



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 29 October, 2008

1. The House met at 2.00 p.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 28 October, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Petition:**
A petition was received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. Njidda Ahmed Gella (*Maila/Mubi Nordi/Mubi South Federal Constituency*), from Sunny S. Moniedafe, praying the House to look into his alleged wrongful termination from the Service of the National Maritime Authority, with a view to re-instating him and granting other reliefs sought.
4. **Jurisdictional/Constituency Orders:**
Mr Speaker directed the following Hon. Members to take necessary action in respect of the under-listed urgent Constituency/Jurisdictional Tasks;
 - (i) Hon. Saidu Muhammad Gumburawa (*Kano State*), *Youth restiveness at Cement Company of Nordiern Nigeria (CCNN)*;
 - (ii) Hon. Gabriel Ekpishoko Edi (*Cross River State*), *Tension between neighbouring communities in Ogoja and Yala Local Government Area*;
 - (iii) Hon. Ibrahim Makama Misau (*Misau/Dambam Federal Constituency*), *Boundary dispute*;
 - (iv) Hon. B. N. Amadi (*Iino State*), *PHCN threatens disconnection of power to Jos Airport over non-payment of Bills*;
 - (v) Hon. Chuka Ama-Nwauwa (*Imo State*), *Growing restiveness over operations of NAOC in Ohaji/Egbema Community*;
 - (vi) Hon. Farouk Lawan (*Chairman, Committee on Education*), *Threat of industrial action by Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Polytechnics (SSANIP)*;
 - (vii) Hon. Igo Aguma (*Chairman Committee on Gas*) and Hon. Ado Dog Audu (*Chairman Committee on Labour Employment and Productivity*), *Threat of strike action by PTDU*;
 - (viii) Hon. Abdullahi Umar Faruk (*Kebbi State*), *Apprehension over use of expired Chemicals for treatment of public Water supply*;

- (ix) Hon. Danladi Liman (*Niger State*), *Apprehension over planned eviction of an Islamic sect Mokwa Local Government Area*;
- (x) Hon. Bassey Edet Otu (*Chairman, Petroleum (Upstream)*) with Hon. Umar Barde and Hon. S. Sani (*Kaduna State*), *Threat of Petroleum Pipeline Explosion*;
- (xi) Hon. Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi (*Chairman, Committee on Maritime Transport*), *Threat to industrial harmony at advanced maritime transport company, Port Harcourt*;
- (xii) Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu (*Chairman, Committee on Power*) and Hon. Ado Gogo Audu (*Chairman, Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity*), *Imminent Nationwide strike action by members of NUEE*.

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Rising on Order VIII, Rule 4 (2) and (3), Hon. Ali Ndume drew the attention of the House to the Appropriations Act, 2008, The Appropriations (Amendment) Act, 2008, the Supplementary Appropriations Bill, 2008, and the forthcoming Appropriations Bill, 2009. He noted that only a few weeks to the end of the year, the capital budget was still less than 30% implemented, and that this poor implementation of the Budget had been erroneously blamed on the National Assembly. He viewed the matter as one of Urgent National Importance and urged the House to consider it as such.

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.

6. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Nigerian Fire Control and Rescue Service Bill, 2008 — *Read the First Time*;
- (ii) Petroleum Production and Distribution (Anti-Sabotage) (Amendment) Bill, 2008 — *Read the First Time*.

7. Presentation of Reports:

(i) Committee on Power:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Power on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Energy Commission of Nigeria act to Grant Priority to the Promotion and Development of Renewable Energy Sources, and Provide for Other Matters Related Thereof, 2008" (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Cooperation and Integration in Africa:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Cooperation and Integration in Africa" (*Hon. Odebumni Peter Kehinde*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) Committee on Rural Development

-Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Rural Development" (*Hon. Igwe Paulinus Igwe*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) Committee on Anti-Corruption, National Ethics and Value:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Anti-Corruption, National Ethics and Value" (*Hon. Sabo Mohammed Nakudu*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report *laid*.

(v) **Committee on National Security and Intelligence:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence" (*Hon. Bala Alnm Banye*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report *laid*.

(vi) **Committee on Solid Minerals Development:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Solid Minerals Development" (*Hon. Yakubu Umaru Barde*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report *laid*.

(vii) **Committee on Education:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the 2007/2008 Sessional Report of the Committee on Education" (*Hon. Farouk Lawan*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report *laid*.

8. The Inability of the National Security Agencies in Combating the Increasing Incidence of Hijacking Fishing Vessels in Nigeria Territorial Waters:

Motion made and Question proposed,
The House:

Notes the importance of fishing as a means of gainful employment and source of revenue;

Worried about the increasing incidence of hijacking of coastal vessels engaged in fishing operations in the costal regions of Lagos, Delta, Rivers, Ondo and Bayelsa States;

Aware of the recent complaint and public outcry for help by the Nigerian Trawler Owners Association (NITOA) in combating the growing menace of sea piracy in Nigerian coastal waters;

Disturbed that if this menace is not checked, cost of insurance cover for ship movement into Nigeria would increase and have negative effects on various sectors of the economy;

Concerned that the fate of 8 Captains and 96 crew members of fishing vessels who were recently abducted to unknown location by these pirates from their vessels in Sambrayo in Bayelsa State is unknown;

Further worried about the apparent inability of our Security Agencies to effectively combat this growing trend in the Nigerian coastal waters;

Further concerned that this unchallenged and growing trend of coastal piracy may be directly linked to the growing cases of theft of Nigeria crude oil estimated at about 500,000 barrels per day;

Resolves to:

- (i) Condemn the apparent lack of will by the Security Agencies to seriously combat sea piracy in Nigerian coastal waters especially the inability to move swiftly to save the lives of the hapless Captain and their vessels, resulting in brazen acts of kidnapping, torture, murder, rape and robbery by pirates;
- (ii) Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the inability of the Security Agencies to protect our maritime assets and to ascertain the adequacy of measures used in protecting our waters and the level of preparedness to fight coastal crime and make appropriate recommendations to the House within 60 legislative days (*Hon. Chuma Nzeribe and 91 others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out all the words in Prayer (i) and insert the following instead thereof:*
"Urge the Security Agencies to seriously combat Piracy in Nigerian Coastal waters especially to move swiftly to save the lives of the hapless Captains and their vessels and avert the brazen acts of kidnapping, torture, murder, rape and robbery by pirates" (*Hon. Leo Ogor*).

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

- (ii) *Leave out all the words in Prayer (ii) and insert the following instead thereof:*
"Mandate the Joint Committee on Navy, National Security and Intelligence, and Maritime Transport to investigate the matter and make appropriate recommendations to me House within 60 days" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

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

- (iii) *Inserts new Prayer (iii) as follows:*
"Urge the relevant security agencies to do everything possible to seek the release of the 8 Captains abducted in Bayelsa State by the Pirates" (*Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola*).

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

Main question as amended put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the importance of fishing as a means of gainful employment and source of revenue;

Worried about the increasing incidence of hijacking of coastal vessels engaged in fishing operations in the coastal regions of Lagos, Delta, Rivers, Ondo and Bayelsa States;

Aware of the recent complaint and public outcry for help by the Nigerian Trawler Owners Association (NITOA) in combating the growing menace of sea piracy in Nigerian coastal waters;

Disturbed that if this menace is not checked, cost of insurance cover for ship movement into Nigeria would increase and have negative effects on various sectors of the economy;

Concerned that the fate of 8 Captains and 96 crew members of fishing vessels who were recently abducted to unknown location by these pirates from their vessels in Sambrayo in Bayelsa State is unknown;

Further worried about the apparent inability of our Security Agencies to effectively combat this growing trend in die Nigerian coastal waters;

Further concerned that this unchallenged and growing trend of coastal piracy may be directly linked to the growing cases of theft of Nigeria crude oil estimated at about 500,000 barrels per day;

Resolved to:

- (i) Urge the Security Agencies to seriously combat Piracy in Nigerian Coastal waters especially to move swiftly to save the lives of the hapless Captains and their vessels and avert the brazen acts of kidnapping, torture, murder, rape and robbery by pirates".
- (h) Mandate the Joint Committee on Navy, National Security and Intelligence, and Maritime Transport to investigate the matter and make appropriate recommendation to the House within 60 days.
- (iii) Urge the relevant security agencies to do everything possible and seek the release of the 8 Captains abducted in Bayelsa State by the Pirates" (HR. 59/2008).

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Integrated Rural Development Agency and Other Related Matters Thereto, 2008 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Integrated Rural Development Agency and Other Related Matters Thereto, 2008 be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Darlington Okereke).

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 Rural Development.

10. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Thursday, 30 October, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Aniinu Waziri Tambuwal*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.10 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker