



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 18 March, 2009

1. The House met at 2.48 p.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 17 March, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement:**
Visitor:
Mr Speaker recognized the presence in the Gallery, of Students of Adonai International School, Abuja.

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Citing Order VIII, Rule 4, of the House Standing Orders, Hon. Farouk Lawan drew the attention of the House to the precarious political and social atmosphere prevailing in Ondo State since the swearing-in of Governor Olusegun Mimiko, following his judicial victory which returned him as the duly elected Governor of the State. He noted that the situation was exacerbated by the Governor's suspension of the financial allocations to the Local Government Councils and subsequent dissolution of the duly elected Local Government Councils in the State. He stressed the need to take requisite action to address the situation for the sustenance and stability of democracy as well as ensuring adherence to the rule of law. He therefore, urged the House to consider the matter as one of Urgent Public Importance.

Question put:

House Divided.

Count taken:

Ayes:	—	156
Nays:	—	47
Absention:	—	8
Total:	—	211

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.

5. **Presentation of Reports:**(i) ***Committee on Interior:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Mid-Sessional Report of the House Committee on Interior" (Hon. Jerry Manwe).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) ***Committee on Population:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Mid-Sessional Report of the House Committee on Population" (Hon. James Baitachi).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) ***Joint Committee on Federal Capital Territory, Finance and Federal Capital Territory Area Councils:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Federal Capital Territory, Finance and Federal Capital Territory Area Councils on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the Issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation Account the total Sum of ₦156,850,070,850.00k (One Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifty Million, Seventy Thousand, Eight Hundred and fifty Naira) only of which the Sum of ₦24,596,140,978.00k (Twenty-four Billion, Five Hundred and Ninety-Six Million, One Hundred and Forty Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy eight Naira) only, is for Personnel Cost and the Sum of ₦16,121,245,871.00k (Sixteen Billion, One Hundred and Twenty-One Million, Two Hundred and Forty-Five Thousand, Eight Seventy-One Naira) only is for Overhead Costs While the Balance of ₦116,132, 684,000.00k (One Hundred and Sixteen Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Two Million, Six Hundred and Eighty-Four Thousand Naira) only is for Capital Projects for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the Financial Year Commencing on 1st January and Ending 31st December, 2009" (Hon. Ali A. Attai-Idoko Usman).

Order read; deferred.

(iv) ***Ad-hoc Committee on Melt Down of World Economy:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Melt Down of the World Economy" (Hon. John Owan Enoh).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

6. **Need for Legislative Initiative on the Nigerian Economy vis-a-vis the Global Recession**

Motion by leave of the House withdrawn.

7. **Need to Comply with Section 3 (3) of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (Amendment) Act, 2007 by the Ministry of Interior:**

Motion Made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes the constitutional responsibility of the National Assembly to make Laws for the good governance of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Aware that section 3 (3) of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (Amendment) Act, 2007, states inter alia "For the purpose of efficiently carrying out the functions set out in section 3 of the principal Act, the Corps shall maintain an armed squad which shall be entitled to bear fire arms and deployed by the office of the Commandant-General";

Worried that Section 3 (3) of the said Act, as amended has not been implemented by the supervising Ministry;

8. **Consideration of Reports:**

Committee on Power:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Power on the Investigation into the Huge sums of Money spent on Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution between June 1999 and May 2007 without commensurate Result and approve the Recommendations therein" (Hon. Ndudi Elumelu).

Question put and agreed to.

Mr Speaker remarked that the Report would be considered in three stages; Introduction of the Report by the Committee Chairman; followed by debate by Hon. Members; and consideration of the Report Recommendation- by- Recommendation.

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:

Further consideration of the Report deferred till next Legislative day.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole commenced consideration of the report of the Committee on Power on the Investigation into the Huge sums of Money spent on Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution between June 1999 and May 2007 without commensurate Result and deferred further consideration till the next Legislative Day.

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

9. **Adjournment:**

That this House do now adjourn till Thursday, 19 March, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie*).

Adjourned accordingly at 6.10 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker

Concerned that the lives of Officers and Men of the Corps are put in terrible danger as a result of non implementation of the provisions of the Act as amended;

Further concerned that the non implementation of the Laws passed by the National Assembly derogates section 4 (1) and (2); and section 5 (1) paragraph (a) and (b) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Minister of Interior to immediately implement section 3 (3) of the Security and Civil Defence Corps (Amendment) Act, 2007;
- (ii) Mandate the Joint Committee on Interior and Legislative Compliance to monitor compliance and report to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Austin Nwachukwu and 38 Others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Prayers (i) and (ii) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"Mandate the House Committee on Interior to investigate the reasons for non-compliance and report back to the House within two weeks" (*Hon Chile Igbawua*).

Question put and negatived.

- (ii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (i) (*Hon. Samson Osagie*).

Question, put and agreed to.

- (iii) In Prayer (ii), line 2, *leave out* the word "Two" and *insert* the word "Four" instead thereof (*Hon. Ado Garba*).

Question put and negatived.

Main question, as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the constitutional responsibility of the National Assembly to make Laws for the good governance of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Aware that section 3 (3) of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (Amendment) Act, 2007, states *inter alia* "For the purpose of efficiently carrying out the functions set out in section 3 of the principal Act, the Corps shall maintain an armed squad which shall be entitled to bear fire arms and deployed by the office of the Commandant-General";

Worried that Section 3 (3) of the said Act, as amended has not been implemented by the supervising Ministry;

Concerned that the lives of Officers and Men of the Corps were put in terrible danger as a result of non implementation of the provisions of the Act as amended;

Further concerned that the non implementation of the Laws passed by the National Assembly derogates section 4 (1) and (2); and section 5 (1) paragraph (a) and (b) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Joint Committee on Interior and Legislative Compliance to monitor compliance and report to the House within two weeks (**HR. 14/2009**).