A Nigerian Stabbed to Death in Ukraine:
Motion made and Question proposed,
The House:

Notes that on Sunday, 18 January, 2009, Shefiu Salaudeen, a Nigerian resident in Ukraine was stabbed to death in the neck at about 8.00 p.m. while trying to board a bus;

Aware that the late Mr Salaudeen was married to a Ukrainian with one child, and has been resident there legally since 2001;

Worried that 48 hours after the incident, representatives of the Nigerian Mission in Kiev, Ukraine have taken no step whatsoever to look into the matter despite the protest by Nigerian students to the Consulate;

Disturbed that his corpse cannot be released for burial because the police is requesting the presence of Nigerian Embassy Officials who have shown no concern;

Further worried that another young Nigerian should not be allowed to die in vain;

Recalls that two Nigerians are currently languishing in jail in Kiev, Ukraine, detained without trial for over two years;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the passive action and total lack of concern by officials of the Nigerian Embassy in Ukraine on this matter and call for their immediate intervention;
- (ii) mandate the Joint Committee on Diaspora, Foreign Affairs and Justice to conduct a full investigation into the matter and report back to the House in three weeks (*Hon. Abike Dabiri and 22 others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Inserts new Prayer (Hi) as follows:*
"Urged the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to recall the Consular Officer to Headquarters while investigation into the matter is going on" (*Hon. Sada Soli*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (ii) *Leave out* the words in Prayers (i) (*Hon. Tsegba Terngu*).

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

- (iii) *Insert a new Prayer (ii) as follows:*
"Call on the Nigerian Embassy in Ukraine to intervene in the matter and ensure the release of his body" (*Hon. Juliet Akand*).

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

Main question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Sunday, 18 January, 2009, Shefiu Salaudeen, a Nigerian resident in Ukraine was stabbed to death in the neck at about 8.00 p.m. while trying to board a bus;

Aware that the late Mr Salaudeen was married to a Ukrainian with one child, and had been resident there legally since 2001;

Worried that 48 hours after the incident, representatives of the Nigerian Mission in Kiev, Ukraine had taken no step whatsoever to look into the matter despite the protest by Nigerian students to the Consulate;

Disturbed that his corpse could not be released for burial because the police were requesting the presence of Nigerian Embassy Officials who had shown no concern;

Further worried that another young Nigerian should not be allowed to die in vain;

Recalled that two Nigerians are currently languishing in jail in Kiev, Ukraine, detained without trial for over two years;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the House Joint Committee on Diaspora, Foreign Affairs and Justice to conduct a full investigation into the matter and report back to the House in three weeks;
- (ii) call on the Nigeria Embassy in Ukraine to intervene in the matter and ensure the release of his body. (HR. 03/2009).

7. Global Economic Meltdown and Depreciation of the Naira:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes the recent Global recession affecting, the World Economy as witnessed in America, Asia, Europe and other industrial nations;

Worried that despite the glaring global recession, the captains of Nigeria's Economic and Financial Regulatory Institutions especially the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) continue to assure Nigerians that we are insulated from such general economic recession;

Further worried that, while other countries are preparing or making proactive moves to cushion the effect of the economic meltdown, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and other regulatory bodies are still assuring Nigerians that it is a temporary phenomenon;

Concerned about the recent depreciation of the Naira against other International currencies like the Dollar and the Pound;

Further notes that the foreign exchange demand cannot be traced to our industries which continue to be closed or operate at minimum capacity;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Joint Committee on Banking and Currency, Finance and Capital Markets and Institutions to conduct a Public Hearing with a view to coming up with a way forward and report to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume and 54 Others*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the recent Global recession affecting the World Economy as witnessed in America, Asia, Europe and other industrial nations;

Worried that despite the glaring global recession, the captains of Nigeria's Economic and Financial Regulatory Institutions especially the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN¹) continued to assure Nigerians that we are insulated from such general economic recession;

Further worried that, while other countries are preparing or making proactive moves to cushion the effect of the economic meltdown, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and other regulatory bodies were still assuring Nigerians that it is a temporary phenomenon;

Concerned about the recent depreciation of the Naira against other International currencies like the Dollar and the Pound;

Further noted that the foreign exchange demand could not be traced to our industries as they continue to be closed or operating at minimum capacity;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Joint Committee on Banking and Currency, Finance and Capital Markets and Institutions to conduct a Public Hearing with a view to coming up with a way forward and report to the House within two

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Products Development Commission for identification, promotion and funding to the development of dominant products in each State of the Federation in order to achieve an accelerated economic development of the Federation and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 — Second Reading:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Products Development Commission for identification, promotion and funding to the development of dominant products in each State of the Federation in order to achieve an accelerated economic development of the Federation and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Olaka Nwagu).

Debate:

Debate adjourned:

Final Report of the 2006 Census Exercise:

Mr President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria entered the Chamber to lay the Final Report of the 2006 Census Exercise.

Report laid.

Mr President departed.

Resumption of Debate on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Products Development Commission for identification, promotion and funding to the development of dominant products in each State of the Federation in order to achieve an accelerated economic development of the Federation and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008.

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

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Committee on Industries.

9. **Adjournment:**

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 27 January, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.58 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker