



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 17 April, 2008

1. The House met at 11.10 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, 16 April, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Jurisdictional/Constituency Orders:**
Mr Speaker directed the following Hon. Members to meet him immediately after the day's proceedings in respect of the underlisted Urgent Constituency/Jurisdictional tasks:
 - (i) Hon. Segun Osibote and Hon. Duro Faseyi (Apprehension over an abandoned Barge containing black oil in Makun-Omu Community waters of Ogun State);
 - (ii) Hon. Aliyu Shehu A. A., Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari and Hon. Aliyu Dikko (Increase in the spread of cerebro-spinal meningitis (CSM) in Sokoto State);
 - (iii) Hon. Olajumoke Okoya-Thomas and Hon. Monsuru Alao Owolabi (Imminent Outbreak of Epidemic in Lagos Island Local Government of Lagos State);
 - (iv) Hon. Bashiru Adamu (Update on outbreak of Bilhazia Disease in secondary schools in Yankwashi Local Government Area of Jigawa State);
 - (v) Hon. Independence Ogunewe (Encroachment into Ilorin Airport land by neighbouring Community Ga-odota);
 - (vi) Hon. Alaba Ojomo (Widespread threat of strike action by staff of Federal Medical Centres);
 - (vii) Hon. Solomon Ahwinahwi (Growing Tension between Shell and its Host, Gana- Agbarhaotor Community in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State); and
 - (viii) Hon. Esem Sunday Eyiboh (Threat to operations of Exxon-Mobil by Coalition of Youths in Ibeno Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State).
4. **Petitions:**
The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions: (i) Hon. Gilbert Nnaji (*Enugu East/Isiugo Federal Constituency*), from C. R. Obijiaku, praying the House to investigate his alleged wrongful termination of appointment from the service of the Nigerian Telecommunications Ltd (NITEL) with a view to reinstating him, as well as payment of all outstanding entitlements;

- (ii) Hon. Asita Honourable O. (*Ahoda West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Federal Constituency*), from Okugie N. N., praying the House to intervene in his alleged unjust dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Postal Services (NIPOST) with a view to reinstating him;
- (in) Hon. H. S. Dickson (*Sagbema/Ekeremor Federal Constituency*), from Chief Stanley Suobo (JP), praying the House to intervene in the non-adherence to Local Content Agreement with Landlords at Igbomatoru town by Nigeria Agip Oil Company Limited;
- (iv) Hon. H. S. Dickson (*Sdgbema/Ekeremor federal Constituency*), from Igbomatoru, Olugbobiri and Tebidaba communities of Bayelsa State, praying the House to intervene in the alleged refusal by Agip Oil Company of Nigeria to comply with the local content agreement of the on-going construction of the 18" pipeline at Tebidaba by Daewoo Engineering/Construction Limited;
- (v) Hon. Aniedi King (*Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency*), from Mr Owoidighe-Abasi Ibok Etukudo, praying the House to investigate the wrongful termination of his appointment by the Prisons Authorities and cause his reinstatement and payment of all his entitlements;
- (vi) Hon. John Kalipa (*Okrika/Ogu/Bolo Federal Constituency*), from Mr Benjamin Rogers Bipialaka, praying the House to investigate his premature retirement from the Military and cause his reinstatement and payment of all his entitlements;
- (vii) Hon. Samson Osagie (*Orhionmwon Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*), from Philova and Jason Engineering Company Limited, praying the House to intervene in the alleged double allocation of Plot-694 Cadastral Zone AO3, Garki II by the Federal Capital Territory Administration which had since been allocated to her in 1991;
- (viii) Hon. Patrick A. Ikhariale (*Esan Central/Esan West/Gueben Federal Constituency*), from Mr Patrick Adaghe, praying the House to prevail on the Hon. Minister of Federal Capital Territory Administration to allow him take possession of his bided property which approval had been officially conveyed to him;
- (ix) Hon. Nkiruka Onyejeocha (*Isuikwato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*), from Mr Samson Ibeabuchi, praying the House to urge the Government Authorities in Las Vegas, United States to release Ike Ibeabuchi from Prison in order to continue his lawful boxing profession;
- (x) Hon. K. G. B. Oguakwa (*Aniari/Agwu/Oji-Rtver Federal Constituency*), from Mr Emmanuel Chukwu Collins, praying the House to prevail on the Federal Government to compensate him for using his chartered ships to evacuate Nigerians during the Liberian Civil War in 1989/90;
- (xi) Hon. Emmanuel Audu Maisango (*Kachia/Kagarko Federal Constituency*), from Mr David Umar, praying the House to prevail on the Federal Government to pay compensation and resettle Communities affected by the acquisition of land for Gurara Dam Project.

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Relying on Order VIII, Rule 4 (1), Hon. Khadija Buka A Ibrahim (*Damaturu/Gujba/Gulani/Tarmuwa Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to the fire incident in her Constituency and sought leave of the House to introduce the matter as one 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.

6. Presentation of Report:

Committee on Police Affairs:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Police Affairs on the Anti Riot Policemen in a killing spree and arson attack in Ogaminana Town in Adavi Local Government Area of Kogi State" (Hon. Pautinus Igwe Nwagu).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid,

7. **Upsurge in Cases of Armed Robbery and Shooting of Nigerians in South Africa:**

Motion made and Question proposed, The House:

Notes the recent upsurge in the unwarranted harassment, intimidation, brutalisation and cases of robbery attacks on Nigerians in South Africa especially those arriving through the South African Airports;

Concerned that South African immigration officials amongst others are being alleged of **complicity** in such . . . robberies that have taken familiar designs;

Alarmed at the more worrisome recent dimension of cases of extra-judicial and unprovoked shooting of Nigerians on the streets by officers of the South African Police;

Aware that the centre-piece of Nigeria's Foreign Policy is "Citizen Diplomacy" which makes a Nigerian Citizen, wherever he or she may be, the focal point of Nigeria's interest;

Further aware of the leadership role that Nigeria played during the emancipation struggles of South Africa during and after the Apartheid regime and the resultant feelings of camaraderie and mutual respect between the two countries until late;

Resolves to:'

(i) urge the Federal Government to convey the strong displeasure of our Nation as regards these attacks, to the South African government and demand cogent explanations thereabout as well as necessary guarantees as to the security of lives and property of Nigerians in that country;

(ii) direct the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to investigate the upsurge in seemingly systematic armed robbery attacks and unprovoked shootings of Nigerians in South Africa and to report its findings to this House;

(Hi) ensure that victims of such attacks are given proper medical care by our Consulate in South Africa and are duly compensated for their injuries and losses.(Hon. Oduwaiye Gbenga and 23 Others)

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government as matter of urgency to issue an official statement warning intending travelers on the level of hostilities against Nigerians in South Africa" (Hon. Patrick Ikhariale).

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

(ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (v) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to as matter of urgency take seriously and act decisively in defense and protection of the interests of Nigerians wherever they reside in the world" (Hon. Herman Hembe).

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

(iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (vi) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to devise a system of taking good care of her citizens both within and outside the country and to come up with a deliberate plan of action that will turn around **the** unpalatable living condition in this country" (Hon. Ralph Okeke).

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

(iv) *Insert* a new Prayer (vii) as follows:
"That the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should sensitize and discourage Nigerians traveling to South Africa from carrying large sums of cash but rather carry more of travelers cheques and cash cards" (Hon. Folake Olunloyo-Oshinowo).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the recent upsurge in the unwarranted harassment, intimidation, brutalisation and cases of robbery attacks on Nigerians in South Africa especially those arriving through the South African Airports;

Concerned that South African immigration officials amongst others are being alleged of complicity in such robberies that have taken familiar designs;

Alarmed at the more worrisome recent dimension of cases of extra-judicial and unprovoked shooting of Nigerians on the streets by officers of the South African Police;

Aware that the centre-piece of Nigeria's Foreign Policy is "Citizen Diplomacy" which makes a Nigerian Citizen, wherever he or she may be, the focal point of Nigeria's interest;

Further aware of the leadership role that Nigeria played during the emancipation struggles of South Africa during and after the Apartheid regime and the resultant feelings of camaraderie and mutual respect between the two countries until late;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to convey the strong displeasure of our Nation as regards these attacks, to the South African government and demand cogent explanations thereabout as well as necessary guarantees as to the security of lives and property of Nigerians in that country;
- (ii) direct the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to investigate the upsurge in seemingly systematic armed robbery attacks and unprovoked shootings of Nigerians in South Africa and to report its findings to this House;
- (iii) ensure that victims of such attacks are given proper medical care by our Consulate in South Africa and are duly compensated for their injuries and losses.
- (iv) urge the Federal Government to as matter of urgency issue an official statement warning intending travelers on the level of hostilities against Nigerians in South Africa.
- (v) urge the Federal Government to as matter of urgency take the issue seriously and act decisively in defense and protection of the interest of Nigerians wherever they reside in the world.
- (W) urge the Federal Government to derive a system of taking good care of her citizens both within and outside the country and to come up with a deliberate plan of action that will turn around the unpalatable living condition in this country. (HR. 18/2008)

8. (a) A Bill for an Act to Establish a Trust Fund for the Physically Challenged in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 — Second Reading.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish a Trust Fund for the Physically Challenged in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008, be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Herman Hembe*).

(b) A Bill for an Act to Ensure full Integration of Nigerians with Disability into the Society and to Establish a National Commission for Persons with Disability and Vest it with the Responsibilities for their Education, Health Care and Protection of their Social, Economic, Civil and Political Rights and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Ensure full Integration of Nigerians with Disability into the Society and to Establish a National Commission for Persons with Disability and Vest it with the Responsibilities for their Education, Health Care and Protection of their Social, Economic, Civil and Political Rights and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2008, be now read a Second Time"

Debate:

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

Bills consolidated and read a Second Time, and referred to the Joint Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development and Human Rights.

9. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 22 April, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.15 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker