



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 17 March, 2009

1. The House met at 10.35 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, 12 March, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Announcement:**
Visitor:
Mr Speaker recognized the presence in the Gallery, of the Students of St Benedict's Seminary, Plateau State.
4. **Presentation of Bills:**
 - (i) Land Use Act (Amendment) Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (ii) Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (iii) Safeguards National Biosafety Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (iv) Trade Agreement (Reform and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (v) Nigerian Expatriate Quota Administration Agency Bill, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (vi) Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Nigeria, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
 - (vii) National Legislative Service Institute, 2009 — *Read the First Time.*
5. **Privilege:**
Citing Order V, Rule 2, Hon. Mohammed Ndume referred to publications in the *Thisday and Leadership Newspapers* indicating that the Power Probe Report was presented in eight volumes but only one volume had been circulated to Members. He therefore urged the House to be mindful of the concern and expectations of the general public on the need for expeditious consideration of the report in order to salvage the power sector.

Mr Speaker remarked that the report would soon be considered.
6. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Relying on Order 8, Rule 4, Hon. Henry Dickson drew the attention of the House to the adverse effects of the global financial meltdown on the Nigerian Economy. He stressed the need for the House to come up with urgent policy measures to safeguard the economy from total collapse as being done by other Parliaments. He therefore urged the House to consider 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.

7. Personal Explanation:

Citing Order VIII, Rule 5, Hon. Emeka Ihedioha sought to clarify the misrepresentation of his views purported to have been expressed in response to the question that the House was responsible for the epileptic power supply in the country because of the delay in consideration of the Power Probe Report. He explained that the House embarked on the probe in order to address the lapses in the power sector and that the action of the House did not preclude the Executive arm from performing its responsibility. He stated that due to consistent public agitation on the matter, the Hon. Speaker had already set a date for consideration of the report. He further noted that his alleged blaming of Mr President for power failure was an attempt to project the House in bad light and create a wedge between the Executive and legislature. He reaffirmed the cooperation and support of the House to the Executive Arm in exercising its legislative powers.

The House took note.

8. Presentation of Reports:

(i) Committee on Judiciary:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Mid-Sessional Report of the Committee on Judiciary" (Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Mid-Sessional Report of the House Committee on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control" (Hon. Oluwale OLakunde).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to provide for Regulation and Control of the Establishment of Private Hospitals and Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to provide for Regulation and Control of the Establishment of Private Hospitals and Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be read a Second Time" (Hon. Mikail Al-amin Bmitosah).

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 Health.

10. A Bill for an Act to Prohibit Profiteering During Emergency Situations and Provide for Penalties for Violating its Provision; and Related Matters, 2009 — Second Reading:

Order read; deferred sine die.

11. Consideration of Report:

Committee on Interior:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Interior on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Prison Act, Cap.366. P29 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and to Make Comprehensive Provision for the Administration of Prison in Nigeria; and for Related Purpose, 2008 and approve the Recommendations therein" (Hon. Jerry Manwe).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)*(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)**Debate:**Consideration of Bill deferred.**Chairman to report progress.***(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Interior on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Prison Act, Cap. 366. P29 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and to Make Comprehensive Provision for the Administration of Prison in Nigeria; and for Related Purpose, 2008.

Question that the House do adopt the report of the Committee of the Whole, put and agreed to.

12. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Wednesday, 18 March, 2009 at 2.00 p.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.23 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker