



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 February, 2009

1. The House met at 2.28 p.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 Tuesday, 3 February, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Petition:**
The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:
 - (i) *Hon. Samson Osagie {Orhionmwon Uhunmwode Federal Constituency}, from Messrs J. D. Owu and Mike Moeteke, staff of former New Nigerian Bank Pic, praying the House to prevail on the Unity Bank Pic to pay their monthly pensions from December 2006 to date;*
 - (ii) *Hon. Godwin N. Elumelu {Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency}, from Mrs Adigwel I., praying the House to investigate the circumstances leading to the termination of her appointment with a view to reversing it and ensuring justice.*
4. **Privilege:**
Relying on Order V, Rule 1, Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume, referred to Mr Deputy Speaker's ruling, *vide (he Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 3 February, 2009 in which the Chairman, Rules and Business Committee was ordered to produce and circulate copies of the Power probe Report to the Hon. Members. He noted that the Order had not been complied with. He therefore viewed the development as a breach of his privilege and that of other Members.*

Mr Deputy Speaker ordered the Chairman, Rules and Business Committee to comply accordingly.
5. **Presentation of Report:**
Parliamentary Delegation to Papua New Guinea:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Parliamentary Delegation on the 16th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly Held at Port Morebby Papua New Guinea, 16th - 28th November, 2008" {Hon. Shuaibu Abdullah!}.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.
6. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Passport (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, Cap PI, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 so as to clearly define persons eligible for the issuance of Diplomatic and Official Passport, 2009 — *Third Reading.*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Passport (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, Cap PI, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 so as to clearly define persons eligible for the issuance of Diplomatic and Official Passport, 2009 be now read the Third Time" {Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie}.

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

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Institute of Credit Administration and for Matters Connected Therewith 2008 — Second Reading:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Institute of Credit Administration and for Matters Connected Therewith 2008 be now read a Second Time" {Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume}.

Debate:

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

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Joint Committee on Aid, Loans and Debt Management and Commerce.

8. Consideration of Reports:

(a) **Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Licensing, Regulation and Incentives for Petroleum Refineries in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 (HB. 27) and approve the Recommendations therein" {Hon. Clever M. Ikisikpd}.

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 LICENSING, REGULATION AND
INCENTIVES FOR PETROLEUM REFINERIES IN NIGERIA AND FOR
OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 1: **Objectives of the Bill.**

This Bill is to create a regulatory framework for the Nigerian petroleum refining industry and all matters related thereto and without detracting from the generality of the foregoing, specifically to—

- {a) promote the implementation of national policy(ies) relating to petroleum refining as may from time to time be made, modified or amended;
- {b) establish a regulatory framework for petroleum refineries;
- (c) encourage local and foreign investments in the Nigerian petroleum refining industry;
- {d) ensure fair competition in all sectors of the Nigerian petroleum refining industry, while complying with existing policy on local content and technology transfer;
- (e) ensure the provision of certain incentives to encourage petroleum refining in Nigeria for local use and for export (Hon. Clever M. Ikisikpo) — Agreed to.

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

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 2: **Application and scope.**

This Bill applies to the refining of petroleum in whole or in part within the territory of Nigeria (Hon. Clever M. Ikisikpo)

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

Committee Recommendation:

Clause 3: Requirement for Licensees.

- (1) No person shall operate a petroleum refinery in Nigeria unless he is authorized to do so under an operating licence under this Bill.
- (2) Any person who acts in breach of subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable upon conviction to -
 - {a) a fine not less than the initial fee for the licence,
 - (A) imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or
 - (d) both such fine and imprisonment:

provided that upon conviction, the person shall also forfeit to the Federal Government of Nigeria the property, facilities, installation and equipment used by him in such venture (*Hon. Clever M. Jkisikpo*) — *Agreed to.*

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

Chairman to report progress.

(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 Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Licensing, Regulation and Incentives for Petroleum Refineries in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 and approved Clauses 1-3 and deferred consideration of the Report to Tuesday, 10 February, 2009.

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

(b) Committee on Agriculture:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Agriculture on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. V3, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeon and for Other Related Matters, 2008 (HB. 64) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Gbenga Makoku*).

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 me Chair*)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE VETERINARY SURGEONS ACT, CAP. V3, LAWS OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA 2004 TO PROVIDE FOR REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY
SURGEONS AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

PART I — VETERINARY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA

Amendment of Section 1: Committee

Recommendation: Establishment and Functions
of the Council.

- (1) For the purpose of this Bill there shall continue to be a Council called the Veterinary Council of Nigeria (hereinafter in this Bill referred to as "the Council") which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall be constituted in accordance with the provisions of this Bill.

- (2) The Council shall be charged with the general duty of:
- {a}* determining what standard of knowledge and skill are to be attained by persons seeking to be registered under this Bill as Veterinary Surgeons and of raising those standards from time to time as circumstances may permit.
 - {b}* securing in accordance with the provisions of this Bill the establishment and maintenance of a register of persons registered under this Bill as Veterinary Surgeons, and the publication from time to time of lists of those persons; and
 - {c}* Registration and regulation of professional Veterinary Practicing Premises.
 - {d}* Reviewing and preparing from time to time, a statement as to the code of conduct which the Council considers desirable for the practice of the profession in Nigeria.
 - {e}* Making regulations for the operation of a clinical laboratory practice in the field of pathology which includes histopathology, forensic pathology, necropsy and cytology.
 - {f}* performing the other functions conferred on the Council by this Act *{Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola} — Agreed to.*

Question that Section 1 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 2:

Committee Recommendation:

Membership of the Council.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Council shall consist of the following members, that is to say:
- {a}* A President and Vice-President who shall be elected by the members of the Council from among their number;
 - {b}* The Executive Director of the National Veterinary Research Institute who shall be a registered Veterinary Surgeon;
 - {c}* The Director of the Federal Department of Livestock and Pest Control Services or the most senior registered Veterinary Surgeon where the Director is not a registered Veterinary Surgeon;
 - {d}* The Provost or Dean of each College or Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Nigeria approved by the Council, who shall be a registered Veterinary Surgeon.
 - {e}* The Provost or Head of the College of Veterinary Surgeons of Nigeria
 - {f}* The Director of Veterinary Services of each State and the representative of the Animal Health Section of the FCT who shall be a Veterinary Surgeon.
 - {g}* eight persons (hereafter in this Act referred to as "elected members of the Council") who shall be elected by registered Veterinary Surgeons from among their number in the manner prescribed in Schedule 1 to this Bill.
 - {h}* The National President of the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association *{Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola} — Agreed to.*

Question that Section 2 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 3:

Committee Recommendation:

Financial Provisions.

- (1) The Council shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive Council not later than the thirty-first day of December of the year in which this sub-section comes into force and of each subsequent year, an estimate of its expenditure and income during the next succeeding financial year.

- (2) The Minister may out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation make to the Council, either by way of grant or by way of loan payments of such amounts as the Federal Executive Council may from time to time determine
 - (a) such sums as may be provided by the Federal Military Government for the purpose of this Act by way of grants; and
 - (b) such other funds or moneys as may from time to time accrue to the Council.
- (3) The Council shall keep proper accounts and proper records relating to, and shall prepare in respect of each, financial year statement of accounts in such form as the Minister may direct, being a form which shall conform to the best accounting standards.
- (4) The accounts of the Council shall be audited by the Auditor-General of the Federation (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

Debate-Amendment

Proposed:

Retain provisions of the Principal Act (*Hon. Ita Enang*).

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

Question that Section 3 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 4:

Committee Recommendation:

Control of Council by Minister.

- (1) The Minister may give to the Council directions of general character or relating generally to particular matters (but not to an individual person or case) with regard to the exercise by the Council of functions, and it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with the direction
- (2) Before giving a direction under the foregoing subsection the Minister shall serve a copy of the proposed direction on the Council and shall afford the Council an opportunity of making representations to him with respect to the direction; and after considering any representations made him in pursuance of this subsection the Minister may give the direction either without modification or with such modifications as appear to him to be appropriate having regard to the representations (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 4 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART II — THE REGISTRAR

Amendment of Section 5: Committee

Recommendation: Preparation and maintenance of a Register.

- (2) The person who immediately before the appointed day was appointed Registrar of Veterinary Surgeons under section 8 of this Act shall on that day be deemed to be appointed the Registrar under subsection (1) of this section, and in this Act, "the Registrar" shall be construed accordingly.
- (3) The Registrar shall prepare and maintain, in accordance with the rules made by the Council under this section, a Register of the names, addresses and approved qualifications, and of such other particulars as may be specified of all persons who are entitled under the provisions of this Act to be registered therein.
- (4) (c) authorizing a registered person to have any qualification which is either an approved qualification or an accepted qualification for the purposes of section 8 (2) of this Bill, registered in relation to his name in addition to or, as he may elect, in substitution for any other qualifications so registered (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 5 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

*Amendment of Section 6:**Committee Recommendation:*

Correction of Register and removal of certain names from the Register.

- (1) The Registrar shall—
 - (c) delete from the Register the name of every deceased person.
- (2) The Registrar may remove the name of a registered person from the register if—
 - (a) he has ceased to practise the profession, provided that this is done at his request or with his consent;
 - (b) he fails to pay his annual practising fees
 - (c) he fails to attend a peer approved professional Continuing Education programme initiated or approved by the Council for three consecutive years.
 - (d) he commits any Bill of misconduct or refuses to carry out or disobeys council instruction
(*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 6 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART III — QUALIFICATION FOR REGISTRATION, ETC.

*Amendment of Section 8: Committee**Recommendation:* Registration of
Veterinary Surgeons.

- (1) Subject to rules made under section 5 (4) of this Bill, a person shall be entitled to be registered as a Veterinary Surgeon if—
 - (a) he has attended a course of training approved by the Council under section 9 of this Bill; and
 - (d) He has applied for registration with the Council within 12 months from the date of his graduation from an approved institution.
- (2) (d) if the Council so requires, that he has had sufficient relevant practical experience,
- (3) Where any application for registration is received by the Council from any person who is not entitled to registration under subsection (1) or (2) above, the Council may refer the application to the Board of Examiners for investigation under section 12 of this Bill.
- (4) A person who refuses or fails to register with the Council within 12 months as provided in subsection (1) (d) of this section shall not be qualified for registration by the Council unless he has been examined again as provided under section 12 of this Bill.
- (5) No person shall in any manner whatsoever practice as a Veterinary Surgeon unless he is registered or deemed to be registered under this Bill to practice the profession concerned, and any person who practises in breach of this provision commits an offence.
- (6) Any person who is convicted of an offence under this section shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine or both (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 8 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

*Amendment of Section 9A:**Committee Recommendation:*

Approval of Courses, qualification and Institutions.

- (1) The Council shall, for the purposes of Specialist professional designation and Consultant grade recognize postgraduate and Diplomas from institutions approved by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria, in all subject areas of the Veterinary curriculum
- (2) Fellowship and Membership Diplomas of the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria

- (3) For the purpose of this Bill, a Veterinary Consultant is a registered Veterinary Surgeon who has a specialist qualification and has been so qualified for at least seven years (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 9 A as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 9B:

Committee Recommendation:

- (5) (b) note later than seven days before its publication as aforesaid, send a copy of the instrument to the Minister (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 9B as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 10:

Committee Recommendation:

Recognition of Postgraduate degrees and Diplomas.

- (1) The Council shall, for the purposes of Specialist professional designation and Consultant grade recognize—
- (a) Fellowship and Membership Diplomas of the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria;
- (b) Postgraduate degrees and Diplomas from institutions approved by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria, in all the subject areas of the Veterinary Curriculum
- (2) For the purpose of this Bill, a Veterinary Consultant is a registered Veterinary Surgeon who has a specialist qualification and has been so qualified for at least seven years (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 10 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 12:

Committee Recommendation:

Power of Board of Examiners to investigate.

- (3) The Board shall investigate any application referred to it by the Council under section 8 (3) of this Bill and shall — (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 12 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART IV — PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE

Amendment of Section 13:

Committee Recommendation:

Establishment of Disciplinary Tribunal and Investigating Panel.

- (1) There shall be a Tribunal, to be known as the Veterinary Surgeons Disciplinary Tribunal (hereafter in the Bill referred to as "the Tribunal") which shall be charged with the duty of considering and determining any case referred to it by the panel established by the following provisions of this section and any other case of which the Tribunal has cognizance under the following provisions of this Bill.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 7 (2) of Schedule 2 to this Bill, the Tribunal shall consist of the President of the Council and four other members of the Council appointed by the Council of whom at least one shall be an elected member of the Council.
- (3) There shall be a body, to be known as the Veterinary Surgeons Investigating Panel (hereafter in this Bill referred to as "the Panel"), which shall be charged with the duty of—
- (5) The provisions of Schedule 2 to this Bill shall, so far as applicable to the Tribunal and the Panel respectively, have effect with respect to those bothes (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 13 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART V — MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

*Amendment of Section 15:**Committee Recommendation:*

Offences.

- (2) If any person, for the purpose of procuring the registration of any name, qualification or other matter under this Bill —
- (4) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to both.
- (5) Where an offence under this section which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any Director, Manager, Secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence punishable by a fine of not exceeding two hundred thousand Naira for the corporate body and fifty thousand Naira for each of the categories of officers of the corporate body stated in this subsection {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola) — Agreed to.

Question that Section 15 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 16: Committee**Recommendation:** Miscellaneous

Supplementary Provisions.

- (3) Where any document is required by any law for the time being in force in the Federation or any part thereof to be issued or signed by a Veterinary Surgeon it shall, if issued or signed after this subsection comes into force, be invalid unless it is issued or signed by a Veterinary Surgeon registered under this Bill {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola) — Agreed to. ■

Question that Section 16 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 17:**Committee Recommendation:**

Regulations, Rules and Orders.

- (1) Any power to make regulations, rules or orders conferred by this Bill shall include power —
- (2) The veterinary Council shall have power to make regulations.
- (3) Nothing in this Bill shall be construed as indicating a contrary intention for the purposes of section 12 (1) of the Interpretation Bill, 1964 (which contains additional provisions with respect to powers to make subordinate legislation){Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola) — Agreed to.

Question that Section 17 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 18:**Committee Recommendation:**

Amendment of Veterinary Council (Election) Rules 1953, etc L.N.I of 1953.

- (1) Without prejudice to section 16 of this Bill, the Veterinary Council (Elections) Rules 1953 shall, until replaced by rules made under paragraph 8 of Schedule I to this Bill, remain in force as though made under the provisions of that paragraph and shall have effect subject to the amendment specified in subsection (2) of this section {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola) — Agreed to.

Question that Section 18 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

*Amendment of Section 19:***Committee Recommendation:**

Transitional Provisions and Repeals Cap 210.

- (1) Subject to section 14 of this Bill and to subsection (2) of this section, a person shall be entitled to be registered as Veterinary Surgeon if he has at any time been, registered in the Register maintained under section 8 of the Veterinary Surgeons Bill; and the Registrar shall accordingly, without any application in that behalf make the necessary entries in the appropriate list in the Register maintained under this Bill.

- (2) A person whose name is not on the register maintained under the Veterinary Surgeons Bill by reason of its having been erased or removed in consequence of an inquiry into his conduct held under section 20 of that Bill by the Council established under that Bill shall be deemed for the purposes of this Bill to have had his name removed, from the Register maintained under this Bill, in pursuance of a direction of the Tribunal which took effect on the date when this subsection comes into force; and the provisions of section 14 (7) of this Bill shall have effect accordingly as if the direction aforesaid prohibited applications under that subsection for the period of six months.
- (3) (b) The institution, course and qualification are recognized by the Council for the purposes of this subsection, any such qualification granted before that day to such a person as aforesaid, or after that day to a person who on that day was engaged in such a course at the institution with a view to obtaining such a qualification, shall be deemed to be a qualification approved by the Council under section 9 of this Bill; and subject to the provisions of section 14 and of rules made under section 5 of this Bill, a person shall be entitled to be registered by reference to a qualification which is an approved qualification by virtue of this subsection.
- (4) For the purpose of enabling persons to qualify for membership of the Council at any time during **the** period of two years beginning with the date when section 2 of this Bill comes into force, a person entitled by virtue of subsection (I) of this section to be registered shall be deemed to be so registered notwithstanding that the Register has not been established or that his name is not registered in it.
- (5) Any proceedings under Part V of the Veterinary Surgeons Bill (which relates to discipline) which, immediately before the date when the provisions of that Bill relating to such proceedings are repealed, were pending before the Council established by that Bill or in the Supreme Court may be continued, and any right of appeal under that Bill which was exercisable immediately before that date may be exercised, as if this Bill had not been passed; and for the purposes of the foregoing provisions of **this** section and of enabling effect to be given to any order made or judgement given in connection **with** any such proceedings or appeal, but not for any other purposes, the Register maintained under that **Bill** shall be deemed not to be abolished (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*) — *Agreed to*.

Question that Section 19 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 2.0:
Committee Recommendation:
Interpretation, etc.

- (1) In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say:

"the College" means the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria established under the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria Act, 2000 (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

"approved" means for the time being approved under section 9 of this Act (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

"approved qualification" means a qualification which is approved under section 9 of this Act (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

"Board of Examiners" means the Board of Examination established under section 12 of this Act (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

"the Council" means the Veterinary Council of Nigeria established under this Act (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

"the Director" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 2 (1) (b), (c) and (l) of this Act (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Veterinary drugs" means any substance of vegetable, animal or mineral origin or any preparations or admixture thereof, applied or administered to any animal species whether for therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behaviour (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Elected Council member" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 2 (1) (g) of this Act (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

Question that the meaning of the words "Elected Council member" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"the Minister" means the Minister of the Government of the Federation responsible for matters relating to animal health and production (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Specialist qualification" includes the Fellowship and Memberships diplomas of the College of Veterinary Surgeons Nigeria; and Postgraduate degrees and diplomas from institutions approved by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria, in all the subject areas of the Veterinary Curriculum (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"the Panel" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 13 of this Act (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Professional Veterinary Premises" means any premises established either partly or wholly for the purposes of providing veterinary services including care of animals and livestock covered under this Act, or for dispensing any medicines or drugs or other substances for the care and treatment of such animals or livestock" and shall include premises used as House Call, Veterinary Clinic, Veterinary Hospital, Veterinary Pharmacy and Abattoirs (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

Question that the meaning of the words "Professional Veterinary Premises" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"House Call" means a registered premises that offers house call and ambulatory veterinary surgery services exclusively in accordance with the Veterinary Surgeons Act (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Veterinary Clinic" means premises which provides primary veterinary care on 24 hours emergency veterinary services in accordance with the Veterinary Surgery Act (Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola).

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

"Veterinary Hospital" means premises registered to render tertiary health care services for the practice

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

"Veterinary Pharmacy" means premises registered for handling, uses and sale of veterinary drugs, medicaments, vaccines, biologies, and veterinary medical devices {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"Abattoir" means premises where animals are processed and sold which includes *Ante-mortem* inspection, slaughter, postmortem inspection, transportation and sale as food for man and animals {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"Register" means a register maintained under this Act, and "registered" shall be construed accordingly {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"the Registrar" means the registrar appointed in pursuance of section 5 of this Act {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"regulations" means regulations made by the Minister {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"State" means any of the states listed in section 3 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"the Tribunal" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 12 of this Act {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

"Veterinary Surgeon" means person trained and certified with a degree in veterinary medicine registerable by the veterinary Council of Nigeria in accordance with the Veterinary Surgeons Act {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

(e) Anti-mortem/Postmortem inspection of animal slaughter for food for man and animals.

(f) handling, uses and sale of veterinary drugs, medicaments, vaccines, biologies, and veterinary medical devices {Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola}.

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

- (2) Anything required by this Act to be done by or to the Registrar may be done by or to any Assistant Registrar appointed by the Council

- (3) Any approval, consent, direction, notice, observation, report, representation or request authorized or required to be given or made by or under this Act shall be in writing and may, without prejudice to any other method of service but subject to the provisions of rules made under Schedule 2 to this Act, be served by post {*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*} — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 20 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Amendment of Section 21:

Committee Recommendation:

Citation.

- (1) This Bill may be cited as the Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Bill, 2009 and shall apply throughout the Federation.
- (2) The provisions of this Act shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by order appoint, and different dates may be appointed for the purposes of different provisions and any reference in this Act to the commencement of any provision thereof shall be construed as a reference to the day appointed under this subsection for the coming into operation of that provision {*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*} — *Agreed to.*

Question that Section 21 as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

SCHEDULE I

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL

Tenure of Office of members and President

1. (1) Subject to the provision of section 2 (1) (d) of this Act and of this Schedule, a person shall not be a member of the Council unless he is a registered Veterinary Surgeon.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the term of office of any person, who is a member of the Council, otherwise than by virtue of section 2 (1) (a) or (b) of this Act, shall be, as near as may be, five years and the day on which a member of the Council ordinarily retires shall be the day immediately before the annual general meeting of the Council.
4. If any University ceases to be an approved institution for the purposes of this Act, any member representing that University on the Council shall thereupon cease to hold office.

Elections, appointments and casual vacancies

7. A person ceasing to be a member of the Council shall be eligible to be re-elected
8. Elections of elected members of the Council shall be conducted in accordance with rules made by the Council

Powers of the Council

10. (1) Subject to the following subparagraph and to any directions of the Minister under this Act, the Council shall have power to do anything which in its opinion is calculated to facilitate the carrying on of its activities.
- (2) The Council shall not have power to borrow money or to dispose of any property except with the prior consent of the Federal Executive Council, and shall not have power to pay remuneration (including pensions), allowances or expenses to any member, officer or servant of the Council or to any other person except in accordance with scales approved by the Federal Executive Council.

Proceedings of the Council

11. (1) The Council shall hold annual general meetings in March and October in each year, and may hold such other meetings as the President of the Council may determine.

16. A person shall not, by reason only of his membership of the Council, be treated as holding an office of emolument under the Federal Government or the Government of a State {*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*} —
Agreed to.

Question that the provisions of the Schedule as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. V3, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeons and for Other Related Matters {*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*}.

Question that a Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. VI, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeons and for Other Related Matters be the Long Title 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 Agriculture on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. V3, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeon and for **Other** Related Matters, 2009 and approved Clauses 1 and 2, amended Clause 3, approved Clauses **4 - 21**, the **First** Schedule and the Long Title of the **Bill**.

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

9. Adjournment:

That this house do now adjourn till Thursday, 5 February, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. {*Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie*}.

Adjourned accordingly at 4.00 p.m.

Usman Bayero Nafada
Deputy Speaker