



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 25 June, 2009

1. The House met at 11.12 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 24 June, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Announcements:**
Mr Deputy Speaker recognized the presence in the Gallery, of:
 - (i) Councilors from Barki Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of Private Academy, Nyanya, Abuja; and
 - (iii) National Association of Mathematical Student of Bayero University, Kano.
4. **Petitions:**
The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.
 - (i) Hon. Ibrahim U. Ballah (*Kumbotso Federal Constituency*), from Yakubu Yako Umar and six others, praying the House to investigate their alleged unlawful arrest and detention by the Police on the instruction of Unique Leather Finishing Company;
 - (ii) Hon. Austin Nwachukwu (*Ehime-Mbano/Ihette-Ubana/Obowo Federal Constituency*), from:
 - (a) Mr C. N. Iwu, praying the House to prevail on the Power Holding Company of Nigeria to re-instate him and pay all his entitlements from September, 2007;
 - (b) Mr Collins Ugochukwu Osuagwu, praying the House to intervene in the alleged irregular termination of his appointment by the National Orientation Agency with a view to reinstating and granting him other reliefs sought therein.
 - (iii) Hon. Samson Osagie (*Ohwumani/Uhuninmode Federal Constituency*), from Mr Sunday Agbogun, praying the House to intervene in his alleged wrongful dismissal from the Nigerian Army with a view to re-instating or converting the dismissal to voluntary retirement and paying all his entitlements.
5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Citing Order VIII, Rule 4, of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, Hon. Daniel Reyeniejú Oritse drew the attention of the House to the accident in Warri, of a vessel conveying huge quantity of Low-Pour-Fuel-Oil (LPFO) for WRPC to the NNPC private jetty of Ijalla Community. He noted that the accident led to the discharge of the entire vessel's content into the swamp mangrove and farmlands thereby polluting the waters. This, he stated was causing the Communities living on the River Bank to suffer serious hardship. 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.

6. Recruitment Exercise by MDAs through Online Registration:

Motion made and Question proposed that:

The House:

Notes that most Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) still embark on registration/recruitment using their websites also known as online application, despite the House Resolution (**HR. 37/2008**) of Thursday, 17 July, 2008 in which all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA's) were directed to provide State and Local Government with hard copies of the recruitment forms available on their website;

Concerned that many Local Government Areas in the country do not have access to communication facilities (internet, telephone newspapers etc);

Worried that most banks designated for the sale of scratch cards for on-line registration/application do not exist in most Local Government Areas;

Disturbed that this mode of registration/recruitment does not provide equal opportunities to prospective applicants to participate;

Resolves:

- (i) that the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) should designate at least five different banks for on-line registration/recruitment;
- (ii) that the Federal Government should direct all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to provide States and Local Government Areas with hard-copies of the registration/recruitment forms on their websites;
- (iii) Mandate the House Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance with House Resolution **HR. 37/2008** of Thursday, 17 July, 2008 (*Hon. Paul A. Adah*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (ii) (*Hon. Leo Ogor*).

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

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
Urge the Federal Government to enforce the recruitment exercise but with sanctions for non-compliance (*Hon. Umaru Kurfi*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived

Main question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that most Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) still embark on registration/recruitment using their websites also known as online application, despite the House Resolution (**HR. 37/2008**) of Wednesday, 17 July, 2008 in which all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDA's) were directed to provide State and Local Government with hard copies of the recruitment forms available on their website;

Concerned that many Local Government Areas in the country do not have access to communication facilities (internet, telephone, newspapers, etc.);

Worried that most banks designated for the sale of scratch cards for on-line registration/application do not exist in most Local Government Areas;

Disturbed that this mode of registration/recruitment did not provide equal opportunities to prospective applicants to participate;

Resolved:

- (i) that the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) should designate at least five different banks for on-line registration/recruitment;
- (ii) Mandate the House Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance with House Resolution **HR. 37/2008** of Thursday, 17 July, 2008 (**HR. 39/2009**).

7. Personal Explanation:

Citing Order IX, Rule 6, Hon. Isa drew the attention of the House to the fact that it passed a Resolution in respect of the text of a motion on the Order of the Day of Thursday, 25 June, 2009 titled "Poor Performance of 2009 Appropriation Act". He stated that for the House to reconsider the matter, it must be by a substantive motion passed pursuant to this Order.

Mr Deputy Speaker ruled that the motion be considered.

8. Extension of Sittings:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do extend the Day's Sitting to enable it deliberate on the other items on the Order Paper" (Hon. Tunde Akogun).

Question put and agreed to.

9. Poor Performance of 2009 Appropriation Act:

Motion made and Question proposed that:

The House:

Notes the on-going implementation of the 2009 Appropriation Act passed by the National Assembly;

Aware that the Federal Government through the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation has released First and Second Quarters allocations to Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs);

Worried that despite these releases, the Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs) have not implemented the budget above the abysmal 25% level;

Concerned that the Appropriation Act is heading for another 30% performance level thus the much needed development projects especially in the areas of power, agriculture, roads and bridges, healthcare delivery; and general dividends of democracy will not be delivered;

Resolves to:

- (i) Call on all Committees of the House to ascertain within two weeks, the actual level of performance of each Ministry, Department and Agencies (MDAs), and report back to the House;
- (ii) Pass a vote of no confidence on any Head of Ministry, Department or Agencies (MDAs) who fails to attain at least 70% implementation of the Appropriation Act, by the end of the Third Quarter of the year (*Hon. Igo Aguma*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
Request the President to furnish the House with the details number of contracts awarded by Ministries and Agencies and number of these projects commissioned since passage of the 2009 Budget" (*Hon. Halims J. Agoda*).

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

- (ii) In Prayer (ii), line (1), immediately after the word "any", *insert* the word "Minister" and immediately after the word "who" *leave out* all the words and *insert* the following words "implement the budget selectively" instead thereof (*Hon. Ita Enang*).

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

Main question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the on-going implementation of the 2009 Appropriation Act passed by the National Assembly;

Aware that the Federal Government through the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation had released First and Second Quarters allocations to Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs);

Worried that despite these releases, the Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs) have not implemented the budget above the abysmal 25% level;

Concerned that the Appropriation Act was heading for another 30% performance level thus the much needed development projects especially in the areas of power, agriculture, roads and bridges, healthcare delivery; and general dividends of democracy will not be delivered;

Resolved to:

- (i) Call on all Committees of the House to ascertain within two weeks, the actual level of performance of each Ministry, Department and Agencies (MDAs), and report back to the House;
- (ii) Request the President to furnish the House with the details of contracts awarded by Ministries and Agencies and number of these projects commissioned since passage of the 2009 Budget;
- (iii) Pass a vote of no confidence on any Minister, Head of Ministry, Department or Agencies (MDAs) who implemented the budget selectively (HR. 40/2009).

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Act; to provide for the Establishment of the Imo and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and list same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters Cap. R9 LFN 2004, 2009 — *Third Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Act; to provide for the Establishment of the Imo and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and list same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters Cap. R9 LFN 2004, 2009 be now read a Third Time" (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

11. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Repeal of the Nigerian Press Council Act, 1992 and Establish the Nigerian Press and Practice of Journalism Council, to Promote High Professional Standards for the Nigerian Press, and Deal with Complaints Emanating from Members of the Public about the Conduct of Journalism and Media Houses in Their Professional Capacity, or Complaints Emanating from Press about the Conduct of Persons, Organization or Institutions of Government Towards the Press and for Matter Connected Therein, 2009 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Repeal of the Nigerian Press Council Act, 1992 and Establish the Nigerian Press and Practice of Journalism Council, to Promote High Professional Standards for the Nigerian Press, and Deal with Complaints Emanating from Members of the Public about the Conduct of Journalism and Media Houses in Their Professional Capacity, or Complaints Emanating from Press about the Conduct of Persons, Organization or Institutions of Government Towards the Press and for Matter Connected Therein, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Abike Dariri Eruwa*).

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 Information and National Orientations.

12. A Bill for an Act to Prohibit the investigation of Anonymous Petitions by Security Agencies; and for Related Matters, 2009 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Prohibit the investigation of Anonymous Petitions by Security Agencies; and for Related Matters, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ekperikpe L. Ekpo*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time, put and Negatived.

- 13. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Export (Prohibition) Act, Cap. E22 LFN 2004; and for Related Matters, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Export (Prohibition) Act, Cap. E22 LFN 2004; and for Related Matters, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Darlington Okereke*).

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 Commerce.

- 14. A Bill for an Act to Amend Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (Establishment) Act, 2000, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (Establishment) Act, 2000, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. H. S. Dickson*).

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 Anti-Corruption and Values.

- 15. A Bill for an Act to Establish a Registry for Foreign Offenders and publish information about them and for Related Matters, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Order read; deferred.

- 16. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Directorate of Employment Act Cap. N28 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for a Minimum Remuneration for Qualified Nigerians, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Order read; deferred.

- 17. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioner Act Cap. M8 Laws of the Federation, 2004, to Make provisions for the continuous Education of Medical Dental Health Practitioner in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Motion made and Question proposed, " That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioner Act Cap. M8 Laws of the Federation, 2004, to Make provisions for the continuous Education of Medical Dental Health Practitioner in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mayor Eze*).

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.

- 18. A Bill for an Act to Make provisions for the Law of Evidence to be applied to all judicial proceedings in or before Courts in Nigeria, 2009 — *Second Reading:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Make provisions for the Law of Evidence to be applied to all judicial proceedings in or before Courts in Nigeria, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. H. S. Dickson*).

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 Judiciary and Justice.

19. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Sports Endowment Fund to be applied for encouraging, promoting and supporting the continuous discovery and preparation of talented citizens in varied competitive sports, rewarding every sportsman and woman who bring honour and glory to Nigeria, including provision for their welfare when critically injured or retired from any such sports, and for any Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 — *Second Reading*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Sports Endowment Fund to be applied for encouraging, promoting and supporting the continuous discovery and preparation of talented citizens in varied competitive sports, rewarding every sportsman and woman who bring honour and glory to Nigeria, including provision for their welfare when critically injured or retired from any such sports, and for any Other Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. John Halims Agoda*).

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 Sports.

20. **Adjournment:**

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 30 June, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 2.30 p.m.

Usman Bayero Nafada
Deputy Speaker