



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 25 October, 2005

1. The House met at 11.30 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, 20 October, 2005.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Bellview Airline Flight 210 Air Disaster:**
Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that on Saturday, October 22 2005, a Bellview Airline Flight 210 reportedly disappeared from the radar; three minutes after it took off from the Murtala Mohammed Airport, Lagos, at about 8.45 p.m.; en-route Abuja;

Informed that 117 passengers including the Crew were on board the plane;

Concerned about conflicting reports which trailed the disappearance of the plane, its whereabouts and eventual crash at Lisa, Ifo Local Government Area in Ogun State, without any survivor;

Apprehensive of the air-worthiness of the plane before it commenced its ill-fated flight to Abuja;

Deplores the poor management and dissemination of information on the fate of Flight 210 to the Nigerian public and the role of Aviation Management and Regulatory Agencies in this regard;

Concerned that recent cases of air disasters in the country were hardly investigated; and if investigated, the reports of such investigations were rarely made public;

Worried about the increasing lack of safety in air travels and anxious to prevent future occurrences,

Resolves to:

- (i) Commiserate with the families of all the passengers and Crew on board the ill-fated aircraft;
- {ii} Condemn the unprofessional manner the search and rescue operations were handled by Aviation Authorities (NAMA, NCAA, FAAN and NEMA,) and the poor management and dissemination of information to the public on the disaster; and
- (Hi) Direct the House Committees on Aviation and Disaster Management in conjunction with the relevant Senate Committees to investigate the remote and immediate causes of the disaster and submit a comprehensive report to the National Assembly within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Abdul Ningi and 11 Others*).

*Debate:**Amendments proposed:*

- (i) *Leave out* all the word in prayer (Hi) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
 "Constitute a Special Ad-Hoc Committee in conjunction with the relevant Senate Committee to investigate the remote and immediate causes of the disaster, the poor management and dissemination of information to the public, and submit a comprehensive report to the National Assembly within four (4) weeks" (Hon. Chidi Nwogu, Hon. Y. D. Baba-Ahmed, Hon. Simon Adayanju, Hon. Sam A. Toro and Hon. Mercy Almona-Isei).

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

- (i) *Insert* a new prayer (iv) as follows:
 "Pay a condolence visit to Mr President on the death of all the passengers who lost their lives in the ill-fated Bell view Air Craft" (Hon. Abdul Nlengi).

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

- (iii) *Insert* a new prayer (v) as follows:
 "That the Committee on Information investigate the suspension of transmission of AIT by NBC and approve sanction to be meted out if suspension was in bad faith" (Hon. Mike Ohia).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negative.

- (iv) *Leave out* all the words in prayer (it) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
 "Investigate the apparently uncoordinated manner the search and rescue operation were handled by Aviation Authorities (NAMA, NCAA, FAAN and NEMA,) and the poor management and dissemination of information to the public on the disaster; and (Hon. KGB Oguakwa).

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

Main Question, as amended, put agreed to. The House:

Noted that on Saturday, October 22, 2005, a Bellview Airline Flight 210 reportedly disappeared from the radar; three minutes after it took off from the Murtala Mohammed Airport, Lagos, at about 8.45 p.m.; en-route Abuja;

Informed that 117 passengers including the Crew were on board the plane;

Concerned about conflicting report which trailed the disappearance of the plane, its whereabouts and eventual crash at Lisa, Ifo Local Government Area in Ogun State, without any survivor;

Apprehensive of the air worthiness of the plane before it commenced its ill-fated flight to Abuja;

Deplored the poor management and dissemination of information on the fate of Flight 210 to the Nigerian public and the role of Aviation Management and Regulatory Agencies in this regard;

Concerned that recent cases of air disasters in the country were hardly investigated; and if investigated, the reports of such investigations were rarely made public;

Worried about the increasing lack of safety in air travels and anxious to prevent future occurrences,

Resolved to:

- (i) *Commiserate* with the families of all the passengers and Crew on board the ill-fated aircraft;

O'O *Investigate* the apparently uncoordinated manner the search and rescue operation were handled by Aviation Authorities (NAMA, NCAA, FAAN and NEMA,) and the poor management and dissemination of information to the public on the disaster; and

(Hi) *Constitute* a Special Ad-hoc Committee in conjunction with the relevant Senate Committee to investigate the remote and immediate causes of the disaster, the poor management and dissemination of information to the public, and submit a comprehensive report to the National Assembly within four (4) weeks);

- (iv) Pay a condolence visit to Mr President on the death of all the passengers who lost their lives in the ill-fated Bellview Air Craft (HR. 38/2005).

4. Death of Nigeria's First Lady—Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo:
Motion and question proposed.

The House:

Receives with deep shock and pain the sudden and untimely death of Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo, the wife of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, in a hospital in Spain;

Recalls, with great sense of loss, her charismatic, dynamic and amiable mien and her philanthropic gestures to the plight of the less privileged in the society manifested in the establishment of the Child Care Trust, amongst others;

Notes her supportive roles in the sustenance of a democratic culture, developmental projects and policies of the present Administration;

Resolves to:

- (i) pay a condolence visit to Mr President on the death of his wife, Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo;
- (it) commiserate with the Federal Government and the people of Nigeria as well as the Government and people of Edo State on this sad loss (*Hon. Abdul Ningi and 9 Others*).

Debate: The

House:

Received with deep shock and pain the sudden and untimely death of Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo, the wife of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, in a hospital in Spain;

Recalled, with great sense of loss, her charismatic, dynamic and amiable mien and her philanthropic gestures to the plight of the less privileged in the society manifested in the establishment of the Child Care Trust amongst others;

Noted her supportive roles in the sustenance of a democratic culture, developmental projects and policies of the present Administration;

Resolved to:

- (i) pay a condolence visit to Mr President on the death of his wife, Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo;
- (n) Commiserate with the Federal Government and the people of Nigeria as well as the Government and people of Edo state on this sad loss (HR. 39/2005).

(A minute of silence was observed in honour of the victims of the Bellview Airlines Flight 2 JO Air Disaster and the late Chief (Mrs) Stella Obasanjo, wife of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Hon. Abdullahi Omar and Hon. Musa Wuyep rendered prayers for the repose of the souls of the departed).

5. Membership of the Special *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Investigation of the BeUview Airline Flight 210 Air Disaster:

Mr Speaker named the Members of the Committee:

- (/) Hon. Prince G. Nnaji — Chairman
- (ii) Hon. Ahmed Salik
- (Hi) Hon. Hadi Sirika
- (iv) Hon. Jim Adun
- (v) Hon. Iquo Minimah
- (vi) Hon. K. G. B. Ogtiakwa
- (vi7) Hon. Chuma Nzeribe

- (viii) Hon. Wale Ogunbanjo
- (ix) Hon. Babangida Ngoroje
- (x) Hon. Mike Kalango
- (xi) Hon. James Baitachi
- (xfi) Hon Halims O. Agoda

6. Adjournment

That this House do remain adjourned till Tuesday, 8 November, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.20 p.m.

Aminu Bello Masari
Speaker