



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 12 November, 2009

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1. The House met at 11.00 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, 11 November, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
 3. **Announcement:**
Visitors:
Mr Speaker recognized the presence in the Gallery, of :
 - (i) Staff and Students from Baptist Nursery/Primary School, Garki-Abuja;
 - (ii) Staff and Students from Niger (NIGLEEN) School, Gauraka Village, Niger State.
 4. **Petitions:**
The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:
 - (i) Hon. Orker Jev (*Buruku Federal Constituency*), from Mr Jonathan S. Ervihi, praying the House to prevail in his alleged unlawful dismissal by the Nigeria Rialway Corporation with a view to re-instating him;
 - (ii) Hon. James Baitachi (*Bosso/Paikoro Federal Constituency*), from CPL Mamman Gabriel, praying the House to investigate his alleged unlawful dismissal by the Nigeria Police, with a view to ensuring that justice prevails.
 5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance:**
 - (i) Rising on Order VIII, Rule 4 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon. Ali Ndume referred to the recent pronouncements by the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on deregulation of the Petroleum Downstream sector, which resulted in serious panic buying and hoarding of petroleum products. He noted that the NNPC was not competent to embark on such deregulation without recourse to the National Assembly. He therefore, sought the leave of the House to debate 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.
 - (ii) Also rising on Order VIII, Rule 4 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon. Solomon Agidani drew the attention of the House to the fact the Nigerian Dailies had been awashed with stories of many industries closing down in Lagos due to the cut in supply of gas by Gas Link Company.
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Mr Speaker ruled that Hon. Agidani did not comply with the House rule in bringing up the matter and the claim was disallowed.

6. Privileges:

- (i) Rising on Order V, Rule 2 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon Davies Sekonte drew the attention of the House to page 10 of 'the Vanguard' Newspapers of Wednesday, 11 November, 2009 where it was reported that the Hon. Minister of the Federal Capital Territory was alleged to have vowed not to give effect to the House Resolution on the removal of the speed bumps within Abuja metropolis. He considered the alleged statement a breach of his privilege and that of the House.

Mr Speaker directed Hon. Davies Sekonte to meet with the Chairman, Committee on Federal Capital Territory to resolve the matter.

- (ii) Also Rising on Order V, Rule 2 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon Dino Melaye invited the attention of the House to the recent statement credited to the Chairman, Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to the effect that the House of Representatives was in support of Deregulation. He observed that the House had not come to any resolution on deregulation and considered the alleged statement, which was an outcome of the interview granted by the Chairman of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) in Lagos, a breach of his privilege.

Members of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to meet and take a position that will guide the House during debate on the matter.

7. Presentation of Report:

Joint Committee on Finance and National Planning:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Finance and National Planning on the 2010 - 2012 Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper of the Federal Government of Nigeria" (Hon. John Owan Enoh).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

8. Joint Session of the National Assembly:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do resolve to meet with the Senate in a Joint Session on Thursday, 19 November, 2009 at 11.00 am to receive an Address by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the 2010 Budget Estimates, and other measures thereto relating" (Hon. Tunde Akogun).

Question put and agreed to.

9. Near Air Mishap within Port Harcourt Airspace:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes the near air mishap (collision) between Hawker 900, a passenger aircraft belonging to Garventon and an Allied Aircraft within the Port Harcourt airspace on October 30, 2009;

Further notes that Hawker 900 was heading to Lagos en-route Port Harcourt from Calabar while Allied Aircraft took off from Port Harcourt en-route Calabar;

Aware that it is compulsory for all passenger aircrafts to have a functional Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment;

Observes that the Allied Aircraft which was descending into the Hawker 900 either had no Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment or it was not functional;

Disturbed that the Port Harcourt Control Tower cleared the Allied Aircraft to descend from a higher level across the approved operational level of Hawker 900;

Worried that most Nigerian passenger aircrafts are flying blind without the Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) and other relevant authorities to ensure that all passenger aircrafts have functional Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment before flying Nigeria Airspace;
- (ii) Further urge the Minister of Aviation to ensure that any aircraft without Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment be grounded;
- (iii) Mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate the matter and report to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Ekperikpe Ekpo*).

*Debate:***Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
"Also urge the Minister of Aviation to ensure that anybody found guilty of negligence of duty in respect of the matter is punished" (*Hon. Atai Aidoko Ali*).

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

- (ii) *insert* a new Prayer (v) as follows:
"Urge the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority to investigate the alleged near Air mishap within the Port Harcourt Airspace on 30th October, 2009" (*Hon. Rabe Nasir*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

- (iii) *Leave out* all the words in Prayers (i) and (ii) (*Hon. Friday Itulah*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the near air mishap (collision) between Hawker 900, a passenger aircraft belonging to Garventon and an Allied Aircraft within the Port Harcourt airspace on October 30, 2009;

Further noted that Hawker 900 was heading to Lagos en-route Port Harcourt from Calabar while Allied Aircraft took off from Port Harcourt en-route Calabar;

Aware that it is compulsory for all passenger aircrafts to have a functional Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment;

Observed that the Allied Aircraft which was descending into the Hawker 900 either had no Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment or it was not functional;

Disturbed that the Port Harcourt Control Tower cleared the Allied Aircraft to descend from a higher level across the approved operational level of Hawker 900;

Worried that most Nigerian passenger aircrafts were flying blind without the Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment;

Resolved to:

- (i) Urge the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) and other relevant authorities to ensure that all passenger aircrafts have functional Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment before flying Nigeria Airspace;
- (ii) Further urge the Minister of Aviation to ensure that any aircraft without Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) equipment be grounded;
- (iii) Also urge the Minister of Aviation to ensure that anybody found guilty of negligence of duty in respect of the matter be punished;

- (iv) Mandate the House Committee on Aviation to investigate the matter and report to the House within two weeks (**HR. 69/2009**).

10. Resumption of Exploration and Exploitation of Oil in Chad Basin, Benue and Adamawa Troughs:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes the importance of exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources to the economic, and social well being of Nigerians and as the major source of revenue;

Worried that the Federal Government had for the past ten years promised to resume the exploration and exploitation of oil in the Lake Chad Basin and Benue troughs without any visible progress;

Cognizance of the fact that our neighboring countries of the Republic of Chad and the Niger Republic have completed the exploration process and have now started the process of exploitation of the vast oil resources in the region;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government to direct the relevant authorities to resume the exploitation of oil and gas resources in the Lake Chad Basin, Benue and Adamawa troughs (*Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume & 62 Others*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in the Prayer and *insert* the following words instead thereof:
"Urge the Federal Government to direct the relevant authorities to resume the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources in the Lake Chad Basin, Benue, Anambra basin and Adamawa troughs" (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

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

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to Direct the relevant authorities to resume the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources in the Lake Chad Basin and the Benue troughs" (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Abdu*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the importance of exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources to the economic, and social well being of Nigerians and as the major source of revenue;

Worried that the Federal Government had for the past ten years promised to resume the exploration and exploitation of oil in the Lake Chad Basin and Benue troughs without any visible progress;

Cognizance of the fact that our neighboring countries of the Republic of Chad and the Niger Republic have completed the exploration process and have now started the process of exploitation of the vast oil resources in the region;

Resolved to:

Urge the Federal Government to direct the relevant authorities to resume the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas resources in the Lake Chad Basin, Benue, Anambra basin and Adamawa troughs (**HR. 70/2009**).

11. A Bill for an Act to authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦352,850,000,000 (Three Hundred and Fifty-Two Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only for which ₦96,300,000,000 (Ninety-Six Billion, Three Hundred Million Naira) only is for additional Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the balance of ₦256,550,000,000 (Two Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, and Five Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only is for contribution to the Development Fund for additional Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2009 Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2009 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦352,850,000,000 (Three Hundred and Fifty-Two Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only for which ₦96,300,000,000 (Ninety-Six Billion, Three Hundred Million Naira) only is for additional Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the balance of ₦256,550,000,000 (Two Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, and Five Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only is for contribution to the Development Fund for additional Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2009 Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

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 Appropriation and Finance.

12. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Federal Highway Medical Services Agency and to Make Comprehensive Provision for Establishment of Sick Bay Centre and for Matters Connected Thereto, 2009 — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Federal Highway Medical Services Agency and to Make Comprehensive Provision for Establishment of Sick Bay Centre and for Matters Connected Thereto, 2009 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon Patrick Ikiaye*).

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.

13. **Adjournment:**

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 17 November, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.20 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker