



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 20 May, 2008

1. The House met at 10.45 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 15 May, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. **Announcements:**
 - (i) *Visitors:*
Mr Speaker announced the presence in the Gallery, of the staff and students of Divine Academy Itakpe, Kogi State.
 - (ii) *Committee on Selection;*
Mr Speaker directed all Members to fill a prototype resume form designed by the Committee on Selection to assist the Committee in its current exercise.
4. **Jurisdictional/Constituency Tasks:**
Mr Speaker directed as follows:
 - (i) Hon. Gbenga Makanjuola (*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture*) and Hon. Gbenga Elegbeleye (*Akoko North East/West Federal Constituency*): Complaint by the farmers in Ondo State against delayed deployment of Farm equipment to the zonal offices at Ibadan, Zaria and Enugu by the Federal Department of Agriculture, Akure.

Order: Ascertain the veracity of the claim with a view to addressing the problem.
 - (ii) Hon. Alaba Ojomo (*Chairman, Committee on Health*) and Hon. Folake Olunloyo Oshinowo (*Ibadan North Federal Constituency*): Reports of possible outbreak of Cholera Epidemic in Ibadan as a result of unhygienic condition in Bodija Market and its environs in Ibadan North Local Government Area, Oyo State.

Order: Interface with the Local and State Government Authorities to avert the imminent outbreak.
 - (iii) Hon. David Idoko (*Apa/Ado/Ogbadibo Federal Constituency*) and Hon. Ali Atai Usman (*Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency*): The refusal of the Community Leaders from Olamaboro Local Government Area, Kogi State and Ogbadibo/Okpokwu Local Government Area, Benue State to cooperate with the National Boundary Commission on the land dispute between Kogi and Benue States.

Order: Hon. Members from the affected areas to liaise with the National Boundary Commission to broker a truce between the Communities with a view to sustaining peace in the area.

- (iv) Hon. West Idahosa [*Chairman, Committee on Interior*): Widespread complaints against the Directorate of National Civic Registration (DNCR) over non-issuance of National Identity Cards to members of the public, especially unemployed youths.

Order: Liaise with the Directorate of National Civic Registration (DNCR) to address the issue and report back to the Honourable Speaker.

- (v) Hon. Chile Igbawua W. (*Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*) and Hon. West Idahosa (*Chairman, Committee on Interior*): Deploable State of the Refugee Camp in Kwande Local Government Area, Benue State due to growing apprehension among Refugees over non-fulfillment of pledges made by the Council Chairman, Terlurum Akputu to address their plight.

Order: Carry out on- the- spot assessment of the camp and report back to the Honourable Speaker.

- (vi) Hon. Solomon Ahwinahwi (*Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*) and Hon. Bassey Otu (*Chairman, Inter/Intra Party Relations*): Violent clashes between Supporters of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and Labour Party (LP) in Ughelli North Local Government Area resulting in the death of 4 persons.

Order: Liaise with the Party Chairmen to initiate a dialogue in order to forestall further loss of lives in the area and report back to the Honourable Speaker.

- (vii) Hon. Suleiman Nimota O. (*Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency*) and Hon. Kolawole A. Yusuf (*Ifelodun/Offa/Oyun Federal Constituency*): Report of outbreak of Measles and Chicken Pox in three metropolitan Local Government Areas of Ilorin and Offa resulting in the hospitalization of about 80 persons mainly Children, due to inadequate supply of drugs.

Order: Visit the affected area, ascertain the level of impact and prevail on the relevant Government Agencies to intervene and to report back to the Honourable Speaker.

- (viii) Hon. Ado Dogo Audu (*Chairman, Committee on Labour and Productivity*) and Hon. Tarn Brisibe (*Chairman, Petroleum-Downstream*): Reports of plans by Members of the Petroleum Tankers Drivers Union to embark on a nationwide strike to elicit commitment from the Federal Government towards the repair of the nation's roads, particularly the Mokwa-Jebba and Bida-Lambata Roads.

Order: Initiate a dialogue into the matter in order to forestall the planned strike and report back to the Honourable Speaker.

5. **Petitions:**

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

- (i) Hon. Mohammed Saleh (*Sabon Gari Federal Constituency*), from Pte. Adamu Yusuf, praying the House to prevail on the Military authorities over his alleged wrongful dismissal from the Nigerian Army and to re-instate him;
- (ii) Hon. Albert T. Sam Tsokwa (*Takum/Donga/Ussa-Special Area Federal Constituency*), from Mr. Chiseh Suleiman Yerima, praying the House to investigate his alleged unlawful dismissal by the College of Education, Zuba, with a view to reinstating him;
- (iii) Hon. Tijjani Abdulkadir Jobe (*Tofa/Rimin Gado/Tako Federal Constituency*), from Alh. Idris Garba U. Rimi, praying the House to intervene in die alleged illegal acquisition of their farmland by the Nigerian Army and to adequately compensate them;
- (iv) Hon. Njidda Ahmed Gella (*Mubi North/Mubi South/Meiha Federal Constituency*), from Y. B. Inuwa, seeking the intervention of the House in his alleged wrongful dismissal by the Nigeria Immigration Service and to grant the reliefs sought therein;
- (v) Hon. Kolawole Ismaila (*Ila/Boluwaduro/Ifedayo Federal Constituency*), from 66 ex-workers of Osogbo Steel Rolling Company, praying the House to look into their disengagement benefits with a view to paying them.

6. Matter of Urgent Public Importance:

Relying on Order VIII, Rule 4 (1), Hon. Austine Nwachukwu drew the attention of the House to the deplorable power outages and near black out in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory. He therefore urged the House to debate the matter as one of urgent national importance.

Question put and negatived.

7. Presentation of Bills:

(i) Nigerian Social Welfare Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2008 — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) National Graduates Employment Programme (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2008 — *Read the First Time.*

8. Presentation of Reports:

(iii) *Joint Committee on Environment and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness:*

"That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Environment and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness on the Flood Disaster in Parts of Wase Federal Constituency and 6 other Local Government Areas of Plateau State" (*Hon. Duro Faseyi*).

Order read, deferred.

Committee ordered to present its Report in two weeks.

(ii) **Committee on Interior:**

Report of the Committee on Interior on the Urgent Need for the Relocation of Ikot Ekpene Prison to its Permanent Site (*Hon. West Idahosa*).

Order read, deferred.

(iii) **Joint Committee on Works, Power and Steel and Water Resources:**

Report of the Joint Committee on Works, Power and Steel and Water Resources on giving Priority to Abandoned Federal Government Projects (*Hon. Chuma Nzeribe*),

Hon. Chuma Nzeribe, Chairman, Committee on Works complained of non-receipt of the referral order;

Joint Committee ordered to interface with Chairman, Committee on Rules and Business In order to resolve the matter.

9. Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Bill, 2008 — Second Reading (First Allotted Day):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Bill, 2008 be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Tunde Akogun).

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 Federal Capital Territory and Federal Capital Territory Area Councils.

10. A Bill for An Act to Provide for Fines in Enactments to be expressed in Terms of Penalty Units; to provide for the Amounts of Fines in Existing Enactments to be Converted Into Penalty Units and to Provide for Connected Matters, 2008 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for An Act to Provide for Fines in Enactments to be Expressed in Terms of Penalty Units; to Provide for the Amounts of Fines in Existing Enactments to be Converted Into Penalty Units and to Provide for Connected Matters, 2008 be now read a Second time" (Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah),

Debate:

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 Judiciary.

11. A Bill for an Act to Abolish and Prohibit Dichotomy and Discrimination Between First Degrees and the Higher National Diploma in the Same Profession/Field and Related Matters 2008 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Abolish and Prohibit Dichotomy and Discrimination Between First Degrees and the Higher National Diploma in the Same Profession/Field and Related Matters 2008 be now read a Second time" (Hon. Ini Akpan Udoka).

Debate:

Question put and negatived.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria for the Strategic Planning and Co-ordination of National Policies in the Field of Climate Change and Energy and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2007 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria for the Strategic Planning and Co-ordination of National Policies in the Field of Climate Change and Energy and for Matters Connected Therewith, be now read a Second Time" {Hon. Bala Ibn Na 'Allah}.

Debate:

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

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

13. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Wednesday, 21 May, 2008 at 2.00 p.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.06 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker