



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 30 October, 2008

1. The House met at 10.50 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, 29 October, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. Announcement:

Jurisdictional/Constituency Orders:

Mr Speaker directed the following Hon. Member to take action in respect of the under-listed urgent Constituency/Jurisdictional Tasks;

- (i) Hon. Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi (*Chairman, Committee on Marine Transport*): *Threat to Industrial Harmony at Advanced Maritime Transport Company, Port Harcourt,*
- (ii) Hon. Ndudi Elumelu (*Chairman, Committee on Power*) and Hon. Ado Dogo Audu (*Chairman, Committee on Labour and Productivity*): *Imminent Nationwide Strike Action by members of the National Union of Electricity Employment (NUEE);*
- (iii) Hon. Yusuf Bello Mai-Adua (*Kaduna State*): *Complaints by Cadiolic Cleric over Attacks in Daura Town;*
- (iv) Hon. Ozumgbachi (*Chairman, Committee on Banking and Currency*): *Emergence of a suspected illegal Finance Organization;*
- (v) Hon. Warman W. Ogoriba (*Bayelsa State*), *Sustained Threat to Peace in Fangbe Community;*
- (vi) Hon. Samson Osagie (*Edo State*): *Threat to Operations of Zakhem Construction Company in Orhiomwon Local Government Area, Edo State;*
- (vii) Hon. Jerimon Manwe (*Chairman, Committee on Interior*): *Disaffection among Retirees of the National Orientation Agency in Taraba State;*
- (viii) Hon. Adedeji Omotayo (*Ondo State*): *Tension in Akere Community of Ile-Ohiji/Okeigbo Local Government Area;*
- (ix) Hon. Chukwuma Nwanwa (*Imo State*): *Growing Restiveness over Operations of Nigeria Agip Oil Company (NA OC) in Ohaji/Egbema Community;*
- (x) Hon. Farouk Lawan (*Chairman, Committee on Education*): *Threat of Industrial Action by Senior Staff Association of Nigeria Polytechnics (SSANP);*

- (xi) Hon. Igo Aguma (*Chairman, Committee on Gas*) and Hon. Ado Dogo Audu (*Chairman, Committee on Labour and Productivity*): *Threat of strike action by officials of the Petroleum Tanker Drivers Union (PTDU)*;
- (xii) Hon. Danladi Liman (*Niger State*): *Apprehension over planned eviction of an Islamic Sect from Mokwa Local Government Area*;
- (xiii) Hon. Gabreil Ekpishoko Edi (*Cross River State*): *Tension between Neighbouring Communities in Ogoja and Yala Local Government Areas*;
- (xiv) Hon. Bethel N. Amadi (*Chairman, Committee on Aviation*): *Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) Threatens disconnection of power to Jos Airport over non-payment of Bills*;
- (xv) Hon. Members (*Anambra State*): *Strike Action by Medical Doctors employed by the State Government*;
- (xvi) Hon. Solomon Agidani (*Chairman Industries*): *Rampage by Casual Workers of Savannah Sugar Company (SSG) Gyawana, Adamawa*.

4. Petitions:

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

- (i) Hon. Shehu Matazu (*Musawa/Matazu Federal Constituency*), from Major M. S. Abdullahi (*rtd*), praying the House to investigate his untimely retirement from the service of the Nigerian Army, with a view to re-instating him and granting other reliefs sought;
- (ii) Hon. Asita Honourable (*Ogba/Egbema/Ndom/Ahoada West Federal Constituency*), from Ogbogu D. Christopher, praying the House to investigate his unjust disengagement from the service of **the** Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) with a view to re-instating him and granting other reliefs sought;
- (iii) Hon. Mohammed Umar Jega (*Gwandu/Aliero/Jega Federal Constituency*), from Alhaji Tamburi Shehu Jega, praying the House to intervene in the non-release of the property bought from the NITEL/MTEL Staff Pension Fund;
- (iv) Hon. Patty Etete Inemeh (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*), from Kokoette Ankoh Esq, on behalf of Ekanem Moses, praying the House to intervene in his wrongful termination from the service of the Nigerian Customs and Excise, with a view to re-instating him;
- (v) Hon. Rums Omeire (*Ithato Nordi/South Federal Constituency*), from Emmanuel N. Nwaeme, praying the House to intervene in his wrongful rustication from the University of Abuja with a view to re-instating him.

5. Privilege:

Rising on Order V, Rule 1 (a) and (b), Hon. Ndudi Elumelu drew the attention of the House to a statement made by Hon. Gbenga Oduwaye on Channels Television on Wednesday, 28 October, 2008 to the effect that the House of Representatives did not discuss in the Executive Session the purchase of vehicles for Committee activities. Hon. Elumelu stated that the statement undermined the individual and collective integrity of the House and tended to draw the good image of the House into public odium. He therefore urged the House to investigate the matter and recommend adequate sanctions for the Member if found culpable.

Matter referred to the House Committee on Ethics and Privileges to report back on Thursday, 6 November, 2008.

6. Presentation of Report:

Committee on Poverty Alleviation:

"That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation" (*Hon. Madwatte Anthony Lazarus*).

Order read, deferred.

7. A Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation sum the total sum of N683,301,968,287 (Six hundred and Eighty-three Billion, Three Hundred and One Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-eight Thousand and Two hundred Eighty-seven Naira) only, of which ft220,241,326,816 (Two Hundred and twenty Billion, Two Hundred and Forty-one Million, Three Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixteen Naira) only, is for Additional Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the Balance of N463,060,641,471 (Four Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Sixty Million, Six Hundred and forty-one Thousand, Four hundred and Seventy-One Naira) only is for Contribution to the Development Fund for Additional Capital Expenditure and Portion of the Federal Government's Contribution for the Funding of the Emergency Power projects agreed by the National Economic Council at their meeting of 19th June 2008 amounting to US\$2,463,448,500 equivalent to N288,233,474,500 for the Year ending on the 31st day December, 2008 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation sum the total sum of N683,301,968,287 (Six hundred and Eighty-three Billion, Three Hundred and One Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-eight Thousand and Two hundred Eighty-seven Naira) only, of which N220,241,326,816 (Two Hundred and twenty Billion, Two Hundred and Forty-one Million, Three Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixteen Naira) only, is for Additional Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the Balance of N463,060,641,471 (Four Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Sixty Million, Six Hundred and forty-one Thousand, Four hundred and Seventy-One Naira) only is for Contribution to the Development Fund for Additional Capital Expenditure and Portion of the Federal Government's Contribution for the Funding of the Emergency Power projects agreed by the National Economic Council at their meeting of 19th June 2008 amounting to US\$2,463,448,500 equivalent to N288,233,474,500 for the Year ending on the 31st day December, 2008 be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Tunde Akogun).

Debate:

Order VIII, Rule 6:

Rising on order VIII, Rule 6, Hon Ali Ndume drew the attention of the House to the Motion on the Supplementary Order Paper of the day, pointing out that the prayers of the Motion would be overtaken if the Supplementary Appropriation Bill was debated first. He therefore urged the House to debate the Motion first.

Mr Speaker overruled for non-compliance with the relevant Rule.

Resumption of Debate:

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

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Appropriations: To be reported back on Tuesday, 4 November, 2008.

8. **2008 Appropriations Act as Amended, 2008 Supplementary Appropriations Bill and the 2009 Budget Proposal:**

Motion made and question Proposed,

The House:

Notes that the Appropriations Act is the only law that is annually passed by the National Assembly through which government financial programmes and policies are implemented;

Worried that with less than two months to the end of the fiscal year, the 2008 Budget performance outcome is not impressive despite over 90% releases to various Ministries, Departments and Agencies;

Observe that the confusion in the Appropriation process has almost put the activities of Ministries, Departments, Agencies including the private and public sector on hold;

Resolves to:

- (i) Stand down passage of the 2008 Supplementary Appropriation Bill;
- (ii) Urge Mr President to consolidate and harmonise the Supplementary Appropriations Bill with the proposed 2009 Appropriations Bill;

- (iii) Urge the President to direct all the Ministries, Departments and Agencies to work with the various Committees over-sighting them to harmonise the 2009 Budget Proposal before forwarding it to the National Assembly for quick passage before the end of December 2008 (*Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume and 9 others*).

Motion by leave of the House withdrawn.

9. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 4 November, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.12 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker