



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 26 February, 2009

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 Wednesday, 25 February, 2009.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.*

3. **Announcements:**

(i) **Advisory Committee on Constitution Review:**

Mr Speaker named the membership of the Advisory Committee on Constitution Review as follows:

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (1) Hon. Abdul Ningi        | (11) Hon. K. G. B. Oguakwa |
| (2) Hon. Terngu Tsegba      | (12) Hon. Ubale Jakarda    |
| (3) Hon. Farouk Lawan       | (13) Hon. Dayo Alebiosu    |
| (4) Hon. Halims Agoda       | (14) Hon. Leo Ogor         |
| (5) Hon. West Idahosa       | (15) Hon. Abike Dabiri     |
| (6) Hon. Chile Igbawua      | (16) Hon. Henry Dickson    |
| (7) Hon. Olaka Nwogu        | (17) Hon. Emmanuel Jime    |
| (8) Hon. Habib Fasinro      | (18) Hon. Lanre Agoro      |
| (9) Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah  | (19) Hon. Ita Enang        |
| (10) Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum |                            |

(ii) **Mid-Sessional Report:**

Mr Speaker read out a communication from the Chairman Rules and Business Committee requesting Chairmen of Committees to prepare and lay their Mid-Sessional Reports before the House by March 26, 2009.

(iii) **Visitors:**

Mr Speaker recognized the presence in the Gallery, of:

- (a) Students of Living Spring International College, Gwarimpa;
- (b) Public Administration Students Association of Nigeria, Federal Polytechnic Owerri, Imo State.

4. **Petition:**

The following petition was received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

Hon. Ita Enang (*Itu/Ibiono Ibom Federal Constituency*), from Mr Oscar Awak, praying the House to investigate his alleged unlawful dismissal from the services of the State House with a view to re-instating him and granting other reliefs sought therein.

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Citing Order VIII, Rule 4, Hon. Friday Itulah drew the attention of the House to the recent activities of Cultist in Edo State, who not only maimed and killed but went to victims houses to attack their relations when unable to find them. He urged the House to debate the matter as one of Urgent Public Importance.

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Matter to stand over till the next Legislative Day.*

6. **Presentation of Bill:**

National Honours (Amendment) Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*

7. **Presentation of Report:**

***Committee on Rules and Business:***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Mid-Sessional Report of the House Committee on Rules and Business" (Hon. Ita Enang).*

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

8. **Clandestine Phasing-out or Outright Sale of Federal Government Colleges (Unity Schools):**

*Motion made and Question proposed,*

The House:

*Notes* the establishment of Unity Colleges in the 90's to train the educationally endowed Nigerians from all parts of Nigeria in order to groom them for future leadership positions;

*Aware* that today there are 104 Federal Unity Colleges spread across the six geopolitical zones of the country;

*Concerned* that these Unity Colleges that have produced eminent, well-groomed Nigerians who are occupying strategic positions in this country and abroad now face the plan of being sold outrightly or phased out;

*Disturbed* that sixty-four thousand pupils who sat and passed the Junior Secondary School 1 (JSS) examinations and interview for 2008/2009 session, were denied the opportunity of admission into the Federal Government Colleges (FGCs) for no justifiable reasons;

*Further disturbed* that these model of models if allowed to die, privatized, sold or phased out will negate the Federal Government's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of Education For All (EFA) programme;

*Further aware* that thousands of school age children all over Nigeria are roaming and hawking on our streets as a result of non-release of common entrance results and their placements;

*Regrets* that thousands of teaching and non-teaching staff will be rendered redundant and hence jobless;

*Further concerned* that the Principles of Transparency, Due Process and Rule of Law are not being followed in the current phasing out or outright sale of the Unity Colleges;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Direct the Federal Ministry of Education to release the 2009 Common Entrance Examination and Interview immediately to enable all successful pupils report in their schools;
- (ii) Mandate the House Committee on Education to conduct an Investigative Hearing by inviting the Minister of Education, the Nigerian Public as well as Stakeholders in the educational sector with a view to unraveling the planned outright sale of Unity Schools and report to the House within 4 weeks (*Hon. Samson Positive and 103 Others*).

*Debate:*

*Question put and agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* the establishment of Unity Colleges in the 90's to train the educationally endowed Nigerians from all parts of Nigeria in order to groom them for future leadership positions;

*Aware* that today there are 104 Federal Unity Colleges spread across the six geopolitical zones of the country;

*Concerned* that these Unity Colleges that have produced eminent, well-groomed Nigerians who are occupying strategic positions in this country and abroad now face the plan of being sold outrightly or phased out;

*Disturbed* that sixty-four thousand pupils who sat and passed the Junior Secondary School 1 (JSS) examinations and interview for 2008/2009 session, were denied the opportunity of admission into the Federal Government Colleges (FGCs) for no justifiable reasons;

*Further disturbed* that these model of models if allowed to die, privatized, sold or phased out will negate the Federal Government's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of Education For All (EFA) programme;

*Further aware* that thousands of school age children all over Nigeria are roaming and hawking on our streets as a result of non-release of common entrance results and their placements;

*Regrets* that thousands of teaching and non-teaching staff will be rendered redundant and hence jobless;

*Further concerned* that the Principles of Transparency, Due Process and Rule of Law are not being followed in the current phasing out or outright sale of the Unity Colleges;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) Direct the Federal Ministry of Education to release the 2009 Common Entrance Examination and Interview immediately to enable all successful pupils report in their schools;
- (ii) Mandate the House Committee on Education to conduct an Investigative Hearing by inviting the Minister of Education, the Nigerian Public as well as Stakeholders in the educational sector with a view to unravelling the planned outright sale of Unity Schools and report to the House within 4 weeks (HR. 08/2009).

**9. Privileges:**

Citing Order V, Rule (1) (a), (b) and (c) Hon. Alhassan Adu Garba drew the attention of the House to the disorderly conduct of Hon. Independence Ogunewe to the authority and the House. He considered it as a breach of the House privilege.

**Order X, Rules 5 (4): Suspension after naming:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That Hon Independence Ogunewe be suspended from the service of the House for 14 Legislative Days" (Hon. Aminu Tambuwal, Deputy Chief Whip).

*Question put and agreed to.*

*Clerk ordered to communicate the Resolution of the House to the Leadership of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the Serjeant-at-Arms.*

**10. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Licensing, Regulation and Incentives for Petroleum Refineries in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Licensing, Regulation and Incentives for Petroleum Refineries in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

**11. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Projects Monitoring Agency and for Connected Purposes, 2009 — Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Projects Monitoring Agency and for Connected Purposes, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Sports Commission to be Charged with the Responsibility of Administering, Encouraging and Developing Sports and Games Throughout Nigeria and Other Matters Incidental Thereto, 2009 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Sports Commission to be Charged with the Responsibility of Administering, Encouraging and Developing Sports and Games Throughout Nigeria and Other Matters Incidental Thereto, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

13. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. V3, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeon and for Other Related Matters, 2009 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Cap. V3, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Registration of Veterinary Surgeon and for Other Related Matters, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

14. A Bill for an Act to Provide a Frame Work for the Regulation, Development and Management of a National Health System and Set Standard for Rendering Health Services in the Federation, and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide a Frame Work for the Regulation, Development and Management of a National Health System and Set Standard for Rendering Health Services in the Federation, and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

15. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Fines in Enactments to be Expressed in Terms of Penalty Units; to Provide for the Amounts to be Converted into Penalty Units and Provide for Connected Matters, 2009 — **Third 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 to be Converted into Penalty Units and Provide for Connected Matters, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

16. A Bill for an Act to Regulate the Practise and to Make Provisions for the Animal Health Technologist Regulation Council of Nigeria and for other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Regulate the Practise and to Make Provisions for the Animal Health Technologist Regulation Council of Nigeria and for other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

17. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Food Reserve Agency and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Food Reserve Agency and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

18. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Football Association Act, Cap. N110 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 — **Third Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Football Association Act, Cap. N110 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).*

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

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

19. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Ports Act of 1999, Establish a Port and Harbours Authority, Provide for Public Private Partnership Port Operations, Provide for Effective Technical of the Ports; and Related Purposes, 2009 — **Second Reading:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Ports Act of 1999, Establish a Port and Harbours Authority, Provide for Public Private Partnership Port Operations, Provide for Effective Technical of the Ports; and Related Purposes, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (Hon. Emeka Ihedioha).*

*Debate:*

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

*Bill read the Second Time, and referred to the Joint Committee on Marine Transport and Justice.*

20. Considerations of Reports:

(i) **Committee on Pension:**

Report of the House Committee on Pensions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Pension Reform Act, 2004.

*Order read; deferred:*

(ii) **Committee on Power:**

"Report of the House 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.

*Order read; deferred:*

21. **Adjournment:**

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 3 March, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie).

*Adjourned accordingly at 1.07 p.m.*

Dimeji Sabur Bankole  
*Speaker*