



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

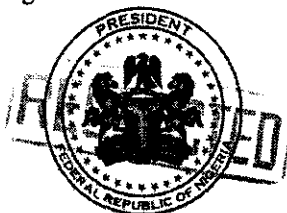
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 19 November, 2009

1. The House met at 11.15 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, 18 November, 2009.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
3. **Oaths of Allegiance and Membership:**
The following Member-elect, took and subscribed the Oaths as required by law:

Hon. Folake Olunloyo Oshinowo (*Ibadan South West/North West Federal Constituency*).
4. **Message:**
Mr Speaker read the following Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

November 16, 2009

*The Rt Honourable Dimeji Bankole, CFR
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three-Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear brother,

**FORWARDING OF A DRAFT BILL FOR AN ACT TO
ESTABLISH THE ASSET MANAGEMENT
CORPORATION OF NIGERIA, 2009**

*I forward herewith, for your kind consideration and passage into law, a draft Bill for an Act to
Establish the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria, 2009.*

It is my hope that the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will consider and pass the Bill in your usual expeditious manner.

Please accept, Mr Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

5. Announcements:

(i) Postponement of 2010 Budget Presentation:

Mr Speaker announced that the 2010 Budget presentation by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria earlier scheduled for today Thursday, 19 November, 2009 has been postponed. Future date will be conveyed to the House later.

(ii) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker announced with regret the death of the wife of Hon. Zachari Galadima, she has since been buried in accordance with Islamic rite.

6. Petition:

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

Hon. Ralph Okeke (*Anambra East Federal Constituency*), from R. M. Omobaka, praying the House to prevail on the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, Abuja to pay his retirement benefits and grant other reliefs sought therein.

7. Personal Explanation:

Hon. Tsegbe Tengu informed the House that on Sunday, 15 November, 2009, he was attacked by armed bandits on his way to Markudi, after a Thanksgiving Service/Birthday of the Governor of Benue State Gabriel Suswan, but managed to escape from the scene of the attack inspite of several gun shots. He noted the occurrence of such acts since his declaration of his candidature for Benue North West Senatorial District. He complained that after the report of the matter to the appropriate Police authority, the Police had exhibited laxity in investigating the matter. He therefore, urged the House to ensure the Police investigate the matter irrespective of whom was involved.

8. Privileges:

(i) Rising on Order V, Rule 2 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon. Bitrus Kaze drew the attention of the House to a publication in the *Daily Trust* Newspapers of Thursday, 19 November, 2009 titled "Dubious Award by the National Assembly". He noted that the alleged publication did not only portrayed the House in bad light but a breach of his privilege and that of the House.

Matter referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.

(ii) Also rising on Order V, Rule 2 of the Standing Orders of the House, Hon. Dino Melaye drew the attention of the House to his reflection on the \$300 million Loan accepted by the Federal Government as contained in the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 18 November, 2009. He noted that his views on the matter was called into question and asked for the leave of the House to present real evidence to justify his assertion of that day.

Mr Speaker directed Hon. Dino Melaye to comply with the earlier decision of the House on the matter.

9. Presentation of Report:

Joint Committee on Police Affairs and Justice:

Motion made and Question proposed, " That this House do receive the Report of the Joint Committee on Police Affairs and Justice on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Police Act, Cap. P19 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by Transferring the Prosecutorial Right of the Police Officers to the Ministry of Justice and for Related Matters, 2008" (*Hon. Abdul A. Ningi*)

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

10. Attacks on Nigerians Living in Bakassi by Cameroonian Gendarmes:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes that both Nigerians and Camerounians had always laid claims to the ownership of the Bakassi Peninsula;

Further notes that Nigeria and Cameroun have had several border skirmishes regarding the said Peninsula;

Observes that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) finally ceded the Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroun;

Aware that Nigeria's sovereignty over Bakassi was transferred to the Republic of Cameroun on the 14 August 2008, following the signing of the Green Tree Agreement on the 12 of June, 2006 in New York, USA;

Further aware that the Green Tree Agreement protects the rights of Nigerian living in the Bakassi peninsula;

Concerned that the Camerounian Government has blatantly refused to obey the Green Tree Agreement by allowing her gendarmes to constantly harass and brutalize Nigerians living within the territory;

Worried that Nigerians living in Bakassi have been sneaking out of the territory and rushing back to Nigeria, through the sea, without their properties and are now refugees living in camps, in Cross River State, Nigeria;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to ensure that the Camerounian Government do abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement; and formally report this matter to the United Nations Organization (UNO), African Union (AU) and other relevant International bodies;
- (ii) Call on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to take up this matter with its Camerounian counterpart;
- (iii) Further call on the Federal Ministry of Interior, through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), to immediately resettle the Nigerian returnees from Cameroun (*Hon. Beni Lar*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* Prayer (i) and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"Urge the Federal Government to ensure that the Camerounian Government abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement and formally report to the UNO, AU and other relevant international bodies to ensure that the Camerounian Government abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement" (*Hon. Abass Braimoh*).

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

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
"Constitute an *Ad-Hoc* Committee of the House to investigate the deplorable and hopeless situation of Nigerians in the area and to report back to the House (*Hon. Abdul Ningi*).

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

- (iii) *Insert* a new prayer (v) as follows:
"Urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to ensure that the Camerounian Government abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement" (*Hon. Emma Jime*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that both Nigerians and Camerounians had always laid claims to the ownership of the Bakassi Peninsula;

Further noted that Nigeria and Cameroun have had several border skirmishes regarding the said Peninsula;

Observed that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) finally ceded the Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroun;

Aware that Nigeria's sovereignty over Bakassi was transferred to the Republic of Cameroun on the 14 August 2008, following the signing of the Green Tree Agreement on the 12 of June, 2006 in New York, USA;

Further aware that the Green Tree Agreement protects the rights of Nigerian living in the Bakassi peninsula;

Concerned that the Camerounian Government has blatantly refused to obey the Green Tree Agreement by allowing her gendarmes to constantly harass and brutalize Nigerians living within the territory;

Worried that Nigerians living in Bakassi have been sneaking out of the territory and rushing back to Nigeria, through the sea, without their properties and were refugees living in camps, in Cross River State, Nigeria;

Resolved to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to ensure that the Camerounian Government to abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement and formally report to the UNO, AU and other relevant international bodies to ensure that the Camerounian Government abide by the provisions of the Green Tree Agreement;
- (ii) Call on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to take up the matter with its Camerounian counterpart;
- (iii) Further call on the Federal Ministry of Interior, through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), to immediately resettle the Nigerian returnees from Cameroun;
- (iv) House to constitute an *Ad-Hoc* Committee to investigate the deplorable and hopeless situation of the Nigerians in the area and to report back to the House (HR. 73/2009).

11. Near Air Mishap at Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes the number of lives and properties that have been destroyed in Nigeria during air disasters in the past;

Further notes the negative impacts of air disasters to the economy and the image of our country;

Cognizant that it is unprofessional to have given clearance to an Arik Aircraft on the runway to take-off while a Chanchangi Aircraft was heading for landing;

Worried that the Chanchangi Aircraft was carrying over 140 Lagos-Abuja bound passengers who might have met their untimely death if the incident had not been averted;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to carry-out a detailed investigation on the incident and report to the House within one week (*Hon. Austin Nwachukwu*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In the prayer, immediately after the word "within", *leave out* the words "one week" and *insert* the words "two weeks" instead thereof (*Hon. Friday Itulah*).

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

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
"that the House do resolve to write a letter to the Pilot for gallantry display of professionalism" (*Hon. Bitrus B. Kaze*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the number of lives and properties that had been destroyed in Nigeria during air disasters in the past;

Further noted the negative impacts of air disasters to the economy and the image of our country;

Cognizant that it was unprofessional to have given clearance to an Arik Aircraft on the runway to take-off while a Chanchangi Aircraft was heading for landing;

Worried that the Chanchangi Aircraft was carrying over 140 Lagos-Abuja bound passengers who might have met their untimely death if the incident had not been averted;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to carry-out a detailed investigation on the incident and report to the House within two weeks (**HR. 74/2009**).

12. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 24 November, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. (*Hon. Tunde Akogun*).

Adjourned accordingly at 12.45 p.m.

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker

CORRIGENDA

In the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 18 November, 2009:

- (i) page 310, Item 6 (ii), *leave out* all the words in the Speaker's directive and *insert* the following instead thereof:

Mr Speaker upheld Hon. Igo Aguma's Point of Order and directed the Committee on Public Procurement to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act.

- (ii) and page 318, item 10 (6), *leave out* all the words and *insert* the following instead thereof:

"Port Harcourt Road - Opobo Junction - Azumini - Ukanafun".